

And he said, "Who are You, Lord?"
Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you
are persecuting." Acts 9:5 NKJV



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

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As We Gather

The road to Damascus was supposed to be a mission of judgment—but Jesus had something far greater in store. As we gather today, we reflect on the grace of a Savior who meets us in our blindness, confronts us with His truth, and calls us by name. In the life of Saul turned Paul, we see a powerful reminder: no one is beyond the reach of God’s mercy. Jesus doesn’t wait for us to clean ourselves up—He comes to redeem, restore, and redirect. As we hear His Word today, may we be reminded that “I am Jesus” still changes everything.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

743 – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

- P** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.
- C** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**
- P** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.



✠ The Service of the Word ✠

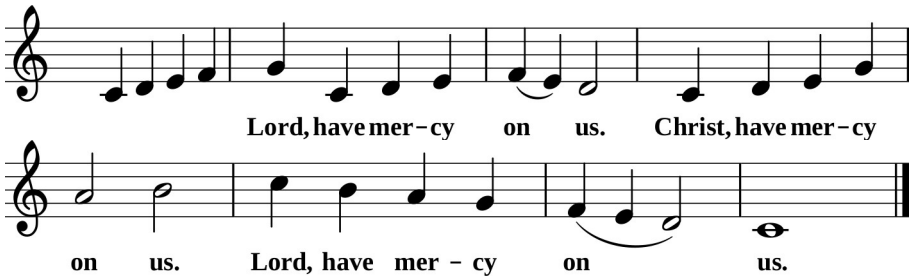
Introit

Psalm 145:4-7, 9

- P** One generation shall praise Your works to another,
C **And shall declare Your mighty acts.**
P I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty,
C **And on Your wondrous works.**
P Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts,
C **And I will declare Your greatness.**
P They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness,
C **And shall sing of Your righteousness.**
P The LORD is good to all,
C **And His tender mercies are over all His works.**
P Glory be to the Father and to the Son
C **and to the Holy Spirit;**
P as it was in the beginning,
C **is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie



Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis



Glo - ry to God, we give you thanks and praise; Of
Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son, You
A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord, At



heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing. We wor - ship
bore for us the load of this world's sin. O Lamb of
God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high: Who, with the



You, to You our hearts we raise, Lord God, al -
God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won, Re - ceive our
Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored, With all the



might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

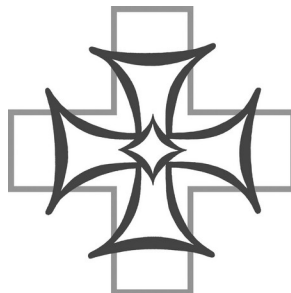
P Let us pray...

... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



¹ And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ² Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" ³ And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. ⁴ So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. ⁵ But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." ⁶ And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. ⁸ Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, ¹⁰ And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth." ¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³ And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!" ¹⁴ Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.



Psalm of the Day

Psalm 30

- P** I will extol You, O LORD, for You have lifted me up,
C **And have not let my foes rejoice over me.**
P O LORD my God, I cried out to You,
C **And You healed me.**
P O LORD, You brought my soul up from the grave;
C **You have kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.**
P Sing praise to the LORD, you saints of His,
C **And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name.**
P For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life;
C **Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning.**
P Now in my prosperity I said,
C **“I shall never be moved.”**
P LORD, by Your favor You have made my mountain stand strong;
C **You hid Your face, and I was troubled.**
P I cried out to You, O LORD;
C **And to the LORD I made supplication:**
P “What profit is there in my blood, When I go down to the pit?
C **Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your truth?**
P Hear, O LORD, and have mercy on me;
C **LORD, be my helper!”**
P You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
C **You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,**
P To the end that my glory may sing praise to You and not be silent.
C **O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.**

Gospel Reading

John 21:1-19

¹ After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: ² Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We are going with you also.” They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. ⁴ But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Then Jesus said to them, “Children, have you any food?” They answered Him, “No.” ⁶ And He said to them, “Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish. ⁷ Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer

garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish. ⁹ Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish which you have just caught.” ¹¹ Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and eat breakfast.” Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, “Who are You?”—knowing that it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish. ¹⁴ This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead. ¹⁵ So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Feed My lambs.” ¹⁶ He said to him again a second time, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Tend My sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?” Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.” Jesus said to him, “Feed My sheep. ¹⁸ Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish.” ¹⁹ This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, “Follow Me.”

Alleluia

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia! Al-le-lu - ia! These words are
writ - ten that we may believe that Je-sus is the Christ, the
Son of God. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia! Al-le-lu - ia!

Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn

324 (1-3, 5-8) – Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

Sermon Text

Acts 9:1-22

¹ Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. ⁴ Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” ⁵ And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” Then the Lord said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.” ⁶ So he, trembling and astonished, said, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” Then the Lord said to him, “Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.” ⁷ And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one. ⁸ Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰ Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹ So the Lord said to him,

“Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. ¹² And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight.” ¹³ Then Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name.” ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. ¹⁶ For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name’s sake.” ¹⁷ And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized. ¹⁹ So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus. ²⁰ Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. ²¹ Then all who heard were amazed, and said, “Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and has come here for that purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?” ²² But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this Jesus is the Christ.



Sermon

“I Am Jesus” Changes Everything



Offertory



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir-it from me. Re store to me the joy of Your sal -
va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

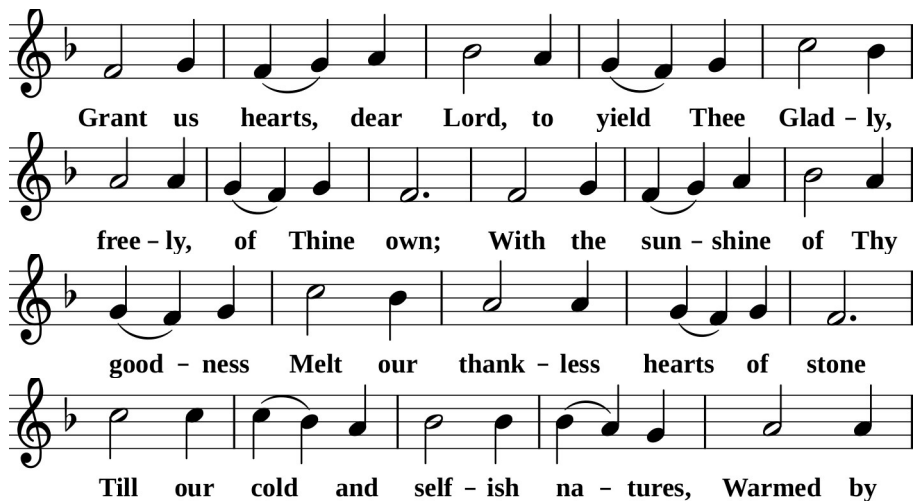
Hymn

742 – Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

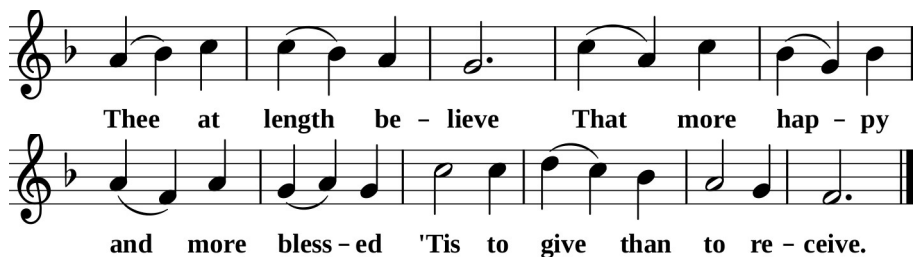
Offering

Offering Hymn

442 (2)



Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee Glad - ly,
free - ly, of Thine own; With the sun - shine of Thy
good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone
Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by



General Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

✠ The Service of the Sacrament ✠

Preface

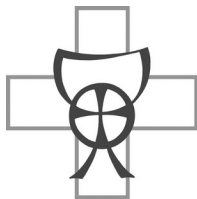
P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God...
...Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:



Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of Sa-ba-oth, a-dored; Heav'n and
earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name. Sing ho -
san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san-na to the Lord; Tru-ly
blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Words of Institution

Peace of the Lord

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C Amen.

Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -
part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -



tain with Your mer-cy and grant us Your peace.

Distribution

Holy Communion is rightly called a ‘Sacrament’ because it is a “Sacred act;” not in what WE do for Christ, but in what Christ does for US! Because God’s Word presents the reception of this Sacrament as a most intimate expression of spiritual and confessional unity (1 Corinthians 1:10; 10:16-17 Romans 16:17-18), we ask only those who have publicly professed such oneness of faith and belief with us by membership here or another CLC church come forward at this time. This is not a judgment of anyone’s faith, but rather an expression of ours. Please speak with pastor if you are seeking a church home or have any questions. We’d love to have you!

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

Nunc Dimittis



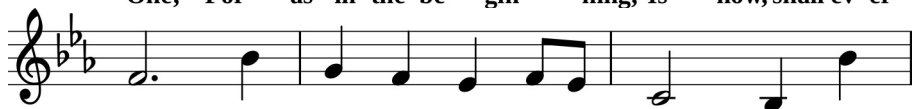
O Lord, now let Your ser-vant De-part in heav'n-ly
All glo-ry to the Fa-ther, All glo-ry to the



peace, For I have seen the glo-ry Of Your re-deem-ing
Son, All glo-ry to the Spir-it, For-ev-er Three-in-



grace: A light to lead the Gen-tiles Un-to Your ho-ly
One; For as in the be-gin-ning, Is now, shall ev-er



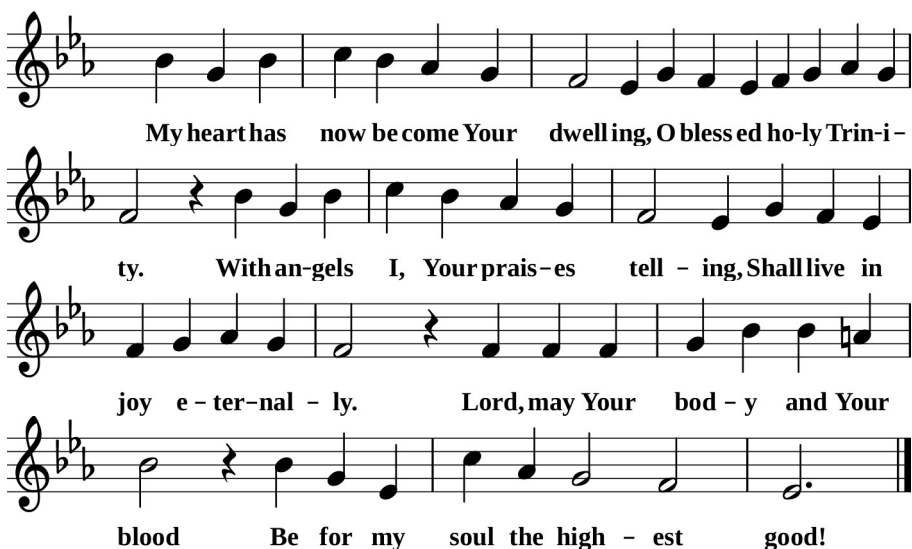
hill, The glo-ry of Your peo-ple, Your
be, God's tri-une name re-sound-ing Through



cho-sen Is-ra-el.
all e-ter-ni-ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

Thanksgiving



My heart has now be come Your dwell ing, O bless ed ho-ly Trin-i-
ty. With an-gels I, Your prais-es tell - ing, Shall live in
joy e - ter-nal - ly. Lord, may Your bod - y and Your
blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C Amen.

Hymn

777 – Amazing Grace – How Sweet the Sound

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✠ Announcements ✠

Upcoming Schedule		
May 4	9:15 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Education/Elders Meetings
May 9	10:30 am	Learning with Littles
May 11	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
May 18	9:15 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service

Upcoming Meetings: Here is a schedule of our upcoming meetings:

- **May 4** – Education/Elders
- **June 1** – Trustees/Church Council
- **July 6** – Quarterly Voters’ Meeting

In Our Prayers: Please keep our shut-in members in your prayers: Don Beymer, Bob & Joan Doriot, Paulette Galstad, Johanna Jaehnigen, David & Elsie Kleinschmidt, Shirley Rosenberry, and Mike Sheffield. May the Lord strengthen their faith, grant them His peace, and assure them of His abiding presence.

Looking Forward to Next Sunday: Next Sunday, we’ll hear Paul’s heartfelt farewell to the Ephesian elders in Acts 20:17-35. As Paul prepares to leave, he reminds them—and us—that the work of shepherding Christ’s flock doesn’t end with one man’s departure. The Good Shepherd continues through faithful pastors and leaders who point always to Jesus, the Chief Shepherd. In a world filled with danger and distraction, the Church still needs courageous, compassionate care grounded in God’s Word and grace. Join us as we reflect on Paul’s example and the ongoing shepherding Christ provides through His servants today. Come be strengthened in the truth that our Good Shepherd never leaves His flock unattended!

Learning with Littles: Our next Learning with Littles session is **Friday, May 9th, 10:30–11:30 am**. The theme is **“Hello, Summer!”** This outreach continues to be a blessing—**we’ve averaged 31 children at our last four events!** Please keep this effort in your prayers as we share God’s love and Word with young families in our community.

CLC Call News: Pastor Frank Gantt of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Loganville, GA, has returned the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Mountain View, CA. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has received the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Pastor Wayne Eichstadt of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA, has received the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

Fruits of Faith		April 27, 2025	Attendance: WH – 26; ORL – 11	
<u>Immanuel Lutheran Church</u>			<u>Church of the Lutheran Confession</u>	
<i>General Budget</i>			<i>General Budget</i>	
\$1,308.00	General Budget		\$0.00	CLC General Budget
\$1,500.00	Weekly Need		\$67.31	Weekly Need
-\$192.00	-Under / +Over		-\$67.31	-Under / +Over
\$23,151.05	Year to Date Offerings		\$660.00	Year to Date Offerings
\$25,500.00	Year to Date Need		\$1,144.27	Year to Date Need
-\$2,348.95	Year to Date (+/-)		-\$484.27	Year to Date (+/-)
<i>Non-Budgetary</i>			<i>Non-Budgetary</i>	
	Building Fund			ILC Student Aid Fund
\$25.00	Property Improvement			ILC Building Fund
	ILC Scholarship Fund			ILC Improvement Fund
	Tuition Grant			Mission Development (MDF)
\$5.00	Benevolence Fund		\$75.00	Project Kinship
	Learning with Littles			ILC Tour Choir
	School Fund			Spokesman/Daily Rest

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

May 5 – May 10, 2025

Monday – *John 21:15-19*

Jesus, the living Shepherd of the sheep, restores Peter to his apostolic calling. As one who loves His Lord, Peter will now be sent to feed Jesus' lambs and sheep, to be a shepherd to His flock.

Tuesday – *1 John 1:1-7*

The apostle John brings the Word of Life as an eye-witness. Now that our fellowship is with the Father and the Son, we walk in light, not darkness, and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin!

Wednesday – *Exodus 15:22-26*

The LORD tends Israel, His flock, in the wilderness. After purifying the drinking water, He promises to watch over His people, and to be for them "the LORD who heals."

Thursday – *Ezekiel 34:11-16*

The LORD God will be a shepherd to His flock, to bring them back from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. He will lead them to the richest pasture!

Friday – *1 Peter 1:3-9*

In Jesus' resurrection we have a new birth to a living hope, looking forward to a heavenly inheritance. Even in times of trouble and grief, our dear Shepherd tends us and leads us to the goal.

Saturday – *1 Peter 1:22-25*

Having seen God's true love for us in Christ Jesus, let our love for one another remain fervent, not flickering and dying, for we were born again from an enduring seed, the eternal word of God!



