

October 19, 2025

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

I WILL NOT LET YOU GO UNLESS YOU BLESS ME

GENESIS 32:26



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

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As We Gather

Have you ever found yourself in a struggle of your own making, stubbornly resisting a truth you know you cannot change? Often, these are the very fights we pick with God, wrestling against His will for our lives. Our father Jacob once spent a whole night in a physical wrestling match with the Lord—a fight he could not possibly win, yet from which he would not relent without a blessing. He left that struggle with a limp, but also with a new name and a renewed faith. As we come to God's house today, let us consider our own struggles. May God open our hearts to the surprising grace found not in winning, but in losing the fight we picked with Him.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

18 – Lord, We Come Before Thee Now

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences Ps 147:5; Gen 32:26, 29; Hos 12:4; Rom 7:24-25

P Great is our Lord, and mighty in power;

C His understanding is infinite.

P Jacob said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"

C And He blessed him there.

P Yes, he struggled with the Angel and prevailed;

C He wept, and sought favor from Him.

P O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

C I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Confession and Absolution

P Beloved in the Lord! Just as our father Jacob wrestled with God, we too strive against the will of our Lord. We trust our own plans, demand blessings on our terms, resist His Law, and cling to our sins. We pick a fight with the very God who desires only to bless us. Therefore, let us humble ourselves before His awesome presence, confessing our rebellious hearts and pleading for His unmerited grace.

C O most merciful God, we confess to You that we are by nature sinful and that we have wrestled against Your holy will in our thoughts, words, and deeds. We have loved ourselves more than You and have trusted our own strength more than Your grace. We are bruised and wounded by our rebellion. For the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may stop fighting and instead cling to Him who is our only hope and salvation. Amen.

P Upon this your confession, as a called servant of the Word, I announce God's grace to you. Our Lord Jesus Christ fought the ultimate battle for you, wrestling with sin, darkness, and death itself. Though He was wounded for your transgressions and bruised for your iniquities, He rose victorious on the third day. In His stead and by His command, I therefore 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 ✠

Glory be to the Father

Gloria Patri

P In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff contains a melody with lyrics: "Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy". The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a key signature of one sharp (F#).



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.

Epistle Reading

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

¹⁴ But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, ¹⁵ and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is

given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.¹ I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:² Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;⁴ and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.⁵ But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 121

P I will lift up my eyes to the hills—

C From whence comes my help?

P My help comes from the LORD,

C Who made heaven and earth.

P He will not allow your foot to be moved;

C He who keeps you will not slumber.

P Behold, He who keeps Israel

C Shall neither slumber nor sleep.

P The LORD is your keeper;

C The LORD is your shade at your right hand.

P The sun shall not strike you by day,

C Nor the moon by night.

P The LORD shall preserve you from all evil;

C He shall preserve your soul.

P The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in

C From this time forth, and even forevermore.

Gospel Reading

Luke 18:1-8

¹ Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, ² saying: “There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. ³ Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’ ⁴ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, ⁵ yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’ ” ⁶ Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. ⁷ And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? ⁸ I tell you that He will

avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

Alleluia

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



Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

329 – From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

Sermon Text

Genesis 32:22-30

²² And he arose that night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok. ²³ He took them, sent them over the brook, and sent over what he had. ²⁴ Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. ²⁵ Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him.

²⁶ And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" ²⁷ So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." ²⁸ And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. ³⁰ So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."



Sermon

Losing the Fight You Pick with God

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.

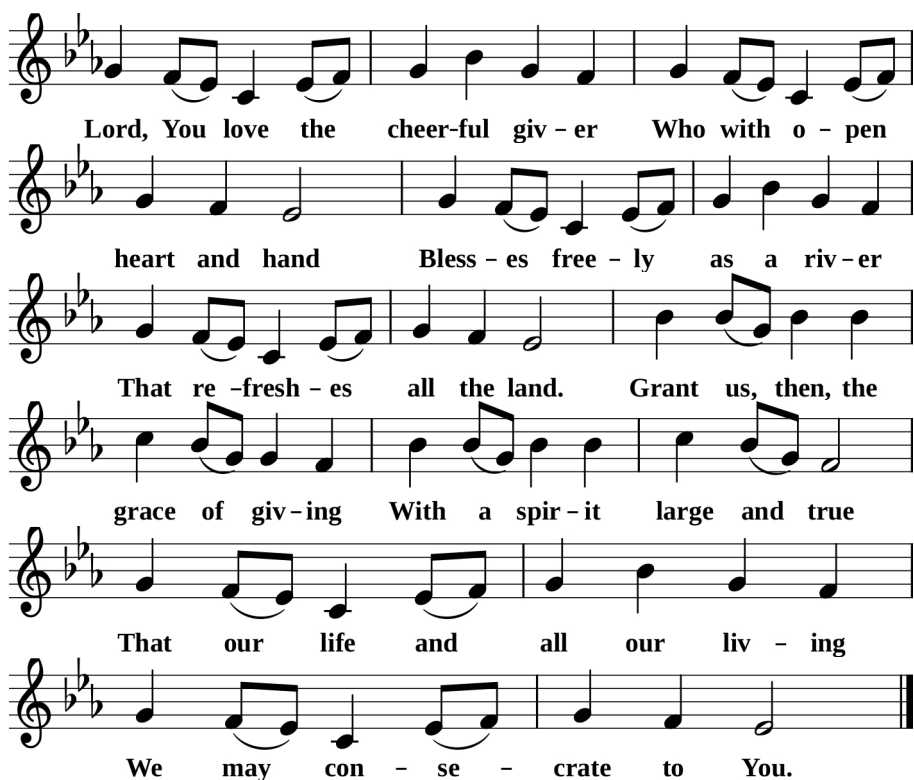
Hymn

784 – Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

Offering

Offering Hymn

788 (1)



Lord, You love the cheer-ful giv - er Who with o - pen
heart and hand Bless - es free - ly as a riv - er
That re - fresh - es all the land. Grant us, then, the
grace of giv - ing With a spir - it large and true
That our life and all our liv - ing
We may con - se - crate to You.

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.

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.

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✝ Announcements ✝

Schedule		
October 19	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service
October 24	10:30 am	Learning with Littles
	6:00 pm	Fall Festival
October 26	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
November 2	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Quarterly Voters’ Meeting/Education/Elders

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

- **November 2** – Quarterly Voters’ Meeting/Education/Elders
- **December 7** – Trustees/Church Council
- **January 4** – Annual Voters’ Meeting

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

Looking Forward to Next Sunday: Imagine standing in the highest courtroom, before the perfectly righteous Judge. The prosecuting attorney—God’s holy Law—presents its case, and the evidence against you is irrefutable. Your own conscience agrees. According to the Law, every mouth must be “stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.” What hope is there when the only just verdict is “Guilty”? This coming Sunday, based on our text from Romans 3:19-28, we will hear God’s final, stunning verdict. The verdict is in, and it’s a declaration of grace, paid for not by our deeds, but by the blood of Christ. Join us to hear this good news!

Southeastern Women's Retreat: Registration is now open for the Southeastern Women's Retreat, to be held in Sherrills Ford, NC, February 13-15, 2026. The theme this year is "Sisters in Christ". To register, please head over to women'sretreat.clclutheran.net, click on SOUTHEAST, and scroll down to the link for the online form. If you would like to register over email or you have any questions, reach out to southeasternwomensretreat@gmail.com. We hope to see you there!

Nominations for ILC Professor Call: The Board of Regents for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary invites "all pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the Church of the Lutheran Confession" (CLC Constitution) to nominate a male or males to fill the vacancy which has been created by the resignation of Professor David Schaller. A plan is already in place to fill this void during the current 2025-26 academic year. As such, the person would start serving in this role during the 2026-27 academic year. It would be preferable for this male to be seminary trained and/or musically trained. Courses to be taught depending on the abilities that the Lord has given this person for use in His Church, may include courses such as music classes, religion classes, college Greek, and other potential disciplines. The person may serve as the director of the mass and tour choirs, also teaching piano and organ. Those submitting nominations should include information regarding the nominee's educational background and teaching and/or professional experience, also indicating how the person might help our school in technology expertise, extracurricular activities, or administrative positions. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 22, 2025 (letters postmarked November 12, 2025) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.

Nominations for ILC President: The Board of Regents invites nominations for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College. The current term of Professor Daniel Schierenbeck concludes on June 30, 2026. All pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the CLC are entitled to nominate a man from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran College to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2026. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 22, 2025 (letters postmarked November 12, 2025) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com

CLC News: Pastor Matthew Ude of Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan, WI, has received the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Emeritus Michael Eichstadt has returned the vacancy call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has received the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, MI, has received the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. <> Professor Mark Weis has received the part-time call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has returned the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI.

Fruits of Faith		October 12, 2025	Attendance: WH – 23; ORL – 10	
<u>Immanuel Lutheran Church</u>		<u>Church of the Lutheran Confession</u>		
<i>General Budget</i>		<i>General Budget</i>		
\$462.00	General Budget	\$100.00	CLC General Budget	
\$1,500.00	Weekly Need	\$67.31	Weekly Need	
-\$1,038.00	-Under / +Over	+\$32.69	-Under / +Over	
\$63,366.51	Year to Date Offerings	\$1,850.00	Year to Date Offerings	
\$61,500.00	Year to Date Need	\$2,759.71	Year to Date Need	
+\$1,866.51	Year to Date (+/-)	-\$909.71	Year to Date (+/-)	
<i>Non-Budgetary</i>		<i>Non-Budgetary</i>		
	Building Fund		ILC Student Aid Fund	
\$100.00	Property Improvement		ILC Building Fund	
	ILC Scholarship Fund		ILC Improvement Fund	
	Tuition Grant		Mission Development (MDF)	
\$45.00	Benevolence Fund		CLC Kinship	
	Learning with Littles		ILC Tour Choir	
	School Fund		Spokesman/Daily Rest	

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

October 20 – October 25, 2025

Monday - *Matthew 13:44-52*

The rulership of heaven is not only a treasure, but it reaches out to all ("fish of every kind" verse 47). At the end of the world comes the separation of the wicked from the righteous (verse 49).

Tuesday - *Acts 20:17-21*

Paul bids farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus and reminds them how he lived among them. During hard times and good times he taught repentance toward God and faith in Jesus.

Wednesday - *Acts 20:22-27*

The Holy Spirit warns Paul of chains and afflictions waiting for him, and he does not expect to see the Ephesians again, but his main concern remains to testify for the gospel of God's grace (verse 24).

Thursday - *Acts 20:28-38*

Paul urges the elders to be always on the alert, guarding the flock given into their care by the Holy Spirit (verse 28). He therefore entrusts them to God and to the powerful word of His grace (verse 32).

Friday - *1 Kings 18:21-40*

God's prophet Elijah demonstrates the difference between the helpless idol Baal and the mighty God. Then comes the separation between those serving Baal and those serving the LORD.

Saturday - *Deuteronomy 21:18-21*

Among the children of Israel, the separation of the stubborn and rebellious (verse 18) from the faithful and righteous even reached into the home and involved parents of faithless offspring.

