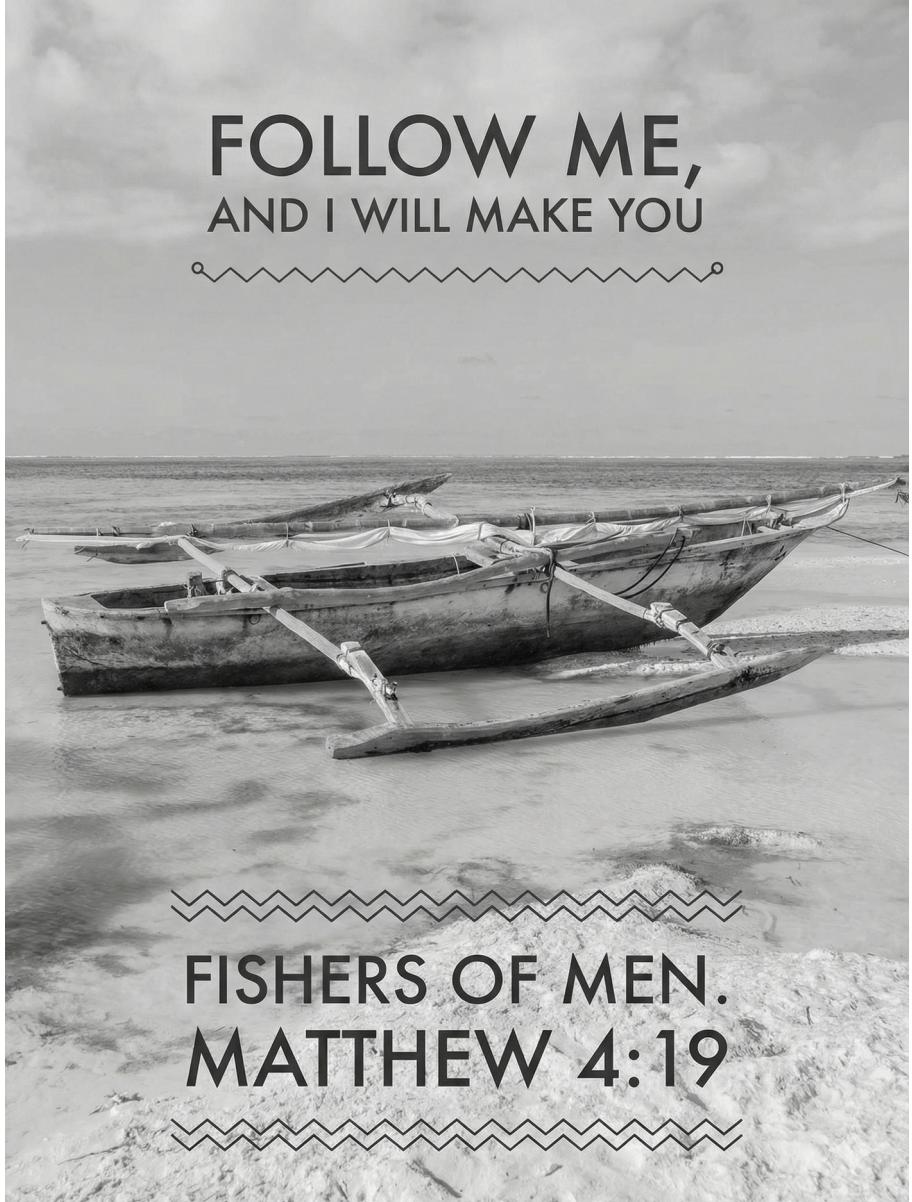


FOLLOW ME, AND I WILL MAKE YOU



FISHERS OF MEN. MATTHEW 4:19



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

1449 34th Street NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

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As We Gather

In the dark regions of Galilee, the Great Light dawned not upon religious elites, but upon common fishermen mending their nets. Today's Gospel takes us to the water's edge where Jesus begins His public ministry. Under the theme "Ordinary Discipleship," we see that the Lord's call comes amidst the mundane routines of life. It is a stark reminder that discipleship is not founded on our extraordinary potential, but on His extraordinary Word. Does the Savior truly use simple vessels to carry His eternal treasure? As we gather to hear His voice, let us put aside the distractions of our own daily labors and marvel at the Grace that says to ordinary sinners, "Follow Me."

† Preparation for Worship †

Hymn

16 – Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Isaiah 9:2; Psalm 27:1; 86:11

P The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light;
C **Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined.**
P The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear?
C **The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?**
P Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth;
C **Unite my heart to fear Your name.**

Confession and Absolution

P Beloved in the Lord, the prophet Isaiah proclaimed that a light has dawned in Galilee of the Gentiles. That Light is Jesus Christ, who came not to the righteous, but to sinners; not to the exalted, but to the lowly. He walks by the shores of our ordinary lives—in our workplaces, our homes, and our struggles—and He calls us to follow Him. Yet, we confess that we have often preferred the darkness of our own ways. We have been divided in our loyalties and slow to leave our nets of sin to follow Him. Let us therefore draw near to God our Father with true hearts to confess our sins, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C O Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am truly sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Almighty God has had mercy upon you. He sent His Son, the Great Light, to shine in the darkness of your sin and to call you to be His disciples. By His perfect life and innocent death, He has atoned for your transgressions. Therefore, as a called servant of the Word, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ 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 †

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.


Kyrie Eleison
LORD, HAVE MERCY

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-shipped 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.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:1-4

¹ Nevertheless the gloom will not be upon her who is distressed, As when at first He lightly esteemed The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, And afterward more heavily oppressed her, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, In Galilee of the Gentiles. ² The people who walked in darkness

Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined.³ You have multiplied the nation And increased its joy; They rejoice before You According to the joy of harvest, As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.⁴ For You have broken the yoke of his burden And the staff of his shoulder, The rod of his oppressor, As in the day of Midian.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 27:1-9

P The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear?

C **The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?**

P When the wicked came against me To eat up my flesh,

C **My enemies and foes, They stumbled and fell.**

P Though an army may encamp against me, My heart shall not fear;

C **Though war may rise against me, In this I will be confident.**

P One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life,

C **To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.**

P For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me;

C **He shall set me high upon a rock.**

P And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle;

C **I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD.**

P Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice!

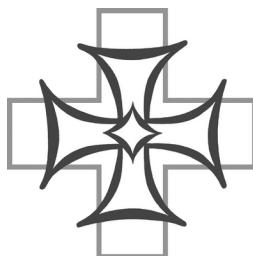
C **Have mercy also upon me, and answer me.**

P When You said, “Seek My face,”

C **My heart said to You, “Your face, LORD, I will seek.”**

P Do not hide Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help;

C **Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.**



¹⁰ Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. ¹¹ For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. ¹² Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." ¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. ¹⁶ Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. ¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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
written 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

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

270 – Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult

Sermon Text

Matthew 4:12-25

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. ¹³ And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: ¹⁵ “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: ¹⁶ The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned.” ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ¹⁸ And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰ They immediately left their nets and followed Him. ²¹ Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. ²³ And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. ²⁴ Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them. ²⁵ Great multitudes followed Him—from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.



Sermon

Ordinary Discipleship

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

277 – I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

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.

Hymn

505 – O'er the Gloomy Hills of Darkness

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† Announcements †

Upcoming Schedule		
January 25	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
February 1	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service
February 6	11:30 am	Board of Education/Board of Elders Meetings
	10:30 am	Learning with Littles
February 8	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)

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

- **February 1** – Education/Elders
- **March 1** – Trustees/Church Council
- **April 5** – Quarterly 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.

Looking Forward to Next Sunday: We all suffer from forgetfulness, but spiritually, our memory is often conveniently selective. Next Sunday, the prophet Micah takes us into a divine courtroom (Micah 6:1-8). The Plaintiff is the LORD; the defendant is His people. His complaint? We remember our perceived burdens but forget His redeeming grace. God asks tenderly, "O My people, what have I done to you?" When we forget His redeeming love, we wrongly assume we must buy His favor with "thousands of rams." Join us as we explore the theme "Selective Memory." We will see that the cure for our wandering hearts is found not in our offerings, but in the One who walked humbly to the cross for us.

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!

National Women's Retreat Coming in January!: Before your 2026 calendar begins to fill up, we want you to mark your calendars and get ready to Press Pause with women across the country!

- **What:** Press Pause for the National Women's (Virtual) Retreat 2026
- **When:** Saturday, January 31, 2026 // 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
- **How:** Join us virtually via Zoom
- **Cost:** Free event – all are welcome!
- **Register now:** <https://tinyurl.com/PressPause26>

CLC News: Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has received the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Ev. Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN, has received the call to Redeemer Lutheran School, Cheyenne, WY. <> Pastor Emeritus John Schierenbeck has returned the vacancy call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Saginaw, MI, has returned the part-time call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor Jonah Albrecht of Redemption Ev. Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA, and Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, has received the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Johnathan Schnose of Bethel Ev. Lutheran Church, Morris, MN, has received the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Mr. Peter Reim has returned the vacancy call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor John Hein of Grace Lutheran Church, Fridley, MN, has announced his retirement as of January 31, 2026. Pastor Hein has also resigned from the CLC Board of Regents. <> Pastor Richard Kanzenbach of St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD, has announced his retirement in summer 2026. <> Pastor Wayne Eichstadt of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA, has been appointed by President Michael Wilke and has accepted the call to serve on the CLC Board of Regents. Pastor Eichstadt will serve as interim secretary until a permanent appointment is made to fill that position.

Fruits of Faith		January 18, 2026		Attendance: WH – 33			
Immanuel Lutheran Church		Church of the Lutheran Confession					
General Budget		General Budget					
\$721.00	General Budget	\$0.00	CLC General Budget				
\$1,362.00	Weekly Need	\$67.31	Weekly Need				
-\$641.00	-Under / +Over	-\$67.31	-Under / +Over				
\$3,572.00	Year to Date Offerings	\$0.00	Year to Date Offerings				
\$4,086.00	Year to Date Need	\$201.93	Year to Date Need				
-\$514.00	Year to Date (+/-)	-\$201.93	Year to Date (+/-)				
Non-Budgetary		Non-Budgetary					
\$80.00	Benevolence Fund						

† Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions †

January 26 – January 31, 2026

Monday - *Matthew 8:1-4*

Jesus' surpassing glory is revealed not only in His power to heal the leper that comes to Him. It is also displayed in His merciful willingness to help the afflicted man with no crowd around him.

Tuesday - *Matthew 8:5-13*

Jesus has not come for Jews alone, but reaches out to a Roman centurion as well. Indeed, many will come from the east and the west (verse 11) to join the patriarchs in the kingdom of heaven.

Wednesday - *Romans 12:16b-21*

In order to show our Savior's glory in our daily walk, Paul's advice is couched in the negative: "Do not ..." take on airs or take revenge, but provide as God provides, even for an enemy.

Thursday - *Psalm 33:1-9*

God's people rejoice to glorify Him with singing and instruments, for His mighty and merciful Word is seen in His creation of the world, its heights and depths, and all of its inhabitants!

Friday - *Psalm 33:10-22*

After creating the world, the LORD still knows what is going on, is mightier than all its kings with all their armies, and watches over those who wait for His mercy (verse 18). May Your mercy be on us.

Saturday - *Psalm 15*

By ourselves, none of us could stand before God in His sanctuary, but there is One who walked righteously and spoke truth and did it all in our name, that we might stand with Him.