



I am the Door

John 10:7



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

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As We Gather

In a world obsessed with shortcuts and alternate routes, we are constantly looking for the easiest way around obstacles. But when it comes to our standing before a holy God and the eternal safety of our souls, there are no shortcuts. There will always be spiritual thieves offering an easier path, trying to lure us over the fence to bypass God's design. In the face of these dangers, where can we find true rest? Today, Jesus uses the comforting picture of a sheepfold to point us to the only source of abundant life. Prepare your hearts to hear the voice of your Savior, because when it comes to our salvation, there is absolutely *No Bypassing the Door*.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

436 – The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 118:19-20; 1 Peter 2:25

- P** Open to me the gates of righteousness;
- C** **I will go through them, And I will praise the LORD.**
- P** This is the gate of the LORD,
- C** **Through which the righteous shall enter.**
- P** You were like sheep going astray,
- C** **But have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.**

Confession and Absolution

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Our Heavenly Father has provided only one access to His grace: Jesus Christ, the true Light of the world. Yet, in our sinful pride, we constantly try to bypass His ways. We seek to climb into His favor by our own merits, our own logic, and our own good works. We prefer the shadows of our own making, and we wander away like sheep going astray in the darkness. But the Light of Christ has shone upon us, revealing our sin and our desperate need for a Savior. Let us draw near to Him with a true heart, confessing our sins, and pleading His mercy for the sake of His Son.

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. I have sought to bypass Your ways. I have failed to continue steadfastly in Your Word and have strayed from the Shepherd of my soul. But I am truly sorry for my sins 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 in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.



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.



First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. ⁴³ Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, ⁴⁵ and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. ⁴⁶ So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 23

- P** The LORD is my shepherd;
- C I shall not want.**
- P** He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
- C He leads me beside the still waters.**
- P** He restores my soul;
- C He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.**
- P** Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
- C For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**
- P** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
- C You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.**
- P** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life;
- C And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.**

Epistle Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹ For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. ²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. ²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: ²² “Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”; ²³ who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; ²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed. ²⁵ For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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

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

355 – Thou Art the Way; to Thee Alone

Sermon Text

John 10:1-10

¹ “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. ² But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵ Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them. ⁷ Then Jesus said to them

again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.



Sermon

No Bypassing the Door

Offertory

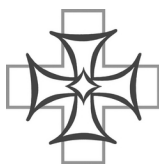
Musical notation for the Offertory, consisting of five staves of music in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: "Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly Spir-it from me. Restore to me the joy of Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free." The music ends with a double bar line.

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. Restore to me the joy of Your sal -
va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Hymn

383 – Seek Where You May to Find a Way

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
Thee at length be - lieve That more hap - py
and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.

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 ✝

Upcoming Schedule – winterhavenlutheran.com/church-calendar

April 26	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
May 3	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Board of Education/Elders Meetings
May 8	10:30 am	Learning with Littles
May 10	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)

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

- **May 3** – Education/Elders
- **June 7** – Trustees/Church Council
- **July 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: Have you ever covered your ears to drown out a sound you didn’t want to hear? In our text for next Sunday (Acts 6 and 7), the religious leaders literally "stopped their ears" and rushed at Stephen. They were desperate to silence his preaching of the resurrected Christ. Next week, we will explore the theme, "Spiritual Earplugs and the Un-silenced Word." By nature, our flesh readily reaches for spiritual earplugs when God’s Law confronts our sin. Yet, the un-silenced Gospel of Jesus breaks through our deafness with the sweet sound of complete forgiveness. Join us next Sunday as we see how even stones cannot silence the saving Word of our living Lord!

CLC Women's Retreat West: Join Grace Ev. Lutheran Church (Valentine, NE) for the Women's Retreat West, happening September 18-20, 2026, at the Arrowood Cedar Shore Resort in Oacoma, SD. This year's sessions will focus on Words to Others, Words to Yourself, and Words to the Lord. Come enjoy a refreshing weekend filled with Bible study, heart-opening conversations, and wonderful fellowship activities.

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer." – Psalm 19:14

For more information, please visit: <https://womensretreat.clclutheran.net/womens-retreat>

CLC News: Pastor Jonah Albrecht of Redemption Ev. Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA, and Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, has returned the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Johnathan Schnose of Bethel Ev. Lutheran Church, Morris, MN, has received and accepted the vacancy call to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN. <> Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, MI, has received the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Pastor Ben Libby of Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY, has received the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI. <> The Call Committee for Graduates has extended the call to Redeemer Lutheran School, Cheyenne, WY, to ILC Education Program Graduate Mr. Orrin Hanel <> Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Saginaw, MI, has returned the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Teacher Ross Kok of Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ, has returned the call to teach grades 3-4 and serve as associate principal at Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Ted Barthels of St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Austin, MN, has announced his retirement from the pastoral ministry as of April 30, 2026.

Fruits of Faith		April 19, 2026	Attendance: WH – 35	
<u>Immanuel Lutheran Church</u>			<u>Church of the Lutheran Confession</u>	
<i>General Budget</i>			<i>General Budget</i>	
\$608.00	General Budget	\$0.00	CLC General Budget	
\$1,362.00	Weekly Need	\$67.31	Weekly Need	
-\$754.00	-Under / +Over	-\$67.31	-Under / +Over	
\$19,995.72	Year to Date Offerings	\$705.00	Year to Date Offerings	
\$21,792.00	Year to Date Need	\$1,076.96	Year to Date Need	
-\$1,796.28	Year to Date (+/-)	-\$371.96	Year to Date (+/-)	
<i>Non-Budgetary</i>			<i>Non-Budgetary</i>	
\$40.00	Benevolence			

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

April 27 – May 2, 2026

Monday - *John 16:16-23*

After Easter Jesus' disciples must have remembered these words, spoken by Him on the night of His betrayal. Now that He had returned to them, their sorrow was certainly turned to joy (verse 20).

Tuesday - *1 Peter 2:11-12*

The resurrection of Jesus makes such a difference in our lives! Now we have a future ahead of us that makes our stay here, with all it's temptations to sin, merely temporary, until He comes.

Wednesday - *1 Peter 2:13-20*

As people freed by the resurrection, may we not use our freedom to indulge ourselves, but rather to glorify God by doing good. If we suffer for doing good, and endure it, God is glorified.

Thursday - *Lamentations 3:18-26*

In spite of affliction and suffering, the prophet remembers the mercies of the LORD, and he has hope. Wait for the LORD. It is good to hope quietly for the salvation of the LORD (verse 26).

Friday - *Psalms 146*

Hallelujah! (Praise the LORD!) Assured of life through Jesus' resurrection, I will praise the LORD forever (verse 2)! Human helpers are so limited, but the Maker of heaven and earth reigns forever (verse 10).

Saturday - *Psalms 75*

Thanks be to God that He rules and upholds the earth. The wicked, who wag their horns at Him, will surely be brought down, even as the righteous will be lifted up (verse 10). Oh, give thanks!



