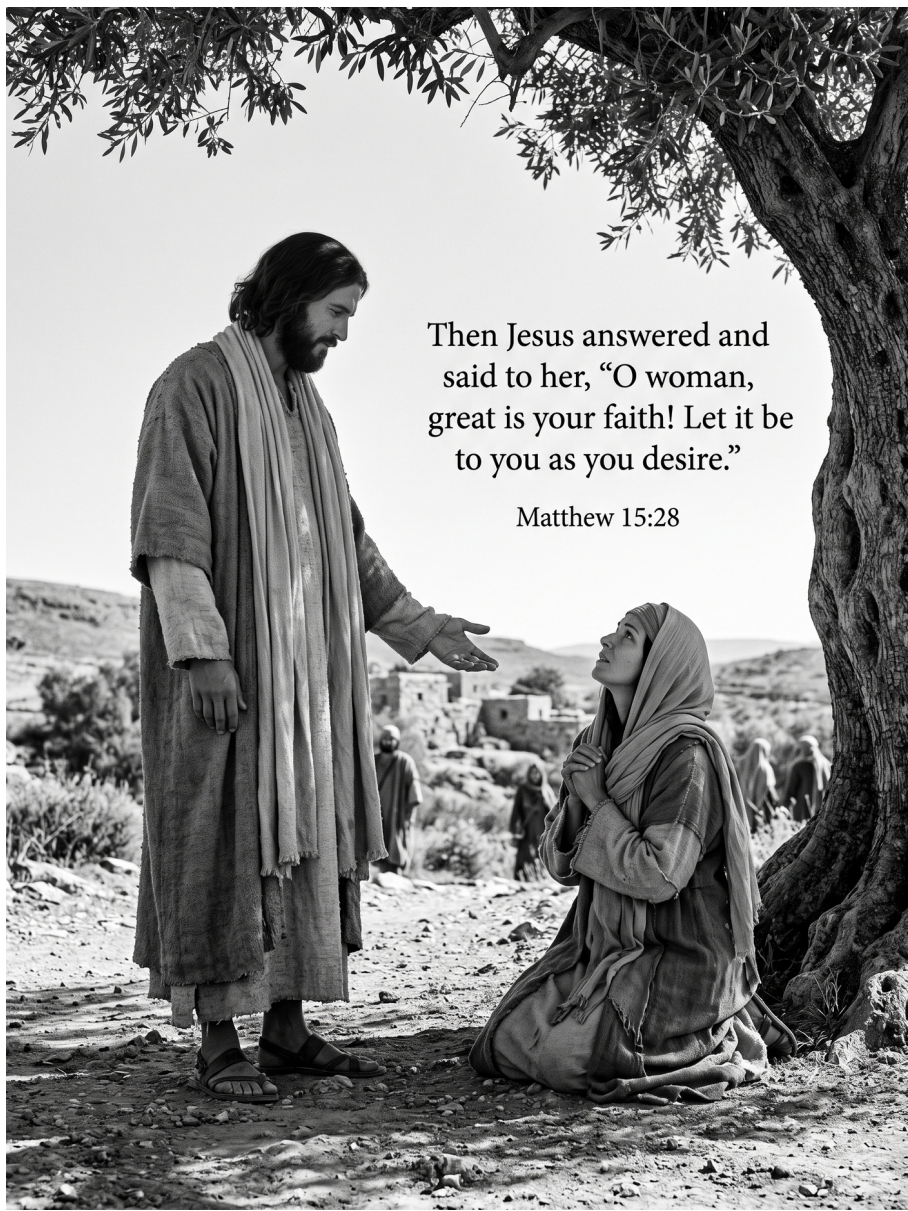




Then Jesus answered and
said to her, “O woman,
great is your faith! Let it be
to you as you desire.”

Matthew 15:28



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

1449 34th Street NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

www.WinterHavenLutheran.com

Rob Sauers, Pastor (920) 602-3242

Neil Bernthal, Teacher (863) 967-5145

Katie Naumann, Teacher (253) 230-4184

As We Gather

When we face deep trials or feelings of profound unworthiness, our natural tendency is to despair. We often wonder if God is listening or if His grace is simply meant for someone else. Today's Gospel takes us to Tyre and Sidon, where a desperate mother faces what seem to be insurmountable obstacles in her plea for Jesus' help. Yet, in her struggle, we discover profound comfort for our own dark days. What does it mean to cling to Christ's promises when everything else seems to push us away? As we gather around His Word this morning, we will be reminded that our faith rests entirely on His boundless mercy. Great faith is only great because it clings to a Great Savior.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

1 – Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 86:5; 33:22; 84:11-12

P O Lord, open my lips,

C And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

P For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive,

C And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.

P Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us,

C Just as we hope in You.

P The Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

C O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man who trusts in You!

Confession and Absolution

P Beloved in the Lord! We gather today acknowledging that our Savior is great, yet our faith is often weak. We are easily discouraged by the trials of this life and quick to doubt the expansive, unfailing mercy of God. By our own merits, we are unworthy of even the least of His mercies, yet He invites us to draw near and appeal to His steadfast love. Let us therefore come before God our Father with a true heart, confessing our sins and asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. We have not trusted You with a great and persistent faith. We have doubted Your goodness in times of trial, and we have failed to show Your abundant mercy to our neighbors. We deserve nothing but Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the boundless grace of Your Son, Jesus Christ, we cry out: Lord, help us! Have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called servant of Christ, and by His authority, 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.

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son
and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be-ginning,
is now, and ev-er shall be for - ev-er more. A - men.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for 'Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son'. The second staff continues the melody for 'and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be-ginning,'. The third staff concludes with 'is now, and ev-er shall be for - ev-er more. A - men.' The lyrics are written below the notes.



Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

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

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The second staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis – 238 (1)

All glory be to God a - lone, For - ev-er more the Highest One,
Who doth our sin-ful race be - friend And grace and peace to
us ex-tend. A-mong man - kind may His good will All
hearts with deep thanks - giv - ing fill.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves. The first staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The second staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The third staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The fourth staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The fifth staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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 56:1, 6-8

¹ Thus says the LORD: “Keep justice, and do righteousness, For My salvation is about to come, And My righteousness to be revealed. ⁶ “Also the sons of the foreigner Who join themselves to the LORD, to serve Him, And to love the name of the LORD, to be His servants— Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant— ⁷ Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.” ⁸ The Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, “Yet I will gather to him Others besides those who are gathered to him.”

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 67

- P** God be merciful to us and bless us,
C And cause His face to shine upon us.
P That Your way may be known on earth,
C Your salvation among all nations.
P Let the peoples praise You, O God;
C Let all the peoples praise You.
P Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy!
C For You shall judge the people righteously, And govern the nations on earth.
P Let the peoples praise You, O God;
C Let all the peoples praise You.
P Then the earth shall yield her increase;
C God, our own God, shall bless us.
P God shall bless us,
C And all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.



Epistle Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32

¹ I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. ¹³ For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, ¹⁴ if by any means I may provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh and save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? ²⁸ Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, ³¹ even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. ³² For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.

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!

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

323 – With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh

²¹ Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." ²³ But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." ²⁴ But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" ²⁶ But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." ²⁷ And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.



Sermon

Great Faith Has a Great Savior

Offertory

Create 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, and take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of Your sal - va - tion; and up -
hold me with Your free spir - it. A - men.

Hymn

324 (1-2, 6-8) – Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

Offering

Offering Hymn

443 (1, 8)



1 O Lord of heav'n and earth and sea, To
2 To Thee, from whom we all de- rive Our
Thee all praise and glo- ry to be. How
life, our gifts, and our pow'r to give. Oh,
shall we show our love to Thee, Who giv-est all?
may we ev- er with Thee live, Who giv-est all!

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

47 – Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

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✝ Announcements ✝

Upcoming Schedule – winterhavenlutheran.com/church-calendar

August 16	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service
August 23	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
		Education Sunday – ILS Children Sing
August 30	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service

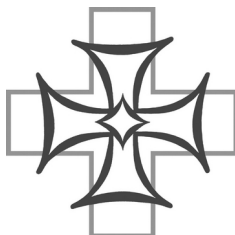
Upcoming Meetings: Here is a schedule of our upcoming meetings:

- **September 6** – Trustees
- **October 4** – Church Council
- **November 1** – Education/Elders/Quarterly Voters' Meeting

In Our Prayers: Please keep our shut-in members in your prayers: Don Beymer, Bob & Joan Doriot, Johanna Jaehnigen, Elsie Kleinschmidt, Shirley Rosenberry, and Mike Sheffield.

Ed Morris is in the hospital. He hopes to return home this week.

Looking Forward to Next Sunday: Remember the dread of an unannounced test in school? The sudden anxiety, the scramble for a pencil, the hope that you actually read the assignment? Next Sunday, as we celebrate Christian Education Sunday, we will examine "The Ultimate Pop Quiz." In Matthew 16:13-20, Jesus looks squarely at His disciples and asks the most critical question in human history: "But who do you say that I am?" There is no multiple-choice lifeline here, and the grading is strictly pass/fail! Thankfully, as Peter boldly confesses, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God," we learn that our Heavenly Father mercifully provides the perfect answer key. Join us next week to see how a faithful Christian education prepares us to confidently answer the only question that truly matters.

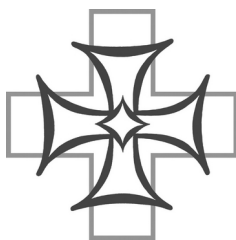


New Bible Class Series: This morning, our adult Bible class begins a new series titled, "Earthen Vessels: Saints and Sinners in the Hands of a Gracious God." Over the coming weeks, we will look closely at the historical lives of twelve prominent men in Scripture. Rather than treating them as perfect heroes, we will examine both their God-given faith and their deep, undeniable flaws.

We begin our study today with Noah. While we rightfully remember Noah for his steadfast faith in building the ark, Scripture does not gloss over his spectacular failures—most notably his tragic fall into drunkenness and shame after the floodwaters receded. Noah was not spared from the judgment of the flood because he was naturally righteous; rather, as Genesis 6:8 tells us, "Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD."

Against the backdrop of his weakness, the unmerited grace of God shines all the more brightly. It is a study of the comforting truth that we are simultaneously saint and sinner, and a powerful reminder that the Lord consistently operates by grace alone, using frail, Earthen vessels to carry out His perfect plan of salvation.

CLC Call News: Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has returned the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Pastor David Reim of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Vernon, British Columbia, has returned the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD. <> Pastor David Reim has also returned the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Michael Roehl of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND, has returned the call to St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Austin, MN. <> Pastor Luke Willitz of Living Savior Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, MN, has returned the call to Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN. <> Pastor Emeritus Paul Tiefel has returned the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, has received the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison, Heights, MI.



✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

August 17–22, 2026

Monday – *Genesis 32:22-30*

Jacob wrestles with a Man until daybreak, refusing to let go even when his hip is injured. He demonstrates a relentless reliance on God's promises in the face of struggle, declaring, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" (v. 26).

Tuesday – *Luke 18:1-8*

Jesus tells a parable of a widow who constantly comes to an unjust judge to plead her case. He uses this story to teach His disciples that they "always ought to pray and not lose heart" (v. 1), reminding us that our heavenly Father will surely answer His own who cry out to Him.

Wednesday – *Mark 9:14-27*

A desperate father brings his suffering, demon-possessed son to Jesus, begging for compassion and help. When Jesus reminds him that all things are possible to him who believes, the father cries out with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" (v. 24).

Thursday – *Psalms 130*

The psalmist calls out to the Lord from the depths of despair, acknowledging that if God were to mark iniquities, no one could stand. Yet, he finds profound hope and waits on the Lord, knowing that "with the LORD there is mercy, And with Him is abundant redemption" (v. 7).

Friday – *Ephesians 2:11-18*

Paul reminds Gentile believers that they were once strangers to the covenants of promise and without hope. But through the boundless grace of Christ, those who "once were far off have been brought near" (v. 13), breaking down the wall of separation so that we might all have access to the Father.

Saturday – *Hebrews 4:14-16*

Because we have a sympathetic High Priest who understands our earthly trials and weaknesses, we are not left in despair. We are invited to "come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (v. 16).

