

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; Aug. 16-21, '21

Mon 1 Kings 19:1-8 Devilish Jezebel was the power behind the throne, and since she knew Elijah was God's servant, she gave him 24 hours to get out of town; he *ran for his life* (1-3). A few days later, exhausted and ready to call it quits, Elijah asked God to relieve him from his ministry (4). God had other plans. After getting Elijah jump-started, (5-7) God sent him to the well-known religious retreat at Sinai (8), where God would continue the meeting.

Tues John 6:41-51 Jesus could talk religion with anyone, including the home-town skeptics (41-42). But how to get through to them? Perhaps by using the picture language that nutritious bread = Himself. So when Jesus said, "*I am the bread of life,*" it was picture language for Himself being nutrition for one's soul unto eternal life (36).

Wed Ephesians 4:30-5:2 proves that the Holy Spirit of God is not a cosmic force nor an abstraction, but a Person—and a sensitive Person at that, with tender feelings. Keeping that in mind, we treat others in ways that suit His love for us humans (30-32). *Therefore*, as children of the heavenly Father, our pattern of life/living will mirror Jesus' life (1-2). Right?

Thurs Psalm 34 The Holy Spirit has loaded this psalm with spiritual manna, so we roll His Word around on our tongues and *taste* (see and experience for ourselves) that the LORD is good (8), that we have His good reason for our good life (11-14), that the LORD is attentive to our contrite spirit (17-18), that our afflictions are temporary (19), and (last but not least) that He redeems our soul via Jesus from the condemnation we deserve (22). Praise the LORD!

Fri Proverbs 1:8-19 Solomon is speaking to his son, as he does in many other Proverbs (cf. 5:1, 7:1, 10:1, 12:1, 13:1). Solomon was intent on sparing his son from mistakes that youngsters are apt to make—and boys who are princes tend to get away with a lot—such as joining a gang in criminal activity like grand larceny (10-14). Dear reader, choose your friends carefully lest you become a victim also, for there's no honor among thieves (15-19).

Sat Matthew 13:24-43 Since God's ways are heavenly and therefore foreign to human minds—Jesus helps us slow learners by using homely illustrations – that is, parables (34-35). When Jesus revealed that God's kingdom can be infiltrated by cheats, He laid it out in terms of gardening/farming (24-33) like this: Although Christianity is God's plantation, some greens among God's plants are worthless weeds (hypocrites), and it is beyond our skill to weed them out from among the repentant children of God. That's the job of God's good angels on the last day.

August 15, 2021

Trinity 12

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Mike Sheffield

Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne

FAITH

the substance of things hoped for
the evidence of things not seen



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PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION

Ps. 34:1-8

¹ I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. ² My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. ³ Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together! ⁴ I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. ⁵ Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. ⁶ This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. ⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. ⁸ Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

P Pastor

OPENING PRAYER

C Congregation

HYMN: TLH #18

“Lord, We Come Before Thee Now”

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

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 conception. 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 forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

C Amen!

INTROIT

Ps. 34:8-10; 145:16

P You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

C **Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!**

P Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!

C **The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.**

Deuteronomy 8:11-17 *“Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God...when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; and when your herds and flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, when your heart is lifted up...then you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.’”*

Feast or Famine

“Wow! Can you believe all this rain? I can't remember when it was so wet!” “I can't even get out to mow my lawn!” This summer and fall I heard these and similar sentiments in our neck of the woods. But, not too long ago one might have heard, “Wow! Is it hot! I can't remember when it's been so dry!” “I haven't mowed my grass for weeks!”

Isn't that how life is - too much rain followed by too little, years of plenty with years of want and scarcity hard on their heels, years of prosperity interspersed with years of shortfalls – feast or famine? We may have years where our hard work and effort bring about prosperity and comfort and others where our efforts bring little or no tangible results. There are times when the church pews and classrooms are full and budget discussions are simple. Then there are periods of missing members, dropping enrollments, and numerous financial discussions.

Yet, constant through it all is our faithful God and His abiding Word! The Lord has promised to bless our efforts. He has promised to care for us. He may not still every storm, but He does promise to see us through every day. And isn't that just what He has done? Look back on your life and that of your congregation. Hasn't God blessed you with material and spiritual blessings beyond counting? Since God done the much more difficult in sending His own Son Jesus to die for our sins, will He not also do the very minor thing and care for our earthly bodies?

Prayer: *O Lord, when times of prosperity come, keep me humble and thankful. When times of want arrive, keep me faithful and patient. Amen.*

✠ Announcements ✠

Thank you to the men of the congregation who led the services while Pastor was away on family vacation!

Sharon Brown received her heavenward call early Thursday afternoon. She had been in hospice care at Good Shepherd Hospice in Auburndale after battling cancer for some time. We praise the Lord for delivering another one of His saints! Funeral service details will be coming soon.

School Begins here at Immanuel tomorrow morning. Please pray for the teachers and the students for a successful school year!

✠ **Today:** Communion Service
 ✠ **Today:** Council Meeting
 ✠ **Tonight:** Back to School Party
 ✠ **Aug. 16:** School Begins

Offering Envelope Funds As a reminder of the various funds that appear on your offering envelopes and their uses: **Home Funds** are offerings that go to support the work of our local congregation. **Synodical Funds** are offerings that go to support the work of our synod as a whole. **Home Operating Budget** – The recurring expenses to keep the church and school running, such as payroll, insurance, maintenance, etc. This is our most used fund. **Building Fund** – Special large ticket items such as air conditioner replacement or plumbing repairs. **Property Improvement Fund** – Special large ticket improvement items for church buildings. **ILC Scholarship Fund** – Tuition assistance for children of church members to attend Immanuel Lutheran High School in Eau Claire, WI. **Tuition Grant Fund** – Tuition assistance for children to attend our own school here at Immanuel. **Benevolence Fund** – Used to help families (primarily church families) with any special needs. **CLC Offerings (Missions)** – Support for Immanuel Lutheran College operations and CLC Mission endeavors. **ILC Building Fund** – Supports new or updated buildings at Immanuel Lutheran College. **CLC Student Aid Fund** – Tuition assistance for students who attend Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire, WI. **Other** – All other funds not listed above, such as Memorials or Petty Cash or Kinship.

Shut-in/Encouragement List **Patti Meno** continues to receive regular dialysis and is awaiting a kidney transplant. **Johanna Jaehnigen** remains mostly housebound. **Paulette Galstad** is suffering through bad back pain and other health problems. **Greg Tincher** is recovering from his recent surgeries at home and receiving frequent therapy. **Rudy Enriquez** is receiving treatment for throat cancer. **Shirley Rosenberry** is struggling with severe knee pain which has greatly limited her mobility. **Liz Hartmann** is home recovering from recent surgery.

Two Weeks Ago: WH – 28 **Total Offering** = \$1,004.25
 Gen. = \$814.25 | CLC Missions = \$40 | KINSHIP = \$150

Cleaner (8/21): Naumann | **Acolyte (8/22):** Hayden Morris

LORD, HAVE MERCY and GLORY TO GOD

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

C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,

Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
 At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:

We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
 O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
 Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,

Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
 Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
 With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

▣ Gracious Father, Your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Grant that Christ, the bread of life, may live in us and we in Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

▣ Amen.

Lord, to whom
else shall we go?



GOSPEL READING – John 6:41-51 So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴² They said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³ Jesus answered them, "Do not grumble among yourselves. ⁴⁴ No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. ⁴⁵ It is written in the Prophets, 'And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me-- ⁴⁶ not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷ Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰ This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

EPISTLE READING – Ephesians 4:31-5:2 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. **5:1** Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ² And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

✠ 4 ✠

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

C: 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!

THE BENEDICTION:

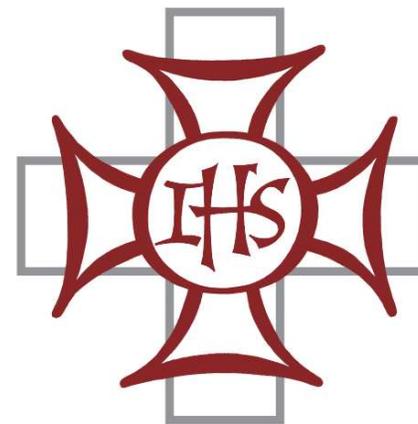
Numbers 6:24-26

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

G Amen!

HYMN: TLH #659

"Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy"



✠ 9 ✠

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, you'll want to find out if our church teaches what the Bible does! The pastor would be happy to discuss this with you at your convenience!

THE DISTRIBUTION

Please remain seated.

P Take and eat. This is the true body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take and drink. This cup is the true blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

May this body and blood strengthen and preserve you in the true faith, unto life everlasting. Depart in peace. Amen.

C: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For
light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

G 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: TLH #215

"Draw Us to Thee"

SERMON – 1 Kings 19:1-8 Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. ² Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." ³ Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. ⁴ But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers." ⁵ And he lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, "Arise and eat." ⁶ And he looked, and behold, there

was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again. ⁷ And the angel of the LORD came again a second time and touched him and said, "Arise and eat, for the journey is too great for you." ⁸ And he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mount of God.

The Cure for Discouragement

Looking inward – we find despair leading to death

Looking upward – we find hope leading to life

OFFERTORY

WS p.16

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

- C** ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

HYMN: TLH #525 "As Pants the Hart for Cooling Streams"



– OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS –

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:



OFFERING HYMN: TLH #788:1 "Lord, You Love..."

- C** ♪ Lord, You love the cheerful giver Who with open heart and hand Blesses freely, as a river That refreshes all the land. Grant us, then, the grace of giving With a spirit large and true That our life and all our living We may consecrate to You.

GENERAL PRAYER and 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.

- 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: Who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

- C** ♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabbaoth, adored; Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me." And the peace of the Lord will be with you always!

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.

The Order of Holy Communion

