

*Because I live,
you also
will live.*

John 14:19



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

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Welcome to Worship

Where is Jesus? Where is God? These are questions surrounding presence—questions we and others may ask in times of doubt, fear, loneliness, or grief. We may wonder if God is with us, if He cares for us, if He hears our prayers. We may feel like orphans in a hostile world. But Jesus assures us that He has not left us as orphans. He has given us another Helper, the Holy Spirit, who abides with us and in us. He has also given us His commandments, which show us how to love Him and one another. And He has promised to come to us and reveal Himself to us as our risen and living Lord. As we gather for worship today, let us rejoice in the presence of God in our lives and praise Him for His love and grace.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

239 – Come, Thou Almighty King

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

[Hebrews 10:22]; Psalm 124:8; 32:5

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”

C **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only-begotten Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.

P Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Introit

Psalm 148:1-2, 11-14

P Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens;

C Praise Him in the heights!

P Praise Him, all His angels;

C Praise Him, all His hosts!

P Kings of the earth and all peoples;

C Princes and all judges of the earth;

P Both young men and maidens;

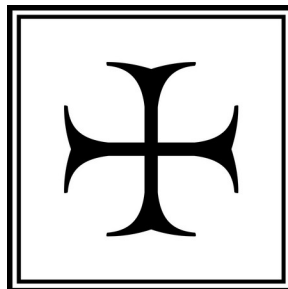
C Old men and children.

P Let them praise the name of the LORD, For His name alone is exalted;

C His glory is above the earth and heaven.

P And He has exalted the horn of His people, The praise of all His saints

C Of the children of Israel, A people near to Him. Praise the LORD!



Gloria Patri

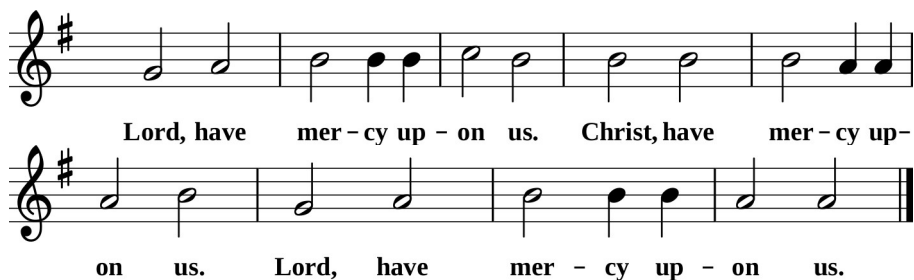
Glory be to the Father



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.

Kyrie

Lord, Have Mercy



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

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on High - Hymn 238, st. 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.

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 17:22-31

²² Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; ²³ for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: ²⁴ God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. ²⁵ Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. ²⁶ And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, ²⁷ so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; ²⁸ for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’ ²⁹ Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man’s devising. ³⁰ Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, ³¹ because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”



Psalm of the Day

Psalm 66:1-4, 16-20

- P** Make a joyful shout to God,
C **all the earth!**
P Sing out the honor of His name;
C **Make His praise glorious.**
P Say to God, “How awesome are Your works!
C **Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies shall submit themselves to You.**
P All the earth shall worship You And sing praises to You;
C **They shall sing praises to Your name.”**
P Come and hear, all you who fear God,
C **And I will declare what He has done for my soul.**
P I cried to Him with my mouth,
C **And He was extolled with my tongue.**
P If I regard iniquity in my heart,
C **The Lord will not hear.**
P But certainly God has heard me;
C **He has attended to the voice of my prayer.**
P Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer,
C **Nor His mercy from me!**

Epistle Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. “And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.” ¹⁵ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; ¹⁶ having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. ¹⁷ For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, ¹⁹ by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. ²¹ There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

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

349 (1-2, 4, 7) – Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

Sermon Text

John 14:15-21

¹⁵ “If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—
¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ “A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. ²⁰ At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. ²¹ He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”



Sermon

I Will Not Leave You as Orphans

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

Hymn

351 – Love Divine, All Love Excelling

Offering Hymn

442 st. 2

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee
Gladly, freely, of Thine own;
With the sunshine of Thy goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by Thee, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.

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

738 – Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

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✠ Announcements ✠

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in our Savior's name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning, and hope that you will come back and join us again. It is our prayer that your faith will be strengthened by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms and hymns that our Scripture-based liturgy offers. If you have any questions about our church or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please ask Pastor Sauers.

Upcoming Schedule

May 14	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
May 21	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service/Promotion Sunday
May 28	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)

New Opportunity in Uganda: The Kinship Committee and CLC Board of Missions has taken on a new and exciting opportunity—supporting a group of twenty orphans in Iganga, Uganda. Pastor Daniel Mugeni and his wife, Aidah, have taken on the task of caring for these orphans, and the financial burden on them is substantial. Pastors Gurath and Bernthal were able to spend time with the Mugeni family in July of 2022 and saw firsthand both their genuine love for these children and their genuine need for financial assistance. Please consider becoming a sponsor of one of these children. The commitment is \$45/mo. Kinship is also in need of sponsors for seminary students throughout the world. The financial commitment required to support overseas seminary students is similar, ranging from \$30 to \$50/mo. To become a sponsor or for more information, please contact Dan Roehl at 507-381-2042 or danroehl@hotmail.com.

Renew Your Subscription to Lutheran Spokesman and Daily Rest: The Lutheran Spokesman and Daily Rest are publications that offer biblical insights and inspiration for your daily walk with Christ. If you are a current subscriber, please review and update your information on the renewal sheet at the back of church. The sheet lists the names, addresses, and number of copies for each subscriber. To cancel your subscription, mark an X in the Delete box next to your name. To change your address, cross out the old one and write the new one below. To subscribe for the first time, write your name, address, and number of copies at the bottom of the sheet. The renewal sheet and payments are due by June 30, 2023. You can pay through your offering by indicating the amount for the Spokesman (\$14 per subscription) and/or Daily Rest (\$15 per subscription). Thank you for your interest and support of these publications that enrich our faith and fellowship.

Branches: The Branches is a Christian Women’s magazine which is published quarterly by women of the CLC. Subscriptions are available for the 2023-2024 subscription year (July through June). The Branches staff prays that, through this publication, we serve:

- to encourage you in your personal and family Bible study
- to edify you in your daily walk with Christ
- to provide a means to use and share your God-given gifts
- to celebrate and reflect upon God’s gift of Christian sisters, near and far

Consider a subscription for yourself and/or gift subscriptions for women in your life! The cost is \$15.00/year for 4 issues. Checks are payable to, “The Branches,” and should be sent to: Sandy Hulke, Subscription Manager, 29985 Norway Ave, Lindstrom, MN 55045. Online payments are also available via PayPal - you may contact Sandy Hulke at thebranchesmagazine@gmail.com.

Christ's Explorers Camp: Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church (W. Columbia, SC) will be hosting Christ's Explorers Camp July 20th - 23rd in Sevierville, TN. Camp is open to students entering grades 3-9 for the 2023-24 school year. The cost is \$100 per camper. This year's theme is "Guiding Lights" with the theme passage being Psalm 119:105. The devotions and Bible studies will focus on how Jesus and His Word help us to overcome the darkness and confusion of the sinful world around us. Slots still available! You may register at christsexplorerscamp.com.

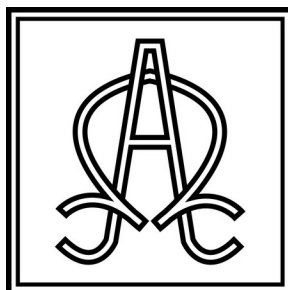
Pacific Coast Women's Retreat: Grow in Grace October 6-8, 2023 in Cusick, WA! We welcome all girls and women to our retreat in the beautiful Pacific Northwest! Planes, trains, and automobiles will bring you to Spokane, and then we'll lead you an hour-ish north to the Ponderosa Lodge. "Stay in the Know" by signing up on the Gethsemane Lutheran Church website for periodic updates. <https://gethsemaneclc.org/events/pacific-coast-womens-retreat/> Questions? Contact Tina Eichstadt, teichstadt@gmail.com or 651-398-2386.

CLC Call News: Pastor Nathanael Mayhew of Grace Lutheran in Sleepy Eye, MN and Faith Lutheran in New Ulm, MN has returned the call to serve as the third pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Messiah, Eau Claire has now extended that call to Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew Lutheran in Dallas, TX.

Fruits of Faith – May 7, 2023 – WH – 39	
Immanuel Home	\$1,733.25
Property Improvement	\$200.00
ILC Scholarship	\$50.00
Missions	\$50.00
Total Offering	\$2,033.25

✠ Serving Next Weekend ✠

Cleaner (5/20): Custodio **Acolyte (5/21):** Maxwell Kuehne



✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

May 15 - May 20, 2023

Monday: Luke 11:5-13 – Jesus encourages us to pray by reminding us that even a friend who doesn't want to be bothered will respond to requests when His heart is not in it. But God wants us to ask, seek, and knock. And while sinful human fathers give good gifts, our heavenly Father will give the greatest gifts.

Tuesday: 1 Timothy 2:1-6 – The apostle urges prayers for ALL people, even for those in high positions whom we may never meet. The goal of our prayers will be the same as God's own goal: conditions favorable to the salvation of ALL people, as they come to know the Way, the Truth, and the Life, Jesus Christ.

Wednesday: Isaiah 55:6-11 – The Lord wants His people to approach Him, seeking His compassion and forgiveness. The thoughts and ways of sinful man lead to destruction, but the thoughts and ways of the Lord lead to salvation. This gift of life is brought to us by His word, like water bringing life to the earth.

Thursday: Luke 24:50-53 – Luke closes His Gospel with Jesus' ascension. The last time the disciples see Him, His hands are uplifted in blessing, which brings their response of joyous worship as they return to Jerusalem in accord with their Lord's instructions.

Friday: Colossians 3:1-4 – The ascended Lord directs our attention heavenward as we await His glorious return. Although our life is still hidden with Christ in God (v. 3), it is nonetheless glorious, far more glorious than things that are on earth (v. 2).

Saturday: John 17:11-26 – Jesus is on a path to the Father that will pass through suffering and death on the cross. He prays for His disciples and for all who will believe through their testimony (v. 20). His prayer is for unity and love among those who follow Him to the Father, whom they have learned to know through Him.

