

**“YOU INTENDED TO HARM ME, BUT GOD INTENDED IT FOR GOOD TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT IS NOW BEING DONE, THE SAVING OF MANY LIVES.”**

**GENESIS 50:20, NIV**

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**Immanuel Lutheran Church & School**

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## As We Gather

Forgiveness is filled with questions. How often must I forgive? Is there a limit to the grace of forgiveness? What is the connection between God's forgiveness to me and my forgiveness to others? The answer to these questions lies in Christ. As our heavenly Father has forgiven us, so do we forgive one another in His name. This forgiveness is clearly and beautifully shown in the example of Joseph, who was sold into slavery by his brothers and then forgave them because of God's mercy.

### ✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

#### Hymn

24 – Lord of My Life, Whose Tender Care

#### Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

#### Opening Sentences

Psalm 66:1-3a, 4-5, 8

**P** Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth!

**C** Sing out the honor of His name; Make His praise glorious.

**P** Say to God, "How awesome are Your works!

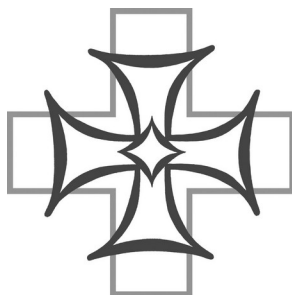
**C** All the earth shall worship You And sing praises to You; They shall sing praises to Your name."

**P** Come and see the works of God;

**C** He is awesome in His doing toward the sons of men.

**P** Oh, bless our God, you peoples!

**C** And make the voice of His praise to be heard.



## Confession and Absolution

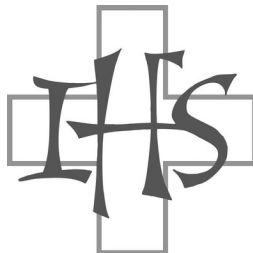
- P** Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.
- C** **O most gracious God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We know well that we are by nature sinful and unclean. Daily we have done things we ought not to have done and have not done that which we are to have been doing as Your faithful servants. We have been unforgiving and loveless and careless in the stewardship of Your creation. We deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is not in ourselves but in the merits of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us remission of all our sins and guide us into renewed lives that reflect Your goodness and love.**
- P** God is indeed gracious and merciful and hears our supplications. By the command of my Lord Jesus Christ and as His called servant, 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 ✠

### Introit

Psalm 143:1-2, 9

- P** Hear my prayer, O LORD, Give ear to my supplications!
- C** In Your faithfulness answer me, And in Your righteousness.
- P** Do not enter into judgment with Your servant,
- C** For in Your sight no one living is righteous.
- P** Deliver me, O LORD, from my enemies;
- C** In You I take shelter.



## Glory be to the Father

Gloria Patri

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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## Epistle Reading

Romans 14:1-12

<sup>1</sup> Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. <sup>2</sup> For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup> Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. <sup>4</sup> Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand. <sup>5</sup> One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup> He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks. <sup>7</sup> For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. <sup>8</sup> For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup> For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup> But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. <sup>11</sup> For it is written: "As I live, says the LORD, Every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall confess to God." <sup>12</sup> So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 103:1-12

**P** Bless the LORD, O my soul;

**C** And all that is within me, bless His holy name!

**P** Bless the LORD, O my soul,

**C** And forget not all His benefits:

**P** Who forgives all your iniquities,

**C** Who heals all your diseases,

- P** Who redeems your life from destruction,
- C** **Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,**
- P** Who satisfies your mouth with good things,
- C** **So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**
- P** The LORD executes righteousness
- C** **And justice for all who are oppressed.**
- P** He made known His ways to Moses,
- C** **His acts to the children of Israel.**
- P** The LORD is merciful and gracious,
- C** **Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.**
- P** He will not always strive with us,
- C** **Nor will He keep His anger forever.**
- P** He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
- C** **Nor punished us according to our iniquities.**
- P** For as the heavens are high above the earth,
- C** **So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;**
- P** As far as the east is from the west,
- C** **So far has He removed our transgressions from us.**

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. <sup>23</sup> Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup> But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. <sup>26</sup> The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ <sup>27</sup> Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> “But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ <sup>29</sup> So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ <sup>30</sup> And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. <sup>32</sup> Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. <sup>33</sup> Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’

<sup>34</sup> And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. <sup>35</sup> “So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”

## 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

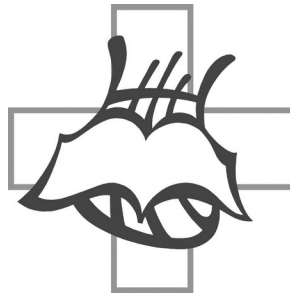
I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

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

529 – I Leave All Things to God's Direction



# Sermon Text

Genesis 50:15-21

<sup>15</sup> When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “Perhaps Joseph will hate us, and may actually repay us for all the evil which we did to him.” <sup>16</sup> So they sent messengers to Joseph, saying, “Before your father died he commanded, saying, <sup>17</sup> ‘Thus you shall say to Joseph: “I beg you, please forgive the trespass of your brothers and their sin; for they did evil to you.” ’ Now, please, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of your father.” And Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup> Then his brothers also went and fell down before his face, and they said, “Behold, we are your servants.” <sup>19</sup> Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. <sup>21</sup> Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.” And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.



*Sermon*

## I Forgive You ... Again

I. A Message God Has Called Us to Give to Others

II. A Message God Has Given to Us

### Offertory

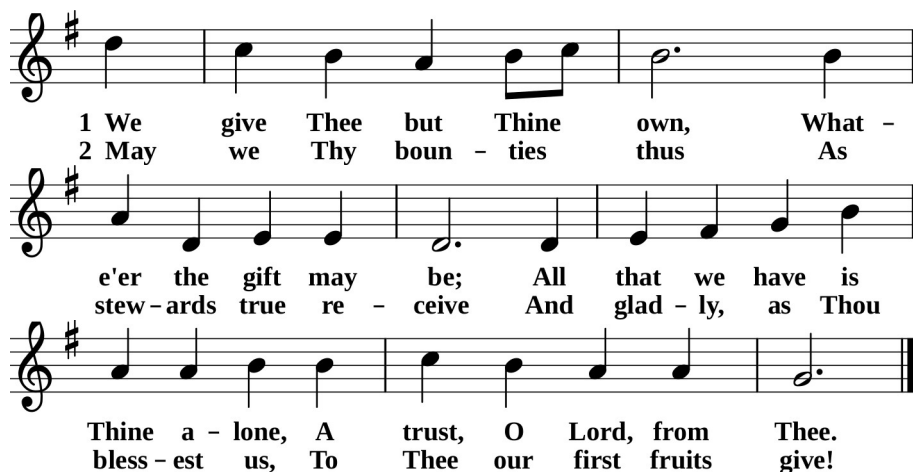
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Your  
pres-ence, and take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -  
store un-to me the joy of Your sal - va - tion; and up -  
hold me with Your free spir-it. A - men.



## Offering

## Offering Hymn

441 (1-2)



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What -  
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As

e'er the gift may be; All that we have is  
stew - ards true re - ceive And glad - ly, as Thou

Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.  
bless - est us, To Thee our first fruits give!

## 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

351 – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

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## ✝ Announcements ✝

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### Upcoming Schedule

September 17	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service
September 24	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
October 1	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Fellowship Meal
	12:15 pm	Trustees/Church Council

**CLC Mission Board Meetings:** Pastor Sauers will be leaving for Eau Claire this afternoon for CLC Mission Board meetings. He will return to Winter Haven mid-afternoon on Thursday. If there are any pastoral needs while Pastor is away, please call Pastor’s cell phone: (920) 602-3242.

**Mission Festival:** This year’s Mission Festival is scheduled for October 1. The school children will sing during the service. There will be a fellowship meal following the service.

**Upcoming Meetings:** The following is our schedule of meetings through the annual meeting in January:

- **October 1** – Board of Trustees/Church Council
- **November 5** – Quarterly Voters’ Meeting
- **November 19** – Board of Education
- **December 3** – Board of Elders/Church Council
- **December 17** – Board of Trustees/Church Council
- **January 7** – Annual Voters’ Meeting

**Weekly Sermon Podcast:** For nearly 65 years, the CLC’s Ministry by Mail has been producing print sermons for distribution. Originally this was done by postal mail, especially for members living at a distance from their home church or serving in the military. With the arrival of the internet, sermons began being sent by email and posted online ([www.lutheransermons.org](http://www.lutheransermons.org)). This past Advent, Ministry by Mail began offering audio versions of their sermons through weekly Podcast services. You can find these sermons on

most major podcast platforms such as Google, Apple Podcasts, and Spotify by searching “CLC Ministry by Mail.” Hit “subscribe” or “follow” to receive notifications of weekly uploads. Contact Ministry by Mail editor, Nathan Pfeiffer, for more information – editor@lutheransermons.org

**Chapels from ILC:** With school back in session we are once again blessed with a wonderful resource for our spiritual growth and nourishment. Daily chapel services from Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary in Eau Claire, WI feature devotions based on God’s Word that are a great way to start your day, or take a break from your busy schedule and refresh your soul. You can access these chapel services anytime by visiting <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/morning-chapel-from-ilc>.

**Pacific Coast Women's Retreat:** Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Spokane Valley, WA is hosting a Women's Retreat, October 6-8, 2023 at Ponderosa Lodge in Cusick, WA. The congregation extends an invitation to all of the sisters in Christ across the CLC and will welcome you warmly if you are able to attend. The theme of the retreat is "Grow in Grace" and is based upon Psalm 1:3, "He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers." There will be four main sessions and four devotions. Other activities may include small group book discussion, outdoor activities such as zip line, archery, canoe/kayaking, and more. The price is \$150 for the full weekend which includes five meals. Daily rates are also available for participants who can't stay the whole weekend. Go to: <https://gethsemanelc.org/events/pacific-coast-womens-retreat> to get more information, to sign-up for email updates, and to register.

**CLC Call News:** Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Lutheran in West Columbia, SC has returned the call to be the third pastor at Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI. <> Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI has sent a call to Pastor Frank Gantt of Zion Lutheran in the Atlanta, GA area.

<b>Fruits of Faith</b>	<b>September 10, 2023</b>	<b>Orlando :10</b>	<b>WH: 18</b>
Immanuel Home		\$766.35	
Missions		\$5.00	
Property Improvement		\$200.00	
Sign Fund		\$5.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$976.35</b>	

## ✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

September 18 - September 23

**Monday: John 11:1-11** – When the Lord Jesus receives the news that His friend Lazarus is sick, His delay in going to help may be confusing to some. But the Lord knows what He is doing and His timing is right for bringing blessing to many.

**Tuesday: 1 Kings 17:8-16** – As Jesus seemed to delay His help to Lazarus (Mon Reading), so the promised drought (v1) lasted so long that the stream and ravens could no longer feed Elijah. But the Lord's own prophet was sustained in another miraculous way through the destitute widow of Zarephath.

**Wednesday: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13** – Some who think that they have the Lord's timing all figured out are not following God's own direction, namely to work while waiting for the imminent coming of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Thursday: 1 Peter 1:13-16** – The apostle Peter encourages Christians who are eagerly awaiting the return of Jesus to live lives that show forth the glory of Him who is without sin and who has redeemed us to the holy God.

**Friday: Psalm 77:7-14** – The Psalmist has called upon God for help in his time of trouble, but when he doesn't see the Lord coming to help, he is in danger of thinking God's mercy has an end. Then he remembers God's wonderful works of old, and rejoices in the Lord.

**Saturday: 1 John 2:3-11** – As Jesus lived and died for us, so we who await His return want to live in love as He did. To this the apostle John would encourage us, as he reminds us that if anyone keeps God's word, the love of God is truly made complete in him (v5).

  
Sola Scriptura  
SCRIPTURE ALONE