

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 7, 2025



AS WE GATHER

Counting the Cost

Jesus is blunt about the cost of discipleship. He does not sugarcoat the life He calls us to in the baptismal waters but neither does He diminish His promises, gifts, and blessings that accompany this life of faith. Today He calls us to count the cost, knowing that the way of the Christian is constantly tested and tried by our affection for the things of this life, our vulnerability to the enemies of the faith, and the weakness of our own sinful flesh. Part of that cost is not just in what you desire but also in what you are willing to surrender for the sake of Christ and His kingdom.

PRELUDE
WELCOME

"Holy, Holy," arranged by Fred Bock

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN "Come, Follow Me,' the Savior Spake" #688

Please stand as you are able.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Most holy and merciful Father,

People: **we confess to You, and to one another, and to the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

Pastor: We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

People: **Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

Pastor: We have taken for granted Your grace and mercy and lived as though You did not matter and we mattered most of all.

People: **Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

Pastor: We confess to You, O Lord, that we have done the evil Your Word prohibits and have not done the good You command.

People: **Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

Pastor: We confess that we have hidden our sin from You and from one another and have not confessed honestly before You or to those whom we have hurt.

People: **We are truly sorry for the sins we have committed in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done that is wrong and by our failure to do what is right. Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

Pastor: 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 and ordained 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.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

✂ WORD ✂

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Lord, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy on us.

People: Christ, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy on us and grant us Your peace.

**People: Lord, have mercy on us and grant us Your peace.
Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *pew hymnal 204*

♪ To God on high be glory; And peace to all the earth;
Good-will from God in heaven; Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing;
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-be-gotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior; You take our sins a-way.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heart-felt cry,
Where You in Pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever; Be worshipped and adored.
You with the Holy Spirit; A-lone are Lord Most High;
In God the Father's glory; "A-men"! our glad re-ply.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Deuteronomy 30:15-20

(I have set before you this day life and good, death and evil.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Philemon 1-21

(Paul's letter commending the slave Onesimus back to his master, not only as a slave but as a brother in the Lord.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

VERSE Luke 13:29

Alleluia. Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 14:25-35

(Jesus speaks of the cost of discipleship and calls on those who would follow Him to deny themselves and take up the cross.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 14th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Gospel is read.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED *Found on the last page of your pew hymnal.*

Please be seated.

HYMN "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us" #851

SERMON Pr. Mark Croucher

OFFERING and OFFERTORY "Kyrie," arranged by Alle Krentz Organ

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ and for all people according to their needs.

That we walk with Christ the heavenly way and follow Him where He has led, that by His obedient life, His life-giving death, and His victorious resurrection we receive the crown of everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That we be wise unto salvation, counting the cost of following Jesus, and by His grace and favor be sustained upon the path of life against all temptations and doubt, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That all the nations and their leaders work for peace, that the elected and appointed leaders of our own land act with integrity in the protection of liberty for all and in the pursuit of justice, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That the Lord bless the proclamation of His Word here and in every place and that pastors serve us faithfully in Christ's name, distributing to us the gifts of His grace in the Holy Sacraments, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That all those afflicted in body or mind find healing and relief and those near death and the grieving find comfort, especially Liz, Myron, Betty, Karla, Dan and Ian, and for all whom we name in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That we learn gratitude for the manifold and rich gifts which God supplies every day and that we learn generosity to share with those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That we be kept holy and blameless until the day of Christ's coming and be received by the mercy of God into the place of everlasting light and life in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

pew hymnal #208

♪ **Ho-ly; ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth adored;
Heav'n 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!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

AGNUS DEI *pew hymnal #210*

♪ O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

"What is This Bread?," arranged by Ralph C. Schultz, ref LSB #629

Please stand as you are able.

NUNC DIMITTIS *pew hymnal #211*

♪ O Lord, now let Your servant, depart in heav'nly peace.
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace;
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill;
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.
All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, is now shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding through all eternity.

POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

People: and His mercy endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray. Blessed Lord, You were born in flesh and blood to walk with us the path of our sin and death in order that we might walk with You by Baptism and faith. Lead us in the way of the cross that we may not depart from it but follow its path to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer" #918

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgments Matins from Lutheran Service Book and The Lutheran Hymnal. Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3. Copyright © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE MESSENGER

September 7, 2025

WELCOME! Dear guest, we pray that your worship with us is as spiritually enriching for you as your presence is encouraging to us. We invite you to sign our guest book in the foyer. Please leave your email address if you would like periodic updates from Immanuel. Most importantly, come back and worship with us again next Sunday.

SERVING US TODAY: Pr. Mark Croucher
Linda Rayburn, Organist

IN OUR PRAYERS: Liz Kraft, Myron Kimber, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, Dan and Ian Henggeler

LAST SUNDAY ATTENDANCE: 20 total: 4 guests

THE LUTHERAN HOUR theme for next Sunday, September 14th is **"It's All on God; It's All on Us"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler A paradox doesn't make sense, mathematically. But it can be an accurate description of real-life experience. (Deuteronomy 1:31) (John 1:6-8, 19-28) Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.