

Immanuel Lutheran Church



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Tenth Sunday After Pentecost August 17, 2025



Clinging to Christ

As We Gather

The verbal command “Hold on!” is one that gets our immediate attention. We know instinctively that holding on will keep us safe or secure in some way as we journey through life. The pages of Scripture call us to “hold on” to some very special things. In the letter to the Hebrews, the writer enjoins us: “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering” (Hebrews 10:23). Paul directs his coworker, Timothy, (and all of us) to “Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called” (1 Timothy 6:12) and encourages him to be “holding faith and a good conscience” (1 Timothy 1:19). Our worship together gives us the opportunity to hold on not only to our Lord Jesus Christ but also to one another as we journey on together toward our heavenly home.

PRELUDE *"Father, I Adore You," arranged by Fred Bock*
WELCOME & BIRTHDAY BLESSING 8/18 Rosalyn Hepting

♪ Thanks for our friends who celebrate
And God's rich blessings contemplate.
Praise for another year on earth.
Praise to the Lord who gives us birth. **Amen.**

HYMN "Come, Thou Almighty King" #905

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.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 119:89-94

Pastor: Forever, O Lord, Your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

People: **Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You have established the earth, and it stands fast.**

Pastor: By Your appointment they stand this day, for all things are Your servants.

People: **If Your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.**

Pastor: I will never forget Your precepts, for by them You have given me life.

People: **I am Yours; save me, for I have sought Your precepts.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

pew hymnal page 184-202

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

People: ♪ **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: ♪ **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: **I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office as an ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: ♪ **A---men.**

☩ WORD ☩

INTROIT

♪ **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen**

KYRIE

♪ **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us, Lord
have mercy upon us.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

♪ **Glory be to God on high; and on earth peace good will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we
glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory.**

**O Lord God, heavenly King. God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou
that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou
that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy
upon us.**

**For Thou only are holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the
glory of God the Father. A-men.**

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

**Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your church by the sacrifice
of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to
receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and**

daily follow in His way; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: ♪ **A--men.**

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 23:16-29

(The prophets bring words of warning from God.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE Hebrews 11:17-31; 12:1-3 *(Running the Christian race)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

ALLELUIA

♪ **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 12:49-53

(Jesus speaks of His purpose of being on earth.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 12th chapter.

People: ♪ **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

The Gospel is read.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: ♪ **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED *(found on the last page of the pew hymnal)*

Please be seated.

HYMN “If God Himself Be for Me” #724 v 1-4 and 10

SERMON Pr. Mark Croucher

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

♪ **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. A-men.**

Please be seated.

OFFERING *"Where Charity and Love Prevail," arranged by Benjamin M. Culli*

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

We pray for the church, that God's people may live confidently and would joyfully share the message of salvation in word and deed. And, remembering those who in each generation have faithfully spoken the Word of the Lord, we pray for His servants who today bring us the eternal message from our God through the faithful preaching of Law and Gospel in our midst.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for the nations of the world, that the presence of Christ be experienced everywhere around the globe and that the Gospel message have free course in every land. And we pray for the gift of peace in the world and in our communities.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for our land and for all people who are involved in the growing, processing, and distribution of food. Grant that there be a blessing of seasonal summer weather so that we may rejoice in the harvests that are now beginning and will continue through the coming months. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for our families and for those who share in our Christian fellowship and join with us in worship. Help us to never take them for granted that we may encourage all to share joyfully in our work together to the glory of God.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for those with special concerns and needs this day, including those who are hospitalized or in care facilities, those who are grieving at this time, the unemployed and under-employed, and the chronically ill and shut-in, Liz, Myron, Betty, Karla, Dan, Ian, and Debbie. Help us to bring Your blessing to situations of need in all places. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God of the ages, we thank You for all those faithful people whose words and actions have guided us in the past, especially remembering those sisters and brothers in the faith no longer with us on earth, who now share in Your eternal presence. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, direct us to follow the leading of Jesus, our Great Shepherd, throughout our lives until that day when we stand in Your glorious presence in heaven.

People: **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

pew hymnal age 194

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **♪ And with thy spirit.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **♪ We lift them up unto the Lord.**

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

People: **♪ It is meet and right so to do.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You have come to redeem Your fallen creation. Through the saving work of Jesus Christ, we are granted all good things by You in countless ways. We rejoice that the Good News of salvation has reached us and that the message of God's grace continues to be proclaimed and shared. Through the working of Your Holy Spirit, bestow upon us Your peace and abiding joy now and forever. Together with the blessed saints, with angels and archangels and with all that rejoice in the courts of heaven we lift our voices, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: 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.

People: ♪ **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: ♪ **A---men.**

AGNUS DEI

♪ **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us, O Christ Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A---men.**

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION *"Arioso," by J.S. Bach*

Please stand as you are able.

NUNC DIMITTIS

♪ **Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou has prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.

People: ♪ **And His mercy endureth forever.**

Pastor: Grant, O Lord, that what we have received with our lips we may keep with pure hearts, and that through the gift imparted to us in this present life we may hereafter receive life everlasting; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

People: ♪ **A--men.**

SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

Pastor: Bless we the Lord.

People: ♪ **Thanks be to God.**

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, amen, a--men.**

HYMN "The Lord My God Be Praised" #794

POSTLUDE *"How Firm a Foundation," arranged by Terry Kirkland*

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THE MESSENGER

August 17, 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 and "Like" us on Facebook or follow us on Instagram. 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: Rev. Mark Croucher
Linda Rayburn, Organist

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

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 18 total, 3 guests

THERE WILL BE NO BIBLE CLASS NEXT SUNDAY.

IMMANUEL VOTERS MEETING: We will have a brief voters meeting after church next Sunday, August 24th following the service.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR theme for next Sunday, August 24th is **"Gideon, the Farmer General"** Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann Archives August--Dr. Oswald Hoffmann recounts the story of Gideon, an unlikely military leader. (Judges 6:1-8:27) Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.