



# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the North American Lutheran Church  
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*Immanuel means “God With Us”*

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13th Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025

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## PRELUDE

### \*WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

LBW Page 77

☐ In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*Matthew 28:19*

☑ Amen.

☐ Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ Amen.

☐ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins,  
God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins  
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*1 John 1:8-9*

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

☐ Most merciful God,

☑ **We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,**

**by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will**

**and walk in your ways,**

**to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

☐ Almighty God, in his mercy,

has given his Son to die for us

and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ,

and by his authority,

I therefore declare to you

the entire forgiveness of all your sins,

in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

*John 20:21-23*

☑ **Amen.**



**Carry the cross  
and follow me.**

**\*HYMN, “Take My Life, that I May Be”**

**LBW Hymn 406**

1. Take my life, that I may be  
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
Take my moments and my days;  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2. Take my hands and let them move  
At the impulse of thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for thee.

3. Take my voice and let me sing  
Always, only, for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be  
Filled with messages from thee.

4. Take my silver and my gold,  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect, and use  
Ev’ry pow’r as thou shalt choose.

5. Take my will and make it thine;  
It shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
It shall be thy royal throne.

6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
At thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for thee.

*Frances R. Havergal (1836-1879)*

**\*GREETING**

**LBW Page 78**

☞ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☛ **And also with you.**

*2 Corinthians 13:14*

**\*KYRIE** (*Sung*)

**LBW Page 78**

☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*Green Book*

☑ **Lord, have mercy.**

☐ For the peace from above, and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

☑ **Lord, have mercy.**

☐ For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

☑ **Lord, have mercy.**

☐ For this holy house, and for all who offer here  
their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

☑ **Lord, have mercy.**

☐ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

*Fourth Century Greek Litany*

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, “Glory to God”**

**LBW Page 79**

☐ Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

*Green Book*

☑ **Lord God, heavenly king,  
almighty God and Father:**

**We worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God:**

**You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father;  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High,**

**Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Luke 2:14, John 1:29*

*Fourth Century Greek Hymn*

☐ The Lord be with you.

☑ **And also with you.** (*Sung*)

☐ Let us pray together . . .

☑ **Almighty God,**

**your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross  
so that he might draw the whole world to himself.**

**Grant that we who glory in his death for our salvation  
may also glory in his call to take up our cross  
and follow him;**

**through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SONG, "Jesus Loves the Little Children"**

Jesus loves the little children,  
All the children of the world.  
Red and yellow, black and white,  
They are precious in his sight.  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Jesus cares for all the children,  
All the children of the world.  
Ev'ry child in ev'ry land,  
Jesus holds them in his hand.  
Jesus cares for all the children of the world.

*Clarence H. Woolston (1856-1927)*

*Dorothy N. Schultz*



MARK 10:14

**FIRST READING, Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

*Moses said to all Israel:* “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

*(NRSVue)*

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

# Choose Life

So that You and Your Descendants

May Live

Loving the LORD Your God

## PSALM 1

Ⓛ Happy are those  
who do not follow the advice of the wicked

ⓐ **Or take the path that sinners tread  
or sit in the seat of scoffers,**

Ⓛ But their delight is in the law of the LORD,

ⓐ **And on his law they meditate day and night.**

Ⓛ They are like trees  
planted by streams of water,

ⓐ **Which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.**

**In all that they do, they prosper.**

Ⓛ The wicked are not so  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

ⓐ **Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,**

Ⓛ For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,

ⓐ **But the way of the wicked will perish.**

*(NRSV)*



*A tree planted  
near running  
water, that  
yields its fruit  
in due season,  
and whose leaves  
never fade*

## SECOND READING, Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To our beloved coworker Philemon, to our sister Apphia, to  
our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord  
Jesus Christ.

I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers,  
because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith  
toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the partnership of your faith  
may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we  
share in Christ. I have indeed received much joy and  
encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints  
have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ  
to command you to do the right thing, yet I would rather appeal  
to you on the basis of love — and I, Paul, do this as an old man  
and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you  
for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my  
imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is  
indeed useful to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my  
own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me so that he  
might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for  
the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in  
order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something  
forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for  
a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, no  
longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother —  
especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and  
in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you  
would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way or owes  
you anything, charge that to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my  
own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me  
even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from  
you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your  
obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even  
more than I ask.

*(NRSVue)*

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION, “Alleluia”**

**LBW Page 83**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

*John 6:68*

**\*GOSPEL, Luke 14:25-35**

**LBW Page 83**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 14th chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.** *(Sung)*

**P** Now large crowds were accompanying Jesus, and turning to them he said, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, and wife and children, and brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, wanting to build a tower, doesn’t sit down first and compute the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish the tower, all who see it will begin to make fun of him. They will say, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish!’ Or what king, going out to confront another king in battle, will not sit down first and determine whether he is able with 10,000 to oppose the one coming against him with 20,000? If he cannot succeed, he will send a representative while the other is still a long way off and ask for terms of peace. In the same way therefore not one of you can be my disciple if he does not renounce all his own possessions.

“Salt is good, but if salt loses its flavor, how can its flavor be restored? It is of no value for the soil or for the manure pile; it is to be thrown out. The one who has ears to hear had better listen!”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

*(NET)*

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.** *(Sung)*

**SERMON**

**Pastor David J. Baer**



**\*HYMN, “Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God” LBW Hymn 191**

1. Praise and thanksgiving be to God our maker,  
Source of all blessing, prodigal creator.  
Baptize and make your own, those who come before you,  
While we adore you.

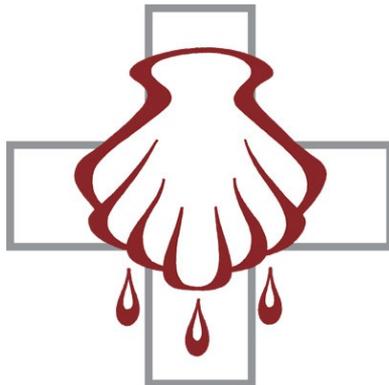
2. Not our own holiness, nor that we have striven  
Brings us the peace which you, O Christ, have given.  
Baptize and set apart; come, O risen Savior,  
With grace and favor.

3. Come, Holy Spirit, come in visitation;  
You are the truth, our hope, and our salvation.  
Baptize with joy and pow’r; give, O Dove descending,  
Life never ending.

4. Eternal Word, still by the Father spoken,  
Speak to us now in this baptismal token;  
Proclaim anew to us love divine, unceasing,  
In us increasing.

5. Praise to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:  
One Lord, one faith, one source of ev’ry merit.  
Here now renew your Church through this symbol given;  
Grant peace from heaven.

*Frank J. Whiteley (1914-1998)*  
*Harold F. Yardley (1911-1990)*



# — SACRAMENT —

## \*SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM

LBW Page 121

☐ In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the Body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

*A sponsor presents Aaron for Holy Baptism:*

I present Aaron Vaughn Richards  
to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

*The minister addresses the parents and sponsors:*

☐ In Christian love you have presented Aaron for Holy Baptism. You should therefore, faithfully bring him to the services of God's house, and teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As he grows in years, you should place in his hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for his instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of his Baptism and in communion with the Church, he may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

☒ I do.

*The minister prays the thanksgiving prayer.*

☐ Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan you Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that Aaron who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sins of all who have been cleansed by this water and bring us all forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**☩ Amen.**

*The minister invites the baptismal group and the congregation to join in the renunciation of sin and evil and the profession of faith:*

**☩** I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

**☩** Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises.

**☩ I do.**

**☩** Do you believe in God the Father?

**☩ I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C** **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**P** Do you believe in God, the Holy Spirit?

**C** **I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*The minister baptizes the candidate.*

**P** Aaron Vaughn, I baptize you in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The minister lays his hand on the newly baptized and prays for the Holy Spirit:*

**P** God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Aaron Vaughn: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of council and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

*The minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the newly baptized:*

**P** Aaron Vaughn, child of God,  
you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit  
and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

*A lighted candle is given to the newly baptized with the words of Jesus.*

**P** Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

*Matthew 5:16*

*The congregation prays for the parents of the newly baptized:*

**P** O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon Grace and Hunter. Let them ever rejoice in the gift that you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their children the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

*The newly baptized is presented to the congregation:*

**P** Through Baptism God has made Aaron a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

**C We welcome you into the Lord's family.  
We receive you as a fellow member of the Body of Christ,  
a child of the same heavenly Father,  
and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.**

# OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*“Baptized in Water” is sung as the offerings are received.*

## HYMN, “*Baptized in Water*”

WOV Hymn 693

*Blue Book*

1. Baptized in water,  
Sealed by the Spirit,  
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:  
Heirs of salvation,  
Trusting his promise,  
Faithfully now God’s praise we sing.

2. Baptized in water,  
Sealed by the Spirit,  
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:  
One with his rising,  
Freed and forgiven,  
Thankfully now God’s praise we sing.

3. Baptized in water,  
Sealed by the Spirit,  
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:  
Born of the Spirit,  
We are God’s children,  
Joyfully now God’s praise we sing.

*Michael Saward (1932-2015)*

## THE PRAYERS

LBW Page 85

*Response:*    **P** Lord, in your mercy,  
                  **G** Hear our prayer.



**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING** (*Sung*)

**LBW Page 88**

*Green Book*

- ☐ The Lord be with you.
- ☑ **And also with you.**
- ☐ Lift up your hearts.
- ☑ **We lift them to the Lord.**
- ☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- ☑ **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**\*PROPER PREFACE**

☐ It is indeed right and salutary  
that we should at all times and in all places  
offer thanks and praise to you,  
O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection  
opened the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*SANCTUS** (*Sung*)

**LBW Page 89**

☑ **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9  
Second Century Christian Hymn*

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**LBW Page 89**

☐ In the night in which he was betrayed  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,  
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new testament in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people  
for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

## **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**☩ 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.**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*All baptized Christians who trust that Jesus is true to his promise — giving his body and blood with the bread and wine for you for the forgiveness of your sins — are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper with us. White grape juice is available in the center of each tray for those who are unable to receive wine for health reasons. During the distribution of Holy Communion, the congregation sings:*

LBW Page 92, "Lamb of God"

LBW Hymn 482, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

LBW Hymn 104, "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

LBW Hymn 377, "Lift High the Cross"

**☩ Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*John 1:29*

*Seventh Century Hymn*

**HYMN, “*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*” LBW Hymn 482**

1. When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

*Green Book*

2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*



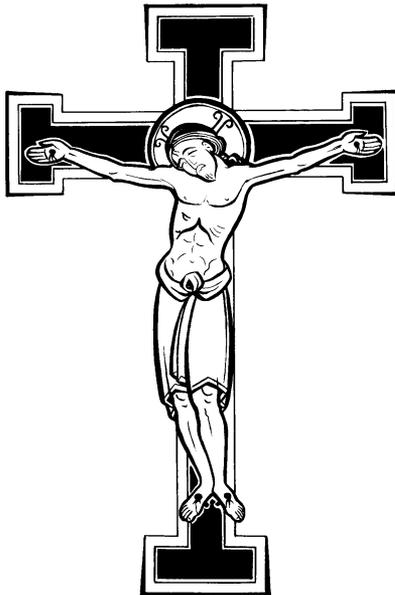
1. In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Tow’ring o’er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.

2. When the woes of life o’ertake me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me;  
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

3. When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.

4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joys that through all time abide.

*John Bowring (1792-1872)*



## HYMN, “*Lift High the Cross*”

LBW Hymn 377

*Refrain:* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,  
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain.*

2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conqu’ring ranks combine.

3. All newborn soldiers of the Crucified  
Bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain.*

4. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain.*

5. So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain.*

*George W. Kitchin (1827-1912)*  
*Michael R. Newbolt (1874-1956)*



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**\*COMMUNION BLESSING**

☞ The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his holy and precious blood strengthen and keep you in true faith unto life everlasting.

☞ Amen.

*Eighth Century Blessing*

**\*CANTICLE, “Thank the Lord”**

**LBW Page 92**

☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise;  
Tell ev’ryone what he has done.  
Let ev’ryone who seeks the Lord  
rejoice and proudly bear his name.  
He recalls his promises  
and leads his people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**LBW Page 94**

☞ We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Martin Luther*

☞ Amen.

**\*BLESSING**

**LBW Page 95**

☞ The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor  
and † give you peace.

☞ Amen. *(Sung)*

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**\*DISMISSAL**

**LBW Page 95**

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

1. O Jesus, I have promised  
To serve you to the end;  
Remain forever near me,  
My master and my friend.  
I shall not fear the battle  
If you are by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway  
If you will be my guide.

2. Oh, let me feel you near me;  
The world is ever near.  
I see the sights that dazzle,  
The tempting sounds I hear.  
My foes are ever near me,  
Around me and within;  
But, Jesus, then draw nearer  
To shield my soul from sin.

3. Oh, let me hear you speaking  
In accents clear and still  
Above the storms of passion,  
The murmurs of self-will.  
Now speak to reassure me,  
To hasten or control;  
Now speak and make me listen,  
O Guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, you have promised  
To all who follow you  
That where you are in glory  
Your servant shall be too.  
And Jesus, I have promised  
To serve you to the end;  
Oh, give me grace to follow,  
My master and my friend.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK:**

Alex and family	Don Dubbe
Lenae Ebel	Shelley Iverson
Felicity Kramer	Claire and Maxine Ripley
Connie Ross	Violet Rost
Guyla Baer Sturgeon	Paul Swisher
Carletta and Steve Vasknetz	Anne Vossler

David Wanhannen  
Kaleb (great grandson of Jean Sneesby)  
Cheryl Anderson (sister of Corey Halverson)  
Cherry Bieber (friend of Jon and Shelley Iverson)  
Jody Blevins (daughter of Claire and Maxine Ripley)  
Larry Conklin (brother of Claudia Christensen)  
Marla Ebel (sister of Rita Shewmake)  
Kris Eide (sister of Ardith Petersen and Lois Rath)  
Melanie Erickson (sister of Brenda Rath)  
Ellen Fiechtner (mother of Ardith Petersen and Lois Rath)  
Steve Fiechtner (brother of Ardith Petersen and Lois Rath)  
Ronnie Fischer (brother of Judy Haiwick)  
Ernie Griner (11-year-old friend of Meta Halverson)  
June Halverson (mother of Corey Halverson)  
Martina Ham (mother of Diane Kunz)  
Ike Iverson (father of Jon Iverson)  
Coleen Iverson-Routh (sister of Jon Iverson)  
Steve Kampfe (son of Garland and Kathy Kampfe)  
Callie Kvanvig (great niece of Ray Follum)  
Lois Meyer (sister-in-law of Midge Hemeyer)  
Michael and Jan Meyer (brother and sister-in-law of Midge Hemeyer)  
Caren Miller (sister of Maxine Ripley)  
Mitch Palmer (friend of Paul Swisher)  
Roy Riley (grandson of Carol Vercoe)  
Tim Ripley (friend of Paul Swisher)  
Aaron Richards (infant son of Grace (Smith) and Hunter Richards)  
Ava Rouvennolt (6-year-old girl with cancer, friend of Judy Haiwick)  
Dean Sandidge (son of Lance Sandidge, grandson of Leon and Shanna)  
Carreen Smith (sister of Mimi Swisher)  
Jeremy Sundby (nephew of Claire and Maxine Ripley)  
Jess Teigen (friend of Amelia Knutson)  
Ryan Thomas (cousin of Mary Tracy)  
Xayne Vroman (great grandson of Cindy and Harold Davis)  
Jane White and family (friend of Mary Tracy)  
Traci Westberg (daughter-in-law of Tony and Alona Westberg)  
Melissa Williams (friend of Mark and Mary Tracy)  
Robert Zuhr (brother-in-law of Chris Burleson)  
Zhuang People (unreached people group in China)  
Annunciation Catholic Church and School in Minneapolis  
St. Dymas Prison Congregations in South Dakota State Prisons

**DR. DOUG WESSEL** will be teaching a course at Immanuel again this fall. His course last year was well received and well attended. This year he will be teaching a course entitled, “The Exodus: Biblical and Historic Perspectives on Freedom with Implications for America” on four Thursdays in October (starting on Oct. 2). This four-session class will discuss the Israelite exodus from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land in Canaan. The principles that can be learned from the biblical account of this experience are foundational for building a free and responsibility society. The implications of these principles for the future of freedom in America will be considered. The class will be offered at 6:45 p.m. and will be preceded by a light meal. Dr. Wessel is a semi-retired professor of psychology from Black Hills State University.

**BOOKS AND CULTURE DISCUSSION GROUP** is a new group that will meet monthly at Immanuel to discuss recent important “secular” books that have broad cultural significance and consider their implications from a Christian perspective and biblical worldview. Although important ideas can have political associations, the goal of the group is to engage in mutually respectful and objective conversation and avoid politically partisan debate. Please read the selected book to prepare for the discussion with the group. The first book to be read for the September meeting is *Regime Change: Toward a Postliberal Future* by Patrick Deneen. It is available new or used in paperback, hardback, and e-book formats from local bookstores and online. A new hardback is currently \$15 at Amazon and Walmart. The group will meet monthly and select a book to be read for discussion at the next meeting. The first meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 30. For more information talk to Doug Wessel who is leading the group. You can see a sample copy of the book on the table in the library social room.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY:** We are looking for someone who would be willing to serve as financial secretary for Immanuel. The financial secretary oversees the counting of offerings and keeps a record of giving by members and issues annual statements of giving. This is a volunteer position appointed by the Church Council. If you are interested in serving as financial secretary or have questions about the position, please talk to a Church Council member, Pastor David, or Rita Shewmake, the current financial secretary.

## THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL:

<b>Today</b>	9:00 a.m. — Worship
	10:00 a.m. — Coffee Fellowship
	10:25 a.m. — Adult Sunday School
<b>Monday</b>	7:00 a.m. — Men's Group
<b>Wednesday</b>	4:30 p.m. — Kids Club
	6:00 p.m. — Confirmation class
<b>Next Sunday</b>	9:00 a.m. — Worship
	10:00 a.m. — Coffee Fellowship
	10:25 a.m. — Adult Sunday School

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**A MEN'S GROUP** meets at 7 a.m. on Mondays at the church. They are currently studying the book of Acts. All men are welcome. Talk to Mark Tracy or Jon Iverson for more information.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 16. They are currently studying the book of Acts. All women are welcome to be a part of this monthly study. A short meeting will follow.

**NEW MEMBERS** will be formally received soon. If you are interested in joining Immanuel, please talk to Pastor David.

**OUR MISSION OF THE MONTH** is St. Dysmas of South Dakota. St. Dysmas ministry includes prison congregations at the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls, at the Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield, and at the Minimum Security Unit in Yankton. Dysmas was the name of the repentant thief Jesus forgave from the cross, according to Christian tradition. St. Dysmas ministry provides the light of Christ for those in prison, serving Jesus in those in prison as Jesus says in Matthew 25:31-46. You can learn more about the work of St. Dysmas at [www.stdysmas.com](http://www.stdysmas.com). Mission of the Month highlights one of the ministries supported through your regular giving to Immanuel. Pastor Jeff Backer of St. Dysmas will be at Immanuel on Sunday, Sept. 28, to talk about this important ministry.

**WELCOME TO ALL** who are worshipping with us today. We especially welcome our visitors. If you are unfamiliar with our worship, one of our members will gladly assist you. Visitors, please be sure to sign the guest register in the narthex. We hope that you will worship with us again soon.

**BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST** today is Aaron Vaughn Richards, son of Grace and Hunter Richards. His baptismal sponsors are Ariel Tinklenberg and Gavin Smith. We welcome Aaron into the Lord's family and rejoice in God's gift of grace.

**ALL ARE INVITED** to stay for a time of fellowship following worship. Donuts, coffee, and juice are available. A free-will offering is received to cover expenses.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets at 10:25 a.m. on Sundays in the social room. We will finish "The Truth Project" today. Everyone is encouraged to join us for this opportunity to grow in faith.

**WHITEWOOD KIDS CLUB** — our Wednesday night children's ministry — meets from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. each week. Kids Club is designed for children Age 4 through Grade 5. For more information about Kids Club or to volunteer to help with Kids Club, talk to Brit Porterfield or Pastor David.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL BE STARTING** a new series next week. We will be watching an interview podcast series from 1517 featuring Kelsi Klembara. She interviews scholars and authors about various topics. We will watch each episode over two weeks to allow time for discussion. The topics will change regularly, so you can join us for a few weeks or come regularly. The first episode we will watch is an interview with the Rev. Dr. Ken Jones on the question, "What Does it Mean to Die a Good Death?" Dr. Jones is a native of Sturgis and a Lutheran scholar. Please join us for this opportunity to grow in faith.

**CHOIR REHEARSALS** will be at 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays starting on Sept. 18. If you are interested in singing in our choir, please come. Talk to Toby Rath for more information.