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July 19, 2026

Pentecost 8

For who has
despised the
day of
SMALL
THINGS?
Zechariah 4:10a



We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor.

✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 19 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 904 *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*

LSB 904

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:5, 7-9)

P Let us pray...

C **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:**

We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the joy and peace of forgiveness, let us praise to the Lord...

"O Word of God Incarnate" LSB 523 v. 1

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "I O Word of God in - car-nate, O Wis - dom from on high, O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky: We praise You for the ra - diance That from the hal - lowed page, A lan - tern to our foot - steps, Shines on from age to age."

I O Word of God in - car-nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
We praise You for the ra - diance That from the hal - lowed page,
A lan - tern to our foot - steps, Shines on from age to age.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt. Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

First Reading

Zechariah 4:1-10 (NKJV)

Now the angel who talked with me came back and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out of his sleep. ² And he said to me, "What do you see?"

So I said, "I am looking, and there is a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps. ³ Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left." ⁴ So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these, my lord?"

⁵ Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."

⁶ So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts.
⁷ 'Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of "Grace, grace to it!" ' "
⁸ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying:
⁹ "The hands of Zerubbabel Have laid the foundation of this temple; His hands shall also finish it.
Then you will know That the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you.
¹⁰ For who has despised the day of small things?
For these seven rejoice to see The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel.
They are the eyes of the LORD, Which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth."

Gospel Reading

John 8:31-39 (NKJV)

P The Gospel reading is from John 8:31-39.

C Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

³³ They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵ And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. ³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

³⁷ "I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. ³⁸ I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father."

³⁹ They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father."

Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham.

P Here ends our Scripture readings.

"O Word of God Incarnate" LSB 523 v. 3

3 O make Your Church, dear Sav-ior, A lamp of bur-nished gold
To bear be - fore the na - tions Your true light as of old!
O teach Your wan-d'ring pil - grims By this their path to trace
Till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, They see You face to face!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O Word of God Incarnate". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a "3" indicating a triplet. The music is written in a simple, accessible style with clear note values and rests.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt. Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen Text and tune: Public domain

Apostles' Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

W.S. p. 15

**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 sits 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 of the Day: 497 Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

LSB 497

Sermon Text: Zechariah 4:10a (NKJV)

¹⁰ For who has despised the day of small things?

Sermon Theme: One Small Step with the Spirit, A Giant Leap for the Kingdom of Heaven.

† Guest Preaching Today: Professor John Ude – Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, WI

P And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7 NKJV)

Offertory

LSB 956

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 Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Public domain

Sermon Hymn: 656 A Mighty Fortress is Our God

LSB 656

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Prayer of the Church *We bring our prayers to God.*

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.

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

☩ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

The Doxology

LSB 805

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Public domain

Closing Hymn: 582 *God's Word is Our Great Heritage* (please stand for our closing hymn)

Announcements



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this morning.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Next Sunday: **Worship – 9am**

7/19/26 Guest Preaching: Professor John Ude – Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire

This week: Tuesday – **Pastor Returns from Vacation**

Wednesday – **Worship Service at The Villa** (Greenfield) – **10am**

Wednesday Bible Class – 6:30pm (Zoom & In-Person)

Saturday – **Mission Helper Trip Returns** – Drivers needed to-and-from O'Hare

Church Cleaning: Team #4 (6/13-6/19); Team #5 (6/20-6/26)

Next Sunday: **Worship – 9am**

7/26/26 **Annual Voters' Meeting with Elections – 10:30am**

Thank you! – We thank Professor John Ude for bringing us the Word of God this morning! May the Lord bless your upcoming school year at Immanuel. Pastor Luke will be returning from vacation, Lord willing, on Tuesday.



Mission Helper Trip –Drivers Needed for Airport Run 7/25 - We are in need to two drivers to help with pick-up on their return to O'Hare on **Saturday, July 25th**. Please speak with Ted Quade if you can help with driving on Saturday, July 25th. Thank you!

Lawn Mowing Sign-Up Sheet – We are in need of volunteers each week to help with the lawn mowing on the church property. Please sign the sheet on the cupboard in the church hallway. If you'd like more information please speak with Fred Goodrie, Board of Property Chairman. Please join us in helping keep our property beautiful this summer, to the glory of the Lord!



ManUp! Weekend - The 2026 ManUp! Men's Weekend will be held **September 24-27, 2026**, at beautiful **Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI**. This is the 10th year of the weekend, and will offer strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. Register and send in your payment before August 30th for the discounted rate of \$75. Registration increases to \$150 after August 31st. The registration includes lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: www.manup.clclutheran.org. Sign up today!

“Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7

Giving Opportunities at Messiah -

Below is a list of the various funds and their purposes to which we can contribute and help support the proclamation of the gospel both locally and around the world.

CLC funds -

General fund: Offerings to missions support the day-to-day operations of both the CLC mission program and Immanuel Lutheran College. Messiah has made missions contributions a part of our regular budget.

Mission Development Fund (MDF): This fund supports mission projects which are normally limited-term, such as buying Bibles and Catechisms, roofing foreign churches, and purchasing motorcycles and bicycles for pastors.

Immanuel Improvement Fund (IIF): Money in this fund is used for major campus maintenance projects, as well as other needs which are not part of the regular operating budget.

ILC Student Aid: This fund provides loans and grants to students in both the high school and college departments. The fund is available to all ILC students synod-wide, not just those from Messiah.

ILC Building Fund: Funding is needed for the construction of a new gymnasium and fine arts center.

Kinship: This fund supports orphans and seminary students in both Africa and India.

Messiah funds -

General offerings: Offerings to the general fund support the majority of our programs, as well as maintain our buildings and property. Our CLC missions contributions also come from the general fund.

Messiah Student Aid Fund (MSAF): This fund directly assists families who are members of Messiah by offering tuition aid for children attending Immanuel Lutheran High School or College. Once a year the available funds are applied to the accounts of Messiah members at ILC.

Christian Day School Improvement Fund (CDSIF): Money received into this fund is used to purchase items useful to the school which are not covered by the regular budget.

Benevolence Fund: Funds are used to help with the material needs of others, and are distributed at the discretion of the pastor and elders.

Bible Readings:

7/19	Song of Sol. 6:1-7:10 Psalm 21 Matt. 12:1-14
7/20	Song of Sol. 7:11-8:14 Psalm 22
7/21	2 Kings 1 Psalm 23 Matt. 12:39-50
7/22	2 Kings 2:1-14 Psalm 24 Matt. 13:1-17
7/23	2 Kings 2:15-25 Psalm 25 Matt. 13:18-30
7/24	2 Kings 3 Psalm 26 Matt. 13:31-43
7/25	2 Kings 4:1-17 Psalm 27 Matt. 13:44-58

SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING



July Ushers

Jared Barthels
Andrew Gerbitz
Mark Whiting

July Slideshow

Eric Williams

Cleaning Team

7/25-7/31

Team 10

D/C Albrecht
M/M Weibye
B. Weibye
E/E Weaver
R. Busse

Fruits of Faith

Last Week:

To Date:

Budgetary Offerings*:

\$4,618.75

\$11,152.00

Budgetary Needs:

\$8,940.00

\$17,880.00

Over (Under) Budget:

(\$4,321.25)

(\$6,728.00)

ILC Building Fund:

\$25.00

\$25.00

CDSIF:

\$50.00

\$50.00

***Includes VBS offering: \$37.75**
Attendance Last Week (7/12): 115

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