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August 9, 2026

Pentecost 11

BUT JESUS SPOKE TO THEM AT ONCE, SAYING,

**"TAKE HEART! IT IS I!
DO NOT BE AFRAID."**

MATTHEW 14:27

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 73 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 664 *Fight the Good Fight*

LSB 664

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...

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” LSB 803 v. 1

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais - ing Thee, their sun a - bove.
Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below each staff, with the first line starting with a "1" indicating the first verse. The lyrics are: "1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love! Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais - ing Thee, their sun a - bove. Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way. Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day."

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt.

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867

Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish Your will. 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.

C Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9 (ESV)

“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.
⁶ "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;
⁷ let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:13-21 (EHV)

P The Gospel reading is from Matthew 14:13-21.

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

¹³ When Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place to be alone. When the crowds heard this, they followed him on foot from the towns.

¹⁴ When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw a large crowd. He had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵ When evening came, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place and the hour is already late. Send the crowds away, so that they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

¹⁶ But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

¹⁷ They told him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish."

¹⁸ "Bring them here to me," he replied. ¹⁹ Then he instructed the people to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves and the two fish. After looking up to heaven, he blessed them. He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples. The disciples gave the food to the people. ²⁰ They all ate and were filled. They picked up twelve basketfuls of what was left over from the broken pieces. ²¹ Those who ate were about five thousand men, not even counting women and children.

P Here ends our Scripture readings.

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" LSB 803 v. 3

△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di - vine:
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy - ful, we by grace are Thine!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a triangle symbol and the number 3, indicating a triplet. The lyrics are: "Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest, Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest! Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di - vine: Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy - ful, we by grace are Thine!"

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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: 765 God Moves in a Mysterious Way

LSB 765

Sermon Text: Matthew 14:22-33 (EHV)

²² Immediately Jesus urged the disciples to get into the boat and to go ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed the crowd, he went up onto the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone. ²⁴ By then the boat was quite a distance from shore, being pounded by the waves because the wind was against it. ²⁵ In the fourth watch of the night, Jesus came toward them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified and cried out in fear, "It's a ghost!" ²⁷ But Jesus spoke to them at once, saying, "Take heart! It is I! Do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him and said, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ Jesus said, "Come!" Peter stepped down from the boat, walked on the water, and went toward Jesus.

³⁰ But when he saw the strong wind, he was afraid. As he began to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹ Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand, took hold of him, and said to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind stopped. ³³ Those who were in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God!"

Sermon Theme: Do Not be Afraid.

- † What are some things you fear?
- † Why were the disciples afraid the night on which our text takes place?
- † What is the deeper significance to Jesus' words of comfort to the disciples in **v. 27 "Take heart! It is I! Do not be afraid."**
- † How did Peter show a very courageous faith...at least initially.

What was it that caused him to sink?



Application: What can we learn about our **faith** (both positive and negative) from the example of Peter and the disciples in this account? What about from the example of Jesus? (**see v. 27, 31**)

- 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: 716 *I Walk in Danger All the Way*

LSB 716

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

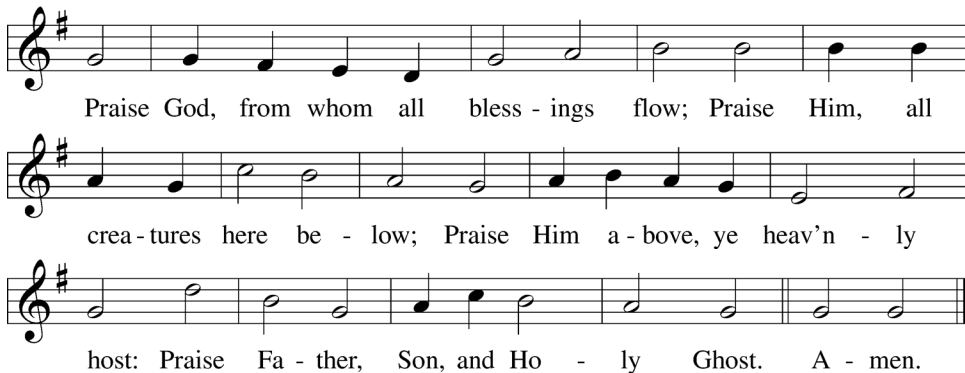
- C** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

- P** 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: 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

(please stand for the last verse)

Announcements



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

Today: **Worship – 9am**
8/9/26

This week: Tuesday – **Worship Service at New Perspective** (Franklin) – **11am**
Elders’ Meeting – 6pm
Wednesday – **Worship Service at The Villa** (Greenfield) – **10am**
Wednesday Bible Class – 6:30pm (Zoom & In-Person)

Church Cleaning: Team #2 (8/8-8/14); Team #3 (8/15-8/21)

Next Sunday: **Worship – 9am**
8/16/26

“Thank You!” from the Mackensen Family –

A heartfelt thank you to Pastor Luke and our entire church family for the prayers and support over the past 4 years of Norm’s illness. From the cards, text messages, meals, treat bags, cleaning committee help and kind words, we have felt your love and care. We are praising God for the gift of a church family.

In Christian love,

Gail, Rachel, Andrew & Leah.

Sunday School Teachers Needed! –Teachers’ Meeting Sun. 8/30 – Sunday School Starts 9/13

We are in need of teachers for our upcoming Sunday School year beginning on **Sunday, September 13th**. If you are interested in teaching, or co-teaching—or even if you are only available as an occasional substitute, please speak with Sam Lisak our new Sunday School Superintendant (414-712-8060 cell; sjlisak@gmail.com), or with Pastor Luke. We will be having our first Sunday School teachers’ meeting after the worship service on **Sunday, August 30th at 10:15am**.

New Church Officers and Boards – Following our elections and board meetings our Messiah new Messiah Church Officers and Boards are as follows:

Trustees – Philip Reim (Chairman); Joel Gerbitz (Treasurer); James Schaser (Secretary)
Elders – Eric Williams (Chairman); Angelo Rentas (Usher Captain); Dave Albrecht (Secretary)
Education – Ben Blue (Chairman); Sam Lisak (Sunday School); Jared Barthels (Secretary)
Property – Adam Brown (Chairman); David Hein (Property Manager); Austin Williams (Secretary)



Messiah Lutheran School Opening Service – Wed. August 19th @ 8:30am The opening service for Messiah Lutheran School will take place on Wednesday, August 19th @ 8:30am in the church sanctuary. The congregation is invited to attend as we ask the Lord's blessings on another school year!

Wednesday Evening Bible Study @ 6:30pm Please make plans to join us either in-person or online via Zoom for our Wednesday Evening Bible Class. We are continuing our study of **1 Peter**. To join online please click on Pastor Luke's Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8729663333>

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 Adam Brown, 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!

CLC News - Pastor Luke Willitz of Living Savior Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, MN, has **returned** the call to Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN. <> Pastor Emeritus Paul Tiefel has **returned** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has **received** the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, has **received** the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison, Heights, MI. <> Pastor Michael Roehl of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND, has **received** the call to St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Austin, MN. <> Pastor David Reim of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Vernon, British Columbia, has **received** the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD. <> Pastor David Reim has also **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

Immanuel Lutheran High School Opening Worship Service – Sunday, 8/23 @ 3pm –

The opening worship service for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary will take place on Sun. Aug. 23, 3:00 p.m., at the campus fieldhouse. The service will also be streamed at <http://www.youtube.com/@ilcvideos>. May the Lord richly bless the upcoming year as we grow together in the truth of God's saving Word!

“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:

8/9	2 Kings 12:4-21 Psalm 41 Matt. 21:1-17
8/10	2 Kings 13:1-13 Psalm 42 Matt. 21:18-27
8/11	2 Kings 13:14-25 Psalm 43 Matt. 21:28-44
8/12	2 Kings 14:1-22 Psalm 44 Matt. 21:45-22:14
8/13	2 Kings 14:23-15:16 Psalm 45 Matt. 22:15-33
8/14	2 Kings 15:17-38 Psalm 46 Matt. 22:34-46
8/15	2 Kings 16 Psalm 47 Matt. 23:1-22

SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING



August Ushers

Andrew Albrecht
Kyle Ackerman
Ethan Gurgel

August Slideshow

Caleb Gerbitz

Cleaning Team 8/15-8/21

Team 3

T/M Blue

C. Blue

N. Blue

A/J Brown

F/S Goodrie

Fruits of Faith

July 16-31:

General Offerings:

\$12,277.78

Budgetary Needs:

\$17,880.00

Over (Under) Budget:

(\$5,602.22)

MSAF:

\$25.00

ILC Building Fund:

\$300.00

MDF:

\$90.00

ILCSAF:

\$100.00

Kinship:

\$1,271.80

Norm Mackensen Memorials: \$220.00 (Kinship)

Ray Zechel Memorials: \$765.00

Attendance Last Week (8/2): 115

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