

WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT



IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Manitowoc, Wisconsin

November 16 –19, 2023

Welcome

Thanks for being here! We truly pray that today you find the warmth of our Christian hospitality, the powerful truth of God's Word and the peace-giving assurance of his promises. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. We hope you worship with us again!

If Immanuel Is New to You:

Relax. At Immanuel, our worship is designed to praise God and enrich faith. We aim to make the service clear and appropriately reverent. For your convenience, the service is printed for you here as well as displayed on our screens.

Bring the kids. Our congregation really loves and encourages the worshipping family! In fact, our worship will often include a children's message with little ones in mind. If your children are acting up, please know it's never a bother to our worship service. However, if you feel other worshipers could be distracted, parents who want to calm their restless child are invited to use our lobby area with screens so that you may continue your worship with us.

Restrooms are located in the lobby, just to the right of the elevator.

Make yourself at home. You don't have to rush off after the service today. Light refreshments are typically provided in our lobby after the 8:00 am service. If you are comfortable, feel free to follow up with one of our Pastors - we'd be honored if you would take the time to introduce yourself!

Don't feel obligated. Our members give financial offerings to the Lord as an expression of thanks and praise for his amazing love. Please know that you are our guests and we're simply happy you've come to hear about Jesus and his Word today. You're not expected to give an offering; it's your choice.

Cell phones. To remove as many distractions as possible from worshipping God today, we kindly ask that you silence your phone before the service.

Questions? If you'd like to know more about our church or our beliefs, or have questions about our PreK thru 8th grade school, our pastors or principal would love to help. Feel free to contact them at any time (*their contact info is included on the announcement insert*). You may also browse the information counter in our lobby for magazines, brochures and devotional resources.



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN

We REST in Our Gracious God

8:00 AM – “Jesus is the King”

(Imm School K-1)

Our Opening Praise

(Psalms 42 & 43)

PASTOR: Let’s worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

CONG: Amen!

“As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

By day the LORD directs his love;

at night his song is with me – a prayer to the God of my life.

Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me;

Let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell.

Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight.

Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

8:00 AM – The Christian Baptism of Marshall Lueptow

10:30 AM – The Christian Baptism of Benjamin Nickels

God’s Word – Romans 12:1-8

¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. ³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your

faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Song of Prayer – “O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made”

(CW 751)

Today’s Message from our Loving God – Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴ “[God’s saving activity] will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹ “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.

²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’ ²¹ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²² “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’ ²³ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ ²⁴ “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

²⁶ “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. ²⁸ “ ‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

Things I'd like to remember this week...

His Bountiful Blessings Prompts Our Faithful Use!

Song of Thanks – “Lord God Almighty”

(vocalist vs1 – cong vs 2-3)

(vocalist) Lord God Almighty, Savior Redeemer,
Only true God to be worshiped and praised;
How can we tell you how much we love you?
Take now our lives, Lord, and teach us to love.

(sung) **Look - our salvation! See - our vocation!
Manage these gifts to your glory and praise.
How can we tell you how much we love you?
Take now our lives, Lord, and teach us to love.
Unending mercy, work, wealth and fam'ly -
May we be faithful with the gifts that you give.
How can we tell you how much we love you?
Take now our lives, Lord, and teach us to love.**

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Our Thank Offerings

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!” (Psalm 136)



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Our Prayer & the Lord’s Prayer

Following Our Prayer we join to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Communion Confession & Absolution – “As the Deer” (from Psalm 42)

Psalm 42 emphasizes the deep longing and desperate need of every believer: to REST in God’s house, BE TOGETHER with fellow worshipers and PRAISE their Savior!

PASTOR: God brought you into his saved family when he gave you faith. And, when he gave you that faith, he also created a spiritual longing in you to worship him.

CONG: It's thankful love – not fearful obedience that moves us to praise him.

But because despite God's forgiveness, we still sin. So, our souls still thirst for a peace and acceptance that can only be satisfied by God's love. With that love in mind we sing:

(sung) **As the deer pants for the water,
So my soul longs after You.
You alone are my heart's desire,
And I long to worship You.
You alone are my strength, my shield.
To You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire,
And I long to worship You.**



(we pray) O God of true and lasting love, this life makes us so weary – our souls long for the spiritual rest only you can give us (*John 14:27*). Lord, it's also you alone who can provide the direction we need to live thankful lives (*John 17:17*). We come to you, with sin again staining our lives. We are yearning for your forgiveness because in you alone, LORD, can we enjoy true peace.

Our souls long to drink from your Word so we may be filled with the peace of your forgiveness.

(sung) **You're my Friend, and You are my Brother, Even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other, So much more than anything.
You alone are my strength, my shield. To You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, And I long to worship You.**

PASTOR: *Jesus' Words of Institution*

(on screens)

So, Jesus' promise in his Supper is wonderful news for you and me. He promises, "I will FORGIVE your wickedness and remember your sins NO MORE!" (*Jer. 31:34*). HIS life was perfect – HIS death complete, and WE are forgiven!!

We have the peace for which our thirsty souls long!

(sung) **You're my God and You are my Savior – all my SINS ARE WASHED AWAY!
I'm at peace with You, O Creator – and I'll live for You each day!
You alone are my strength, my shield. To You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship You.**

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God's Word speaks of the spiritual blessings of this Sacrament (Mt. 26:28) and warns against the spiritual danger of being unprepared for this holy meal (1 Cor. 11:27-29). Because we deeply care about you and don't want to see anyone's faith harmed, we ask that if you have not studied with us or spoken with our pastor first, that you refrain from joining in the Sacrament today. We are not judging your love for Jesus but rather displaying loving caution for all involved. Please feel free to ask our pastor if you have questions. We are eager to listen and share over an open Bible.

The Distribution – *as believers receive Jesus' supper, the cong. is invited to sing*

"Take and Eat" *(CW 676)*

"The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord" *(CW 677)*

Our Closing Thanks

Jesus, you came to us today to pour out the riches of your love and grace through your Word and Sacrament.

In you we truly have all we will ever need and more.

This week, as we enter the world once more, empower us as your forgiven children to live for your glory. May your love shine through us.

We praise you now and forevermore. Amen.

God's Blessing

Closing Song – "Let It Be Said of Us"

(vocalist vs1 – cong vs 2)

(vocalist) Let it be said of us that the Lord was our passion,
That with gladness we bore ev'ry cross we were given;
That we fought the good fight, that we finished the course,
Knowing within us the pow'r of the risen Lord.

Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song,
By mercy made holy, by the Spirit made strong.
Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song
'Til the likeness of Jesus be through us made known.
Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song.

(sung) **Let it be said of us: we like Christ were forgiving,
We were known by our love and with patience were living.
We were ruled by His peace heeding unity's call,
Joined as one body that Christ would be seen by all.**
**Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song,
By mercy made holy, by the Spirit made strong.
Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song
'Til the likeness of Jesus be through us made known.
Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song.**

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Silent Prayer – *feel free to use this silent prayer of thanks*

Dearest, Jesus, thank you for your bountiful blessings. You've reminded me again of your grace and of just how much you've given me. Now help me faithfully fashion a life of thanks to you – using all your gifts selflessly and to your glory. In your name I pray, O Savior. Amen.

Other personal prayers may be found on pages 255-258 in the front of your blue Hymnal.



Musician: Joel Putz

Worship Leader: Pastor Matt Zimpelmann