

Prepare for Battle

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost | September 13 & 16, 2018 Thursday & Sunday 8:00 AM

WELCOME

In the name of our Lord Jesus, welcome to one and all! We pray that here at Immanuel you will find the warmth of Christian hospitality, the abiding truth of God's Word and the quiet assurance of peace in Christ. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. Come worship with us again!

TODAY'S FOCUS: "Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 6:12). We are at war. We fight not for territory or natural resources. We fight not for personal or national honor or glory. We fight for our very lives. We fight for our eternities. Satan and all the forces of evil want to drag us to hell forever. "But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:57). And our victorious Savior arms us and armors us for our daily battle against sin, death and Satan.

FOR VISITORS

- Friendship Register: Please fill out the Friendship Register located at the end of each pew.
- **Cell Phones:** Out of respect for our Lord and your fellow worshipers, please silence your cell phone.
- **Restrooms:** The main restrooms are located in the Gathering Room by the coatrack.
- Offering: Please do not feel obligated to contribute when the offering plates are passed. We understand that you may want to know more about Immanuel's ministry before you support it with your gifts. However, if you are moved to give, you are welcome to do so.
- Information: The media counter is located in the Gathering Room. Here you will find magazines, brochures, devotional booklets and children's bulletins (printed on yellow paper).
- **Contact:** Our pastor and principal are always happy to serve you. Please feel free to contact them (contact info with announcements).
- Communion: We practice Closed Communion at Immanuel, meaning we only commune those who are members of our congregation. Members of WELS or ELS churches in our fellowship who wish to commune are asked to speak to the pastor before the service.

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

WELCOME

HYMN 455 (red hymnal)

Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You

STAND

- M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



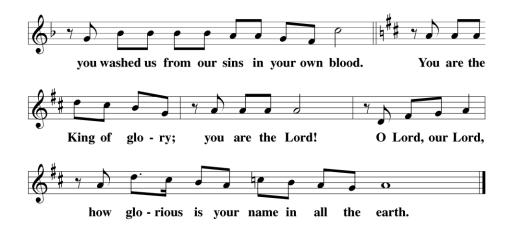
M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD





PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, our refuge and strength, when the restless powers of this world and fury of Satan rise up against your Church, watch over us and keep us safe. Be with us in every time of trouble, and bring us finally to the new Jerusalem; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

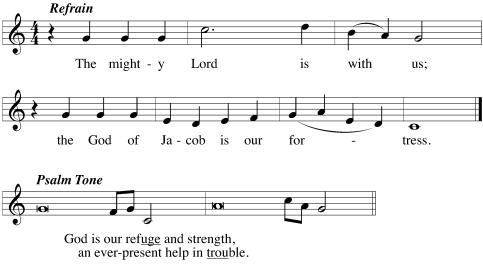
1 Kings 18:16-39 | NIV

So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him, and Ahab went to meet Elijah. ¹⁷ When he saw Elijah, he said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?" ¹⁸ "I have not made trouble for Israel," Elijah replied. "But you and your father's family have. You have abandoned the LORD's commands and have followed the Baals. ¹⁹ Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table." ²⁰ So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel.²¹ Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him." But the people said nothing. ²² Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only one of the LORD's prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. ²³ Get two bulls for us. Let Baal's prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. ²⁴ Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by fire—he is God." Then all the people said, "What you say is good." ²⁵ Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire." ²⁶ So they took the bull given them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. "Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made. ²⁷ At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened." ²⁸ So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. ²⁹ Midday passed, and they

continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention. ³⁰ Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the LORD, which had been torn down. ³¹ Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saving, "Your name shall be Israel." ³² With the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. ³³ He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood." ³⁴ "Do it again," he said, and they did it again. "Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. ³⁵ The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench. ³⁶ At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. ³⁷ Answer me, LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again." ³⁸ Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. ³⁹ When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The LORD—he is God! The LORD—he is God!"



Psalm 46



Therefore we will not fear, though the <u>earth</u> give way and the mountains fall into the heart <u>of</u> the sea,

though its waters <u>roar</u> and foam and the mountains quake with their <u>surg</u>ing.

Refrain

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most <u>High</u> dwells.

God is within her, she <u>will</u> not fall; God will help her at <u>break</u> of day.

"Be still, and know that <u>I</u> am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted <u>in</u> the earth."

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

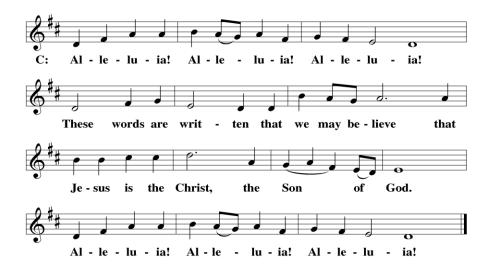
VERSE OF THE DAY

Hebrews 4:12 | NIV

Alleluia. The Word of God is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. Alleluia.



EPHESIANS 6:13, NIV



STAND

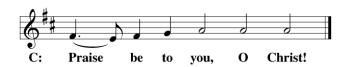
GOSPEL

Mark 9:14-27 | NIV

When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. ¹⁵ As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him. ¹⁶ "What are you arguing with them about?" he asked. ¹⁷ A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. ¹⁸ Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not." ¹⁹ "You unbelieving generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me." 20 So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?""From childhood," he answered. ²² "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us." ²³ " 'If you can'?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes." ²⁴ Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" ²⁵ When Jesus saw that a

crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." ²⁶ The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, "He's dead." ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



BE SEATED

HYMN 457 (red hymnal)

Fight the Good Fight

SERMON

Ephesians 6:10-17

The Unbeatable Armor of God

STAND

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten,

not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

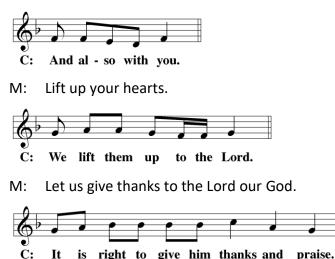
LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

GUESTS: From Biblical teaching we understand participation in Communion to be, among other things, a statement of agreement with our church's teachings. If you are not a WELS/ELS member, please refrain from communing until we have had opportunity to study together. If you would like to know more our pastor is ready to speak to you. Thank you for respecting our practice.

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS / GRAPE JUICE: We offer gluten-free Communion wafers to those who need them – but you must make your need known to the pastor ahead of time. The purple-colored individual cups in the center of the Communion tray contain grape juice for those unable to drink wine.

THE SACRAMENT



M: The Lord be with you.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

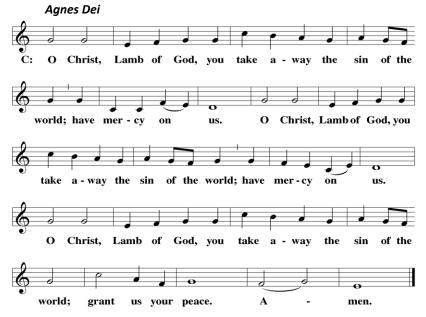
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



BE SEATED

HYMN 309 (red hymnal)

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

HYMN 541 (red hymnal)

Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide

THANKSGIVING

STAND



M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



REMAIN STANDING

HYMN 346 (red hymnal)

In You Is Gladness

BE SEATED

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Presiding: Pastor Daniel Sims
Preaching: Pastor Robert Johannes
Organist: Ann Wilson
Flowers: Dennis & Chris Rodewald and Richard Reif in memory of Audrey Reif
Refreshments: Greg & Renee Schmill and Guy & Kathy Gast
Greeters: 8:00 AM – Nick & Barbara Nitka 10:30 AM – Gary & Lynn Markowski