

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Sunday, August 29, & Monday, August 30, 2021

GATHERING

Prelude

Confession & Forgiveness

Song

My God, How Wonderful Thou Art

863

Greeting

Kyrie

p. 203

Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? ⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Psalm 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.**

They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading: James 1:17-27

The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. ¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Gospel Acclamation

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Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' ⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Sermon

Bishop Emeritus Thomas Skrenes

Song

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

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The Apostles' Creed

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Prayers of Intercession

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church, that it is a safe haven for all who seek your presence. Fill it with pastors, deacons, and leaders who echo your expansive and generous welcome. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the whole of creation, that plants and animals have the habitat and resources to thrive and flourish. Inspire us to protect threatened habitats and ensure a sustainable future for generations to come. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for individuals in positions of authority. Raise up wise and discerning leaders in federal, state, and local governments and guide them to seek the benefit of every person. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need. Support and encourage those who are unemployed, underemployed, or experiencing poverty. Bring food, shelter, clothes, and stability for daily life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation, especially those beginning a new school year. Empower teachers and school administrators. Guide students in their learning and development. Accompany parents, foster parents, and caregivers who provide encouragement and love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the faithful departed who showed us how to honor God with our heart. Inspire us by their example and renew our faith, trusting that we will be united with them in glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sharing of Christ's Peace

MEAL

Offering Prayer

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Distribution

We believe that the true body and blood of Jesus Christ is in/with/under the bread and wine.

All baptized Christians who believe this true presence are welcome and encouraged to receive Holy Communion today.

Parents, please assist your young children if you wish them to receive this gift.

Blessing
Dismissal
Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK ~ August 29, 2021– September 5, 2021

YOU CAN FIND ALL ONLINE INFORMATION REFERENCED BELOW AT... www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org

- Sunday** - 9:30 am—Worship Service (also live & recorded)
- 10:30 am – Coffee & Fellowship
- 7:30 pm—AA Group Meets (men & women)
- Monday** - 6:00 pm—Worship Service
- Tuesday** - 2:00 pm – Worship Service at Teal Lake Senior Living Community
- Wednesday** - 10:00 am—Bible Study
- Thursday** - 10:00 am—Quilting
- Friday** - **OFFICE CLOSED**
- 10:00 am—Women’s AA Group Meets
- Sunday** - 9:30 am—Worship Service (also live & recorded)
- 10:30 am – Coffee & Fellowship
- 7:30 pm—AA Group Meets (men & women)

- ***BIRTHDAYS:** Happy 83rd Birthday to **Donald LaForest** and Happy 86th Birthday to **Roy Tossava** on August 31st.
- ***SYMPATHY & GOD’S PEACE TO:** John (Janice Maki) Eman on the loss of his brother, **Frederick Raymond Eman**, on Sunday, July 25th, in Green Bay, WI. Also, condolences to all of the Eman family.
- ***THANK YOU** to **Bishop Emeritus Thomas Skrenes** for leading us in worship Sunday and Monday while Pastor Steve Solberg is honoring the celebration of his mother, Viola Solberg’s, funeral in Wisconsin.
- ***EMERGENCY PASTORAL CARE** while Pastor Steve is away for his mother’s funeral is provided by LLM Michael Holman - (231) 824-6757. Pastor Steve will return Aug. 31.
- ***SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR FALL – HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL YET??** Parents, a postcard was mailed to you for Sunday School registration and to gain your input on planning details such as time and working with COVID. **PLEASE REGISTER NOW, AND THEN MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR A PARENTS’ MEETING (TO MAKE JOINT DECISIONS) on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, at 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary.** You can call the office at (906) 475-9161 with your answer or return the postcard.
- ***LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF DONATIONS** The following items are needed: (1) Baby sleepers & gowns; (2) Gentle bathing soap for both babies and the health kits; (3) Full size bath towels; (4) Nail clippers; (5) Adult T-shirts to make diapers.
- ***LWR – LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** School supplies for Lutheran World Relief will be collected through September 12th. Items purchased can be placed in the Stewardship corner tub that is marked ‘*Schoneman Supplies*’. These supplies consist of one or more of the following items: 70 sheet notebooks of wired or college ruled paper (approx.. 8”x10 1/2” – no loose-leaf paper); 30-centimeter rulers or a 30 centimeters on one side and inches on the other; pencil sharpeners; blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well); unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); boxes of 16/24 crayons; 2 ½” erasers. These items are also listed in the WELCA handbook. Thanks.
- ***SYNOD OFFERS FUN AND INTERESTING ONLINE CLASSES FOR ADULTS! REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!** The Northern Great Lakes Synod has announced the upcoming schedule of Lifelong Faith Formation and registration is available here on our website. Online classes for adults begin in September and include:
 - **Ezekiel Bible Study** with Pastor Tommy Richter
 - **Intermediate Biblical Greek** with Pastor Nicole Hanson-Lynn for people who have previously studied Greek
 - **Walking Together: Companionship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania**, led by Luanne and Bishop Emeritus Tom & Luanne Skrenes
 - **A Book Study of Friedman’s Fables:** “Metaphors for Family Systems Thinking,” with Pastor Jim Duehring, Assistant to the Bishop (who is also leading a one-session introduction to the approach)

- **Holy Communion Post-Pandemic: What, When, Where, Who, & Why**, a 2-week series with Bishop Katherine Finegan.

For more information, visit <https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation/> or gain access via Immanuel's website or contact Deacon Lori Ward at (615) 519-1969 or lori.ward@nglsynod.org.

***FALL BIBLE STUDIES IN-PERSON and VIA ZOOM at Immanuel (more details on our church website):**

- **Colossians Bible Study** with Pastor Steve Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:00 pm (8 sessions from 9/23 to 11/11) – “Colossians” kicks off the upcoming season of mini-series within this Thursday PM study that meets in our Immanuel Fellowship Hall and via Zoom. The message of Colossians is that God communicates with us in a very personal, intimate, and human way in the Person of His Son. The heart of all religion and all spiritual seeking is unfolded in Colossians. Do we find God or does God find us? More details on our church website. Needed resources: your Bible.
- **Lectionary Bible Study** with Pastor Steve Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:00 am (ongoing) – Listening with others to God's Word is a precious gift! Come join this friendly and accessible conversation with the Bible passages assigned for the upcoming Sunday/Monday worship services. You may even help Pastor Steve shape his sermon! Needed resources: your Bible.



***WE'RE HIRING: We are in need of a part-time custodian.** If you are interested, you can pick up an application from the office or go to: <https://immanuelnegaanee.weebly.com/apply-for-job.html>



***IMMANUEL'S FUEL FOR THE JOURNEY-** is a Facebook Group (under the church Facebook page) set up for reflection on the Daily Texts with Pastor Steve & other group members. Daily Texts (available in hardcopy & digitally online) take us through the Scripture in two years. Join, read, and add your reflections, or just listen to others.

***GIVING YOUR OFFERINGS:** – Thank you for continuing to financially support our ongoing congregational mission. Electronic giving is available on our website. (Note: Immanuel absorbs the following processing fees on electronic gifts: giving via debit/credit card 2.75% + \$0.45 per transaction and giving via ACH 1.00% \$0.45 per transaction.)



***AUGUST'S MONTHLY MISSION:** In August, we focus on educational scholarships for three children in Liberia, a country in West Africa. We can take education for granted. We pay our taxes, and our children receive a high school education with no additional charges to the parents. Parents in Liberia pay for their children's education. Any kind of financial crisis for the family leads to the kids dropping out of school. Pastor Albert Barchue (former pastor of the former Mitchell United Methodist Church in Negaanee) has personally identified three children who need help with educational expenses: **(1)** Danlette is the daughter of a Christian minister who has passed away, & her mom, Promise is struggling to meet the educational needs of three children. Danlette is an excellent 8th grader, coming second in a class of 53. Her first semester average is 89.4. **(2)** Simeon has both his mom and dad, but his father was laid off by his mining company. At school Simeon got a promotion for his excellent work during the first semester. This means he is on his way to being promo-ted twice by the time the school year ends. With an average of 93.2, he was promo-ted to the 3rd grade and is likely to get another promotion to the 4th grade after the second semester. In Liberia, this is called “doubled promotion.” **(3)** Obey is an extended family member of Pastor Albert. His dad passed away three years ago, leaving an uneducated mom with five children. Obey is currently a good Junior Student (11th grade) working hard to become a senior. Usually, the Liberian academic calendar runs almost as the U.S. Schools. It begins in August/September and ends in June of the following year, but because of the COVID 19 which shut down all schools last year, this is an extraordinary school year. It began in December 2020 and will end in August 2021. There will be a very brief vacation period to regularize the school again, so our Liberian children will begin in September. If you wish to give above-and-beyond to this mission, use August's mission emphasis envelope from your offering envelope box or in some other way designate your gift.



Serving in Worship: Emeritus Bishop Tom Skrenes

Organist/Pianist/Musician: Sunday/Monday—Connie Scanlon

Worship Services: Sun. @ 9:30 am/Mon. @ 6 pm/Office Hours: 8 am-12 pm, Monday-Thursday (or by appt.)

ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE:

9:30 am USHERS/GREETERS – **Linda & Jim Derocher**

6 pm USHERS/GREETERS – **Cheryl & Ron Ulvila**

9:30 am LECTOR—**Alice Zinsser**

6 pm LECTOR—**Kerri Price**

9:30 am COMM. ASST.'S – **Alice Zinsser**

6 pm COMM. ASST.'S – **Kerri Price**

9:30 am Tech Team – **Luanne Skrenes**

6 pm Tech Team – **Mark Patraw**

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: PRAY FOR: Nancy Burton, Peggy Jackson, Billy Jo Kaufman, Betty Kinnunen, Corey Koski, Rodney Laituri, Anna Laurila, Derek McEachern, Wendy Niemi, Arianna Paananen, Don & Vera Palomaki, Laura Robinson, Marty Saari, Mack Schlicht, Richard Toyra, & all COVID patients. Our Shut-ins: Bettie Ahola, Rudy Gagnon, Charlene Kivisto, Timothy Kjellman, Betty Lukkarinen, Butch Pynnonen, Lillian Rivers, Lynne Tossava.

Members in the Armed Service: Luke DeWitt, Adrianna Gustafson, Michael Gustafson, Hunter (Jessica) Hetrick, Dennis Koski, Jacque Kurian, Mark (Samantha) Makela, Tanner Romback, Trevor Romback, Michael Sedlock, Ethan Wallner, Jason Wallner, and all Armed Services Families.