

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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June 13 & 14, 2021

GATHERING

Prelude

Confession & Forgiveness

Song

Build Us Up, Lord

#670

Greeting

Kyrie

Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the LORD will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

²**to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;**

³on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

⁴**For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord;**

and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

¹³**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD**

shall flourish in the courts of our God;

¹⁴they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

¹⁵**that they may show how upright the LORD is, my rock,**

in whom there is no injustice.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-17

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Sermon

Pastor Steve Solberg

Song

We Walk by Faith

#635

The Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musician. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you. We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

Amen.

Sharing of Christ's Peace

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| MEAL |
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Offering Prayer

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Distribution

As servers bring Holy Communion to you in your seats, please open your hands palms-up to receive the bread. Pick a cup from the tray (grape juice is in the middle ring). When Pastor invites, drop your mask and partake of Jesus. Please dispose of your cup when you exit.

Blessing
Dismissal
Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK ~ June 13, 2021– June 20, 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** - 2:15 pm—Worship at Eastwood
- 6:00 pm – Executive Committee Meeting
- 6:30 pm – Church Council
- Wednesday** - 10:00 am—Bible Study discussing this coming Sunday’s Scripture both in-person & online via ZOOM - go to: www.immanuelnegaunee.org and click on button: “WED 10AM BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM”
- 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 81st Birthday to *John Meier* on June 14th.

***SYMPATHY & GOD’S PEACE TO:**

- Philip (Jamie) Lindblom on the loss of his grandmother-in-law, **Susan C. Perry**, on Sunday May 30th. Also, condolences to all of the Perry Family.
- Ashley (Bill) Krook and Whitney (Josh) Hebert on the loss of their father, **Byron Butterfield**, on Tuesday, June 1st. Also, condolences to his grandchildren: Brent, Haley, Will, & Brooklyn Krook, Emilee & Evan Hebert, and all of the Butterfield Family.

***COFFEE HOUR HAS RESUMED:** Starting **last Sunday, June 6th**, we resumed our Coffee Hour following the 9:30 am church service. We will follow COVID-19 guidelines and serve individual packages of goodies. If anyone is interested in providing snacks such as wrapped cookies, cheese sticks, crackers, fruit cups, etc., just put these items in the kitchen. Thank you for any donations you may make. *It will be GREAT to get together again! Halleluiah!!*

***COVID PROTOCOL UPDATE:** Immanuel's council, during their May 18th meeting, resolved to update our COVID-19 Protocol in the following points: **(1)** Facemasks for non-vaccinated people are preferred and still encouraged for vaccinated people. Please wear a facemask for singing. **(2)** Worship Space: 75 people maximum, sitting in staggered half-pews. **(3)** Fellowship Hall: 100 people maximum. **(4)** A hybrid combination of in-person and internet access will be used for many gatherings. **(5)** Coffee hour following Sunday worship has returned. **(6)** Hymnbooks have returned to the pew racks. **(7)** Bulletins have returned, experimenting with a simpler format that works with projections.

COUNCIL WILL REVISIT THESE PROTOCOLS AT ITS JUNE 15th MEETING.

***ROOM AT THE INN / THE WARMING CENTER:** Please continue to make your donations to the Room at the Inn but only with products such as paper products, coffee, sugar, or with any monetary donation. BUT, PLEASE REFRAIN FROM DONATING ANY PERISHABLE PRODUCTS AT THIS TIME. Thank you for all of the donations you have already given.

***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://immanuelnegaunee.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.)



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***JUNE'S MONTHLY MISSION:** In June, our focus will be Answer the Call, an offering toward development of future pastors in our Northern Great Lakes Synod (NGLS). The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its predecessor church bodies have a long history of theological education for pastors and other rostered persons who serve this church in ministries of Word and Sacrament as well as Word and Service. The schools where theological education takes place are called seminaries, and that education costs money. Through this offering and together with our whole synod, we can empower our synod seminarians to enter their years of service to the church with as little school debt as possible. In fact, our goal as a synod is to fund full tuition scholarships for our NGLS seminarians. Such care empowers not only these servants of the church, but also the church itself as we seek future leaders. If you wish to give to Answer the Call, use the June Monthly Mission envelope from your offering envelope box or in some other way designate your gift. *Thank you for your generosity!*



Serving in Worship: *Pastor Steve Solberg* - Organist/Pianist/Musician: Sunday – *Youth*
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 – *Mike & Vicki Lempinen*

9:30 am LECTOR—*Linda Derocher*

9:30 am COMM. ASST.'S – *Linda & Jim Derocher*

Linda Dillman/Heidi Hill

9:30 am Tech Team – *Luanne Skrenes*

6 pm USHERS/GREETERS – *Dale & Jhon Jarvi*

6 pm LECTOR—*Jill Sladek*

6 pm COMM. ASST.'S – *Julie Mager*

Kerri Price

6 pm Tech Team – *Mike Patraw*

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: PRAY FOR: *Kari Borchert, Nancy Burton, Fae Collins, Elizabeth, Carrie Harvala, Betty Kinnunen, Rodney Laituri, Anna Laurila, Billy Jo Kaufman, Wendy Niemi, Don & Vera Palomaki, Marty Saari, Mack Schlicht, Bishop Emeritus Dale Skogman, and 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, Dennis Koski, Adrianna Gustafson, Michael Gustafson, Hunter (Jessica) Hetrick, Jacque Kurian, Mark (Samantha) Makela, Tanner Romback, Trevor Romback, Michael Sedlock, Ethan Wallner, Jason Wallner, and all Armed Services Families.*