



18th Sunday after Pentecost

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Forest City, Iowa

Pastors: Rod Hopp, Zech Anderson, Intern Elizabeth Carr

www.immanuelfamily.com

in person | live stream | on the radio

October 1, 2023 9:15am

Building community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ.

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

L: We stand now to confess all we lack in the presence of the Triune God, Mother, Son, and Spirit, whose bounty abolishes need:

L: Oh God, in fear we grumble in our time of need,

C: But your abundance and provision are sure.

L: Holy Spirit, in arrogance we place our hope in status and wealth,

C: But your abundance is limitless and without end.

L: Christ Jesus, we are prone to excluding and restraining others from your table,

C: But your abundance is boundless and freely offered to all.

L: Holy Spirit, in arrogance we place our hope in status and wealth,

C: But your abundance is infinite and lavished upon the least of these.

L: Divine Creator, we are torn by this world and its demands,

C: But your abundance is eternal and invites us to new ways.

L: Infinite Love, we are careless toward ourselves and one another,

C: But your abundance fills us to overflowing.

L: Reconciling Brother, we are too often selfish and proud,

C: But your abundance calls us to humility in mutual care.

L: Eternally Present One, we are wasteful daydreamers with our resources and gifts,

C: But your abundance instructs us to stand accountable and prepared.

L: Lavishing Giver, so often we are afraid that we will not have enough,

C: But your abundance is extravagant and excessive toward us.

L: Oh Christ, our King, we are stingy and reticent in our care for others,

C: But your abundance compels us toward unrestrained generosity.

GATHERING HYMN: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

#733

GREETING: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of Ancient Waters, you made the earth and sustain all life, and still we, like the Israelites, sink into worry and grumble in fear that you will abandon us in times of great need. Remind us that even when our trust falters, you are the God who draws water from stones to quench our thirst and ease our distress. Hold us fast in your promise to help us when we cannot help ourselves so that we may also help those around us. In the name of Jesus and by the power of His Spirit. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7 *Water from the rock in the wilderness*

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13 *Christ humbled to the point of death on a cross*

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32 *A parable of doing God's will*

Announcement: **Glory to you, O Lord.** Conclusion: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON: 'God helps those who...'

Pastor Rod

HYMN OF THE DAY: "**Glorious Things of You Are Spoken**"

#647

APOSTLES' CREED

pg. 105

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: *L: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.*

Ruby Sue Albertsen

Joyce Kasper

Tim Schmidt

Rolf Anderson

Judy Lemke

family of Kent Simonson

Hazel Barloon

Chris McCormick

Jennie Spencer

Liam Bartleson

Jill (Lewison) Nedved

Marie Thayer

Hayden Despenas

Connie Nyhus

Ernie Uetz

Marion Eastvold

family of Jon Ranheim

Missionary Karen Anderson

Parker Farland

Ashley Rayhons

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes

SHARING OF THE PEACE: *L: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.*

OFFERING: "Classic Praise" "As the Deer" with Beethoven's "Adagio" from Sonata Pathetique

Choir

OFFERTORY: "**As the Grains of Wheat**"

#465

OFFERING PRAYER

L: God of power, God of plenty,

C: all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION / LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION: "**Praise, Praise! You Are My Rock**"

#862 (vs. 1-4, Choir-vs. 1)

"**Rock of Ages**"

#623

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

SENDING SONG: **“What God Ordains Is Good Indeed”**

#776

BENEDICTION: “Go Now in Peace”

Choir

DISMISSAL: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Worship Participants:

Song Leaders: Steve & Audrey Olmstead

Assisting Minister/Scripture Reader: Cynthia Ryder

Ushers: Gary McCarthy, Jim Lund

Greeter: Shirley Rollefson

Piano: Riley Walton

Altar Care: Julie Damm

Choir Director: Linda Ferjak

Communion Set Up: Ruth Melby

Audio/Video: Brody Hopp

Communion Servers: Elizabeth Bohl, Joy Newcom

October Coffee: Parish Life Board

Today’s worship service is broadcast at 11:00am over KLOW 107.3 FM. Broadcast is given in memory of DeWayne Johnson remembering his Sept. 29 birthday from family and friends.