

Reformation & Confirmation Sunday



Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA
Forest City, Iowa

Pastors Rod Hopp & Zech Anderson, Intern Elizabeth Carr

October 29, 2023 9:15am

www.immanuelfamily.com

Building community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ.

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Congregation responses are in bold print.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Be still!

C: We come to quiet ourselves in this haven of holiness.

L: Be still and know...

C: we come to discern the Word that can set us free.

L: Be still and know that God is...

C: our Hope, our Help, our Refuge, and our Redeemer.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

L: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: Be still and trust the good news of God in Christ Jesus: God has not and will not forsake nor forget God's beloved children. God sent his beloved Son to claim, redeem, and renew all sinners. God is our shelter and strength, a very present help in trouble. Siblings in Christ, your sins are faithfully and fully forgiven. Be not afraid. God is in our midst – forgiving, restoring, sheltering, and sending us forth as God's hands and feet to love and heal God's beloved creation.

C: Thanks be to God! Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: **"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"**

#504 ELW

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

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34 *I will write my law in their hearts, says the Lord* Kiara Bina

PSALM: Psalm 46 [read responsively] Ashlee Aukes

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28 *Justified by God’s grace as a gift* Cooper Blaser

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION pg. 142

*Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36 *Jesus says, Continue in my word and you will know the truth*

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

HYMN OF THE DAY: **"When Our Song Says Peace"**

#709

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM ~ for those affirming their faith

pg. 234 ELW

Ashlee Mae Aukes

Keaton Andrew Hanson

Kiara Jean Bina

Ashlen Reagan Kingland

Cooper Kinnick Blaser

Witten Edward Linder

Elaina Caroline Eastvold

Emerson Lynn Moore

Rylee Rae Eastvold

Tyler James Niess

Aiden Christopher Frascht

Caiden James Squier

L: Let us rejoice with *these sisters and brothers* in Christ.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: *L: God of grace, C: hear our prayer.*

Ruby Sue Albertsen

Parker Farland

Tim Schmidt

family of Rolf Anderson

family of Alice Jones

Jennie Spencer

Hazel Barloon

Joyce Kasper

Marie Thayer

Liam Bartleson

Chris McCormick

Ernie Uetz

family of Sue Bell

Kris Monson

Missionary Karen Anderson

Hayden Despenas

Jill (Lewison) Nedved

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes

Marion Eastvold

Connie Nyhus

baby Daxton born to Mallory & Derek Ziesmer

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

OFFERING / SPECIAL MUSIC: "Born in Zion"

Mark & Joy Newcom

OFFERTORY: **"All My Hope on God Is Founded"**

#757 [vs. 1,3]

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

pg. 144

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of pow'r and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.*

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

L: You are our strength, God of holiness, and Jesus Christ is your Son, our Savior. When our lives are filled with despair, Jesus is our Hope; when we are lost and cannot find our way, Jesus is our Help; when the world closes its doors and heart to us, Jesus is our Refuge; when sin and death hunger for us, Jesus is our Redeemer, present with us in this life and in the one to come.

As we remember his life, death, and resurrection, as Jesus continues to re-form us into your people, we proclaim that mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

L: Pour out your Spirit upon the gifts of this Table, and upon the gathered people who seek to be your faithful people.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION / LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION SONGS:	"Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"	#800
	"The Church's One Foundation"	#654
	"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"	#779

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

SENDING SONG: **"Will You Come and Follow Me"** #798

BLESSING

DISMISSAL: Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



Worship Participants:

Ushers: Gary McCarthy, Jim Lund

Greeter: Shirley Rollefson

Crucifer: Caiden Squier

Sound/Video Techs: Nic Determann

Communion Servers: Ashlee Aukes, Kiara Bina, Rylee Eastvold, Ashlen Kingland

Coffee Fellowship: Mission & Outreach Board

Altar Care: Marla Betz

Song Leaders: Mark & Joy Newcom

Organist: Amy Thorson

Communion Set Up: Tasha Banta

*Thank you to Mary Kingland, Jan Buffington, Mary Paulson,
and Jaci Thorson for making the class stoles.*

Affirming Their Baptism Today:

Today these young people reach the place on their faith journey, affirming for themselves the faith claimed for them in their baptism. We bless their growth in faith, and we rejoice that they desire to make public profession of their faith and to grow with us in this Christian community and our mission in the world.

Ashlee Mae Aukes

Baptized Aug. 16, 2009,

Zion Lutheran, Rake

Bible Verse: Corinthians 10:31 *“So whatever you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Making more friends and becoming closer to the Lord.

Daughter of Aaron & Renae Aukes

Sponsors: Matt & Heather Brandt, Shawn Aukes

Kiara Jean Bina

Baptized Jan. 17, 2010, Immanuel

Daughter of Chad & Jeanna Bina

Sponsors: Jim & Kayla Dontje,
Mitch Bartleson & Paige Nicholas

Bible Verse: Jeremiah 29:11-13 *“For I know the plans I have for you. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and future. Then you will call upon me and pray to me and I will listen...”*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Flashlight game with Ann and hanging out with Ann in her office with my friends.

Cooper Kinnick Blaser

Son of Jason & Nicole Blaser

Baptized July 6, 2008, Immanuel

Sponsors: Nicky & Stan Niece, Mallory Ziesmer

Bible Verse: Proverbs 14:23 *"There is profit in hard work, but mere talk leads to poverty."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Playing flashlight/monster for the first time.

Elaina Caroline Eastvold

Daughter of Andrew & Jennifer Eastvold

Baptized Oct. 11, 2009, Immanuel

Sponsors: Ryan & Tori Eastvold,
Joe & Bethanie FarusBible Verse: Micah 7:8 *"But as for me, I will look to the Lord, I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Spending time with other people in the class.

Rylee Rae Eastvold

Son of Ryan & Tori Eastvold

Baptized Aug. 17, 2008, Immanuel

Sponsors: Dr. Mark & Rebecca Goebel,
Corey & Staci MatsonBible Verse: Philippians 4:13 *"I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Playing games at the church with my youth group.

Aiden Christopher Frascht

Son of Courtney Frascht, Justin Tegland,

Baptized Apr. 26, 2023, Immanuel

Shane Albertson
Sponsor: Kathleen BoyleBible Verse: Proverbs 3:5-6 *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Helping with breakfast on Easter morning.

Keaton Andrew Hanson

Son of Chad & Marcy Hanson

Baptized Oct. 12, 2008, Immanuel

Sponsors: Brent & Kristin Formanek,
Tanya DroesslerBible Verse: Deuteronomy 31:6 *"Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Going to Bible Camp and learning more about God and doing all the fun things they had for us to do.

Ashlen Reagan Kingland

Daughter of Eric & Shelly Kingland

Baptized May 3, 2009, Immanuel Sponsors: Joe & Inga Kingland

Bible Verse: 1 Timothy 4:12 *"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Always coming and having a fun time with friends.

Witten Edward Linder

Son of Ed & Kris Linder

Baptized July 26, 2009, Immanuel Sponsors: Kari Mentink, Kari Besancon

Bible Verse: John 13:34 *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: My favorite experience is all of the parties we had, and the games we played.

Emerson Lynn Moore

Daughter of Chad & Allison Moore

Baptized Nov. 30, 2008, Immanuel Sponsors: Mark & Jen Jenkins

Bible Verse: Philippians 4:13 *"I can do all things through him who gives me strength."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: I loved when I got to see all of my friends when coming to church.

Tyler James Niess

Son of Mike & Danielle Niess

Baptized Dec. 28, 2008, Immanuel Sponsors: Josh & Summer Callow, Elizabeth Niess

Bible Verse: Ephesians 4:32 *"Be kind and compassionate to one another forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: The plays we did over the Bible stories.

Caiden James Squier

Son of Chris & Katherine Squier

Baptized Apr. 26, 2009, Immanuel Sponsors: Tim Ricklefs & Lindsey Berg

Bible Verse: Micah 6:8 *"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Playing flashlight tag in the church.