



ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

7th Sunday of Easter

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Forest City, Iowa

Pastors: Rod Hopp, Zech Anderson, Intern Elizabeth Carr

www.immanuelfamily.com

in person | live stream | on the radio

May 21, 2023 9:15am

Building community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ.

In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

pg. 94 ELW

L: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

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

Silence for reflection.

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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "This Joyful Eastertide"

#391 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, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11 *Jesus sends the apostles*

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 *Eyes to see the risen and ascended Christ*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION pg. 171

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

GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53 *Christ present in all times and places*

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON / SERMON Pastor Rod

HYMN OF THE DAY: **"You Servants of God"** #825

APOSTLES' CREED pg. 105

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: *L: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.*

Ruby Sue Albertsen

Sonja Johnson

Jon Ranheim

Family of Dean Anderson

Sharon Kampman

Ashley Rayhons

Liam Bartleson

Judy Lemke

Dale Rayhons

Hazel Barloon

Chris McCormich

Tim Schmidt

Hayden Despenas

Jill (Lewison) Nedved

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes

Bill Hamm

Lisa Overlie

Missionary Karen Anderson

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

OFFERING: "What Joy! He Lives!" Choir

OFFERTORY: **"Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"**

*Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth; he is the king of creation. *(refrain)*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. *(refrain)*

OFFERING PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION / LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION: **"Lamb of God"** pg. 174

"Thy Holy Wings" #613

"Thine the Amen" #826

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

SENDING HYMN: **"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"** #393

BENEDICTION: "Go Now in Peace" Choir

DISMISSAL: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. **Thanks be to God.**



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Worship Participants:

Assisting Minister: Patti Strukel

Song Leaders: Mark & Joy Newcom

Organ/Piano: Amy Thorson

Audio/Video: Ken Ferjak/Steve Olmstead

Communion Set Up: Ruth Melby

Choir Director: Linda Ferjak

Reader: Shelby Korth

Ushers: Ben & Nikki Arentson, Tatum, Dax, Kirby

Greeter: Shirley Rollefson

Altar Care: Kathy Leuwerke

Communion Servers: Matt Welp, Julie Damm

Today's 9:15 worship is broadcast at 11:00am over KLOW 107.3 FM. Broadcast is given in memory of Don & Verla Missal from Tim & Julie Missal and family.

Altar flowers today are given by Larry & Sharen Rieffer in honor of the Forest City Graduates and for their 40th wedding anniversary today (May 21).

FYI – Immanuel's April General Offerings:

April 2023 General Offering = \$36,958.44

Monthly Budget = \$41,249.75

April 2022 General Offering = \$38,320.75