



## 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Immanuel Lutheran Church, Forest City, Iowa**

Pastors: Rod Hopp, Zech Anderson, Intern Elizabeth Carr

[www.immanuelfamily.com](http://www.immanuelfamily.com)

in person | live stream | on the radio

August 20, 2023 9:15am

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*Building community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ.*

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*In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

L: When we offer God our confession, we join the beautiful work of reconciliation, which begins with our reconciling with God. Trusting in our Partner in grace, let us make our confession, first in silent prayer.

*Silence is kept for reflection and prayer.*

L: Grace and loving God,

**C: open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful. We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do. We love with condition. We judge and condemn. We cast the first stone, and keep the logs in our own eyes. We do not turn to You as the source of our healing. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. Amen.**

L: Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**ALL: Alleluia! Amen.**

*(Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What is Good'. Used with permission.)*

### GATHERING HYMN: “O Day of Rest and Gladness”

#521 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.**

### KYRIE

pg. 184

### HYMN OF PRAISE: “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

#836 [vs. 1]

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 45:1-15 *Joseph reconciles with his brothers*

GOSPEL: Matthew 15:10-28 *The healing of the Canaanite woman's daughter*

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

HYMN OF THE DAY: **"Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"**

#800

## BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

P: God of fresh starts and new beginnings,

**C: we bring ourselves, our big feelings, and our school supplies to you.**

P: God, our friend who comforts us and holds us close

**C: Be with us as we carry blank pages and hopeful expectations.**

P: There are endless possibilities of what this new year might bring—

**C: of what we might learn, who we might meet, and who we might become.**

P: God, our friend who is always with us, bless this journey into something new.

**C: Wherever we go and whatever we wear, be with us through it all.**

P: Thank you for our teachers, helpers, caregivers, and leaders,

**C: for all they do to help us learn and grow. Thanks be to God!**

Let us pray:

Loving God, be with all those in college, public and private schools, homeschools, and wherever learning is taking place. Bless all students, teachers, administrators, custodians, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, and parents and help them as they begin a new year of learning, teaching, growing, and serving. May their minds and their pencils be sharp; may their lunches never be forgotten; and may their erasers help them to remember that mistakes are okay, and in fact, are the most important part of the process. We thank you for glue sticks and homework folders and laptops and crisp new notebooks waiting to be filled; we thank you for classrooms and libraries and gyms and buses; for the gift of curiosity and for your wisdom that is around us all.

We ask your blessing upon these backpacks, bags, lunch boxes, and supplies, and especially on those who will carry and use them. May they never be forgotten in strange places; may their burdens in them be light; and may the bodies that bear them be strong and growing, whole and blessed. We pray this and everything in the name of the great Teacher, Jesus Christ,

**Amen.**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: *L: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.***Ruby Sue** Albertsen**Mike** Korth**Ashley** Rayhons**Liam** Bartleson**Judy** Lemke**Tim** Schmidt**Hazel** Barloon**Chris** McCormick**Jennie** Spencer**Hayden** Despenas**Jill** (Lewison) Nedved**Ernie** Uetz**Parker** Farland**Connie** Nyhus**Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes****Joyce** Kasper**Jon** Ranheim**Missionary Karen** Anderson

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: **“Create in Me a Clean Heart”**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

L: God of field and forest, sea and sky,

**C: you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER [sung]

COMMUNION:                 **“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”**                                 #484  
                                     **“Creating God, Your Fingers Trace”**                                 #684

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

SENDING SONG: **“Blessed Be the Name”**                                         #797 [sing vs. 1 twice]

BLESSING / DISMISSAL:         Go in peace. Share the harvest.  
                                             **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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**Worship Participants:**

Song Leaders: Cindi Lehmann, Scott Bertelsen	Assisting Minister: Olivia Banta
Ushers: Jim Lund, Gary McCarthy, Tina Berg	Greeter: Shirley Rollefson
Piano: Amy Thorson	Audio/Video: Karl Wooldridge/Geno Lopes
Altar Care: Kathy Leuwerke	Communion Set Up: Ruth Melby
Communion Servers: Laura Winter, Melanie Westerberg	
Coffee: Mission & Outreach [fundraiser for Missionary Karen]	

**Today’s worship service is broadcast** at 11:00am over KIOW 107.3 FM. Broadcast is given in memory of Gisle ‘Doc’ Bartleson (Aug. 15 b’day) from JoAnn Bartleson, family & friends.