



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Forest City, Iowa

Pastors: Rod Hopp, Zech Anderson, Intern Elizabeth Carr
www.immanuelfamily.com

February 12, 2023 9:15am in person / online / on the radio

Building community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ.

In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

L: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Holy One, source of our renewal,

C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "**I Give You My Heart**" Reuben Morgan

This is my desire, to honour You. Lord, with all my heart, I worship You.

All I have within me, I give You praise. All that I adore, is in You.

Lord, I give You my heart, I give You my soul. I live for You alone.

Ev'ry breath that I take, ev'ry moment I'm awake, Lord have Your way in me.

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, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 *Choose life*

PSALM: Psalm 119:97-105 (revised)

L: Oh, how I love your Torah!

C: It is my meditation all day long.

L: Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,

C: for it is always with me.

L: I have more understanding than all my teachers,

C: for your decrees are my meditation.

L: I understand more than the aged,

C: for I keep your precepts.

L: I hold back my feet from every evil way,

C: in order to keep your word.

L: I do not turn away from your ordinances,

C: for you have taught me.

L: How sweet are your words to my taste,

C: sweeter than honey to my mouth!

L: Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

C: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 *God gives the growth*

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:21-37 *The teaching of Christ: forgiveness*

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

INSTALLATION OF ELIZABETH BOHL / CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Zech

HYMN OF THE DAY: **"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"**

#815

APOSTLES' CREED

pg. 105

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

Ruby Sue Albertsen

Christa Frank

Ashley Rayhons

Liam Bartleson

Sonja Johnson

Tim Schmidt

Hazel Barloon

Ron Kvale

Marge Solberg

Hayden Despenas

Jill (Lewison) Nedved

Jennie Spencer

Clara Eisenmann

Stross Newcom

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes

family of Morrison Ellis

Lisa Overlie

Missionary Karen Anderson

Carolyn Price

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: “Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart”

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His son. [repeat 2 lines]
And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am rich”
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks.*

OFFERING PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION / LORD’S PRAYER

COMMUNION: “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

#461

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

SENDING HYMN: “’Tis so sweet to walk with Jesus”

’Tis so sweet to walk with Jesus, Step by step and day by day;
Stepping in His very footprints, Walking with Him all the way.

*Step by step, step by step, I would walk with Jesus,
All the day, all the way, Keeping step with Jesus.*

’Tis so safe to walk with Jesus, Leaning hard upon His arm,
Following closely where He leads us, None can hurt and naught can harm.

Step by step I’ll walk with Jesus, Just a moment at a time;
Heights I have not wings to soar to Step by step my feet can climb.

Jesus, keep me closer—closer, Step by step, and day by day;
Stepping in Thy very footprints Walking with Thee all the way.

BLESSING / DISMISSAL: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

† † † † † †

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Worship Participants:

Assisting Minister: Patti Strukel

Altar Care: Kathy Leuwerke

Greeter: Shirley Rollefson

Scripture Reader: Bruce Mielke

Ushers: Jim Lund, Gary McCarthy, Tina Berg

Sound/Video Techs: Karl Wooldridge/Tammy Krieger

Piano: Karen Post

Song Leaders: Mark & Joy Newcom

Band: Geno Lopes, Antonio Lopes, Dave Melby

February Coffee: Do Day Group

Today’s worship is broadcast at 11:00am over KIOW 107.3 FM. Broadcast is given in memory of Fred & Edith Sweeney from their daughter Kathy Bendickson.