

# Reformation & Confirmation Sunday



Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA  
Forest City, Iowa  
Pastors Rod Hopp & Zech Anderson  
October 30, 2022 9:15am  
[www.immanuelfamily.com](http://www.immanuelfamily.com)

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

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*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

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PRELUDE: "You Are Mine" Hayden Brown-Johnson-flute, Luke Raulie-trumpet, Linda Ferjak-piano

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

**C: Amen.**

L: People of God, in the baptismal waters we travel with Christ from death to life. Our past, our sin, our failure, our doubt, and our shame are drowned and gone here.

**C: You, O God, wash us clean!**

L: Our fear, our confusion, our self-righteousness, our despair – ALL are washed away by grace.

**C: You, O God, wash us clean!**

L: Our pride, our hypocrisy, and other people's opinions of us no longer have the power to define us.

**C: You, O God, give us new life!**

L: The Spirit lives and moves through us now, a great and joyful mystery, so we may bring love and mercy into the world as the body of Christ.

**C: You, O God, give us new life!**

L: And so, as we begin worship, we give thanks to God for the gracious gift of baptism that joins us together in Christ by the Spirit's power. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. We praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen and AMEN!**

### GATHERING HYMN: "In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then, bursting forth in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

#### 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

Hayden Brown-Johnson

PSALM: Psalm 46 [read responsively]

Hayden Brown-Johnson

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

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

<sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam, and <sup>3</sup>though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

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

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

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

<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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

<sup>9</sup>behold 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.

<sup>10</sup>**Be still, then, and know that I am God;**

**I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

<sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

Morgan Christ

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: **“Celtic Alleluia”**

#174

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.***

SERMON

Pastor Rod Hopp

HYMN OF THE DAY: **“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”**

#729

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM ~ for those affirming their faith

pg. 234 ELW

Carter Reese Benson

Luke Morgan Raulie

Hayden Lynn Brown-Johnson

Kyra May Strommen

Morgan Grace Christ

Cora Jo Vogt

Aviana Rose Holkesvik

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: [written by Confirmation Class]

Aviana Holkesvik, Kyra Strommen

*L: Lord in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.***

Ruby Sue Albertsen

Pastor Michelle Gawienowski

Ashley Rayhons

Gisle ‘Doc’ Bartleson

Jill (Lewison) Nedved

Jennie Spencer

Liam Bartleson

Linda Olson

Missionary Karen Anderson

Hayden Despenas

Lisa Overlie

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes

Good, Good Father, thank you for this time to praise you. Please Help those who haven’t found their path with you. I pray for you to open our eyes and find those who need someone to take their hand and lead them and help us to do it in your name. Give us courage to reach out to those lost and alone and in need of you. Use our lives to lead others toward a life with you. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (Hayden’s prayer for the church)

Dear Lord, thank you for everything you have done for us and your world. Forgive us for the ways we fail to care for your beloved planet and forgive all our sins. Protect us from all fear and evil and guide us until that day when we are reunited face-to-face with you and all who have gone before us. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (Aviana’ prayer for those in need)

Thank you, God, Lord of wonder and grace, for all of us hear getting confirmed today and for all confirmands and disciples affirming their faith today. Strengthen your church through the Holy Spirit today and in the days ahead. Keep us in the faith as we get older and help us lead others to you. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (Carter's prayer for the church)

Holy God, we pray for the next group, the students in Middle School Ministry now, that they will continue to grow in faith, love, and obedience to your will, and when questions arise, help our middle school group to continue to be a safe place to ask them. We also pray that those who are out of or beyond confirmation still, continue to grow their faith in you, our one and only true God. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (Kyra's prayer for the church)

Holy God and Holy Spirit, bless everyone to find you, and to find a faithful community in which to worship you. Bless Immanuel Lutheran congregation to be a welcoming place where there is a place for everyone. Stand beside us Lord, in our journey, and keep every disciple rooted in faithfulness and love. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (Cora's prayer for the church)

Lord God, protector of those bent low, we pray for all in need, especially the lonely, the hungry, and those unable to help themselves. Empower us, as your people to lend a helping hand and to share in their suffering, and help them to find your light in their darkness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (Morgan's prayer for those in need)

God of love and healing, bless those whose lives are turned upside down by natural disasters and man-made disasters like war, and greed. Bring life where there is death, hope where there is despair, joy into sorrow, peace into chaos, and the blessing of light into every darkness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (Pastor Rod's prayer for healing and blessing)

God of blessing and life, thank you for helping me to know you and to be in relationship with you. Thank you for those who have helped us this far on our journey, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, promise land teachers, pastors, and others we name before you now (brief pause). Help us to walk in you all our days. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (Luke's prayer of thanks for those who serve and share faith)

Into your hands O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your continued care. **AMEN**

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: **"Create in Me a Clean Heart"** #186

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING pg 144-146

Holy, holy, holy

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Lamb of God

COMMUNION SONGS: **"The Church's One Foundation"** #654

**"Amazing Grace"** #779

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

SENDING SONG: **"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"** #504

BLESSING

DISMISSAL: Go in peace, with Christ beside you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



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Ushers: Jim Lund, Gary McCarthy, Tina Berg

Greeter: Shirley Rollefson

Crucifer: Cora Vogt

Sound / Video Techs: Brody Hopp / Ken Ferjak

Piano/Organ: Karen Post

Song Leaders: Mark & Joy Newcom

Communion Set Up: Ruth Melby

Communion Servers: Morgan Christ, Carter Benson, Luke Raulie, Kyra Strommen

Today's worship is broadcast at 11:00am over KLOW 107.3 FM. Broadcast is given in memory of Mindi Sunderman from parents Lowell & Joan Sunderman.

*Thank you to Mary Kingland, Marlene Faircloth, Jan Buffington,  
Kathy Jerome 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.*

## **Carter Reese Benson**

son of Chad & Quincey Benson

Baptized Dec. 30, 2007, United  
Methodist, Clear Lake

Sponsors: William McCormick, Jeremy McCormick,  
Bruce & Diane Schulze

Bible Verse: Joshua 1:9 *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Going to Forest Plaza and getting to talk to people about their faith experiences.

## **Hayden Lynn Brown-Johnson**

daughter of Michael & Heather Johnson/  
Heath & Alissa Brown

Baptized July 5, 2008, Pilgrim  
Lutheran Church, Lake City, IA

sponsors: Alan & Jody Ellis,  
Aleasha Arnborg, Jenessa Brown

Bible Verse: John 4:19 *"We love him, because he first loved us."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: When we went out around town and picked garbage to help out our community.

## **Morgan Grace Christ**

daughter of Michael & Jennifer Christ

Baptized March 25, 2008, Bethany  
Lutheran, Thompson

sponsors: Tony & Tara Royster

Bible Verses: Romans 5:8 *"But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* Matthew 22:37 *"He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'"*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: My first year in youth group we would split into small groups and have really good talks.

**Aviana Rose Holkesvik** daughter of Zachary & Valarie Holkesvik  
Baptized April 20, 2008, Immanuel sponsors: Brenda & Kelly Thompson,  
Amy Erickson, Ann Erickson

Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 31:6 *"Be strong! Be fearless! Don't be scared by your enemies, because the Lord your God is the one who marches with you. He won't let you down, and he won't abandon you."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: All the game nights.

**Luke Morgan Raulie** son of Zach & Jenn Raulie  
Baptized May 25, 2008, Cross Roads sponsors: LeeAnn Raulie, Mark Schleif  
Lutheran Church in Florida

Bible Verse: Philippians 4:13 *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Attending Bible camp taught me to open up and try new experiences even though I may be afraid to.

**Kyra May Strommen** daughter of Allison & Brian Strommen  
Baptized March 23, 2008, Immanuel sponsors: Brooke Dennis, Kelli Thompson,  
Jill Johnson, Rachel Detterman

Bible Verse: Mark 10:27 *"With God everything is possible."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Painting during activity night.

**Cora Jo Vogt** daughter of April & Joe Vogt  
Baptized April 6, 2008, Immanuel sponsors: Jessica & Jason Bruckhoff

Bible Verse: Joshua 1:9 *"Be strong be brave be fearless you are never alone"*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Making bread.