

Reformation & Confirmation Sunday



Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA
Forest City, Iowa

Pastors Rod Hopp, Zech Anderson, Jeniffer Tillman

October 26, 2025 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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: 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

Easton Espeland

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*

PSALM: Psalm 46 [read responsively]

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*

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.***

CHILDREN’S SERMON / SERMON

Pastor Jeniffer Tillman

SONG OF THE DAY: **“Every Move I Make”**

Verse

Every move I make I make in You, You make me move Jesus
Every breath I take I breathe in You, Every step I take I take in You
You are my way Jesus, Every breath I take I breathe in You

Bridge

Na na na na na na na. Na na na na na na na na na

Chorus

*Waves of mercy waves of grace, Everywhere I look I see Your face
Your love has captured me, Oh my God this love how can it be*

Ending

Jesus

David Ruis, CCLI Song #1595726 © 1996 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing; Vineyard Songs Canada

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM ~ for those affirming their faith

pg. 234

Olivia Grace Banta

Ellie Marie Niess

Brinley Cora Blaser

Isabel Joy Niess

Aiden Ryley Brass

Ava Pearl Raulie

Easton James Espeland

Abigail Jane Squier

Noah Nathaniel May

Olivia Elaine 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: receive our prayer.*

Liam Bartleson
Joan Beebe

Hayden Despenas

Mary Farland

Paige Lacy

Jan Buffington

Jill (Lewison) Nedved

Steve Schellberg

Joan Swanson

Lucky Truong

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes

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

OFFERING/SPECIAL MUSIC: "We are Marching in the Light of God" Confirmation Class
Noah May, soloist vs 1

OFFERTORY: "As the Grains of Wheat"

#465

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION / LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION SONGS: "Jesus Loves Me"

#595

"You are My All in All"

Verse 1

You are my strength when I am weak, You are the treasure that I seek

You are my all in all

Seeking You as a precious jewel Lord to give up I'd be a fool

You are my all in all

Chorus

Jesus Lamb of God, worthy is Your name. Jesus Lamb of God worthy is Your name

Verse 2

Taking my sin my cross my shame, rising again I bless Your name
You are my all in all
When I fall down You pick me up, when I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all

Dennis Jernigan; CCLI Song #825356 © 1991 Shepherd's Heart Music, Inc.

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

#671

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

SENDING SONG: **“My Lighthouse”**

Verse 1

In my wrestling and in my doubts, In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh, You are the peace in my troubled sea

Verse 2

In the silence You won't let go, In the questions Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh, You are the peace in my troubled sea

Chorus

*My Lighthouse my Lighthouse, shining in the darkness I will follow You oh
My Lighthouse my Lighthouse, I will trust the promise, You will carry me safe to shore
Safe to shore safe to shore safe to shore*

Verse 3

I won't fear what tomorrow brings with each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh, You are the peace in my troubled sea

Bridge

*Fire before us You're the brightest
You will lead us through the storms (hey)
(REPEAT 3X)*

Chris Llewellyn, Gareth Gilkeson, CCLI Song #7002032, © 2013 Thankyou Music Ltd

BLESSING / DISMISSAL: Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

† † † † † †

Today's worship is broadcast at 11:00am over KLOW 107.3 FM. Broadcast is given in memory of Karen Kofron from Bernie Kofron and family.

Worship Participants:

Ushers: Jim Lund, Gary McCarthy, Tina Berg

Greeter: Shirley Rollefson

Altar Care: Jean Yeager

Crucifier: Aiden Brass

Assisting Minister: Cindi Lehmann

Sound/Video Techs: Karl Wooldridge/Ken Ferjak

Organ: Audrey Olmstead

Band: Rylie Walton, Geno Lopes, Antonio Lopes

Song Leaders: Steve Olmstead, Jaci Thorson, Sarah Leichsenring

Scripture readers: Olivia Banta, Ellie Niess, Ava Raulie

Communion Set Up: Kathy McEnelly

Communion Servers: Abigail Squier, Olivia Squier, Brinley Blaser, Isabel Niess

Thank you to Jan Buffington and Mary Kingland for sewing the confirmands' 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.

Olivia Grace Banta

Daughter of Josh & Tasha Banta

Baptized Jan. 16, 2011, St. Mark Lutheran, Sponsors: Brandon & Teri Vavricek

West Mes Moines

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

Favorite Confirmation Experience: I loved when we sang Christmas carols at Forest Plaza, as well as when we picked up trash around town.

Brinley Cora Blaser

Daughter of Nicole Lovik-Blaser & Jason Blaser

Baptized Dec. 29, 2010, Immanuel

Sponsors: Nicole Niece & Mallory Ziesmer

Bible Verse: Psalm 46:5 *"God is within her, she will not fail."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: My favorite experience was Lutheran Lakeside Bible Camp.

Aiden Ryley Brass

Baptized April 4, 2010, Bethany Lutheran,
Kensett

Son of Ashley Gross & Cory Brass

Sponsors: Shaun Gross, Cassandra Cronk,
Chris Brass, Tori Holt

Bible Verse: Matthew 6:22-23 *"The light of the body is the eye if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness."*

Easton James Espeland

Baptized July 24, 2011, Immanuel

Son of Todd & Melanie Harms Espeland

Sponsors: Melissa Eastvold & Brian Frana

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

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Cleaning up the city with Pastor Zech and youth group.

Noah Nathaniel May

Baptized August 12, 2012, Immanuel

Son of Dan & Elizabeth May

Sponsors: Jim & Mary May,
Tim & Joyce Schmidt

Bible Verse: Luke 6:37 *"Do not judge and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Singing Christmas carols at the Community Center.

Ellie Marie Niess

Baptized June 19, 2011, Immanuel

Daughter of Danielle & Mike Niess

Sponsors: David & Katie Bruhn,
Josh & Amy Kelly

Bible Verse: 2 Corinthians 12:9 *"My grace is all you need, for my power is the greatest when you are weak."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Going to Lutheran Lakeside Bible Camp and spending a whole week together.

Isabel Joy Niess

Baptized June 19, 2011, Immanuel

Daughter of Danielle & Mike Niess

Sponsors: Summer & Josh Callow,
Brad Niess, Brett Vaughn

Bible Verse: Galatians 5:22-23 *"By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: My favorite Confirmation experience is the Prayer Retreat.

Ava Pearl Raulie

Baptized Aug. 28, 2011, Cross Road
Lutheran, Florida

Daughter of Zach & Jenn Raulie

Sponsors: Jeanne Schleif, Larry Raulie

Bible Verse: 1 Corinthians 16:14 *"Let all that you do be done in love."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Hosting coffee hour with friends.

Abigail Jane Squier

Baptized May 8, 2011, Immanuel

Daughter of Chris & Katherine Squier

Sponsors: Emily & Brandon Beenken

Bible 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: Bible Camp with friends.

Olivia Elaine Squier

Baptized May 8, 2011, Immanuel

Daughter of Chris & Katherine Squier

Sponsors: Cory Squier,
Eric & Becky Pederson

Bible Verse: Ephesians 3:20 *"Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine."*

Favorite Confirmation Experience: Going to Lutheran Lakeside Bible Camp.