



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

Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA

Forest City, Iowa

Pastors Rod Hopp & Zech Anderson, Intern Elizabeth Carr

August 25, 2024 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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*In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

#### **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,

**Help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

#### **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: **"All My Worship"** David Ruis, Capitol CMG Publishing

*I will give You all my worship, I will give You all my praise*

*You alone I long to worship, You alone are worthy of my praise*

I will worship, I will worship, With all of my heart, with all of my heart

And I will praise You, I will praise You, With all of my strength, with all my strength

And I will seek You, I will seek You, All of my days, all of my days

And I will follow, I will follow, Follow all of your ways, all Your ways

I will bow down, I will bow down, And hail You as King, hail You as King

And I will serve You, I will serve You, I'll give You everything, I'll give You everything

And I will lift up, I will lift up, My eyes to Your throne, my eyes to Your throne

And I will trust You, I will trust You, O, I will trust You alone, trust You alone

### 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

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18 *Joshua calls all Israel to serve the Lord*

PSALM: Psalm 34:15-22 [read responsively]

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and God's ears are open to their cry.

<sup>16</sup>**The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,  
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

<sup>17</sup>The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>**The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those whose spirits are crushed.**

<sup>19</sup>Many are the troubles of the righteous, but the Lord delivers them from everyone.

<sup>20</sup>**God will keep safe all their bones; not one of them shall be broken.**

<sup>21</sup>Evil will bring death to the wicked  
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

<sup>22</sup>**O Lord, you redeem the life of your servants,  
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 6:10-20 *Put on the armor of God*

GOSPEL: John 6:56-69 *The bread of eternal life*

*Announcement: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

*Conclusion: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

CHILDREN'S SERMON / SERMON

Intern Elizabeth

HYMN OF THE DAY: **"Thy Word"**

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.* [repeat]

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way, still You're there right beside me.  
Nothing will I fear as long as You are near. Please be near me to the end.

I will not forget Your love for me, and yet my heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side; I will love You to the end.

APOSTLES' CREED

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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 do, 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!**  
P: Let us pray: Loving God,... ..We pray this and everything in the name of the great Teacher, Jesus Christ.  
C: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: *L: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.*

<b>Ruby Sue</b> Albertsen	<b>Donna</b> Kvale	<b>Isaac</b> Schneider
<b>Liam</b> Bartleson	<b>Mary</b> Lund	<b>Jennie</b> Spencer
<b>Hayden</b> Despenas	<b>Jill</b> (Lewison) Nedved	<b>family of Maria</b> Thorsheim
<b>Michaela</b> Farus	<b>Stross</b> Newcom	<b>Lucky</b> Truong
<b>Doris</b> Johnson	<b>Melvin</b> Peterson	<b>Missionary Karen</b> Anderson
<b>Karen</b> Kofron	<b>Tim</b> Schmidt	<b>Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes</b>

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

OFFERING: “It is Well With my Soul” Steve & Audrey Olmstead

OFFERTORY: “**I Give You My Heart**” [2x]

*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.*

CCLI #1866132 words and music by Reuben Morgan; 1995 Hillsong Music Publ Australia

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION / LORD’S PRAYER / COMMUNION

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

SENDING SONG: “**This Little Light**”

#677

BLESSING

DISMISSAL: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

† † † † † †

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