



4th Sunday after Pentecost

Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA

Forest City, Iowa

Pastors Rod Hopp & Zech Anderson, Intern Elizabeth Carr

June 16, 2024 9:15am

www.immanuelfamily.com

Building community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ.

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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.**

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

To herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;

On the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

The righteous shall flourish like a Mulberry tree and shall spread abroad like a cedar of the pleasant pastures. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God;

We shall still bear fruit into old age; we shall be green and succulent; that we may show how upright the Lord is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. Forgive 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: **"O Day Full of Grace"**

#627 [vs. 1-3] 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

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING OF FATHERS

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24 *The sign of the cedar, planted on the mountain of Israel*

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17 *In Christ, a new creation*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: **“Word of Truth and Life”** Marty Haugen

Song Leaders: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

Song Leaders: Living water, we are thirsting for the life that you have promised:

ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34 *The parable of the mustard seed*

Announcement: Glory to you, O Lord.

Conclusion: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON / SERMON

Pastor Zech

HYMN OF THE DAY: **“God of the Sparrow”**

#740

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

Ruby Sue Albertsen

Chris McCormick

Jennie Spencer

Liam Bartleson

Jill (Lewison) Nedved

Lucky Truong

Hayden Despenas

Mark Newcom

Missionary Karen Anderson

Doris Johnson

Tim Schmidt

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes

Donna Kvale

Isaac Schneider

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: **“I Offer My Life”** Don Moen and Claire Cloninger

Lord, I offer my life to You.

Ev’rything I’ve been through, use it for Your glory.

Lord, I offer my days to You, lifting my praise to You as a pleasing sacrifice.

Lord, I offer You my life.

Words and music by Don Moen and Claire Cloninger; 1994 Integrity’s Hasanna!

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 HYMNS:	"Build Us Up, Lord"	#670
	"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"	#461
	"Bread of Life from Heaven"	#474

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

SENDING SONG: **"Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"** #535

BLESSING: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

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

† † † † † †

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Worship Participants:

Assisting Minister: Patti Strukel

Piano/Organ: Karen Post

Altar Care: Mary Lund

Song Leaders: Steve Olmstead, Renae Hopp, Olivia Banta

Communion Servers: Marlene Faircloth, Matt Welp

Greeter: Shirley Rollefson

Ushers: Jim Lund, Gary McCarthy, Tina Berg

Audio/Video Techs: Brody Hopp/Ken Ferjak

Communion Set Up: Tasha Banta

Today's worship is broadcast at 11:00am over KLOW 107.3 FM. Broadcast is given by Bernie & Karen Kofron.

Altar flowers are given in memory of Alma Hovey from the Jim Leach and Deb Abels families.

A bouquet of flowers is given in celebration of Gerald & Helen Barth's 68th wedding anniversary (June 17) from their sons Jeff & Jerry.

IMMANUEL'S MAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

May 2024 General Offerings: \$34,797.03

Monthly Budget: \$41,169.33

YTD Actual 2024: \$172,012.51

May 2023 General Offerings: \$44,402.10

YTD Actual 2023: \$178,634.77