**Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church
630 Adams St Wausau, WI 54403 | ​​Phone: (715) 842-3644**

[**http://www.immanuelwausau.org/**](http://www.immanuelwausau.org/)

**Sunday, October 29, 2023
Reformation Sunday**

Please welcome Kathy Robinson and thank her for doing the service for us today.

**Prelude**

**Announcement**

**Introduction**

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.

*Please stand if able*

**Gathering Hymn**  “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” #504

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be God,

the one who forms us,

☩ Jesus who bears the cross,

the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility,

confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

**you have revealed the ways of justice,**

**yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed**

**by the world’s violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have**

**for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused,**

**known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others**

**and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away**

**from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you**

**and set us on the right path;**

**in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,

God’s justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God’s compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In ☩ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**Amen.**

**Greeting**

**Kyrie pg. 203**

**Canticle Of Praise “Glory to God in the Highest” Pg. 148**

### Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2**

R: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm** **46**

R: Let us pray responsively.

1God is our refuge and strength,

  a very present help in trouble.

**2Therefore 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.

**4There 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.

**6The 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.

**8Come now, regard the works | of the Lord,**

**what desolations God has brought up- | on 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.

**Amen.**

**Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8**

R: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation pg. 151**

P: *Let us stand* for the Gospel.

C: Alleluia! Lord and Savior pg. 205

**Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

P:The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Pulpit Hymn “Lord Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word” # 517**

*Please be seated*.

**Sermon Kathy Robinson**

*Silence for reflection*

**Hymn of the Day “The Church's One Foundation”  # 654 vss. 1, 4, 5**

*Please stand if able.*

**Apostles’ Creed** *See the yellow sheet in the back of your hymnal.*

**Prayers of Intercession**

**R:** Trusting in the transformative power of God’s loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. After **“God of Grace”** please respond with **“Hear our prayer”.**

R: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

P: With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray…

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Sharing of Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And, also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

**Offertory Hymn “Built On A Rock” # 652 vss. 1 and 5**

*The usher will bring up the offering plate.*

*Please stand if able.*

**Offering Prayer**

P: God of power, God of plenty,

all things belong to you.

**We bring your gifts to the table,**

**that all might be fed.**

**Form us into the body of your Beloved,**

**Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

**Blessing**

**Closing Hymn** “**Lead On O King Eternal” # 805**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**C: I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Postlude

**Prayer Concerns:** Joan Bonstead, Thelma Bursik, Esther Osterby, Judy Blanchfield, Charlotte Traeger (Contact ILC office to update.)

Sunday, November 05, 2023, All Saints Sunday Service. Please bring a photo or memento of your dearly departed loved ones to be displayed on the table in the sanctuary.

November 18, 2023. Celebration Of Life for Tara (Zanda) Larson, Immanuel Lutheran 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

**Stewardship News: “Immanuel’s Mission Through Stewardship”.**  ***More Musings from your Stewardship Committee:***

Your Stewardship letter should have arrived with your “Estimate of Giving” and “Time and Talent” cards. Now is the time to reflect on your role in the Immanuel congregation, and how you can express your stewardship. November 5, 2023, will be “Commitment Sunday” when the filled in cards should be turned into the church.

This is an important time, as we reflect on the exciting things going on at Immanuel. We are working on partnering with another church for a two-point parish, so we can call a new pastor. We are renting the second floor of our educational wing. We are improving the lighting systems within and outside the church building. We are studying the heating and cooling systems in order to make our church building more energy efficient.

We are members of a congregation that has a strong historical narrative. How do we continue the rich tradition of the past, carry on a active mission in the present, and plan for the future? That is the role of stewardship, and the subject of our meditation. We express our role in the congregation by meditating, praying, and creating our stewardship identity for 2024.

Immanuel Trivia: What are the committees whose chairs serve on the Church council?

Answer: Worship, Evangelism, Social Concerns, Properties, Stewardship, Youth, and Education.

**New Trivia**: What happened to Immanuel Lutheran Church at 1st and Franklin streets in 1946?

It is that time of year! Time to start thinking about Christmas, and that means it’s time for Poinsettias! 

Let’s beautify our church for the holiday season. The order form is on the Narthex entry table. Orders must be placed by Sunday November 12th.

Bell Choir is starting up again this fall. We would love to have you join us! No “musical talent” needed! Just come join us for friendship and fun. Practice is on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. For more information call Joanne at 715-573-7379. Just give me a ring!

**The Men’s Discussion Group** meets Thursdays at 7:30 am, in the Koinonia room. New participants are always welcome.

**Strong Bones Senior Exercise Group** meets every Tuesday and Thursday in the old Nursery at 10:30 am. The class is open to anyone wishing to improve balance and maintain strength to prevent falls. New faces are happily welcome.

**Volunteers needed to visit the homebound and ill. If interested, contact Jane Reilly-Smith 715-581-4629**

**Volunteers needed to Host Coffee Hours. The sign-up sheet is in the kitchen.**

*Any news for November bulletins and upcoming newsletters would be greatly appreciated. Please email them to Michelle at your earliest convenience.*

**Attendance on 10/22/23: 30**

Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. Address is: c/o Moruti (Pastor) Rev. G.M. Nkale, P.O. Box 160, Motswedi 2870, Republic of South Africa. Email for Pastor: nkalesto@gmail.com

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| **October 2023 Worship Servers**  |
| **Worship Leader** |
| **DATE** | **PIANIST / ORGANIST** | **READER**  | **USHER / GREETERS** | **VIDEO TAPER** | **COMMUNION** |
| 10/29/2023 | Judy Kort | Rick Lohr | Bruce Knox | V |   |
| **Altar Guild: Holly Westaby & Kathy Knox** |

**Next Week Service\***

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