

God of every living creature, you announce the year of your favor for all of creation. Extend your kindness and relief to endangered animals and plants. Strengthen the human beings who rely on the rhythms of nature to make their living. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all peoples and nations, you plant us as your oaks of righteousness and ask us to care for one another. Be present with the leaders of every nation as they govern. Give them a spirit of righteousness, that your goodness and mercy is revealed through their actions. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of exiles and wanderers, you repair what was once destroyed. We pray for people who have been displaced from their homes by fire, flood, earthquake, or storm. Support the work of Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster Response, and all disaster relief organizations in their recovery efforts. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of the powerful and helpless, you clothe us with strength when our spirits are weak and weary. Bestow your spirit upon this congregation and empower us to comfort the people who turn to us in times of need. Make your church a place of refuge and healing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord we lift up before you all who are in need of your help. We pray especially for Thelma, Esther, Kathrine-Sylvia, Abber, Jezel, Joelle, Odeh, April, Brianna, Alice, Charissa, Scott, Phyllis, Mary, Ashley, Laura, David, Sara, Jeff, Edie, Joan, Jamie & Mike, Ted, Pastor Mark (Dixie Burk's Brother), Maggie Westaby, and Sonya. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of sinners and saints, you offer joy even in the midst of our grief. We are grateful for the beloved, imperfect people whose lives testified to your radiant love (*especially our former pastor Norm Winterhoff and Lucy, martyr of the church*). Anoint all who mourn with the oil of gladness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray...

The Lord's Prayer

Offering		
Offertory	Come Now, O Prince of Peace	#247
Offertory Prayer		

Blessing		
Closing Hymn	Hark, the Glad Sound!	#239
Dismissal		

Prayer Concerns: Thelma, Esther, Kathrine-Sylvia, Abber, Jezel, Joelle, Odeh, April, Brianna, Alice, Charissa, Scott, Phyllis, Mary, Ashley, Laura, David, Sara, Jeff, Edie, Joan, Jamie & Mike, Ted, Pastor Mark (Dixie Burk's Brother), Maggie Westaby, Pat Stolen, and Sonya (Jackie's Sister-in-Law).

***Our Sister Church** is the Lobatla Parish. The address is: c/o Justice Pule, P.O. Box 160, Motswedi 2870, Republic of South Africa.*

NEWS

Holy Communion is now available at ILC. This table is located by the front office. Each package contains the Body of Christ and a prayer. Pastor Niveen has blessed each one. All the packages were assembled using the highest sanitizing measures.

Because several of you received the Holy Communion smashed in the mail, **the church office will stop mailing the Holy Communion**. So, you have two options: either to pick up your Holy Communion from church or to call the church office asking for it to be sent to you.

Secured Mailbox: There is one installed next to the church office. It is on the outside the building on the wall. You are encouraged to drop your offering there.

Sunday December 13, 2020 at 10:00 am: Zoom Adult Forum for Advent season. We will study Radical Reconciliation: Beyond Political Pietism and Christian by Allan Boesak and Curtiss Paul DeYoung. Pastor Sarras will send you zoom link. You simply click on zoom link to join the meeting.

Wednesday, December 16, 2020: Digital Midweek Advent Service.

Monday, December 21, 2020, at 3 pm is the deadline to register for 4 pm or 7 pm Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 22, 2020 at 6:00 pm virtual Church council meeting.

Wednesday, December 30, 2020. Year End Giving Deadline: Members contributions for the 2020 Tax Year must be submitted by this date.

TeleCare: "phone call of love."

Grace and peace to you. We no longer have an evangelism committee team. Evangelism's most significant responsibility, according to our constitution, is to help the pastor to keep in touch with the church members, particularly those who no longer come regularly to the church. I need a group who is willing to participate in the TeleCare Ministry.

What Is TeleCare? In short, TeleCare ministry is lay-led and lay-driven evangelism and pastoral ministry that expresses your church's care and concern to every member on the ILC membership list. The best way to describe it is "phone call of love."

How Does TeleCare Work? The genius behind the "phone call of love" is the only question that callers ask. It goes like this: TeleCare ministry volunteers will call a church member asking this question: "We're calling to see how you are and if there's anything you want us to pray for?" The pastor will provide to the volunteers the name of parishioners to call. If something the pastor should be aware of, the volunteers must report back to the pastor. You do not need to be at church to participate in this ministry. You can make calls from home.

The most significant benefit of TeleCare is that you are regularly calling ILC members, saying, basically, "We love you and want to support you in prayer." Your beloved people will feel cared for and looked after by their church. Please let me (Pastor) know if you are interested.

We are looking for 1 item for ILC: A 24" or 30" circular rug for the Gathering room to go under the plant as watering has caused a stain in the carpeting, if you have one you could donate.

- **Mitten Tree:** The Mitten Tree is set up. It will be available through the end of January. You may bring donations of mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and sweaters to put under the tree. The items collected will be taken to the Neighbor's Place. Please contact Janci for additional information.
- **Pastor's Lip Balm is once again available.** Each one is created using only organic ingredients. Only \$2 for each lip balm. Proceeds from the sale of the lip balm will go toward the Genesis Fund.
- **Olive Oil is Here!** Canaan Fair Trade olive oil is available in the church office. The 500 ml bottles are available in the church office for \$15.00. The purchase of this excellent olive oil supports the Palestinian farmers who are part of the cooperative. In addition to using it for your own purposes, it also makes a wonderful gift to give someone!
- **In-Person Worship Service has been suspended until further notice.** The following ILC services and ministries will continue to be online, via telephone and Spectrum TV:
 - Our Facebook Page: @ILCWausau
 - Our YouTube Channel: Search "Immanuel Lutheran Church of Wausau Wisconsin, Inc." on Sunday afternoon.
 - Our Website: <http://www.immanuelwausau.org> (Click on Video Gallery)
 - Spectrum TV Cable Channel 980 at 11AM Sunday, 5:45 PM Tuesday & 9:15 AM Thursday or online: Wausau Area Access Media: waam.viebit.com (Left side, scroll to Immanuel Lutheran.)
 - ☐ **Dial-a-Sermon is Live. Dial 1-715-200-9495.** Pastor Niveen's weekly sermon is now available on any telephone.

Church office phone number is 715-842-3644 for emergency only call 510-355-4352