

Creator God, you scatter the proud. Everything we have belongs first to you. Bless and protect the seas, mountains, plains, forests, skies, and soils that surround us. Give us humility as we tend them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Righteous God, you humble the powerful and lift up the lowly. We pray for the leaders of all nations, that they amplify the voices of people in need. Guide all people entrusted with leadership, to create societies in which everyone can flourish. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate God, you fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty. Nourish those who lack access to adequate food and nutrition. Bless the work of advocates, community organizers, and food pantries. Encourage others to provide for their neighbors in need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Healing God, you pour out mercy to all who cry out to you. Surround everyone in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit with your tender presence (*we especially pray for those whom we hold dear in our hearts and those whom we do not know*). 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, Jazel, Joelle, Odeh, April, Brianna, Alice, Charissa, Scott, Phyllis, Mary, Ashley, Laura, David, Sara, Jeff, Edie, Joan, Jamie & Mike, Ted, Pastor Mark, Maggie Westaby, and Sonya. We also pray for our sister Parish Lobatha in South Africa asking you to sustain them in this difficult time. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Eternal God, you are faithful to the promises you made to our forebears. We give thanks for the ministry of Katharina von Bora Luther and other ancestors who organized, planned, dreamed, encouraged, and reached out as they served you. We give thanks for the bold leadership of female leaders in our own time. Inspire others with their steadfast witness. 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

Offertory Prayer

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

#247

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Dismissal

The King Shall Come

#260

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 have received the Holy Communion smashed in the mail, **the church office will stop mailing the Holy Communion**. Therefore, you have three options: First option: pick up the Holy Communion from the church. Second option: you can come to church and the pastor will pray with you and give you the Holy Communion. The pastor will practice social distancing. Third option: call the church office at (715) 842-3644 and ask that the Holy Communion be mailed to you. The ILC homebound individuals will continue to receive the Holy Communion by mail.

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 20, 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

Wednesday, December 23, 2020: Digital Blue Advent Service prepared by the pastors of the Wisconsin River Conference.

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 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.

- **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