

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

630 Adams St Wausau, WI 54403

Phone: (715) 842-3644

<http://www.immanuelwausau.org>

Sunday, February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany, Year C



Please welcome Kathy Robinson as she leads us in Worship today.

Prelude

Announcements

Introduction

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the “blessed are” and the “woe tos” are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

Please stand if able.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

Forgive us for the ways we act

with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.
Show us your lovingkindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.
Amen.**

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine.”
In ✝ Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Jesus Shall Reign”

#434

Greeting: “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all” (2 Corinthians 13:14).

C: And also, with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

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

Psalm: Psalm 1

R: Please read responsively to Psalm: Psalm 1

They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel ¹ of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats ¹ of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law ¹ of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching ¹ day and night. R**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due
season, with leaves that ¹ do not wither;
everything they ¹ do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so ¹ with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind ¹ blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when ¹ judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council ¹ of the righteous.

⁶ **For the LORD knows the way ¹ of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall ¹ be destroyed. R**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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

Please stand for the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia”

pg. 142

Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,

The usher will bring up the offering plate.

Please stand if able.

Offering Prayer

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.

Amen.

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God

✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“We Know That Christ Is Raised”

#449

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Attendance on 2/9/2025: 25

Prayer Concerns: Joan Bonstead, Judi McGill and Bob Henning for medical challenges. Leora Mitchell, Joan Winterhoff, Frank Lewitzke, Roger Neiter, Karen Spoehrs. (For updates, please contact the ILC Office)

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Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. Pastor Elijah Lekwate. Email for Justice Pule: pulejustice74@gmail.com

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

Serving us Today

Leader: Kathy Robinson

Organist/Pianist: Delores K.

Reader: Adam Doede

Usher: Bruce & Kathy Knox

Video Recorder: Floyd Hallberg

Altar Guild: Kathy Knox, Joanne Distelhorst, and Pattie Bricko

March 2025 Immanuel News Newsletter. The last day to submit items for the March 2025 newsletter will be February 24, 2025.

Devotionals Available: I have received Large Print Portals of Prayers and Large/Small Print of Christ in Our Home devotionals. They will be in the Narthex but if you need me to mail you a copy, please let me know. Have a great weekend and stay warm.

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.

Food Pantry Donations for the Neighbors' Place

Place your items on the black cart next to the pew near the Gathering Room and they will be delivered to the Neighbors' Place.