

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

630 Adams St Wausau, WI 54403

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<http://www.immanuelwausau.org>

Sunday, June 29, 2025

Peter and Paul, Apostles



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

Prelude

Announcements

Introduction

Today we celebrate two great figures of the early church, Peter and Paul, who represent the spread of the gospel to both Jews and Gentiles and, according to tradition, were martyred on this date. The witness of Peter and Paul inspires us as we seek ways to faithfully proclaim the gospel in our contemporary context.

Please stand if able.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

**You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✝ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Lord God, We Praise You”

#558

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: Almighty God, we praise you that your blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdoms. Grant that your church throughout the world may always be instructed by their teaching and example, be knit together in unity by your Spirit, and ever stand firm upon the one foundation who is Jesus Christ our Lord, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: Acts 12:1-11

King Herod had James killed and had Peter put in prison, under heavy guard. In what Peter first believes is only a vision, an angel leads him past unseeing guards, out of the prison, and to freedom.

¹ About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. ² He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. ³ After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) ⁴ When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. ⁵ While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

⁶ The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. ⁷ Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his wrists. ⁸ The angel said to him, “Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.” He did so. Then he said to him, “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.” ⁹ Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel’s help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. ¹⁰ After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. ¹¹ Then Peter came to himself and said, “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.”

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

Psalm: Psalm 16

R: Please read responsively to Psalm 87:1-3, 5-7

Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of our God. (Ps. 87:3)

- ¹ On the ¹ holy mountain
stands the city ¹ God has founded;
² **the LORD loves the ¹ gates of Zion**
more than all the dwell- ¹ ings of Jacob. R
³ Glorious things are spo- ¹ ken of you,
O city ¹ of our God.
⁵ **Of the city it shall be said, “Everyone was ¹ born in Zion,**
and the Most High shall sus- ¹ tain the city.”
⁶ Enrolling the nations, the ¹ LORD records:
“These al- ¹ so were born there.”
⁷ **The singers and the danc- ¹ ers will say,**
“All my fresh springs ¹ are in you.” R

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

Paul has faithfully persevered in the mission the Lord had given to him.

Near life's end he rests in the promise of eternal life, confident that the Lord who has rescued him in the past will bring him into the heavenly kingdom.

⁶ As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

Please stand for the Gospel.

Gospel: John 21:15-19

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus invites Simon Peter to declare his love for him three times, in a manner reminiscent of the three times that Peter earlier denied Christ. Jesus commissions him to feed his sheep and predicts that he will die as a martyr for God.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.” ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

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

Please be seated.

Pulpit Hymn

“O Master, Let Me Walk with You”

#818

Sermon

Kathy Robinson

Silence for reflection.

Hymn of the Day

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

#798

Please stand if able.

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

Sharing of the Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also, with you.

P: I invite you to share the Peace however you feel comfortable.

Please be seated for the Prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

Read by our Lector today:

Sue Schwede

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

After “God of Grace” please respond with “hear our prayer”

A brief silence.

The Lord’s Prayer

Offertory Hymn

“Spirit of Gentleness”

#396

The usher will bring up the offering plate.

Please stand if able.

Offering Prayer

P: Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,

that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Blessing

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit

✝ bless you and give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Here I Am, Lord”

#574

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Attendance on 6/22/2025: 29

Prayer Concerns: Mary Ann Klinker, Joan Bonstead, Judi McGill and Bob Henning for medical challenges. Joan Winterhoff, 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: Dan Larson

Reader: Sue Schwede

Usher: Mike Schwede

Video Recorder: Bob Henning

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

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.

Notes from Jackie



There are many VCR tapes of our Worship Services from the past (90's, 2000's) located in Room 13. I have placed them all on three shelves. Most of the tapes are marked, but some of the labels have fallen off. Please look through them and see if there are any you would like to take with you. I will leave them there for a few weeks and then they will be disposed of. Thank you!

Family Donated Hymnals. Jane Reilly-Smith has lovingly placed all inscribed hymnals in the gathering room. She organized them by family and alphabetical order. Thank you, Jane.

Please note: Church office will be closed on Thursday, July 3, 2025, in observance of Independence Day.

New Beginnings for Refugees invites YOU to attend our Open House and Volunteer Appreciation event on July 23, 2025, from 5 pm to 7 pm. We are showcasing our new space at First United Methodist Church and our new staff. The event includes our special guest, Lt. Governor Sara Rodriguez, as well as the opportunity to tour our new facilities, taste food prepared by our new neighbors, and engage with the program. Come meet our volunteers, staff, and our new neighbors.