

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

630 Adams St Wausau, WI 54403

Phone: (715) 842-3644

<http://www.immanuelwausau.org>

Sunday, September 1st, 2024

15th Sunday after Pentecost,

Lectionary 22, Year B



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

Labor Day Weekend

Prelude

Announcements

Introduction

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

Please stand if able.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,
C: **Have mercy on us.**
We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.
The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.
In our desire to be first
we make distinctions among ourselves.
We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.
In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn “ For The Beauty Of The Earth”

879

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.

Kyrie

Have Mercy On Us Lord

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Prayer of the Day

P: O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside and cleanse us from all evil

that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children.

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

Psalm: Psalm 15

R: Please read responsively to Psalm 15

¹Lord, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the
Lord. They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their
word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be ^loverthrown.

Second Reading: James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

Please stand for the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia”

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Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

²¹“For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Pulpit Hymn

“ Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

773

Message

Kathy Robinson

Hymn of the Day “ Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil ” *Sing Twice* # 512

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:

Al Solomonson

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need. **After "Merciful God", please respond with "Receive our prayer".**

A brief silence.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

Offertory Hymn

"Change My Heart, O God"

801

The usher will bring up the offering plate.

Please stand if able.

Offering Prayer

P: Blessed are you, O God,
source of every gift of your creation.
By these gifts and with our lives,
help us to serve one another and all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Benediction

God all mighty,
God most merciful

✠ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“ Take My Life, That I May Be ”

583

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Attendance on 08/25/2024: 26

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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

Prayer Concerns: We pray for healing for Karen Spoehr.

(For updates, please contact the ILC Office)

Serving us Today September 1st

Leader: Kathy Robinson

Organist/Pianist: Delores Kessel

Reader: Al Solomonson

Usher: Bruce Knox

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

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

Welcome to Immanuel! We've been waiting for you! If you are interested in becoming a member here, please stop and pick up one of our Welcome packets on the table in the Narthex. We are eager to know you and we're excited to share with you the marvelous ways God is working in our church.

Sunday September 8th God's Work Our Hands

Collection for the Marty Bus

**Bicycle Locks, Rain Poncho's, Drink Mix Pouches,
Bungee Cords, Carabiners, Personal Travel Toiletries,
New Underwear for Men and Women.**

Lutheran World Relief: We are collecting items for Personal Care and School Kits. The items are sent to those in need in the U.S. and around the world. We have many items leftover, so the need list is short. Collection bins are by the West window in the Narthex. **Please have items here by September 23.** Monetary donations are also gladly accepted. Please specify Personal Care Kits or School Kits on your check payable to Immanuel.

Personal Care Kit Items: Dark colored light weight bath towels, bath size bars of soap, and STURDY toothbrushes.

School Kit Items: 70 sheet wide lined spiral notebooks and UNSHARPENED No. 2 pencils. **Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please contact Patti Busche if you have questions.**

Food Pantry Donations

The Neighbors' Place welcomes donations for their food pantry. They are especially in need of toilet paper, shampoo, lotion, laundry soap, dish soap, juice, beef stew, mayo, cookies, canned fruit, and sugar. If you would like to donate non-perishable foods or basic supplies, you may place them on the black cart next to the pew near the Gathering Room and they will be delivered to the Neighbors' Place.

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.

Highland Community Church Women's Fall Conference is October 19th from 9AM to 4 PM. Registration opens on September 1st, contact Sue at 715-842-5683 or go to HCC-Register.com