

**Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church**

630 Adams St Wausau, WI 54403

Phone: (715) 842-3644

<http://www.immanuelwausau.org>

**Sunday, September 8th, 2024**

**16th Sunday after Pentecost,**

**Lectionary 23, Year B**

***Please welcome Kathy Robinson and Pastor  
Doug Helling as they lead us in Worship  
with Communion today.***



**GODS WORK OUR  
HANDS**

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Introduction**

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

*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.**

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 “The Church’s One Foundation” verses 1,4,5 # 654**

**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:** O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7a</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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

## **Psalm: Psalm 146**

**R:** Please read Psalm 146 responsively

<sup>1</sup>Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

<sup>2</sup>**I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.**

<sup>3</sup>Put not your | trust in rulers,  
in mortals in whom there | is no help.  
<sup>4</sup>**When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,  
and in that day | their thoughts perish.**  
<sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,  
whose hope is in the | LORD their God;  
<sup>6</sup>**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;  
who keeps promis- | es forever;**  
<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.  
The LORD sets the | captive free.  
<sup>8</sup>**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are  
bowed down;  
the LORD | loves the righteous.**  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares | for the stranger;  
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow but frustrates the way | of the  
wicked.  
<sup>10</sup>**The LORD shall | reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!**

**Reading: James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17**

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [<sup>11</sup>For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

**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 7:24-37**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

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

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him

a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

**Message**

**Kathy Robinson**

*Silence for reflection.*

**Hymn of the Day**

**“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”**

**# 656**

*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.*

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Read by our Lector today:**

**Adam Doede**

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 “Hear us, O God” please respond with “Your Mercy is Great”.*

**Offertory Hymn      “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”**

**# 674**

*The usher will bring up the offering plate, bread and wine.*

*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.**

***Holy Communion***

***Pastor Doug Helling***

The Great Thanksgiving

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P:** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

**pg. 207**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. We believe Christ is truly present in the bread and the wine, that is his body and blood are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. If you do not wish to receive communion but wish to receive a blessing, please come forward during the distribution of communion. If you are unable to come forward during distribution and wish to receive communion, please let the usher know and the pastor will come to your seat.*

## **Invitation to Communion**

We are here because Jesus has called us – strangers and friends, locals and visitors, believers and doubters, the certain and the curious. All are invited to Christ's table where, in bread and wine, he meets us, and through him we, who are different, are joined to each other. So come now to Christ's banquet. **Amen**

*Please be seated.*

**O Lamb Of God, you bear the sin**

**pg. 208**

**Communion Hymn "Let Us Break Bread Together"**

**# 471**

## **Blessing after Communion**

**P:** The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
✠ be upon you now and forever.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Holy God,  
you have welcomed us to this meal  
and fed us with dignity at your table.  
Send us now to welcome others  
and to be at peace with one another,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



## **Benediction**

Family of faith, as you leave this place, may God’s work be in your hands. May he grant you the strength to reach out to help and serve others, the vulnerability to befriend, the bravery to speak your truth, the wisdom to listen, the resiliency to choose love, even when it's hard, and the awareness of the Holy Spirit always beside you. † In the name of the Great Connector—Love itself, go in Peace.

**C: Amen**

**Sending Hymn**

**“God, Whose Almighty Word”**

**# 673**

## **Dismissal**

**P:** Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

**Prayer Concerns: Today we especially pray for healing and comfort for Dan Gibbons, brother of Jane Riley-Smith who recently underwent neck surgery. (For updates, please contact the ILC Office)**

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**Attendance on 09/01/2024: 30**

***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](mailto:nkalesto@gmail.com)***

***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.

**Serving us Today September 8th**

**Leader's Kathy Robinson & Pastor Doug Helling**

**Pianist: Karen Zuidema**

**Reader: Adam Doede**

**Usher: Bob Doede**

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

*And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

*Colossians 3:17*

**Today!!! Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup> God's Work Our Hands**

**Please join the other area churches for a picnic gathering down by the Marty Bus located across the street from the Wausau Farmers Market lot.**

**The event is ongoing starting at 11:00 and ending at 2:00 today!**

**Collection for the Marty Bus, They are in need of the following items:**

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

**Coats for Kids Collection through October 27<sup>th</sup> please pick up a flyer on the table in the Narthex for items needed for our area students! There will be a collection table in the Gathering Room.**

**Thursday September 26<sup>th</sup> Open from 4:30 to 6:30pm @ St Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon City, WI. This event is open to all who have had a loss and would like a quiet time and space for reflection and a place of peaceful acceptance. The grounds will have a lit path for walking and there will be a candle lit indoor path as well in the event of inclement weather. This is sponsored by Aspirus Health any questions you can call Amy at 715-847-2703**

**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<sup>rd</sup>.** 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.

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

**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.