

Teach me your way, LORD

(Ps. 86:11)





Church of the Lutheran Confession

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May 12, 2024

Education Sunday

Welcome to our visitors! We appreciate your joining our worship family this morning, and we invite you to sign our guest book. If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor at 414-427-9337.

Sunday family worship...9:00 A.M.

Today's Worship

"Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law" (Ps. 119:18).

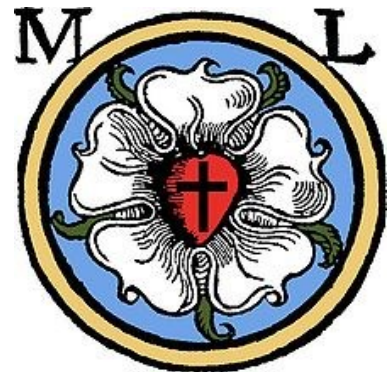
Greeting and prayer:

Hymn 504: *Father Most Holy*

Invocation:

**P: This is the day which the Lord has made;
C: let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C: the name of the Lord is to be praised.**



P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Absolution:

P: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord:

Hymn 805:

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*



Prayer:

P: Lord Jesus Christ, You have entrusted to Your people the task of teaching all nations. Enlighten with the wisdom of Your Holy Spirit those who teach and those who learn that the joyous truth of the Gospel may be known in every generation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Epistle lesson:

1 John 4:13-21....*Real wisdom is found not just in hearing and learning the Word, but in believing it, abiding in the Lord, and putting his love into practice.*

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Children: *Lord, Be My Rock*

*Lord, be my Rock, be my strength, be my guide.
O Lord, keep me safe. Let me walk at your side.
And if I should stray in the dark and the cold,
O Lord, lead me back to Your warm, loving fold.*

*Jesus loves me, this I know for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong. They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.*

Gospel lesson:

John 17:11b-19....*Through the gospel in Word and sacrament, the Father guards and keeps us as his own.*

"Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not

of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The Apostles’ Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

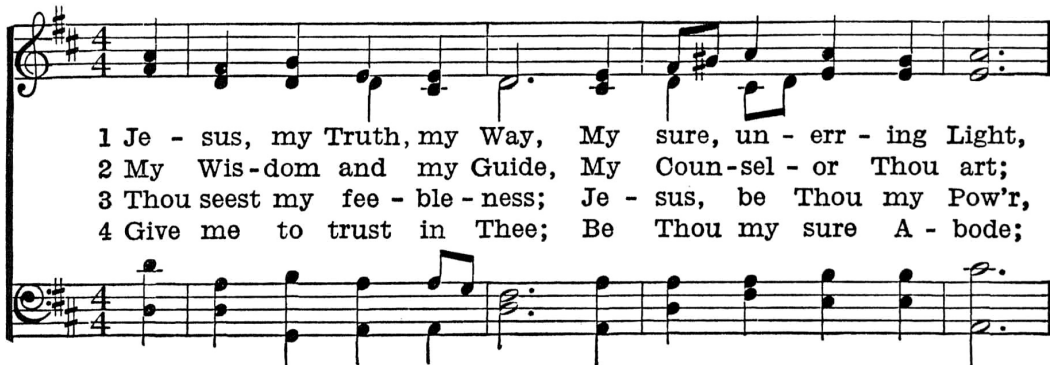


Hymn: *Jesus, My Truth, My Way*

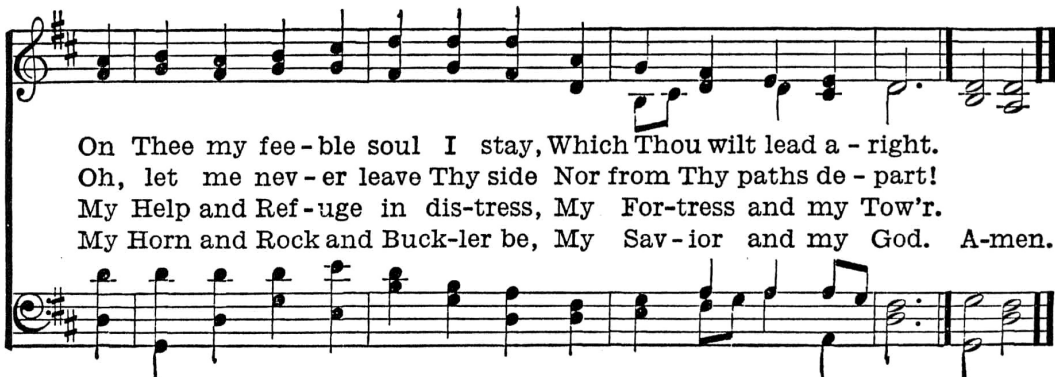
John 14 : 6
Charles Wesley, 1749, cento

S. M.

Swabia
Johann M. Spiess, 1745



1 Je - sus, my Truth, my Way, My sure, un - err - ing Light,
2 My Wis - dom and my Guide, My Coun - sel - or Thou art;
3 Thou seest my fee - ble - ness; Je - sus, be Thou my Pow'r,
4 Give me to trust in Thee; Be Thou my sure A - bode;



On Thee my fee - ble soul I stay, Which Thou wilt lead a - right.
Oh, let me nev - er leave Thy side Nor from Thy paths de - part!
My Help and Ref - uge in dis - tress, My For - tress and my Tow'r.
My Horn and Rock and Buck - ler be, My Sav - ior and my God. A - men.

- 5 Myself I cannot save,
Myself I cannot keep;
But strength in Thee I surely have,
Whose eyelids never sleep.
- 6 My soul to Thee alone
Now, therefore, I commend.
Thou, Jesus, having loved Thine own,
Wilt love me to the end.

Sermon: Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NKJV)

Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches; but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,” says the LORD.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IS LEARNING TO BOAST IN THE LORD

(Guest speaker: Pastor Andrew Schaller)



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Offering

Hymn 712:1: *Seek Ye First*

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you!
Allelu, alleluia!*



Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 866: *Lord Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend*

Luther's morning prayer:

C: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing hymn 595: *O Blessed Spring*

Announcements

Thank you

We thank Pastor Andrew Schaller of Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac for bringing us the saving Word on this Education Sunday. Please stay after the service for a fellowship hour in the activity room.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following high school graduates from Messiah:

Trinity Schreiber: Rufus King International, Milwaukee.

Christian Starr: Nathan Hale, West Allis.

Ava Williams: Immanuel, Eau Claire.

Heartfelt gratitude

for the gospel partnership!

Paul wrote to the Philippian Christians: “I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now” (Phil. 1:3-5). We couldn’t agree more. We are so thankful for the partnership in the gospel with which we have been richly blessed over the past 26 years! As a congregation we have joined in hearing the good news of Christ crucified, teaching our children, rejoicing with one another, and encouraging one another in times of loss. The Spirit’s work has been very evident in the fruits of faith, such as the kindness and love you have shown toward us in countless ways. However, now after much thought and prayer, I have been led to announce my retirement from the fulltime public ministry. We have purchased a home in Arizona, and plan to move shortly after Labor Day. It is going to be hard to leave, but our gospel partnership will continue, just in a different way. Yours in Christ, *Pastor and Sue*

School events

Fun Night: Everyone is invited to the school Fun Night at 6:30 Tuesday.

Closing service: Join the students and school staff in thanking the Lord for a blessed school year of growing in knowledge, faith, and true wisdom. The closing service is Thursday at 11:30 a.m.

What’s the cause?

In our ongoing study of homosexuality in the light of God’s Word, this Wednesday’s Bible class will look more closely at its causes. You may join us for the study either in person or via Zoom: Meeting ID: 811 3211 8454 Passcode: 516184.

Voters meeting notes

Membership: *Tom and Kathy Behr* were welcomed into membership by profession of faith. *David Hein* was received into communicant and voting membership by transfer from Grace, Fridley, MN. *Andrew Marita* was released from membership at his request.

Looking Ahead...

♣Tuesday:

11:00 A.M.: New Perspective, Franklin, service.

6:30 P.M.: School Fun Night.

♣Wednesday:

10:00 A.M.: Villa, Greenfield, service.

6:30 P.M.: Bible class.

♣Thursday:

7:00 A.M.: Adult class.

11:30 A.M.: School closing service.

6:00 P.M.: Church council.

♣Saturday:

9:00 A.M.: Adult class.



Finances: Third quarter offerings were \$3,105 below budgeted needs, and the balance of available funds decreased by \$5,654. Offerings for the fiscal year are \$27,730 below budgeted needs, and the balance of available funds decreased by \$9,680. The treasurer noted that in recent months, partly due to the mortgage refinance, offerings have been keeping pace with the budget. May the Lord continue to provide the means and move our hearts to give willingly and generously for his work.

New budget: The budget for fiscal year 2024-25 was discussed and adopted. The new budget includes 3% salary increases for all our called workers. The new budget beginning July 1 is \$445,707. The weekly offering needed will go from \$8,380 to \$8,571.

CLC call news

Teacher Neil Bernthal, Immanuel Lutheran School, Winter Haven FL, has returned the call to Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI. *Teacher Matthew Kranz*, Immanuel Lutheran School, Mankato, MN, has accepted the call to be the upper grade teacher of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN.

Convention prospectus

The prospectus for the 2024 CLC Convention is available in printed form on the hall counter. If you'd like a pdf copy, contact Pastor.

The Branches

"**The Branches**" is a Christian Women's magazine which is published quarterly by women of the CLC. Subscriptions are available for the 2024-2025 subscription year (July through June).

The Branches staff prays that, through this publication, we serve:

- to encourage you in your personal and family Bible study
- to edify you in your daily walk with Christ
- to provide a means to use and share your God-given gifts
- to celebrate and reflect upon God's gift of Christian sisters, near and far

Consider a subscription for yourself and/or gift subscriptions for women in your life! The cost is \$16.00/year for 4 issues. Checks are payable to, "The Branches," and should be sent to: Sandy Hulke, Subscription Manager, 29985 Norway Ave, Lindstrom, MN 55045. Online payments are also available via PayPal - you may contact Sandy Hulke at thebranchesmagazine@gmail.com. Deadline is June 10, 2024.

CLC women's fellowship

Women's Fellowship Time at Convention: Join your sisters in Christ for a fun and informal fellowship time on Thursday, June 20, from 1:00-3:00pm (the first day of the CLC Convention)! The location will be Ingram Hall on the ILC campus. Come and look around the mansion if you haven't done so in a while; and enjoy some conversation, catching-up, and light refreshments. Grab a friend or come on your own--drop in when you can. Questions? Contact hostess, Lynette Roehl, lynette.roehl@ilc.edu. We hope to see you!

Summer VBS on the way...

A volunteer signup sheet has been posted on the bulletin board for VBS this summer, July 15-19. Volunteers for teaching, arts and crafts, snacks, and recess are needed. Any and all help is greatly appreciated!

Remember in your prayers

Even though they are not able to attend services in-person regularly, our shut-ins are important members of our Messiah family. Remember them in your prayers. Let them know with a call, card, or visit that you are thinking of them. Shut-ins include: Carol Gilbertson, Elaine Laakaniemi, Norm Mackensen, Kent and Carrie Schneider, and Ray Zechel.

ILC activities

Friday, May 17, will be the final day of classes at Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary. In giving the LORD God glory for the various achievements by students and student groups, class day will be held at 3 pm. The band will play during this event. At 7:30 pm there will be a concert of sacred music sung by the concert choir and tour choir at Messiah Lutheran Church. On Saturday, May 18, the concluding graduation worship service will take place at 10 am at the ILC fieldhouse. We pray that the students will take what they have learned from the Word of God and treasure the Gospel by expressing their gratitude to the Lord in their daily walk with Him.

Retirements

Professor Mark Kranz has announced his retirement effective at the end of the current academic year. His faithful service to our church and our school will be acknowledged during the ILC Class Day/Graduation festivities on May 17-18. Our custom is to present a monetary gift as a token of our appreciation. CLC members are invited to contribute to this gift which will be presented to him at Graduation (May 18). Please make your checks payable to Immanuel Lutheran College and indicate: "Prof. Kranz Retirement." Send your gift to: Immanuel Lutheran College, 501 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701.

Ann Sprengeler has taught at Faith Lutheran, Markesan, for 35 years. A farewell celebration will be held May 19, starting at 12:30.

Bible Readings:

5/12	2 Kings 6-8; John 4:31-54
5/13	2 Kings 9-11; John 5:1-24
5/14	2 Kings 12-14; John 5:25-47
5/15	2 Kings 15-17; John 6:1-21
5/16	2 Kings 18-19; John 6:22-44
5/17	2 Kings 20-22; John 6:45-71
5/18	2 Kings 23-25; John 7:1-31



SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING

May Ushers

Jordan Albrecht
Jared Barthels
Mason Garvens

May Slideshow
Ethan Gurgel

Cleaning Team 5/17-5/24

M/C Gescheidle
M. Gescheidle
M/J Plockelman
R/A Davis

Fruits of Faith

	Last Week:	To Date:
Budgetary Offerings:	\$8,650.00	\$352,433.73
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,380.21	\$383,469.44
Over (Under) Budget:	\$269.79	(\$31,035.71)
MSAF:	\$25.00	\$1,314.75
Missions*:	\$100.00	\$3,206.75

Attendance Last Sunday: 130

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