

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
AVILLA, INDIANA
GOD WITH US**

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Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ORGAN PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING FOUR – PAGE 203

HYMN No. 566 – By Grace I'm Saved

- 1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;
My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why stagger at this word of promise?
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
No! Then this word must true remain:
By grace you too will life obtain.**

- 2 By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;
Our works and conduct have no worth.
God in His love sent our Redeemer,
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone,
And we are saved by grace alone.**

3 By grace God's Son, our only Savior,
Came down to earth to bear our sin.
Was it because of your own merit
That Jesus died your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone,
That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.

4 By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
As long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by inspiration,
What in His Word our God commands,
Our faith in what our God has done
Depends on grace—grace through His Son.

5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

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INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

INTROIT – Psalm 51:7, 10–12; antiphon: v. 2

P: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

C: and cleanse me from my sin!

P: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

C: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

P: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

C: and renew a right spirit within me.

P: Cast me not away from your presence,

C: and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

P: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

C: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Amen.

P: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

C: and cleanse me from my sin!

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray

C: O God, the source of all that is just and good, nourish in us every virtue and bring to completion every good intent that we may grow in grace and bring forth the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

P: Amen

FIRST READING – Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–9

¹“Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the just decrees that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. ²You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you. . . .

⁶Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ ⁷For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? ⁸And what great nation is there, that has statutes and just decrees so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

⁹“Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children’s children.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE – Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel – Mark 7:14-23

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴[Jesus] called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.” ¹⁷And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸And he said to them, “Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, ¹⁹since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²²coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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 No. 703 – How Can I Thank You, Lord

- 1 How can I thank You, Lord,
For all Your loving-kindness,
That You have patiently
Borne with me in my blindness!
When dead in many sins
And trespasses I lay,
I kindled, holy God,
Your anger ev'ry day.**

- 2 It is Your work alone
That I am now converted;
O'er Satan's work in me
You have Your pow'r asserted.
Your mercy and Your grace
That rise afresh each morn
Have turned my stony heart
Into a heart newborn.**

**3 Lord, You have raised me up
To joy and exultation
And clearly shown the way
That leads me to salvation.
My sins are washed away;
For this I thank You, Lord.
Now with my heart and soul
All evil I abhor.**

**4 Grant that Your Spirit's help
To me be always given
Lest I should fall again
And lose the way to heaven.
Grant that He give me strength
In my infirmity;
May He renew my heart
To serve You willingly.**

**Δ5 O Father, God of love,
Now hear my supplication;
O Savior, Son of God,
Accept my adoration;
O Holy Spirit, be
My ever faithful guide
That I may serve You here
And there with You abide.**

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SERMON

Text: Mark 7:14-23

Theme: Sin – A Matter of the Heart

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

(there is a time for silent prayer)

After each petition

P: Lord, in Your mercy

C: hear our prayer

At the conclusion of the prayer:

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERING

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN No. 422 – On My Heart Imprint Your Image

**1 On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,
That life’s riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope’s foundation,
And my glory and salvation!**

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Acknowledgements

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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WELCOME - We welcome all worshippers to our services at Immanuel this week. As God comes to us in Word and in Sacrament may we experience His love and His power in the singing of praise and the living of our lives to His glory.

VISITORS – Welcome to all visitors this week. Be sure to pick up a visitor packet from an usher or from our Information Rack in the east entrance.

RECORD OF FELLOWSHIP PADS -ALL members and visitors are asked to record their attendance at church and communion. Please return the record to the center aisle.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS & ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES - are available for the service each week. They will be available at both entrances next to the bulletins.

CHILDREN’S ACTIVITY TOTES - are available at both entrances for children age kindergarten and younger. Please return them after the service.

NURSERY - Exit the southeast door, the nursery is the third door at the bottom of the stairs. The first door is the lounge where you may listen to the service on the speaker.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL is at 8:30AM in the educational rooms of the fellowship hall wing.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL is at 8:30AM in the west Sunday school room. They are looking deeper into the Lessons of the Day for that Sunday Service. All are invited to attend.

CHURCH OFFICE - If you need to meet, speak, or make an appointment with the Church Secretary the office is open on Tuesdays. If you need to meet or speak to Pastor Kuhlman you can always reach him on his cell and at his home. **Please note that the church will be locked at all times unless two people are present.**

AVILLA FOOD PANTRY - Please do not forget the needy people in our community. You may place your food donations in the box in the east entrance.

FLOWERS – The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Patty Buckles in memory of Harold & Ester Gienger.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS COMING UP:

- Tuesday, September 3rd – Elders Meeting 6PM
- Wednesday, September 4th – Bible Study 10AM
- Sunday, September 8th – Congregational Assembly
- Tuesday, September 10th – October Newsletter Deadline

PRAYER LIST- Prayer for the sick & recovering: Joyce Bell, Steve Ferguson, Angie Hardiek, Hannah Harding, Melanie Fortman, Janet Kaiser, Denise Kistler, young relative of a church member who is suffering mentally and parents who need wisdom and comfort.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY -- returns this week, Wednesday September 4th at 10am! All are welcome to attend.

DONUTS / MUFFINS / COOKIES – If you would like to provide donuts, muffins, cookies, etc. for Sunday morning there is a sign-up sheet on the table at the east entrance.

PORTALS OF PRAYER - Portals of Prayer devotional books for July-September are available at the back of the church and at the side entrance.

INFORMATION RACK- last week's bulletin; extra newsletters; Visitors Packet; Portals of Prayer; Lutheran Witness; Cross Connection; Thrivent Dollars information; Lutherans for Life.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – The October newsletter deadline is September 10th at 10am. If you have any announcements that you would like added to the newsletter, please send an email to imavilla@embarqmail.com

ICE CREAM AT AVILLA PARK - Join me for ice cream in Avilla Park on Labor Day, September 2nd, from 2-4pm. Proceeds support the Gary Pfafman Memorial (Noble County 4-H horse & pony awards). -Elizabeth Pfafman

WEDDING GIFT – Our field education student, Josiah Coblentz, is getting married on October 12, 2024. If you would like to contribute to a congregational monetary wedding gift, please place your gift in the offering place marked for Josiah's wedding.

WEEKLY SERVICE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS are on our website. The service and bulletin can be found under "Family Altar."

LOOK UP - Looking Up is your first step to seeing past your struggles. Mental and behavioral health issues can be a silent battle. But there's always hope on the horizon. You can start by looking here for resources, information, and providers.

- <https://lookupindiana.org>
- Call 877-257-0208 - Available 24 hours every day
- Text LookUp to 494949 - Available 24 hours every day

CHURCH SECRETARY/TREASURER NEEDED - Rebekah Ginder is currently serving as Immanuel's secretary/treasurer. She has recently informed us that she will be having a baby in November and will no longer be needing employment. Immanuel is currently seeking resumes for her position to start in October/November.

The secretarial position involves basic working knowledge of, but not limited to (or a willingness to learn), computer programs such as MS Word, Excel, and Publisher. The secretary publishes a weekly bulletin and a monthly newsletter, keeps basic church records, attends to other secretarial duties, as well as serving as Immanuel's cemetery sexton. The cemetery sexton keeps all records related to the cemetery, sells, and transfers burial spaces, collects all receipts, and arranges for graves to be dug when needed.

The treasurer position keeps financial records for Immanuel, pays bills and payroll, and provides financial reports monthly. Knowledge and experience with QuickBooks is desirable. Resumes may be submitted to the Elders. Further questions about responsibilities and activities related to the positions may be directed to Rebekah or Pastor Kuhlman.

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS:

Worship Attendance:

Sunday Morning: 39 + Jesus

Camp Lutherhaven: 26 + Jesus

ANXIETY / DEPRESSION SUPPORT GROUPS

- Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana
<https://mhanortheastindiana.org>
260-422-6441; info@mhanortheastindiana.org

Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana offers a free anxiety and depression support group on Wednesdays at 6 P.M. No formal diagnosis is required. The group is currently meeting via Zoom. Email Lacey Holt to sign up at: lholt@mhanortheastindiana.org

- Mental Health Grace Alliance
<https://mentalhealthgracealliance.org/your-personal-journey>

Mental Health Grace Alliance offers Bible study books that combine relevant Bible studies, neuroscience, and practical tools to help those experiencing a mental health difficulty to manage stressors, increase calm through rest and joy, reframe negative thoughts and nurture healthy relationships. These books are best used in small groups. *Living Grace* is a 16-week study for adults, and *Redefine Grace* is a 10-week study for high school and college age students. Materials are available online.

- NAMI Fort Wayne
<https://www.namifortwayne.org>
260-447-8990; faithnet@namifortwayne.org

NAMI Ft. Wayne provides free support groups for those living with mental illness and also for adult family and friends of people living with mental illness. Call the NAMI Ft. Wayne office to find out their current meeting schedule.