

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAY CREEK
24686 OLD CHURCH ROAD, RED WING, MN 55066
www.immanuel-lcms.org

Pastor: Rev. Lowell Sorenson, 388-4577
Korean Missionary: Pastor Patrick O'Neal

Organist: Sara Sorenson
Acolyte: Kelvin Hoffman

21st Sunday After Pentecost

October 21, 2007

"Seek First God's Kingdom"
Stewardship Emphasis Week #1

VISITORS - WE WELCOME YOU to this house of prayer this morning. May you feel at home among friends as we worship together. We invite you to sign your name in the guest book in the back of the church and hope you will return again soon.

Today we partake of the Sacrament of the Altar, a feast where we receive the true body and blood of Christ along with the visible elements of bread and wine. Those visitors desiring to commune at this altar should first speak with the pastor regarding their beliefs. Though the Lord offers this gift to His church for the forgiveness of sins, He also admonishes us through St. Paul: "Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Therefore, in faithfulness to our Lord and with love for our guests, this congregation insists on the Scriptural practice of Closed Communion. For a salutary use of the Lord's Supper, it is essential that those communing here be properly instructed, sorry for their sins, desiring God's forgiveness and His grace to live a sanctified life, and believe in the true presence of the body and blood of Christ in the Lord's Supper. Furthermore, since attendance at the Sacrament is Biblically and historically a sign of church fellowship, those who present themselves for Communion are to be in doctrinal agreement and fellowship with The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

Prelude

Welcome

Ring of the Bell

Opening Hymn: #809, "Great Is Thy faithfulness"

Call to Worship

P: In the name of the Father, who created and provides for us:

C: You seek us, O Lord!

P: In the name of the Son, Jesus our Savior, who died and rose that we may live eternally:

C: You seek us, O Lord!

P: In the name of the Holy Spirit, who assures us of God's presence and keeps us in the faith:

C: You seek us, O Lord!

P: In the name of the eternal Triune God:

C: You have sought us and found us: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen!

Confession and Absolution

P: Seek the Lord while He may be found.

C: We call upon Your name, O Lord, because You are near.

P: Let the wicked abandon their ways,

C: and the unrighteous their thoughts.

P: Come near, my dearly beloved, and take courage as you confess your sins.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: God of spirit and truth,

C: we come to confess that we are sinful and unclean. Our spirits are dry and we need to be refreshed by Your Spirit. We have tried to live life on our terms, but we have failed. We are weary of seeking our own way. Apart from You, O God, we are lost in our sins. Lord, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, grant us Your grace and forgiveness. Find us, turn us around and bring us back to You and Your ways, so that we may be Your loyal servants.

P: God, in His love and mercy, has given His only Son to die for you, and for His sake, forgives you all your sins. May our merciful God, who has sought you and found you, grant you faith to acknowledge that you are His, redeemed and forgiven. Praise to our God who has found us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introit of the Day, prayed responsively see worship insert
Hymn: #557, "Seek Where You May to Find a Way"

Collect of the Day

Reading Philippians 1:1-30

Responsive Reading of Psalm Verses

P: Glory in His holy name;

C: let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

P: Look to the Lord and His strength;

C: seek His face always. (Psalm 105:3-4)

Nicene Creed back cover of the hymnal

Hymn of the Day: #712, "Seek Ye First"

Sermon: "Seek"

Offertory Prayer, prayed in unison:

Lord God, heavenly Father, we, Your servants now join together to bring to You offerings of tribute, freewill offerings, and offerings of thanksgiving for what you have first given us: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Bless us, that we may first be consecrated to You and Your service. Help us grow in the grace of generosity and liberal giving. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer back cover of the hymnal

Words of Institution

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Distribution:

#618, "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

#570, "Just as I Am, without One Plea"

#620, "Jesus Comes Today with Healing"

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn: #924, "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

Announcements

Postlude

IN OUR PRAYERS

Pastor Lyle Kath (undergoing cancer treatment); Margie Stumpf (healing); Harold Augustin (healing); Tom Kolberg (healing); Paul Nystuen (resurgence of bladder cancer); Syvilla Madsen (healing); Dorothy Bremer (for strength and peace as she faces terminal cancer); Dolores Rossbach (Sara Sorenson's grandmother, experiencing kidney problems); Karen Gusa (sister of Jan Langhans, struggling with lung cancer); Marian Burkard (recovering from a broken arm); John Schafer (recovering from a heart attack).

Help Move Tables and Chairs

Pastor would like to move some tables and chairs and other furniture from the school building to the basement of the new addition. If you are able to help out, please stay after the service today. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK

Tuesday:		St. James of Jerusalem: Acts 15:12-22a; James 1:1-12; Matt. 13:54-48
	7:00PM	Quarterly Voters' Meeting
Wednesday:	4:30PM	5 th /6 th Grade Confirmation
	5:30PM	7 th /8 th Grade Confirmation
	7:30PM	Choir – Fellowship Hall – All are welcome!
Thursday:	6:00PM	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	7:30PM	Women's Bible Study
Friday:	6PM-9PM	CILS Bonfire/Supper
Saturday:	9AM-5PM	Stampin' with the Spirit
Next Sunday:		Reformation Sunday
	9:00AM	Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00AM	Fellowship Time
	10:30AM	Festival Worship with Holy Communion

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Today	- Shawn Southworth, M/M Shawn Southworth
Monday	- Travis Carlson, Diane Holst, M/M Paul Reding
Tuesday	- Alan Dicke, Harry Oelkers, Lori Reding
Thursday	- Jamie Kohn

Life Quote – October 21

"When we have received Him as our Savior, the Lord Jesus assures us that He will never leave us nor forsake us. He has made it clear that, while we now see through a mirror dimly and know only in part, one day we shall understand fully and see Him face to face. This is our hope that the hymn writer says, 'is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.'" *Rev. Homer Larson, speaker on the Christian Crusaders radio broadcast.*

A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life / www.lutheransforlife.org

Ladies Quilting Group

The group will meet on October 29th at 9:00AM for a day of quilting in the new church basement (under the Fellowship Hall). Please bring a bag lunch with a beverage.

Food for the Poor

Please join us on Sunday, November 4th, to hear The Rev. John G Fischer speak at Bible Class and worship about a ministry providing direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Pastor Fischer will share what he has witnessed about Food For The Poor's mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love one another. Please come and welcome Pastor Fischer into our midst! If someone would be willing to pick up Pastor Fischer from the MSP airport on Saturday, November 3rd, please speak with Pastor.

New Constitution of Immanuel

The Voters' Assembly will be considering the proposed constitution at the quarterly meeting this Tuesday night. A decision will need to be made as to whether to adopt this draft and send it to the Minnesota South District for the final process of review. If this issue is important to you, please make sure to attend the voters' meeting. A summary of the proposed changes to the constitution is available today, as well as copies of the proposed constitution and the current constitution for your comparison and study.

Quarterly Voters' Meeting

Voters, please plan on attending the quarterly voters' meeting, scheduled for Tuesday this week at 7:30PM. Anyone interested in joining the voters' assembly is also welcome and encouraged to come for the meeting. Some important issues to be discussed include the following:

- Our insurance needs with our new building
- The schedule for the 2007 holiday season
- The rental of the teacherage/use of the school
- Constitution reform

Christmas Choir

Not everyone wants to commit to singing in the choir for the whole year, but how about joining just for the Christmas season? The choir will begin rehearsing Christmas music on November 14th at 7:30 p.m. If you are able to make a temporary commitment to the choir for the Christmas season, please join us. If you have questions, please speak to Sara Sorenson at church, or call her at home (388-4577). Thank you!

Children's Christmas Program

At this point, we only have one volunteer to help with the Children's Christmas program. If you would like to help out with the program, music, or costumes, please talk to Pastor as soon as possible. Rehearsals will need to begin early in November in order to make a Sunday School Christmas program a possibility.

"THE LUTHERAN HOUR" – Sunday, October 28

8:30AM on KCUE-AM; 6:00PM on KDHL-Faribault (920)

"A Righteousness from God"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Ron Rall

A Message from Our MN South District President

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Grace, mercy, and peace be yours through Jesus Christ, our victorious Lord!

Thank you very much for the invitation to attend the dedication of the completed building addition to your facilities at Immanuel on October 14th. You must be very pleased and thankful that the Lord has blessed your congregation with this addition to your facilities.

I regret, however, that I was not able to attend because of another commitment. Nevertheless, you will be in my prayers, and I rejoice with you from a distance at the Lord's goodness and mercy toward you. May He continue to bless you as richly in the future – and even more so – as He has in the past!

Cordially, in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Lane R. Seitz, President

THANK YOU ...

Many thanks to all who made last Sunday's building dedication and fall harvest festival a great success!! Thrivent Financial for Lutherans sponsored the chili lunch and auction and raised \$4,080.50. Many volunteer hours went into decorating, setting up for the lunch and auction, making chili, baking rolls and bars, and cleaning up.