

WEST IDA IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sunday October 8, 2023
19th Sunday after Pentecost

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

(Congregation Response is in Bold)

Ring of Bell

Prelude

Confession & Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ☩ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ☩ Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn – **"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less", ELW #597**

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE, ELW p184

HYMN OF PRAISE, ELW p185

Prayer of the Day

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Readings for This Day

The First Reading is from **Isaiah 5:1-7**

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge,

and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The responsive reading today is **Psalm 80:7-15**

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.

You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;

behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

The Second Reading – Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand in body or spirit for the reading of the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation (sung)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

The holy Gospel according **Matthew 21: 33-46**

Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son

to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Childrens Sermon **Sermon**

Hymn of the Day – **"You Are My King" (Amazing Love)** ccli #2456623

Apostles Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Grace pf God, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

The Offering is Gathered

Offertory Hymn – **"Change My Heart, O God" ELW #801**

Offertory Prayer

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

(sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he Who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

Invitation to Communion

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

Communion Hymn – **"Once Again"**, ccli #1564362

Post Communion Prayer

**Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.**

Announcements

Blessing

The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn **"You Are Mine"**, ELW #581

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Commemorations

Massie L. Kennard, renewer of the church, died 1996 (TFF)

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

A native of Chicago, Kennard was a major figure in supporting and working toward ethnic and racial inclusiveness in the former Lutheran Church in America. Ordained in 1958, he served in positions including Director for Minority Concerns of the Division for Mission in North America.

Announcements

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS to **Irene Leonard** on October 9th and **Earl Weiler** on October 10th!!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to **Gary and Mary An Allyn** on October 9th!

LITURGICAL WINE TASTING will be held on Sunday, October 22 from 4-6pm. Please join us as we sample different wines and align them with the church year for communion. It's sure to be a fun and educational (21 and older) event.

Save the Dates:

October 22
October 29

Liturgical Wine Tasting
Table or Treat (Members are asked to bring
goodies for our little goblins
during Fellowship Hour)

CHARGE!!! Gathering Youth Grades 6-12 – November 10-12 at **Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City!** Living Waters Ministries have invited our youth for a weekend of faith, service, and leadership! Groups will gather at GWL for meaningful worship, engaging small groups, relevant workshops, and more! Students will spend time in grade specific tracks, build relationships with their peers, grow in faith, and enjoy all the amenities of Great Wolf Lodge! Registration is now open and if interested please let any council member know.

Serving Today:

Usher:	Kurt Kraftchick
Communion Assistant:	Kayla Kraftchick
Reader:	Paul Kraftchick
Communion Bread:	Melanie Mero
Fellowship Hour:	Available for Volunteer
Hungry Seekers:	Jan Baer

Serving October 15:

Usher:	Emily Frank
Communion Assistant:	Shari Drouillard
Reader:	Emily Frank
Fellowship Hour:	Available for Volunteer
Communion Bread:	Available for Volunteer
Collection Counters:	Paula Nyitray & Gary Allyn

September Financials: Members contributed the following for the month of September:

General:	\$4,149.24
Benevolence:	\$65.00
Farmers Market:	\$72.00
Rent:	\$400.00
Building Fund:	\$90.00

This Week We Pray For

Maddie Carew (healing)	Juanita Ruehs (healing)
Sean Carew (healing)	Elaina Rusnak (healing)
Bonnie Cornprobst (healing)	Bill Salow (healing)
Ruth Paselk (healing)	Frank Turner (healing)
Bill and Sharon Dzierlatka (healing)	Sandi Vance (healing)
Hope Carew (healing)	Phil Sontag (healing)
Darla Gere (healing)	Fred Inman (healing)
Tonya Hahn (healing)	Jacque Inman (healing)
Sharon Hargraves (healing)	Pete Grundy (healing)
Inactive Members	Fred Kominck (healing)
Joe Drouillard (healing)	Patty Keesee (healing)
Terry McDonald Carmen (healing)	Darci Marek (healing)
Nathan, 2yrs old (healing)	Jan Ruehs (healing)
Tom Paselk (healing)	Elmer Earnest (healing)
John Quiel (healing)	Ben Schultz (healing)
Frank Rosza (healing)	Robin Marshall (healing)
Chuck Ruehs (healing)	

Prayers for Those in the Military

Aaron Bunke (stateside)	Joey & Megan Noeske (Guard & Reserves)
Derek Carlson (stateside)	Brandon Rozanski (stateside)
Christina Dickerson (stateside)	Evan Sauer (stateside training)
Jaime Engel (stateside)	Ted Warren (stateside)

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

Birthdays:	October 18;	Juanita Ruehs
	October 18;	Bailey McCullough
	October 30;	Pat Lietaert
Anniversaries:	October 22;	Ed & Jan Ruehs
	October 23;	Pete & Terry Grundy

If you know of anyone missing from these lists; please let Diane Ruehs know so we may update our records.

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of all grace, you are the source of life and joy. Strengthen the resolve of your church throughout the world (*global mission partners may be named*), that together we press on toward the goal of your heavenly call in Jesus Christ. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of all creation, you plant and nourish the earth as your own precious vineyard. Bless fields and orchards and the hands of those who labor in them, that your people are fed with an abundant harvest of good fruit. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of all the earth, you desire peace and justice between nations and peoples. Guide leaders of nations, states, provinces, and cities, that they faithfully govern your people with wisdom, integrity, and compassion. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of all compassion, in Christ, you lovingly poured yourself out like wine for your people. Have mercy on all who mourn, who struggle with their mental health, who cry out for justice, who hunger, and all in any need (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of all steadfastness, you set Christ as the cornerstone and foundation of the church. Build up this congregation as living stones, that it stands in the community as a witness to your enduring faithfulness and love. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of all hope, the saints who came before us lived and died with their hearts fixed on you. We give you thanks for their faithful witness, and we wait with hope for the great day when we join their voices in praise. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.