

WEST IDA IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sunday October 22, 2023
21st Sunday after Pentecost

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

(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 – **"God of Grace and God of Glory" ELW #705**

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

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Readings for This Day

The First Reading is from **Isaiah 45:1-7**

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

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

The responsive reading today is **Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]**

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

The Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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 22: 15-22**
Glory to you O Lord.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperors, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

Please be seated.
Childrens Sermon
Sermon

Hymn of the Day – **"Rock of Ages" ELW#623**

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.

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.**

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, full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he Who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

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

Communion Hymns – **Lamb of God, ELW pg 191**
"Come as You Are" ccli#7017790

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 **"Lift Every Voice and Sing" ELW#841**

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.
Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Commemorations

James of Jerusalem, martyr, died around 62
Monday, October 23, 2023

One of three early-church leaders named James, this man is identified in the New Testament and by a historian of the time as a brother of Jesus. Scholars are uncertain whether this means a blood brother. He was a leader of the church in Jerusalem.

Philipp Nicolai, died 1608; Johann Heermann, died 1647; Paul Gerhardt, died 1676;
hymnwriters
Thursday, October 26, 2023

These great hymnwriters all worked in seventeenth-century Germany in times of war and plague. Nicolai, a pastor, lost 1,300 parishioners to plague, 170 in one week. He wrote "O Morning Star, how fair and bright" and "Wake, awake, for night is flying." Heermann's hymns, including "Ah, holy Jesus," often express the emotions of faith. Gerhardt, perhaps the greatest Lutheran hymnwriter, was a pastor in Berlin.

Simon and Jude, Apostles
Saturday, October 28, 2023

We know little about these apostles. Simon is listed as "the zealot" or Cananean in New Testament lists. Jude, also called Thaddeus, asked Jesus at the last supper why he had revealed himself to the disciples but not to the world.

Announcements

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Ed & Jan Ruehs today, October 22

Pete & Terry Grundy tomorrow, October 23.

LITURGICAL WINE TASTING will be held on Sunday, this evening 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
November 5
November 5
November 19
November 26

Liturgical Wine Tasting
Reformation Sunday & Table or Treat
Fall Back – Daylight Savings Time
All Saints Sunday
Thanksgiving Service
Decorate hall after church

Serving Today:

Usher:
Communion Assistant:
Reader:
Communion Bread:
Fellowship Hour:
Hungry Seekers:

Kathie Kominek
Mardi Ruehs
Karen Church
Kayla Kraftchick
Emily Frank
Shelly Lietaert

Serving October 29:

Usher:
Communion Assistant:
Reader:
Communion Bread:
Collection Counters:
Fellowship Hour:

Ed Ruehs Sr.
Paul Kraftchick
Kathie Kominek
Kathie Kominek
Paul Loga & Melanie Mero
Table Treats for our Goblins!

St. Michael Lutheran Church Holiday Bazaar will be held on **Saturday, November 4 from 9am to 3pm.** 5790 W. Temperance Road, (at Whiteford Center Road) Ottawa Lake. Come and shop then stay for a delicious lunch at the Candy Cane Café! All proceeds go to support local missions and charities.

2023-2024 DARTBALL SEASON is right around the corner. Contact Pete Grundy if you have questions or are interested in throwing a few!! **The first game is November 6th AT East Ida!!**
Come support our team!

NEW SIGN-UP SHEETS for both Communion Bread and Fellowship Hour are in the hall. Please consider signing up or get another member to do it together!

SERVERS LISTS through the end of the year have also been updated and copies are available on the table in the hall. If you're not available on a Sunday designated for you, and you change with a fellow member, please let the office know so we may then update our records. Thank you to all who faithfully serve.

AN ALL-SAINTS' SUNDAY HYMN SING is being planned, and we need you to help! Please share a favorite hymn with us that you connect with a "messenger" or saint in your life, and a brief story about that connection. It could be the hymn that grandma used to sing to you, or a song that reminds you of a loved one, now departed. Information can be sent by email to the church office, or complete a form and drop it in the offering plate; **due date is Oct. 29.** Thanks!

This Week We Pray For

Maddie Carew (healing)	Chuck Ruehs (healing)
Sean Carew (healing)	Juanita Ruehs (healing)
Bonnie Cornprobst (healing)	Elaina Rusnak (healing)
Ruth Paselk (healing)	Bill Salow (healing)
Bill and Sharon Dzierlatka (healing)	Frank Turner (healing)
Hope Carew (healing)	Sandi Vance (healing)
Darla Gere (healing)	Phil Sontag (healing)
Tonya Hahn (healing)	Fred Inman (healing)
Sharon Hargraves (healing)	Jacque Inman (healing)
Inactive Members	Pete Grundy (healing)
Joe Drouillard (healing)	Fred Kominek (healing)
Terry McDonald Carmen (healing)	Family of Patty Keesee (grieving)
Nathan, 2yrs old (healing)	Darci Marek (healing)
Tom Paselk (healing)	Jan Ruehs (healing)
John Quiel (healing)	Elmer Earnest (healing)
Frank Rosza (healing)	Ben Schultz (healing)
Ed Ruehs Jr. (healing)	Robin Marshall (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)
Christopher Odor (Northern Iraq,	Ted Warren (stateside)
Stepson of William Auten)	
Jaime Engel (stateside)	

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

Birthdays:	October 30;	Pat Lietaert
	November 4;	Joe Drouillard
	November 7;	John Horn
	November 11;	Cole Miller
	November 16;	Janet Baer
	November 25;	Emily Frank

"I encourage the people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to unite in prayer for the families of innocent civilians whose lives were lost, as well as pray for healing for all the injured, fearful and traumatized."
From the Rev. Daniel Rift, Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Fund
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Lutheran Disaster Response has a history of providing support for our partners and anticipates answering calls for assistance when the time comes. Gifts to ["Middle East Crisis"](#) will be used to address humanitarian needs in the region. Above all, we pray for peace.

Visit ELCA.org to give if you're able.

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.

Faithful God, your Spirit animates the church throughout the world and binds believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith, and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Creating God, the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, your rule and authority is over the cosmos. As you once worked through the ruler Cyrus for the good of your people, accomplish your purposes through the work of elected leaders and public servants (*especially*). Guide them with your wisdom and compassion. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Caring God, your arms enfold all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick, and suffering (*especially*). Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned, and forgotten, that they may know your joy. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Almighty God, all our life belongs to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead your church astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of church treasurers, councils, and all who manage financial matters. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Everlasting God, the saints of every age have sung your praise and shared your word. We give you thanks for their witness and pray that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. 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.

