

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

August 18th – 23rd, 2025

Mon Matthew 7:24-29 To hear Jesus' words and put them into practice is like building a house on bedrock. It weathers the storms. Those who do not build on the firm foundation are heading to destruction.

Tues Acts 7:51-59 Faithful Stephen confronts those who rejected Jesus' words, and they display the destructive nature of their way of life. Stephen commits his spirit to Jesus, the firm foundation of his life.

Wed 1 Samuel 15:16-23 The once humble Saul permits the people to go against God's judgment pronounced upon the Amalekites. They saved some of the livestock "for religious reasons." To obey is better.

Thurs Psalm 53 Worth repeating (cf. Ps 14) is the foolishness of building on a "no-God" foundation. It produces evil and leads to destruction. God, however, provides salvation from Zion and brings joy (v6).

Fri Ezekiel 33:10-16 The prophet is given a message for God's people: "Repent, turn around. I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked." And don't think your righteousness will save you, sinner, but I will (v16).

Sat Romans 8:1-9 In Christ we have been freed from condemnation! So we do not think about things according to the sinful flesh, but according to the Spirit of Christ, that is, God's Spirit who dwells within us!

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9th Sunday after Trinity

August 17th, 2025

Liturgy: WS p. 12

Organist: Lana Strike



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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #366:1-2,7

"One Thing's Needful"

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

C Amen.

Confession of Our Sins

P Pastor

C Congregation

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful & need His forgiveness.

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.

Have mercy
on me, *God,*
according to your
steadfast *love.*

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

C Amen!

The Kyrie & The Gloria Patri

Latin for "Lord, Have Mercy" and "Glory be to the Father"



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Free for the taking – After the ladies cleaned on Tuesday, there is a collection of unneeded items on a table in the fellowship hall. Everything is up for grabs, please, help yourself! Everything left will be donated in a few weeks.

CLC ManUp! – The CLC men's retreat ManUp! is now seven weeks away. To register for \$75, registrations must be submitted by August 31. On September 1, the price to register goes up to \$150. The dates for this year's retreat are Thursday – Sunday, September 25-28.

Women's Retreat West Registration Open – Registration is now open for this year's Women's Retreat West, to be held in Sioux Falls from September 19-21. The theme this year is "Pieces of Jesus' Peace". To register, please head over to womensretreat.clclutheran.net, click on WEST, and fill out the form. If you would rather register over email or have any questions, reach out to womensretreatwest@gmail.com.

ILC Opening Service – The opening worship service for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary will take place on Sun. Aug. 24, 3:00 p.m., at the campus fieldhouse. For more details about the opening weekend schedule, see ilc.edu. May the Lord richly bless the upcoming year as we grow together in the truth of God's saving Word!

CLC Call News – Pastor David Ude of Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI, has **accepted** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Mountain View, CA. <> Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church, Dallas, TX, has **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

Ushers	8/17	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
	8/24	Kendall B, Larry B.
	8/31	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
Cleaning	This Week – The Albrechts (wk. 4)	
	Up Next – The Eigenbergs	

The Offertory

- C** *♩ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.*

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #430:1,4,6-8

"What Is the World to Me"

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C Amen!

Hymn: WS #786

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

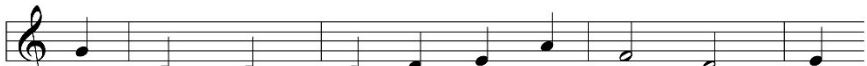
Thank you! Thank you to Phil and Luke Strike for filling in during Pastor's absence last weekend. And thank you to everyone who participated in church workday on Saturday and Sunday last weekend! Thank you for donating your time, talent, tools, trucks, trailers, and materials. The property looks great!

Ladies' Night Out – A reminder that on Thursday, August 21st at 6:30 PM, the ladies who signed up for Ladies' Night Out will be meeting at Meadow Forge Flower Farm in Lakefield. The cost is \$35, either place in Mary's mailbox or bring to the farm.


St. John's Softball Team – The church softball league season came to a close a few weekends ago. The St. John's team won several games but finished near the bottom of the standings. However, after a league-wide vote, St. John's was awarded the league's sportsmanship award. Thank you to all who played and served as good representatives of St. John's, and more importantly, of our Savior!



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Collect Prayer of the Day

- P** Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰ nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ¹¹ Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹² There-

fore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.



2 Samuel 22:26-34

"With the merciful you show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless; ²⁷ with the purified you deal purely, and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous. ²⁸ You save a humble people, but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down. ²⁹ For you are my lamp, O LORD, and my God lightens my darkness. ³⁰ For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. ³¹ This God-- his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him. ³² For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God? ³³ This God is my strong refuge and has made my way blameless. ³⁴ He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights.

☞ Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

🎵 **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Confession of Faith

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: TLH #347:1,4-6

"Jesus, Priceless Treasure"



Luke 16:1-13

He also said to His disciples: "There was a certain rich man who had a steward, and an accusation was brought to him that this man was wasting his goods. ² "So he called him and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward.' ³ "Then the steward said within himself, 'What shall I do? For my master is taking the stewardship away from me. I cannot dig; I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ 'I have resolved what to do, that when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.' ⁵ "So he called every one of his master's debtors to him, and said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ "And he said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' So he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' ⁷ "Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' So he said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' ⁸ "So the master commended the unjust steward because he had dealt shrewdly. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light. ⁹ "And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home. ¹⁰ "He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. ¹¹ "Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? ¹² "And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

Serve God, Not Mammon

(For God Serves You)