

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CLARA CITY

HAPPENINGS FOR THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL (May 2 - 9)

Today ~ 10:00 a.m. Sunday school
 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Community Meal
 7:00 p.m. Tri-Community AA Meeting in Conference Room-Upper Parish Hall
 Wednesday ~ 6:30 p.m. Confirmation
 Sunday ~ 9:00 a.m. Worship with Communion/Senior Recognition Sunday
 7:00 p.m. Tri-Community AA Meeting in Conference Room in Upper Parish Hall

SUNDAY (May 2)

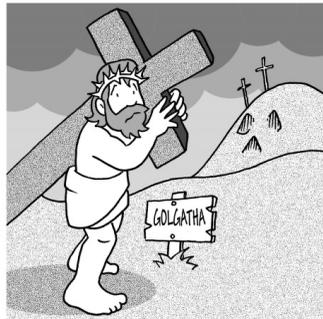
Acolyte: Sawyer Janssen
PowerPoint: Peyton Schlaegel
Lay Reader: Daryl Niemeyer
Ushers: Brian and Kristi Hilbrands
Communion Helper: Phyllis Rand
Coffee Servers: None needed

NEXT SUNDAY (May 9)

Summer Kabisch
 Breanna Dirksen
 Gary Meyer
 Rod and Patty Rand
 Patty Rand
 ????

Reminder: If you'd like Pastor Joel to visit you or your family member, you just need to let him or the church office know. We are always available for you in bad times, good times, anxious times. Please call...

The April, May, and June Noisy Offering will be going to Companions Synod in South Africa.



Generous Reflections: The foundation for our stewardship is God's love demonstrated by the giving of his son.

"But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).



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 Custodian Tim Sabe (320) 212-5773
 Secretary Michelle Jaenisch @ Office (320) 847-2138

Immanuel's WEBSITE: www.ilc-ClaraCity.org

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Closed on Fridays!

This morning's **Radio Broadcast** has been sponsored in loving memory of Lily Mae Kleene given by her children Phyllis and Peter McMahon, Gerald and Karen Kleene and Marvin Kleene.

Worship services are now broadcast over Cable Channel 8 and 117.2, FM radio 93.9, and AM 1460 or view the livestream of the service at Immanuel Lutheran's facebook page.

Tri-Community AA Meetings will be held every Sunday evening at 7 p.m. in our Upper Parish Hall Conference Room. Contact Todd Osthus (320) 212-8676 for more information.

MAY 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

WELCOM/ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, o God, for in the beginning you created us in your image,

and planted us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,

and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,

you sent the good shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day,

you shower us again with the waters of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,

for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN:

NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISES

1. Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; love lives again that with the dead has been; love is come again like wheat arising green.

2. In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain, thinking that he would never wake again; laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen; love is come again like wheat arising green.

3. Forth he came at Easter like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had lain; raised from the dead my living Lord is seen; love is come again like wheat arising green.

4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, your touch can call us back to life again; fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been, love is come again like wheat arising green.

GREETING

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

THIS IS THE FEAST:

PG. 140

(Refrain) This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. (Refrain)

2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. (Refrain)

3. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (Refrain)

4. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. (Refrain)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDRENS SERMON

FIRST READING: ACTS 8:26-40

²⁶ Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷ So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹ He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³² Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth." ³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." ³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22:25-31

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

May your hearts live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

²⁸ For dominion belongs to the LORD,

and he rules over the nations.

²⁹ To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;

before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

³⁰ Posterity will serve him;

future generations will be told about the Lord,

³¹ and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,

saying that he has done it.

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 4:7-21

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶ So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹ The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

PG. 142

Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

Alleluia!

The holy gospel according to St. John the 15th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: JOHN 15:1-8

¹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

BUILD US UP, LORD

1. Build us up, Lord build us up; set in us a strong foundation. Lead us to do your holy will; form and shape your new creation. Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we guide and teach each other, help us to share your love with the world: every sister, every brother.

(Refrain) Growing in Christ, we plant seeds for the kingdom; we follow in faith what's begun! Lord set in our hearts the power of your word to spread the news of your Son!

2. Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our lives reflect your glory. Cast away all our doubts and fears; help us tell the world your story. Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us bear good fruit for you. Lord give us vision and keep us sure. Grant us faith that's steadfast and true.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION/LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

COMMUNION

GRAPE JUICE & GLUTEN FREE WAFERS AVAILABLE

HYMN:

LET US TALENTS & TONGUES EMPLOY

1. Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy; bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

(Refrain 2x) Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

2. Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone, teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. (Refrain2x)

3. Jesus calls us in, sends us out; bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere! (Refrain 2x)

LORD SPEAK TO US THAT WE MAY SPEAK

1. Lord speak to us that we may speak in living echoes of your tone; as you have sought so let us seek your straying children, lost and lone.

2. Oh lead us Lord that we may lead the wandering and the wavering feet; oh feed us Lord that we may feed your hungering ones with manna sweet.

3. Oh teach us Lord that we may teach the precious truths which you impart; and wing our words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.

4. Oh fill us with your fullness, Lord until our very hearts overflow; in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. And now may our Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

1. I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know it's true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do. I love to tell the story; twill be my theme in glory; to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

2. I love to tell the story, how pleasant to repeat, what seems each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet! I love to tell the story, for some have never heard, the message of salvation from God's own holy word. I love to tell the story; twill be my theme in glory; to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

3. I love to tell the story for those who know it best, seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. I love to tell the story; twill be my theme in glory; to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

DISMISSAL: Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news. OK WE WILL!!!



TODAY! Community meal serving from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. On the menu: scalloped potatoes & ham, vegetables, & desert. We will be serving to go orders in the church alley way. Please comment on the Church's Facebook page or call the office at 320-847-2138 with the number of meals you are wanting.



Graduation Sunday is set for next Sunday, May 9th during our 9:00 a.m. service. Cake & refreshments to follow in fellowship hall.

Get ready for the **MACCRAY 2180 Foundation 13th annual fundraiser!** This year we will be doing an online auction with the help of Zielsdorf Auction. Over 100 items and packages will be available to bid on starting on April 25th and run through May 5th. Follow the MACCRAY 2180 Foundation Facebook page or check out www.zielsdorfauction.com for more info. But that's not all! We will also be hosting a free will donation drive through cheeseburger meal on Friday, May 7th, from 5-7 p.m. The meal will be at the MACCRAY high school in Clara City. To date, the MACCRAY 2180 Foundation has provided about \$130,000 to enhance the educational extracurricular opportunities of the MACCRAY students.

The Congregational Life Committee are planning their annual **Stingers Event** this summer. It will be held on **Wednesday, June 9th, 2021**. The tickets will be \$13.00 (the committee is covering the rest) which includes the pregame picnic with all the brats, hot dogs, burgers, chips, pop and water you would like as well as discounted beer prices; PLUS a game ticket. What a fantastic deal...semi-pro baseball game and supper for \$13! There is a sign-up sheet in the church office. You MUST pay when you sign up. You may give your money or sign up as well with any of the committee members: Carissa Pederson, Cindy VanDerPol, Sara Sabe or Michele Shubert. If you have any questions, please call Michele Shubert at 320-212-1230



Feeling Lonely? If you are feeling isolated and need to connect with somebody, volunteers are available to have a friendly chat! The Conversational Phone Line for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities is open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. 1-866-777-0250.

The Parkinson's Support and Education group continues to meet the first and third Monday of every month from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Because of COVID and social distancing, we have been meeting virtually every Monday via ZOOM platform. To learn more about this group and/or obtain log in information, please contact Lori Petersen at 320-321-8241 or 320-226-2343.



Green Lake Bible Camp registration opened on January 25, 2021. You may pick up a brochure in the office or back of the church if interested.