

A photograph of a weathered wooden cross against a cloudy sky. The cross is made of two thick, dark brown wooden beams. The vertical beam is on the left, and the horizontal beam is on the right. The wood shows signs of age and wear, with some lighter-colored wood visible where the surface has been rubbed away. The background is a bright, overcast sky with soft, white clouds. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

*You have
the words of
eternal life*

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND STUDENT CENTER

Rev. Marty Marks
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511 Russell Road
DeKalb, IL 60115

August 15, 2021
9 a.m. In Person
& Face Book Live

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Theme for Worship: Shortly before Joshua died, after leading the people of Israel in the promised land for about 30 years, Joshua gives his parting advice. Our Old Testament lesson records some of those words and lays out simply the choice the people of Israel have. Follow and serve the Lord, or don't. There is no middle ground. Almost 3,500 years later we as followers of God have the exact same choice presented to us. While the world is a very different place and the issues and concerns we face are very different from Joshua, our choice is the same. Acknowledge and follow God, or choose something else to follow. We'll discuss our failings in this regard as well as the power God gives through His Holy Spirit to empower us to follow Him.

Pre-Service Music ♪
Ringing of the Bells
Welcome

--*Spiritwind*

Opening Song ♪ "Come, Now is the Time to Worship"

Chorus: Come now is the time to worship
Come now is the time to give your heart
Come just as you are to worship
Come just as you are before your God
Come

1 One day every tongue
Will confess You are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains
For those who gladly choose You now *Chorus*

2 Willingly we choose to surrender our lives
Willingly our knees will bow
With all our heart soul mind and strength
We gladly choose You now *Chorus*

Ending: Come come just as you are come come

CCLI Song # 2430948 Brian Doerksen

The Invocation

P We begin in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

C Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Old Testament

Joshua 24:1–2a, 14–18

¹Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel. And they presented themselves before God.

²And Joshua said to all the people, . . .

¹⁴“Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods, ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our fathers up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight and preserved us in all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed. ¹⁸And the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 5:6–21

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not associate with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in

secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

¹⁵Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, ²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children’s Message

--Pastor Marty

Holy Gospel

John 6:51–69

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 6th chapter.

C Glory to you O Lord

⁵¹[Jesus said:] “I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not as the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the

Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is of no avail. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) ⁶⁵And he said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

⁶⁶After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus said to the Twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You O Christ.

Sermon Song “We Bow Down”

- 1. You are Lord of creation and Lord of my life, Lord of the land and the sea;
You were Lord of the heavens before there was time,
And Lord of all Lords You will be.
We bow down and we worship You, Lord.
We bow down and we worship You, Lord.
We bow down and we worship You, Lord.
Lord of all lords you will be.**
- 2. You are King of creation and King of my life, King of the land and the sea;
You were King of the heavens before there was time,
And King of all kings, You will be.
We bow down and we crown You the King.
We bow down and we crown You the King.
We bow down and we crown You the King.
King of all kings You will be.**

Sermon: “Make Your Choice”

--Rev Marty Marks

Confession and Absolution

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The Offering

(An offering plate is available in the narthex; plates will not be passed during the worship service. Immanuel has the ability to accept offerings through online giving. Families can easily give one-time or set up as recurring gifts. Simply make a secure donation via electronic check by visiting www.ImmanuelDeKalb.com. If you choose to set up a recurring gift, you will be prompted by email to create your own online donor account to manage your gifts.)

Announcements

The Intercessory Prayers

*The Leader says prayers for specific and general concerns of God's people, following each petition with "Lord in your mercy" to which the congregation responds with "**Hear our prayer.**"*

The Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be 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

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

(The Lord's Supper is celebrated in this service in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. If you share this confession, we invite you to commune with us. If you have doubts or questions concerning this confession of our faith community, we ask that you withhold participation until receiving clarification or instruction from our pastor. The pastor will also offer a blessing to any unconfirmed children who desire it.)

P The Sacrament of Holy Communion delivers to us the forgiveness of sins earned for us by the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. His real Body and Blood come to us in, with and under the bread and wine. Not only are our sins forgiven through this meal, our faith is strengthened, and the Holy Spirit guides us to be better and more effective servants to God. To help prepare our hearts and minds as we receive these gifts, please join me in praying:

P & C Father I trust in Your Son, Jesus, as my Savior. As I prepare to receive His real Body and Blood into me, please make my heart inclined to receive it in a way pleasing to You. Create a true sense of repentance in my heart and a sincere desire to follow You after it is received. Please empower me to serve You better in a sense of unity with You and with others. Amen.

The Words of Institution

P Our Lord Jesus Christ on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples and said, "Take, eat, this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me. In the same way, also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: Drink of it all of you; this is My blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me.

- P** Come, the table is prepared, and the Lord awaits.
C We come in the name of Jesus.

The Sacrament Is Distributed for Us to Receive

Distribution Songs

♪ "Come to the Water"

1. You said you'd come and share all my sorrows;
You said you'd be there for all my tomorrows..
I came so close to sending you away,
But just as you promised you came there to stay.
I just had to pray. And Jesus said,

Refrain: "Come to the water, stand by my side.
I know you are thirsty, you won't be denied.
I felt every teardrop when in darkness you cried,
And I strove to remind you that for those tears I died."

2. Your goodness so great, I can't understand,
And dear Lord, I k now that all this was planned.
I know you're here now and always will be.
Your love loosed my chains and in you I'm free,
But Jesus, why me? And Jesus said. *Refrain*
3. Jesus, I give you my heart and my soul.
I know now without Got I'd never be whole.
Savior, you opened all the right doors,
And I thank and praise you from earth's humble shores,
Take me I'm yours. And Jesus said. *Refrain*

♪ "Feed Us Now"

1. Feed us now, Bread of life, in this holy meal;
Let us know your love anew: We hunger for you.
Feed us now, Bread of life, Come and live within;
Let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray.

2. Piece of bread, glass of wine: Lord, this food is good!
Love and mercy come to us; Your promise we trust.
Piece of bread, glass of wine; Who can understand
How His mercy works in these? Yet, Lord, we believe.
3. God is here, O so near, Nearer than our thoughts.
Stay with us where'er we go; Lord, help us to grow.
God is here, O so near, In this heaven's meal.
May we always feed on you - On the bread that is true.

♪ "In My Life Lord, Be Glorified"

1. In my life Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In my life Lord, be glorified today.
2. In my song Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In my song Lord, be glorified today.
3. In Your church Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In Your church Lord, be glorified today.

♪ "Let Us Break Bread Together"

1. Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees;
When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me!
2. Let us drink wine together on our knees,
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me!
3. Let us bow 'round the altar on our knees,
Let us bow 'round the altar on our knees.
When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me!

4. Let us praise God together on our knees,
Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me!

The Benediction

Silent Prayers

Postlude

--Spiritwind

TODAY’S PARTICIPANTS – August 15, 2021	
Altar Guild: Carolyn McQuillan & Jackie Hanson	
Musicians/Vocalists	Angela Pringnitz; <i>Spiritwind coordinator</i>
Acolyte	Chloe Marks
Lay Reader	Amy Haesecker
Radio Narrator	Doug Nelson
Sound Operator	Sadie Marks
Videographer	Rachel Schmidt
Slide Operator	Glenn Fuchs
Ushers	Chris Cook & Cody Allen

THE WORSHIP SERVICE IS BROADCAST EACH SUNDAY AT 10:30 A.M. ON WLBK 1360.

Altar Flowers: “In loving memory of my husband, Pasto Philip Hanson,” by Jackie Hanson.

Radio Broadcast: “In loving memory of my father, Ferdy Conrad, and my grandfather, Frederick (Fritz) Miller,” by Linda Conrad.

TO BE A SPONSOR: Contact the office to reserve a date.

Cost: \$45 Flowers.

\$225 One-hour radio broadcast of the church service; \$125 Half-sponsorships are also available. Make your check out to Immanuel, with a notation on the memo line saying, “flowers,” or “radio.” These checks may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

OPEN FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS: August 22; October 17, 31; November 24, 29;

January 2022: 2, 9, 16

OPEN RADIO SPONSORSHIPS: September 5; October 24; November 24; December 12

January 2022: 9, 18, 23

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Darlene Hillman, Office Manager, 815-756-6669; office@godwithusilc.org

Carla Siddall, secretary, carlas@immanueldekalb.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday (*when LL is in session*) 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

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LITTLE LAMBS WEBSITE: www.littlelambsdekalb.com