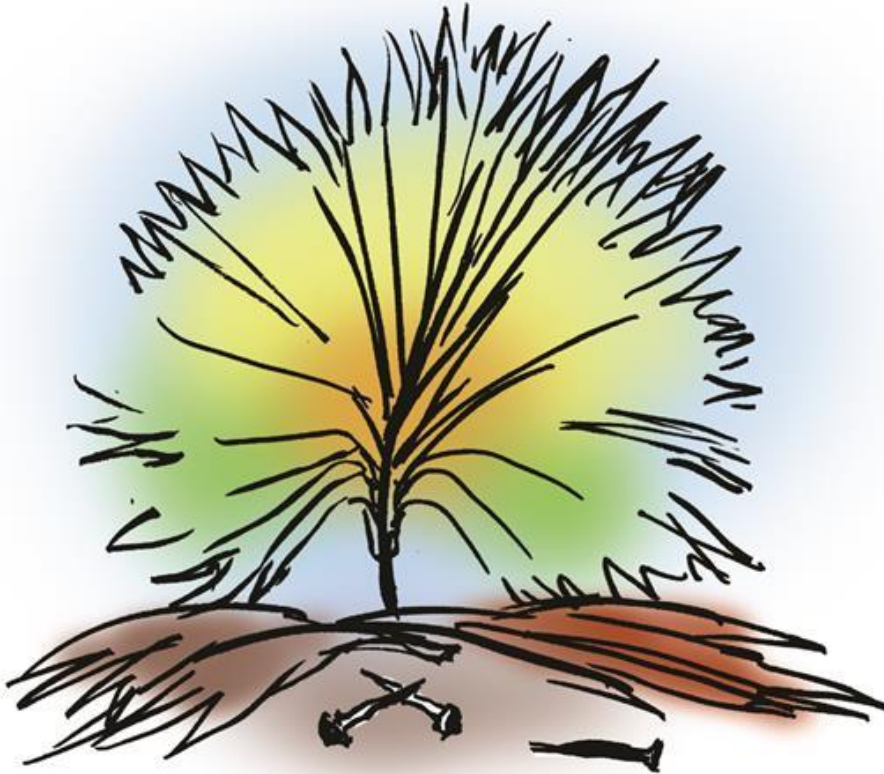




Sunday, August 30th 2026
14th Sunday After Pentecost
9:00 a.m.

St. John Immanuel Lutheran Church

Reverend Maggie Westaby

5304 N 44th Ave

Wausau, Wisconsin 54401

Web Address: stjohnwausau.org

E-mail: pastor.maggie.westaby@gmail.com

Email: stjohnwausau@gmail.com



Office: (715) 675-6950

Office Hours:

Monday 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
or by appointment

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

As summer begins to wind down, we pause to give thanks for days of rest, moments of joy, and signs of God's abundant care. Yet we also come with honest hearts, knowing that we have not always trusted the One who provides, calls, and saves us. Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Gracious God, you have filled our lives with daily bread, yet we worry there will not be enough. You call us to step out in faith, yet we cling to fear and doubt. You welcome those whom others overlook, yet we have drawn lines instead of extending your compassion. Forgive us for the ways we have wasted opportunities to love, to serve, and to trust you. Renew our faith, strengthen our hope, and guide our steps, that we may follow Jesus with courage and joy. Amen.

Jesus Christ has compassion for the hungry, reaches out to those who are afraid, welcomes all who seek his mercy, and calls each of us by name. Through Jesus ✠ your sins are forgiven. You are fed with grace, upheld through every storm, and sent into the world to bear witness to God's love.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God,

You have shown us the depth of your love through the cross of Christ. When we are tempted to glorify suffering or turn away from the pain of others, remind us that you do not abandon us in our brokenness, but meet us there with compassion and love. Give us hearts that are willing to listen, hands ready to serve, and spirits rooted in your love. Through Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, we pray. **Amen.**

READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 26:1-8

Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

Test me, O Lord, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.

For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.

I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, that I may go in procession round your altar,

singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

Lord, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are

some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The Gospel of The Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?
 pray't in you and you in me?
 mean in you and you in me?
 sound in you and you in me?
 grow in you and you in me,

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Responding to “God of grace,” with “**hear our prayer.**”

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Everything we have is a gift from God. In this season of growth and abundance, we return a portion of those gifts with thanksgiving, knowing that together they become ministry, care, and welcome for others. Let us bring our offerings before God. <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZEVQ/home>

GIVE THANKS

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ, his Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ, his Son. And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am rich,” because of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am rich,” because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God,

Everything we have is a gift from you. Receive these offerings and use them to bring your compassion into the world. Teach us to give not from fear or obligation, but from the love we have first received from you. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (page 207)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n 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

LORD'S PRAYER

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 & ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Friends, this is the table of Christ, where we are reminded that we do not carry the cross alone. Here, Christ meets us with compassion and love. Here, the crucified and risen Christ feeds us with the promise that suffering and death do not have the final word. Come, all who are weary. Come, all who are searching. Come, all who long for mercy and peace. Receive the love of Christ, and be strengthened to carry that love into the world. Come to the table, for Christ is here, and Christ is for you.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Let Us Break Bread Together

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;
let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing
sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon-tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
 the won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869

Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God,

We give you thanks for this meal and for the gift of Christ, who meets us with love and compassion. Strengthened by this bread and wine, send us into the world to carry that love with us. When the way is difficult, remind us that Christ goes before us. And when we encounter suffering, help us to be people who bring your presence, hope, and love to those around us. Through Christ we pray. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Go now in the love of Christ. May you carry compassion where there is cruelty, mercy where there is hurt, and love where there is fear.

May you see the humanity of your neighbor, and may you remember that you do not walk this way alone.

For wherever the way of the cross leads you, Christ goes before you, walks beside you, and holds you in love.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

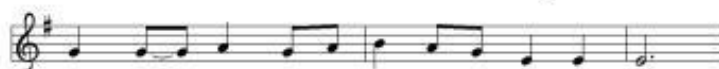
Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

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Welcome to all! Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones.

To those who are visiting: Welcome to St. John Immanuel and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex.

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to Christ's Table.

Reminder! If you are in need of Pastoral care, or if you or a loved one is in the hospital and would like a visit from Pastor Maggie, please contact St. John Immanuel (715) 675-6950

Food Basket. Each week you are invited to bring **non-perishable grocery** items to be given to a local food pantry. Place your gift in the *Shopping Cart*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, August 31st Adult Book Study at 6:30 p.m. Will discuss Acts Ch. 4 & 5.

Confirmation Registration now open!! Please go to our website under Education to register for the 2026 – 2027 School year. The QR Code will take you right to the page. <https://stjohnwausau.org/education/confirmation-classes/>



Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Orientation! All first and second year students are required to attend this informative meeting with one parent.

Sunday School Registration is now open! See our website for details! <https://stjohnwausau.org/education/sunday-school/> The QR code will take you right to the page.



Sunday, September 13th Rally Sunday, Blessing of the Backpacks, Revenge of the Water Balloons & Potluck! Join us this year on Rally Sunday for a fun filled Worship Service & Fellowship. Bring a favorite dish to pass! Sign-up in the Narthex!

Sunday, September 13th Noisy offering! Bring your coins (bills also accepted 😊). This noisy offering will go to: **“Fuel For the Future** – has a mission to raise money to help with weekend food insecurities for over 4,400 kids in Marathon County along with paying off school lunch debt which is projected to reach \$30,000 for the Wausau School District. This fundraiser works closely with Blessings In A Backpack” - Noisy offering will be the 2nd Sunday of the month. Money will be donated **quarterly**

Monday, September 14th Book Club at 6:30 p.m. Will discuss “*Sandwich*” by Catherine Newman & “*Beneath A Scarlet Sky*” by Mark Sullivan.

Sunday, September 27th WORSHIP IS @ 10 AM! Chili Dinner & Raffle to follow. Sign-up in the Narthex for chili donations needed. We are also in need of raffle donations. Please bring your donations early to help boost ticket sales. Make sure to check out the beautiful quilt hanging in the Narthex. Will you be the lucky winner at the raffle? ***Please bring all donations to St. John's on or before Sunday, September 6th*** ***Ticket sales will start Sunday, September 13 (Rally Sunday). Any questions, please call or text Linda Graveen 715-573-7739.***

Youth Pizza Fundraiser – We’re raising money to support our youth programs, events, and activities. Your support makes a huge difference!!! Thank you for helping our youth grow in faith and fellowship! Please see flyer in the Narthex for details!

Endowment Fund Is there an item for St. John Immanuel that would be useful to many? Is there a wonderful St. John Immanuel group/committee that could benefit from additional funds to continue their ministry? Endowment Fund Grant Request Forms for 2026 are available in the narthex . Please submit to the church office between August 1, 2026 and September 30, 2026. The total amount available this year is \$7,442.00. All requests will be reviewed and approved disbursements will be made after October 1, 2026. Please contact Patti Busche if you have any questions.

Parking Lot Update: Thank you to everyone who participated in our parking lot discussions. The congregation overwhelmingly approved Option 4: rebuilding all existing parking lots and adding the westward expansion. More details can be found in the Summer Newsletter, available in the Narthex, online, and via email. As we move forward, we invite households to consider pledging **\$1 per day** toward this project. We recognize that some can give more and others less, and we trust God to provide through the generosity of this congregation. Thank you for helping create a safe and welcoming space for all. Donations may be made using Parking Lot envelopes (request them by completing the gold form in your mailbox) or through Vanco on our website by selecting the **Parking Lot** fund. **Please Note:** *This is a very large project for the church and as a Council we're doing our due diligence to ensure we serve the congregation, steward our funds, and protect the church as a whole. If you have specific questions or concerns I'm happy to bring them to the Council for you or you are more than welcome to join a Council meeting.*

Honor Flight Butch Oravez is going on the Never Forgotten Honor Flight September 21st 2026. If you would like to write him a note, please do so by August 30th. You can either mail them to Robert "Butch" Oravez Never Forgotten Honor Flight, PO Box 161, Marathon, WI 54448 or you can give them to Pastor Maggie by Sunday August 30th. **Shhhhhh - Please keep this a surprise! Don't worry Butch cannot read the bulletin. :)**

Waypost is Closing See flyers for details, located in the Narthex.

Jan Petterson had a total hip replacement surgery and will be going to rehab after the hospital release. If anyone would like to send a card her address is:
Jan Petterson, 409 E Grant St #10, Marshfield, WI 54449.

Do you like Texas Roadhouse? Enjoy a meal on a Sunday and earn money back to **St. John Immanuel!** Bring our church bulletin, turn it into your server, and St. John Immanuel will receive 10% back from your food sales!

Kwik Trip Gift Cards Sign-up in the Fellowship Hall or on our website! Help support St. John Immanuel with Kwik Trip gift cards!

Live Streaming and Photography Notice. When you enter St. John Immanuel Lutheran Church, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize congregants. Parents, please note our children's sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.

Coming This Week @ St. John Immanuel August 30th – September 6th

Today – Sunday, August 30th

9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

10:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour

Monday, August 31st

6:30 p.m. Adult Book Study – Acts Chapters 4 & 5

Wednesday, September 2nd

6:30 p.m. Confirmation Orientation

Thursday, September 3rd

Preaching Camp Wrap Up

Friday, September 4th

Preaching Camp Wrap Up

Saturday, September 5th

Preaching Camp Wrap Up

Sunday, September 6th

9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

10:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour

Preaching Camp Wrap Up

****Donations from Coffee hour will go towards a new refrigerator in our Fellowship Hall Kitchen.**