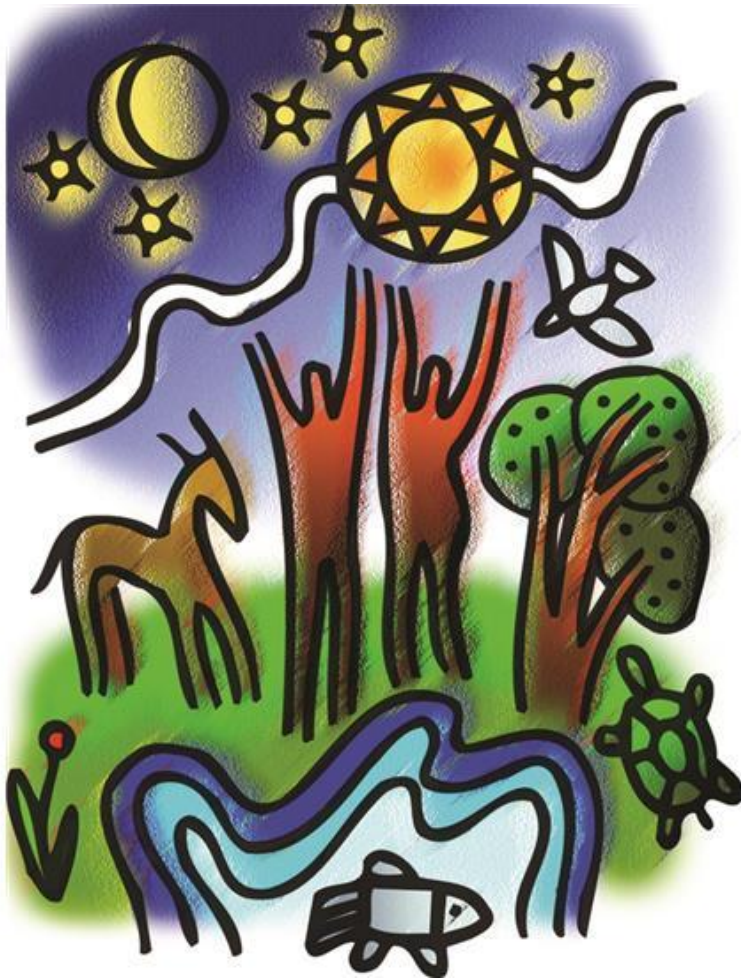




Sunday, September 6th 2026
15th Sunday After Pentecost
9:00 a.m.

St. John Immanuel Lutheran Church

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, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Family of faith, creation has a way of reminding us that change is all around us. Fields give up their harvest. The light shifts, the days start to shorten, and creation begins the holy work of letting go. Perhaps that is part of the gift of confession as well. There are times when we close our eyes, bow our heads, and exchange private words with our Creator. But there are other times when we need to pray together—to name aloud what weighs on us, to loosen our grip on what we have carried too long, and to tend our relationships with God and with one another. This is one of those moments. Let us pray together.

Gracious God, there are days when the world feels fragile. There are days when change comes faster than we are ready for, when the needs around us seem endless, and when we doubt that the small offering of our lives could possibly be enough. Shake loose our worry and self-doubt, O God. Remind us that we are not called to mend the whole world by ourselves. We are simply called to notice what is ours to tend. With hope in our hearts, courage in our bones, and gratitude for the season before us, we pray. Amen.

Siblings in Christ, no matter how many times we lose momentum, doubt our own ability, cling to what God is asking us to release, or convince ourselves that the problems of this world are simply too big, hear the good news:

God sees what we cannot yet see. In the name of Jesus ☩, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Abiding God,

Guide our hearts to trust in you. May we journey in ways that are wise to your love, that cultivate nurturing relationships, and that bring about your goodness, grace, mercy, and love. In your Holy Wisdom we pray. **Amen**

READING: Exodus 14:10-14

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, ‘Let us alone so that we can serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today, for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.” Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 107: 1-3, 23-26, 28-31

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble

and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Some went down to the sea in ships, doing business on the mighty waters;
they saw the deeds of the Lord, his wondrous works in the deep.

For he commanded and raised the stormy wind, which lifted up the waves of the sea.

They mounted up to heaven; they went down to the depths; their courage melted away in their calamity;

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out from their distress;

he made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed.

Then they were glad because they had quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven.

Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Ephesians 2:17-22

So Jesus came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near, for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone; in him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

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: Mark 5:21; 6:1-2; 11:1-2; 14:32

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him, and he was by the sea. He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. Then they went to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.”

The Gospel of The Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer



1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

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. Through Christ our Lord we pray. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

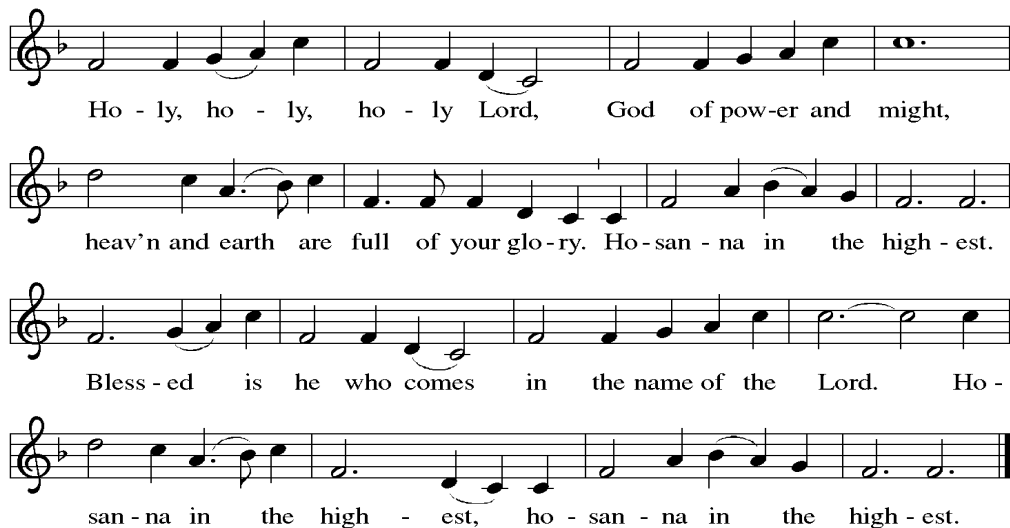
Lift up your hearts.

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:



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

Beloved in Christ, we are standing at the edge of a new season. The days are growing a little shorter, and there is a coolness beginning to find its way into the morning air. Creation reminds us that we are always becoming, always changing, always being drawn into something new. And in the midst of all that changes, Christ meets us. Christ meets us not as strangers passing through, but as a community gathered together. We come carrying different stories, different joys, different worries, different hopes. And still, Christ gathers us. Because here, there is room for every season of the soul. Here, ordinary gifts of earth—bread from the grain and wine from the vine—become God's extraordinary grace. Here all are welcome.



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

For the Bread Which You Have Broken



- 1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,
- 2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,
- 3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,
- 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;



for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
in the world to which you send us let your king-dom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt.

Music: OMNI DIE, *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1631

Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

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Take My Life, That I May Be



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Music: PAIMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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

May the God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

May the God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

And may the God of grace bless you now and forever.

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

SENDING HYMN

Borning Cry



- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

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DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **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

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.



Wednesday September, 9th at 8:30 a.m. Quilters meet again! They meet Wednesday's at 8:30. (Or whatever time works for you) They will be finishing quilts in preparation for the upcoming deadline (first Saturday in October). You don't need to be able to sew on a sewing machine. Come join us and see what we do!

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.***

Monday, September 28th at 6:30 p.m. Adult Study will discuss Chapters 6 – 7 of the Book of Acts.

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.

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 flyers and order forms in the Narthex for details!

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.

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

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 September 6th – September 13th

Today – Sunday, September 6th

9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

10:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour

Preaching Camp Wrap Up

Monday, September 7th

Church Closed - Holiday

Tuesday, September 8th

5:30 p.m. Scholarship Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 9th

8:30 a.m. Quilters Meet

6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

Thursday, September 10th

5:30 p.m. Bell Choir

6:30 p.m. Council Meeting

Sunday, September 13th

9:00 a.m. Rally Sunday Worship, Blessing of Backpacks, Revenge of the Water Balloons

10:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour

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