



Sunday, October 11th 2026
20th Sunday After Pentecost
9:00 a.m.

St. John Immanuel Lutheran Church

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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

God invites us to explore the wonder of creation and to discover again and again the depth of God's love. Yet there are times when we fail to see God at work, forget to care for one another, the world God has made, and wander from the ways of love and grace. Trusting in the mercy of the God who never stops seeking us, let us confess our sin.

God of wonder and grace, you fill the world with signs of your goodness, yet we do not always notice. You call us to love our neighbors, care for your creation, and follow where you lead, yet we often choose our own way.

Forgive us when we fail to trust you. Open our eyes to your presence, renew our hearts with your love, and guide our feet in your ways. Amen.

Hear the good news: God's love is wider than the forest, deeper than the rivers, and more abundant than we can imagine. In Jesus ☩ Christ, God seeks us, finds us, forgives us, and makes us new. Go forth in peace, free to explore, celebrate, and share the abundant love of God.

Thanks be to God.

GATHERING HYMN

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way— here in this place the new light is shin-ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day,
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth,
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name,
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of wonder and abundant life,

You reveal your love in all that you have made and invite us to explore the wonders of who you are. Open our eyes to see your goodness, our hearts to trust your love, and our lives to reflect your grace. May we continue to discover you wherever our journey leads.

Amen.

VBS RECAP



*Tango, the Quetzal, teaches us:
God is our creator!
Wow, God, Wow!*



*Seymour, the Glass Frog, teaches us:
God Knows everything.
Wow, God, Wow!*



*Dottie, the Ocelot, teaches us:
God is our safe place.
Wow, God, Wow!*

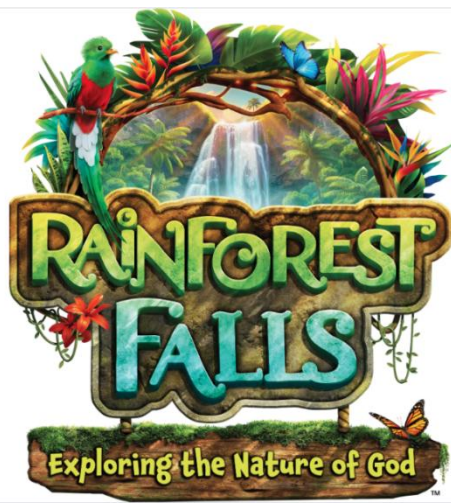


*Tia, the Giant Anteater, teaches us:
God is love.
Wow, God, Wow!*



*Howie, the Howler Monkey, teaches
us:*

*God is forever.
Wow, God, Wow!*



Noisy Offering



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, entrusted to our care for a time.

And so our offering is one way we tend what God has given. Let us give with grateful and generous hearts.

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZEVQ/home>



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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

O God, maker of heaven and earth,

Your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Receive these offerings and use them to bring your love 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

As autumn colors unfold and leaves fall in a tapestry of color, we are reminded that seasons change, yet God's love endures forever. As the harvest is gathered in to nourish us through the winter, we remember that God continues to sustain us through every season. At this table of abundance, Christ gathers us in every season of life—in moments of plenty and in times of letting go, in the beauty of change and in the promise of renewal. Here there is bread for the journey, wine for the soul, and grace for every turning of the year. Here Christ gathers us together, like many grains made into one loaf and many grapes into one cup. This is Christ's table, and all are welcome here.

LAMB OF GOD (page 154)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Gift of Finest Wheat



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
 that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav'n - ly food.
 Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
 whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
 to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997

Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996

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Jesus Loves Me!



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.

Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of life,

We give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Go out into God's amazing world with eyes open to wonder, hearts ready to love, and minds eager to explore.

May God the Creator fill you with wonder,

Jesus our Savior walk beside you,

and the Holy Spirit guide you on every adventure.

Go in peace, and wherever you go,

keep discovering the goodness and love of God.

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

SENDING HYMN

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con-found you,

with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;
 dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain
 Till we meet, till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet a - gain,
 meet at Je - sus' feet; till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet, till we
 meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 meet a - gain.

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

Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. Quilters meet! (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!

Tuesday, October 13th Pumpkin Carving for Calvary's Luminary Fest Our middle and high school students are invited to carve at 6:30pm-7:30pm at St. John Immanuel. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the Narthex if you plan on carving! We will be joined by youth from St. Andrews ELCA in Rib Mountain, and all carved pumpkins will be donated to the Annual Fall Luminary Fest at Calvary Lutheran Church ELCA in Merrill. Calvary's Fall Luminary Fest is Fri, Oct 16th and Sat Oct 17th from 5pm-9pm. Hundreds of carved pumpkins will light up their 3/4 mile trail. Free to the public.

Monday, October 26th at 9:00 a.m. – Memorial Committee Meeting

Monday, October 26th at 6:30 p.m. Book Club *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi.

Monday, November 2nd at 6:30 p.m. Adult Study will discuss Acts Ch. 8-9

Sunday, November 8th Noisy offering! Bring your coins (bills also accepted 😊). This noisy offering will go to: **“Youth Gathering – We're raising money to support our youth programs, events, and activities. Thank you for helping our youth grow in faith!”** Noisy offering will be the 2nd Sunday of the month. Money will be donated quarterly.

Saturday, November 14th Feed My Starving Children MobilePack Packing Team: St. John Immanuel has pledged to send 32 volunteers to Highland Community Church to pack meals of rice, soy, vegetables and vitamins on Saturday, November 14th from 9am-11am. This year, the Wausau MobilePack will pack it's one millionth meal! Please sign up in the Narthex to be a part of this energetic and impactful team and see what just two hours of service can accomplish! Email Kim Landwehr with questions kamootz@gmail.com

Tuesday, December 8th at 5:45 p.m. Calling all ladies! The Sisterhood Gathering is right around the corner. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex with additional details.

Thursday, December 17th at 5:30 p.m. Candlelit Shepherds Meal. Save the date! More information to come.

Monday, December 21st at 6:30 p.m. Blue Christmas Service A prayerfully cultivated service for those who have lost loved ones, and for those who find the holidays to be a lonely time.

June 28th – July 2nd 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering 8th to 12th graders fall of 2026, we need to know your commitment by November 8th. Please see flyer for more details.

2nd Year Confirmation Food Drive! The 2nd year confirmation students want to help the people in need by starting a food drive. They are looking for non-perishable items, and no expired food please. Items can be placed into the shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall. Food will be distributed to local food banks.

Maine School Snack Drive Maine Elementary is looking for our help with donations of snacks to help assist students who are unable to bring their own. Approved snack list: *Fruit pouches, original potato chips, most fruit snacks, fruit leathers, or fruit bars, Skinny pop or Boom Chicka Pop Popcorn, beef sticks or jerky, dried fruits (raisins, mango, etc.), Enjoy Life, Made Good, or Blake's brand snacks, and or Veggie Straws or veggie chips.* Your help will be greatly appreciated! Any donations, please place outside of the Church office. Any questions please reach out to Ann Ohrmundt at stjohnwausau@gmail.com.

Calling all current college students! - Did you know St. John Immanuel now offers scholarships for college? St. John Immanuel is pleased to announce scholarship applications are now open until **Sunday, November 1, 2026** for current college students. Visit <https://stjohnwausau.org/education/scholarships/> for information and application materials. Not yet a college student? Keep watching for further updates.

Parking Lot Update: Please see Flyer in the Narthex for updated information.

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 October 11th – October 18th

Today – Sunday, October 11th

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship – VBS Recap
- 10:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour / Sunday School – Paul's Letter
- 10:15 a.m. Endowment Meeting

Tuesday, October 13th

- 6:30 p.m. Pumpkin Carving for Calvary's Luminary Fest

Wednesday, October 14th

- 8:30 a.m. Quilters Meet
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

Thursday, October 15th

- 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir

Sunday, October 18th

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
- 10:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour / Sunday School – Adam & Eve

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