

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2026

"Leaving a Lasting Legacy"

THE WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN #845 *"Where Charity and Love Prevail"*



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear His
3 For - give we now each oth - er's faults As
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; Let

God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er
char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and
we our faults con - fess; And let us love each
all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry

by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.
mind and soul Now love Him in re - turn.
oth - er well In Chris - tian ho - li - ness.
that we seek; Be ours His ho - ly peace.

**5 Let us recall that in our midst
Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined
We are in Him made one.**

**6 For love excludes no race or clan
That names the Savior's name;
His family embraces all
Whose Father is the same.**

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(please stand)

THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Mighty and merciful Lord, with heavy hearts we confess our sin to You.

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

P: We confess together:

C: Holy and gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against You. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me, that I 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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Gracious Lord, You have rescued us from our bondage to sin and given us a new life and identity in Baptism. Grant us Your grace that we live in peace with all people and show to those around us the same forgiveness that You have shown to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE HYMN OF PRAISE #864 (Saturday) “Shepherd of Tender Youth”



1 Shep - herd of ten - der youth, Guid - ing in
2 You are the ho - ly Lord, O all - sub -
3 You are the great High Priest; You have pre -
4 O ev - er be our guide, Our shep - herd,
5 So now, and till we die, Sound we Your



love and truth Through de - vious ways; Christ, our tri -
du - ing Word, Heal - er of strife. Your - self You
pared - the feast Of ho - ly love; And in our
and our pride, Our staff and song. Je - sus, O
prais - es high And joy - ful sing: In - fants and



um - phant king, We come Your name to sing
did a - base That from sin's deep dis - grace
mor - tal pain None calls on You in vain;
Christ of God, By Your en - dur - ing Word
all the throng, Who to the Church be - long,



And here our chil - dren bring To join Your praise.
You so might save our race And give us life.
Our plea do not dis - dain; Help from a - bove.
Lead us where You have trod; Make our faith strong.
U - nite to swell the song To Christ, our king!

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR (Sunday) “I’ve Got That Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy”

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 50:15-21 (ESV)

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you."' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(please stand)

THE VERSE (TLH #284, verse 6, adapted; tune: *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*)

Al-le-lu-ia! O grac-ious Lord, Be thou for-ever near;

Teach me to love Your Ho-ly Word And see my Savior here.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven. Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(please be seated)

THE MEMORY VERSE *The 6th Commandment & What does this mean?*

from Luther's Small Catechism

You shall not commit adultery. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #863 *"Our Father, by Whose Name"*



1 Our Fa - ther, by whose name	All fa - ther-hood is known,
2 O Christ, Thy - self a child	With - in an earth - ly home,
3 O Spir - it, who dost bind	Our hearts in u - ni - ty,



Who dost in love pro - claim	Each fam - i - ly Thine own,
With heart still un - de - filed,	Thou didst to man-hood come;
Who teach - est us to find	The love from self set free,



Bless Thou all par - ents, guard - ing well,	With con - stant love as
Our chil - dren bless in ev - 'ry place	That they may all be -
In all our hearts such love in - crease	That ev - 'ry home by



sen - ti - nel,	The homes in which Thy	peo - ple dwell.
hold Thy face,	And know - ing Thee may	grow in grace.
this re - lease	May be the dwell - ing	place of peace.

THE SERMON “*Leaving a Lasting Legacy*” Text: 2 Timothy 1:3-5, 3:14-17

I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. . . . As for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS (LSB #805)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here be-low
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE PRESENTATION OF BIBLES AND BOOKS

THE RITE OF COMMITMENT TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

P: Our gracious God has worked faith in our hearts so that we may joyfully respond to His will and purpose. Let us therefore commit ourselves to the important task of teaching and receiving the truth of the Gospel and deepening the trust we have in Christ, our Savior. God instructs us to teach His Word diligently to our children (*Deut. 6:6-9*). Jesus teaches us, “Whoever hears these words of Mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house upon the rock” (*Matt. 7:24*), and through St. Paul God assures us, “The Holy Scriptures are able to make you wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus” and they are “useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work” (*2 Tim. 3:15-17*). The words and promises of God are not only for us and our children. Peter said it is also “for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls.” (*Acts 2:39*).

C: We commit ourselves as a congregation to the ministry of education, and inviting our friends and neighbors, our fellow citizens and visitors, to learn about the triune God, His love, mercy, and forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

P: God has promised that His Word “shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it” (*Isaiah 55:11*). May the Holy Spirit continue to use Word and Sacrament to enable us to keep the commitments we have made this day, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE INSTALLATION OF TEACHERS, HELPERS, AND STAFF

P: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, you are to be installed as educational staff here at Immanuel, a work in which our Father in heaven has great joy.

You are to assist Pastor Kaiser and I, this congregation's ministers of Word and Sacrament, in the instruction of God's people according to His holy Word. You are to prepare yourselves for this work by your individual and corporate study of the Word of God and the faith drawn from it as it has been delivered to us in the Small Catechism.

While holiness of life and obedience to Christ are expected of all members of the congregation, it is especially important that you show yourselves, by word and example, to be faithful to Him in service and Christian devotion.

In the presence of God and of this congregation, I therefore ask you: Do you accept the position entrusted to you, and do you promise faithfully to carry out your duties, trusting in the Lord and conforming yourself to His Word in accordance with the faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church? If so, then answer: I do.

Teachers & Staff: I do.

P: Fellow members of Immanuel, you have heard the promises of faithfulness spoken by these men and women. Do you promise to support them in their work, to remember them in your prayers, and to work with them to the best of the abilities that God has given you, so that He may be glorified and His work be done in our midst? If so, then answer: We do.

C: We do.

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, I install you to serve with me as the educational staff at Immanuel Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The almighty and most merciful God enlighten and strengthen you in your service that you may be good and faithful leaders and teachers to the glory of His name and the salvation of His people. Amen.

P: Let us pray. O Lord, grant to these Your servants the gifts of wisdom and discretion, kindness and faithfulness, so that they may effectively teach and guide, and grant to all Your people a ready willingness to learn. Let the knowledge of Your Word be preserved and extended among us so that all may know and praise You now and forever; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Go in the name of the Lord. Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. The almighty and most merciful God, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

(please stand)

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: God of love, through Your Son You have commanded us to love one another. By the guidance of Your Word and Spirit, teach us the truth that we might confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and be reconciled to one another; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Merciful Lord, You have shown great compassion to us; teach us to show such compassion to others, that we may welcome the stranger, love and help our neighbor in need, and be attentive to those new to the faith or vulnerable to temptation. Help us to serve and give us opportunity to share Your gifts with those who live in poverty and want. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious God, bless our missionaries who preach and teach Your Word, including Pastor David and Rachel Baker, Pastor Pedro and PaQuita Lopez, Pastor Shauen and Krista Trump, the African Radio Ministry, Jim Kaiser and the work of the Lutheran Bible Translators, and Mission Development Counselors Gary Thies and Pastor Steve Schulz. Give the hearers willing ears, hearts and minds to learn the Scriptures well. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Savior of all, give mighty effect to the National Lutheran Women's Missionary League grant in support of training pastors in West Africa and the Iowa West District LWML grant in support of the Iowa West Branch of the Orphan Grain Train and their service to share resources and bring Christ's name to needy people both far and near. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Mighty God, give wisdom and courage to our elected and appointed leaders, that they may pursue justice, seek peace and protect life from its natural beginning to its natural end. Bring an end to the threats of terror and violence among the peoples, and open all nations to the voice of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Most gracious God, we give thanks for the joy and blessings that You have granted Darwin and Julie Petersen throughout their 50 years of marriage. Keep them open to receive more and more of Your grace and love that their love for each other may never grow weary but deepen and grow through every joy and sorrow shared. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your compassionate care given to Carol Korwes. Keep her ever mindful of Your steadfast love and mercy and fill her with the gift of Your peace in each day through Jesus our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Blessed Father, You know our weakness of body and soul. Give to the troubled in mind Your peace, to the suffering relief, to the sick healing, to the grieving comfort and deliver the dying into everlasting life. Hear us especially for . . . and also for those named in our hearts . . . *[Silence for personal prayer]*. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God of mercies and God of all comfort, deal graciously with Laura Ernst and all the family and loved ones who mourn the death of Sharon Hall that, casting every care on You, they may know the consolation of Your love which is ours in Jesus Christ our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord of heaven and earth, You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. Bless our farmers and all who work with them as they prepare for the harvest. Grant us patience and faith as we look to You and Your perfect timing to give us all that we need for our daily bread. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty and everlasting God, deliver us from temptation and the powers of evil, that we may be faithful unto death and receive from Your hand the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.

C: Amen.

THE 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 and ever. Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY 2026

Three-Year-Olds Receiving *"The Beginner's Bible"*

Finnley Bremser
Graham Bremser
Atlee Clausen
Lane Schroeder

First Grade Students Receiving *"My First Catechism"*

Lux Clausen
Ada Schroeder

Third Grade Students Receiving *"One Hundred Bible Stories"*

Theodore Aldag
Rhett Clausen
Henessey Harm
Autumn Johannsen
Liam Palmer

Fifth Grade Students Receiving *"Faith Alive Bibles"*

Charlotte Ogren
Dennis Segebart
Stratton Stoppel

2026-2027 Teachers and Staff

Nursery-Preschool-TK Kindergarten-First Grades

Opportunity Available!

Second-Third-Fourth Grades

Amanda Bruhn
Lila Bubke

Fifth-Sixth Grades

Amanda Ashbrook
Laura Ernst

Seventh-Eighth Grades

Ashley Beeck
Chris Mahnken

Sunday School Superintendents

Laura Ernst
Kasey Lee

Cradle Roll

Judy Gierstorf

Confirmation

Nancy Bielenberg
K'Lynn Harm
Pastor Mahnken
Susan Schulz

Immanuel Preschool

Leslie Gustafson: Director/Teacher
Haleigh Galloway: Associate Teacher
Lisa Schroeder: Administrative Assistant



2025-2026 Teachers and Staff

Nursery-Preschool-TK-Kindergarten First-Second Grades

MacKenzie Jorgensen—3 years
Tayten Kline—3 years

Third-Fourth Grades

Amanda Bruhn—22 years
Lila Bubke—35 years

Fifth Grade

Amanda Ashbrook—3 years
Laura Ernst—3 years*

Sixth-Seventh-Eighth Grades

Tiffany Friedrichsen—3 years
Chris Mahnken—28 years

Sunday School Superintendents

Laura Ernst—5 years
Kasey Lee—2 years

Cradle Roll

Judy Gierstorf—12 years

Confirmation

K'Lynn Harm—*1 year
Pastor Mahnken—30 years
Susan Schulz—2 years

Immanuel Preschool

Leslie Gustafson: Director/Teacher—10 years
Haleigh Galloway: Associate Teacher—1 year
Lisa Schroeder: Administrative Assistant—10 years

**These individuals have served additional years in other capacities in our Sunday School.*

Immanuel Lutheran Congregation
501 Glad Street, Schleswig

INVITES YOU TO THE ANNUAL
Calf Show Dinner

Saturday, September 19, 2026

After the Parade — until 1:00 p.m.

Schleswig Community Building



Age 11 to Adult: \$15.00
Children 10 and under: \$10.00

Serving:

Staley's Broasted Chicken Dinner
with Homemade Desserts

Carry-outs can be picked up
in the City Building next to the Community Building.

For deliveries, please phone the Church Office before Saturday,
at 676-2235 during regular office hours.