



*“A Mighty Fortress Is
Our God”*

**August 9th, 2018
August 12th, 2018**

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



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Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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August 12th, 2018

Order of Service – Service of the Word (p. 38)

VBS Children (Thursday only)

Thanks Be to God

Opening Hymn (Sunday only)

#221: Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

(The congregation may rise for the final verse of the hymn.)

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Confession of Sins

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

Prayer and Praise

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord:

Hymn

#414: I Leave All Things to God's Direction

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

The Word

First Lesson – Joshua 6:1-20

¹Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in. ²And the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. ³You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. ⁴Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. ⁵And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him." ⁶So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, "Take up the ark of the covenant and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD." ⁷And he said to the people, "Go forward. March around the city and let the

armed men pass on before the ark of the LORD.”⁸ And just as Joshua had commanded the people, the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD went forward, blowing the trumpets, with the ark of the covenant of the LORD following them.⁹ The armed men were walking before the priests who were blowing the trumpets, and the rear guard was walking after the ark, while the trumpets blew continually.¹⁰ But Joshua commanded the people, “You shall not shout or make your voice heard, neither shall any word go out of your mouth, until the day I tell you to shout. Then you shall shout.”¹¹ So he caused the ark of the LORD to circle the city, going about it once. And they came into the camp and spent the night in the camp.¹² Then Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.¹³ And the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD walked on, and they blew the trumpets continually. And the armed men were walking before them, and the rear guard was walking after the ark of the LORD, while the trumpets blew continually.¹⁴ And the second day they marched around the city once, and returned into the camp. So they did for six days.¹⁵ On the seventh day they rose early, at the dawn of day, and marched around the city in the same manner seven times. It was only on that day that they marched around the city seven times.¹⁶ And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, “Shout, for the LORD has given you the city.¹⁷ And the city and all that is within it shall be devoted to the LORD for destruction. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall live, because she hid the messengers whom we sent.¹⁸ But you, keep yourselves from the things devoted to destruction, lest when you have devoted them you take any of the devoted things and make the camp of Israel a thing for destruction and bring trouble upon it.¹⁹ But all silver and gold, and every vessel of bronze and iron, are holy to the LORD; they shall go into the treasury of the LORD.”²⁰ So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they captured the city.

Psalm 46

*To the choirmaster. Of the Sons of Korah. According to Alamothe.
A song.*

- M: ¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- C: ² **Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**
- M: ³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.
- C: ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- M: ⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.
- C: ⁶ **The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.**
- M: ⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- C: ⁸ **Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.**
- M: ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.
- C: ¹⁰ **“Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”**
- M: ¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Second Lesson – 2 Kings 18:13; 19:15-19, 35-36

¹³In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them . . . ^{19:15}And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD and said: “O LORD, the God of Israel, enthroned above the cherubim, you are the God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth. ¹⁶Incline your ear, O LORD, and hear; open your eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God. ¹⁷Truly, O LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands ¹⁸and have cast their

gods into the fire, for they were not gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone. Therefore they were destroyed. ¹⁹So now, O LORD our God, save us, please, from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O LORD, are God alone” . . . ³⁵And that night the angel of the LORD went out and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians. And when people arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies. ³⁶Then Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went home and lived at Nineveh.

Confessional Reading – The Large Catechism

The Small and Large Catechisms (1529) were written by Luther to help teach the faith in a simple way for people of all ages. We still use Luther's Catechisms to teach the Christian faith today!

Our sinful flesh is so clever that we can deceptively work to tear down our neighbor, take his property, and ruin his reputation, and still convince ourselves that we have done nothing wrong because we have not harmed him directly. God, however, sees through our self-deception and judges us according to our covetous hearts.

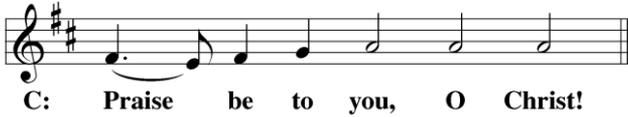
Large Catechism, I: The Ninth & Tenth Commandments

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.” “You shall not covet his wife, man-servant, maid-servant, cattle, or anything that is his” . . . You must learn that God does not wish you to deprive your neighbor of anything that is his, letting him suffer loss while you gratify your greed, even though in the eyes of the world you might honorably retain the property. To do so is dark and underhanded wickedness, and, as we say, it is all done “under the hat” so as to escape detection. Although you may act as if you have wronged no one, you have trespassed on your neighbor’s rights. It may not be called stealing or fraud, yet it is coveting—that is, having designs upon your neighbor’s property, luring it away from him against his will, and begrudging what God gave him.

Gospel Lesson – Luke 23:44-49

⁴⁴It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last. ⁴⁷Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, “Certainly this man was innocent!” ⁴⁸And all the crowds that had assembled for this

spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. ⁴⁹And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.



Hymn of the Day

#200: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Sermon:

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Sermon Text – Psalm 46:1

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Apostles’ Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Thanksgiving

Offering

If you are a guest visiting us this morning, please do not feel obligated to give an offering. We understand that you may want to know more about our ministry before supporting it with your gifts. If, however, you desire to give, you are welcome to do so.

During the gathering of the offering, please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Prayer of the Church

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.

Collect

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

#341: Crown Him with Many Crowns

(Verse 1 – VBS Children

Verses 3&4 -- Congregation)



Announcements

NLHS Part-time Employment Opportunities

These are paid positions, and fairly flexible. Could you help?

- Morning and/or evening van driver for one of our student transportation routes
- Custodial assistance and Hot Lunch Coordinator & Server (approximately 10-12 hours/week)

Please call Ryan Wiechmann at 715-297-4427 if you are interested.

NLHS Volunteer Opportunity

Northland Lutheran High School's hot lunch program is entirely run by parent/friend volunteers. Each day one of our volunteers prepares and serves a typical school lunch meal for our student body and faculty--usually 30-40 lunches are served. We need you, our parents and friends, to help staff this program. Your costs are reimbursed. Could you cook once a week? Once a month? Once a semester? Please email Dawn at nlhsoffice@nlhs.org to say you will! Thank you.

Lifetouch Church Directory

We still need quite a few volunteers to help with our church directory picture day. Please consider signing up for one of the available volunteer positions. Thank you!

Church Council Meeting

The council will meet today, August 12, following worship.

Mountain of the Lord 25th Anniversary

You are invited to Mountain of the Lord Lutheran Church's 25th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, September 9th. Worship 10am/Lunch immediately follow the service. Please RSVP to mtlchurch@gmail.com or 715.359.9357 by August 12th.

Bean Bag Toss Night

Tuesday, August 14, 6pm

Join us on for a friendly beanbag-toss tournament.

Food and drinks will be available at the concession stand.

Please sign up today!

Confirmation Parent/Student Orientation

Students entering 6th, 7th, & 8th grades, *and parents*, please attend our confirmation orientation on Wednesday, September 5 at 3:30pm. This is an important opportunity for all parents and students to review with Pastor the schedule and requirements for confirmation class and to ask any questions.

If you are unable to attend, please speak to Pastor ASAP.