

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

**Psalm 146**

**SECOND READING: James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17**

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [<sup>11</sup>For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you

have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

**GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37**

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

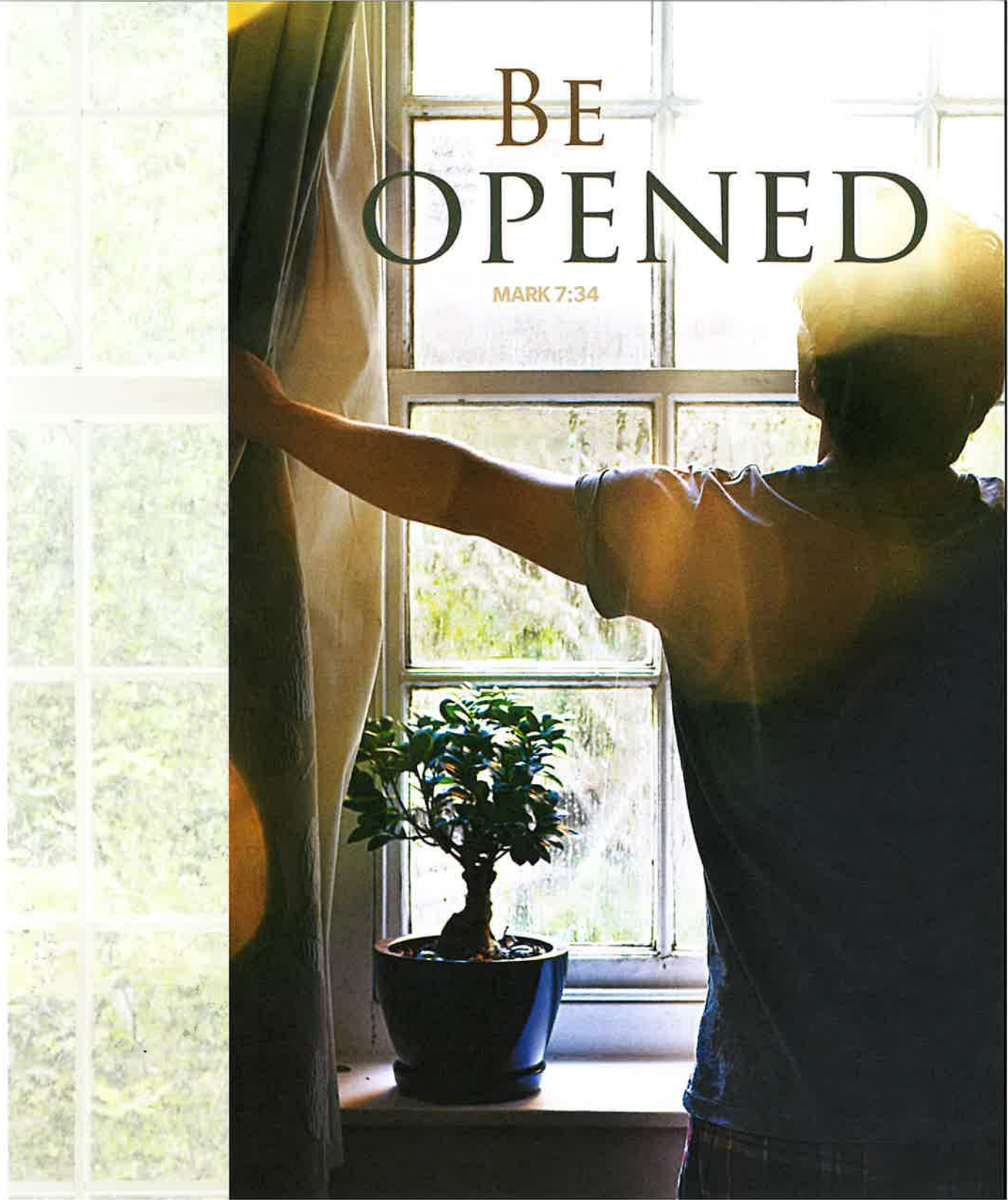
**Next Sunday’s Readings:** Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38.

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Tracks 1 and 2  
ELCA-R



# Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Council President: Ryan Myers 309-238-1081 RTFarms@outlook.com

Church Secretary: Cindy Wilson 309-825-4099 ckwilson1983@gmail.com

*Our mission is to invite people to know Jesus Christ so that we may all share God's love.*

**Welcome to Worship at Immanuel** as we worship together in the name of the Father our Creator, the Son our Savior, and the Holy Ghost.

**Prayer before Worship:** Heavenly Father, listen to our hearts, for the words spoken and those left unsaid, that you may know our needs and have us understand the needs of those around us. Amen.

**Pastor Ed is working in the church office** on Friday mornings from 10:30-ish – noon. Please call in advance if you would like to reserve time to talk or visit with him.

**Prayer Requests:** We welcome requests of prayers for our members, friends and families throughout our communities and beyond. Anyone is welcome to leave a note on the desk in the office or contact the pastor.

**Offering envelopes are located and available on the table in the entry.**

Please designate how you would like to have your offering used if for anything other than general funds.

**The Lord's Supper**, (offered on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month) the Eucharist, or Holy Communion is a means of God's grace whereby the real presence of Christ is offered. All are welcome to receive Communion at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

**We have Children's Bulletins** for those who wish to enhance the worship experience for the kids. They can be found each week on the table with the regular Sunday Bulletins.

Newsletter, bulletin, and member information or changes may be sent to [ckwilson1983@gmail.com](mailto:ckwilson1983@gmail.com) or [immanuelcolfax@hotmail.com](mailto:immanuelcolfax@hotmail.com)

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This Week at Immanuel 9:00 am Worship

**Sunday, September 8, 2024**

WORSHIP LEADER: MARCIA BUCHS, SAM

BISHOP GREG BUSBOOM

Lay Reader: Dennis Griepentrog

Greeters: Eli & Katelyn Petersen

Ushers/Acolytes: Acer Kratochvil, Rylee Kukuck

Organist: Kimberly Petersen

**Sunday, September 15, 2024**

WORSHIP LEADER: MARCIA BUCHS, SAM

Lay Reader: Dan Harms

Greeters: Mark & Jan Miller

Ushers/Acolytes: Ty Harms, Alec H.

Communion: Denny & Amy Winterland

Organist: Cindy Wilson

**In your prayers**, please include our members who are not able to be with us today: Virginia Winterland (home); Iva Mae Petersen (Pontiac); Gary Kessinger

**We also include the following people in our prayers:** Lucy McKinley, Cheryl Poppe, Robert Ruff, Jeannie Weber, Tim Dawson, Von Becker's Parents, Bob & Judy Logan, Nancy Lasser, Loren Powell, Lori Becker (sister-in-law of Von Becker), and Daviney Steidinger-Reynolds (a student at Ridgeview), The family and friends of Glenn Taylor

## *Announcements*

**Today we are blessed and delighted to have our Synod Bishop, Rev. Greg Busboom** joining our Worship Service. Please extend a warm welcome to him and join us in fellowship after the service.

We will also be participating in the ELCA annual **God's Work – Our Hands** Day of Service today. Projects will include painting the bridge and the Colfax park and a few others here at the church. Please lend your hands as you are able.

**Website Update:** In the last 7 days (as of 9/4/24) our website received 254 visits, 682 visits in the last 15 days, and 1,607 visits in the last 30 days. This means that people are searching for us and for information about us! As we enter into the school year and a busier time for the church, please let Erin know if you have any information for the website. Calendar events, Sunday school or Luther League info, Matthew 25 project, WELCA, mission projects, music ministry, pictures, history, etc. all can be added. Any questions or information can be sent to Erin: [erinift1025@gmail.com](mailto:erinift1025@gmail.com) or 815-848-1090.

Haven't seen our website? Check it out at [www.immanuellutherancolfax.org](http://www.immanuellutherancolfax.org).

## Announcements

### Sunday School starts next Sunday, September 15 at 10:00 am !

**It's time to Kickoff Luther League on Sunday, September 22nd after church!** All High Schoolers are encouraged to attend! Luther Leaguers and parents should sign up for Team Reach App with Group name: LLeague1. Here updates and monthly schedule will be posted!

**LWR Quilts** - the quilt makers have wrapped up their 2024 season to focus on school kits and personal care kits. However, there are always packages of cut fabric squares ready to be sewn into quilt tops. Please use a 1/2" seam with short stitches and press open or to the side. These will help us kick start 2025! We are very thankful for the volunteers who helped us make over 60 quilts this year! If you have any questions, please see Dee Winterland.

**LWR Kits** – We are currently collecting items for **school kits** and **personal care kits**. Some items are already displayed on the table in the fellowship hall along with lists that you may take as a reminder of items needed.

### The Illinois Association of Wheat Weavers would like to share their craft by doing a Make-n-Take session on Sat Sept 21, 2024 from 9am to 3 pm.

There will be a morning session beginning at 9 am and an afternoon session starting at 12 pm. The project would cost for supplies only, \$5 for AM or PM session. If doing both sessions, \$10. If guests choose both sessions, they may want to bring a sack lunch and drinks. This event is open to all members and friends. A signup sheet is posted in the fellowship hall. Please sign up by September 14 so that supplies can be prepared for each attendee.

For more information, please contact Deb Jaskowiak at 309-825-4273.

## Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 8, 2024

*James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.*

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Gathering

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the worship leader begins -*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

*Congregation may be seated.*

HYMN

**Earth and All Stars**

ELW 731

\*GREETING *Please stand as you are able*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*Congregation may be seated*

### *Word*

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

READING Isaiah 35:4-7a back of bulletin

*These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.*

*After the reading . . . L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.***

PSALM Psalm 146

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

**I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

**When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.**

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God;

**Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.

The Lord sets the captive free.

**The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

**The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

READING

James 2:1-17

back of bulletin

*Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.*

*After the reading . . . L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.***

*Please stand as you are able*

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung)

ELW, page 142

**Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

\*GOSPEL READING

Mark 7:24-37

back of bulletin

*The Gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark ...

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.*

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Bishop Greg Busboom

HYMN OF DAY

**Healer of Our Evry Ill**

ELW 612



\*CREED *Please stand as you are able*

ELW page 104

P: We confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed,

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and was born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

*After each petition:* P: Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

P: We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

#### \*LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray. . .

**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.**

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

#### WE GATHER OUR OFFERINGS

\*OFFERING SONG *Please stand as you are able*

ELW 186

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

#### OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray...

**C: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Sending*

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

#### \*BLESSING

P: God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

#### \*HYMN

*Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

ELW 886

#### \*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **C: Thanks be to God.**

#### POSTLUDE