

*Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church*

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**Seventh Sunday after Epiphany – May 28, 2017**

**Worship Focus:** As we close the Easter season and our time together as Pastor and Flock, we are assured of the Lord's abiding care and presence. God's abiding love will sustain us.

**Opening Hymn 399** *To God Be the Glory*

**GATHERING RITE ON THE WORD OF GOD**

*This alternate beginning for worship serves to remind God's people of the blessings of his Word.*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C: (spoken) Amen.**

**Blessed Jesus, at Your Word**

Stanza 1

Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word We are gath - ered all to  
 Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and  
 hear you.  
 fear you, By your teach - ings, sweet and ho - ly,  
 Drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.

M: Oh, how I love your law!  
**C: I meditate on it all day long.**  
 M: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,  
**C: for they are ever with me.**  
 M: I have more insight than all my teachers,  
**C: for I meditate on your statutes.**  
 M: How sweet are your words to my taste,  
**C: sweeter than honey to my mouth!** *(Psalm 119:97-99,103)*

**Blessed Jesus, at Your Word**

Stanza 2

All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est dark - ness  
 Till your Spir - it breaks our night With the beams of truth un -  
 shroud - ed  
 cloud - ed. You a - lone to God can win us;  
 You must work all good with - in us.

M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,  
**C: so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.** *(2 Timothy 3:16,17)*  
 M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.  
**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

## Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

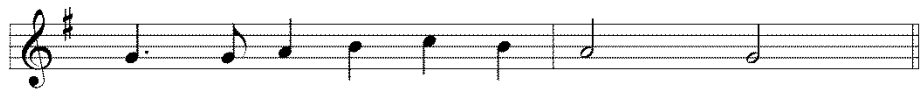
### Stanza 3



Gra-cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light from Light, from God pro-  
O - pen now our heart and mind; Help us by your Spir-it's



ceed - ing,  
plead - ing. Hear the cry your peo - ple rais - es;



Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.

M: God gave his Word so “that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (*John 20:31*). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

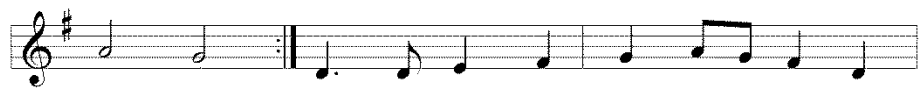
**C: (spoken) Amen.**

## Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

### Stanza 4



Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, Praise to you and ad - o -  
Grant that we your Word may trust, Con - fi - dent of our sal -



ra - tion!  
va - tion, While we here be - low must wan - der,



Till we sing your prais - es yon - der.

M: Let us pray:

Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: (spoken) Amen.**

**The First Lesson:** Acts 1:1-14

Luke recounts the ascension of Jesus and names the roster of the apostles.

**The Psalm of the Day:** Psalm 8, page 67

The majesty of God's name and his graciousness to humankind form the praise of the Church this day.

**The Second Lesson:** 1 Peter 4:12-17; 5:6-11

The glory and joy of the Easter season stand in contrast to the day-to-day reality of the world with its sufferings and temptations. But the mature in Christ are not surprised that trials and suffering remain integral parts of their life in this world. They do not forget the evil foe and his desire to devour. However, those who have been connected with Christ and his resurrection by baptism look upon their suffering with eyes of faith, and trust in the eternal goodness of God.

**The Gospel Lesson:** John 17:1-11a

Jesus closed his farewell discourse to his disciples on the night he was betrayed with his “High Priestly Prayer.” In it, the Lord prayed that the Father will glorify the Son so that he may glorify the Father. His glory is this: that his people know him as the One sent from the Father who has fulfilled the will of God and provided salvation for them. The Lord also prayed that his disciples would be kept safe in the world. They are not of the world, but they are in the world. Jesus' prayer continues to comfort us today, for in it, the Lord shows once more—even in the midst of his own anguish before the cross—how dear and precious his own are to him!

**Hymn 538** *The Church's One Foundation*

**The Sermon:** Matthew 28:20 “And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

**JESUS IS ALWAYS WITH YOU**

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**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.**

**The Offering**

**The Prayer of the Church**

**Pastor:** Almighty and ever-living Father, before whose face the generations rise and fall, we give you thanks and praise for all the blessings of this day, and for all the ways, in season and out of season, that you provide for us.

**Dan Dux:** In this season, on this day, we invoke your Holy presence upon these congregations as they gather in memory and hope to thank and bless this, your servant, Pastor Warmuth at the conclusion of his active ministry.

**Art Luedeke:** We give you thanks for those early promptings of your gentle Spirit that stirred his heart to consider this holy calling. As “young men shall see visions and old men shall dream dreams,” we praise you for the persistent vision that led him through long years of service as a minister of your Word.

**Congregation:** We thank you for bestowing the necessary graces upon him for carrying out the work to which you called him. Through trials and temptations your eternal presence strengthened and comforted him. In the dry seasons you provided him with living waters to restore his soul. Your unseen hand supported him with the courage needed for the struggles to make real the love of Jesus Christ by word and deed. In the face of disappointments you surprised him again and again with unexpected joy.

**Dan Dux:** Lord God, without whose daily grace none could stand, we earnestly entreat you now to forgive Pastor Warmuth all his shortcomings and failures in your service, and to endow him with a calm mind and a peaceful heart as he concludes his days of active service.

**Art Luedeke:** Remind him that your ways are not our ways, and your thoughts are not our thoughts, and that the seeds he sowed and planted and watered during his ministry often only bear fruit in your good time, unseen and unknown except by you.

**Congregation:** Our times are in your hands, O God. Bless Pastor Warmuth now in this new season of his life and this new chapter in his calling, that his remaining years may be full and fruitful, and assure him of his place, by your grace, among the great cloud of witnesses, living and dead, who have witnessed to your truth and lived out your love. And when his days come to an end grant him the gift of peace and the assurance of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Pastor:** Gracious God, continue to bless these your servants at Immanuel and St. John’s with a love for your Word, the desire to not give up meeting together but to encourage one another and all the more as they see the day of your Son’s return to this world as Judge of all to take them to heaven. Hear and bless us Father as we unite one more time as pastor and flock in your Son’s name 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.**

**Hymn 752** *In Christ Alone*

**Prayer of the Shepherd and the Flock**

**ALL: Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Brothers and sisters, as our time together as pastor and flock comes to a close, let us go in peace, continue to live in love with one another, and to always serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless us and keep us.  
The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.  
The Lord look on us with favor and give us peace.

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn 322** *On What Has Now Been Sown*

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***Our Father's Business April 21-28, 2017***

<b>Today</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Combined Worship at St. John's,</b>
	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Farewell Dinner for Pastor &amp; Mrs.</b>
		<b>Warmuth at St. John's Christie</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Call meeting at St. John's, Christie</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Immanuel Ladies Aid</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Worship with Communion at Globe</b>
	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Worship with Communion at Christie</b>

**Last Week's Attendance:** Globe: 132      Christie:

***Immanuel Voter Meeting:*** A voter meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, June 4 to discuss a number of issues: replacement for Carl Noah as Chairman of Buildings and Grounds; approval of removal of chimney from parsonage; approval of removal of several trees from parsonage yard; approval to put up a new shed to house lawn mowers, etc., at the church and maybe a couple of other items.

***A Note from Pastor Warmuth***

My wife and I want all of you to know that we felt very much at home among you these past 8½ years. We were so blessed while we were here. We leave with many fond memories of our time here among you. Thank you so much.

I look forward to some time away from the full time ministry. At the same time I don't want to leave it completely, and I pray that the Lord give me opportunity to serve in various part time ways in his kingdom in the future.

If you are ever in the Hartford area stop in for a visit:

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