

Seventh Sunday of Easter Ascension of Our Lord May 28, 2017 10:30 A.M.

Welcome!

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

We welcome people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation and gender identity, socio-economic status and marital status, every ability and challenge.

We welcome believers and questioners, and questioning believers.

We're glad God has called you here today! If you're a guest, please feel free to introduce yourself to our pastor or assisting minister. If you would, sign the guest book in the Gathering Area or fill in a guest card from the pew, and we'll be happy to send information on how you can get involved at Immanuel.

Facilities

- Our parking lot is located on the south side of the church off Sherman Avenue. You may park in the lot at any time, whether for church events or for shopping or other errands in downtown Evanston; weekdays, see the church office at the Lake St. entrance to get a parking pass. On Sundays, additional parking is available across the street at the Holiday Inn or in Lot 6 on Lake St. across from the Police and Fire Headquarters. Parking meters are free on Sunday!
- The parking lot entrance is an accessible entrance. An elevator is located just inside that door.
- Restrooms are downstairs near the meeting of the two hallways. Accessible restrooms are located near the
 elevator on both upper and lower levels. A gender-neutral restroom is located on the lower level by the
 elevator.
- We love having children in worship! There is an attended nursery and changing/crying room for parents to use, if needed, located downstairs. There are also changing tables in both restrooms on this level, by the elevator. An usher will be happy to direct you.
- Hearing assistance is available. Ask an usher for equipment.
- Wi-Fi is available throughout most of the building. The network is "Immanuel," password "allarewelcome". Please use the Internet responsibly!

About Our Worship

Our Sunday worship is organized around the proclamation of the Word of God and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It has a familiar form each week, but the content changes for each service according to a calendar shared with many other Christians. Our hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, is organized so that page numbers for the liturgy are in the front part of the book, while hymn numbers are in the second part. The liturgy and hymns are printed in this bulletin, but page numbers are provided for those who wish to follow along in the hymnal.

Receiving Holy Communion

We invite you to share with us in the sacramental meal, because Christ himself invites you! At the direction of the usher, come forward (if you are able) and stand around the altar rail. (During the Easter season, we stand as a sign of resurrection life.) Receive the bread in the palm of your hand. You may eat it immediately, then take the silver chalice and drink from it or, if you prefer, hold the bread and dip it in the ceramic chalice and then eat the moistened bread. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please indicate to the pastor if you need that. Return to your place via the side aisles after you have communed. If you need to have Communion brought to you, please sit on the aisle, and let either the pastor or an usher know before the service that you would like to commune at your seat. If you desire a blessing but not the sacrament, you are invited to come forward with everyone else and fold your arms over your chest to indicate this.

Gathering: The Holy Spirit assembles us as the People of God ...

In today's gospel the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus; we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We, too, long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

P: Presiding Minister **L:** Leader/Assisting Minister **R:** Reader **A:** Assembly + All may make the sign of the cross.

Pre-Service Music

Selections from Bach and Buxtehude's mature master works

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

A Amen.

P Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of grace and glory,

you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection.
Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin.
Make us alive in Christ, O God.
Make us new as you make all things new.
Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

P Rejoice with all creation around God's throne!
The light of the risen Christ
puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin,
restores innocence to the fallen,
casts out hate, brings peace,
and humbles earthly pride.
Jesus Christ loves you And + frees you from your sins by his blood.
To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

A Amen.

Gathering Song

Please turn to face the doors. You may reverence the cross as it passes you.



Greeting (The Easter acclamation is repeated three times.)

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- A Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P The grace of our risen Lord Jesus, the love of God, who raised him from the dead, and the communion of the Holy Spirit who breathes new life into us, be with you all.
- A And also with you!

Kyrie

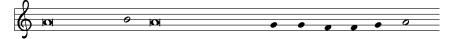




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. men.

Canticle



Prayer of the Day

- P Let us pray. Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Welcome and Announcements

Word: God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and song ...

Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 1:1-11

R A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

[Luke writes:] ¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

- R Word of God, word of life.
- A Thanks be to God!

Psalm 47 ELW Psalm Tone 2

The Choir will sing the lightface verses to the tone, the Assembly sings boldface.



¹Clap your hands, [|] all you peoples; shout to God with a [|] joyful sound.

²For the LORD Most High is ¹ to be feared: a great king over ¹ all the earth,

³who subdues the [|] peoples under us, and the nations un- [|] der our feet;

⁴who chooses our inheri- | tance for us, the pride of Jacob, | whom God loves.

⁵God has gone up | with a shout, the LORD with the sound | of the ram's horn.

⁶Sing praises to [|] God, sing praises; sing praises to our [|] king, sing praises.

⁷For God is king of [|] all the earth; sing praises [|] with a song.

*God reigns o- | ver the nations; God is en- | throned on high.

⁹The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the ¹ God of Abraham. The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is high- ¹ ly exalted.

R A reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

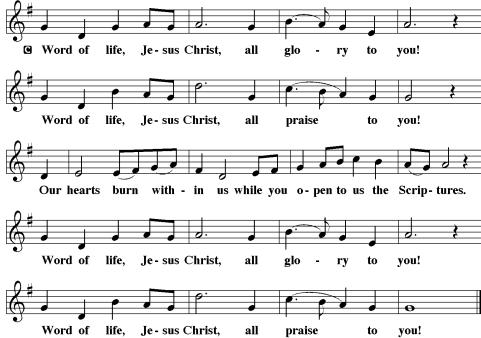
¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.





Gospel Luke 24:44–53

P This is the Good News of Jesus Christ according to Luke.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

⁴⁴[Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ!

The Gospel Acclamation is sung once again.
The Assembly is then seated.

Sermon

A bell will chime to begin a time of silence for reflection. When the bell sounds a second time, the Assembly stands to respond to the Word.

Commemoration

On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember with gratitude Immanuel's Gold Star Veterans who "laid down their lives for their friends":

Raymond Arnold Anderson Robert Torsten Bergendorff John Evert Johnson Carl Edward Lindquist Ivar Leonard Peterson Arvid Sternquist



The Nicene Creed

- L With the whole Church, let us profess our faith.
- A We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the + resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

- L Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.
- L We pray for the church. Clothe us with your power. Uphold all preachers and teachers of the gospel. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Wayne, our pastor, Keith, our president, Kevin, for our council, and for all the baptized. Unite us through the Spirit and lead us out in mission. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

We pray for the earth. For hills and valleys, prairies and pastures. For deserts and mountains, tundra and bogs. Nurture all plants and animals, and sustain those whose labor produces our food. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L We pray for the nations. We remember especially today the people of Manchester and England, the migrants of Libya and Northern Africa who have lost their lives on the sea, the martyrs of Egypt, the refugees from Syria. On this Memorial Day weekend, we also remember those who have died in wars, and pray for an end to all warfare and violence. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

We pray for those in need. For those who travel. For those who are abused or neglected. For all refugees and immigrants. For students approaching a graduation. For those who are ill or grieving, especially Serena Bernstein, Lynn Carson, Barb Engelsen, Jennifer Grethe, Dick Heisler, Judy Hokenson, Calvin and Heidi Hummel, Ron Laudert, Carol Rakowsky, George Shiff, Joe Skelton, John and Doris Strom, William Tollett, and those we name now aloud or in our hearts. [...]. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L We pray for this assembly. Bless those who are preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Strengthen our ministries of education and outreach. Uphold those who lead us in prayer and song. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

- L And now, sisters and brothers, for what else shall we pray?

 The petitions and thanksgivings of the Assembly, silent or spoken aloud, are invited.
- L Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died in the Lord, especially Jiri Tranovsky, Justin Martyr of Rome, the Blessed Martyrs of Uganda, John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, and Immanuel's Gold Star veterans. Inspire us by their witness and bring us to receive our inheritance with all the saints in your glory. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

P Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Amen.

Peace

P The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always.

A And also with you.

Greet one another in the peace of the Risen Christ, saying "Peace be with you," "The peace of the Lord," or similar words.

If you prefer not to shake hands, you might raise your hand in a gesture of blessing
as you speak peace to your neighbors. After the Peace, all return to their seats.

Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ ...

Offering An offering is gathered for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need.

Offering Music

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives" Austin C. Lovelace

Presentation of the Gifts

"The Disciples Knew the Lord Jesus"



The dis - ci-ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break-ing of the bread.



The dis - ci-ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break-ing of the bread.



The breadwhich we break, al-le - lu - ia, is the com-mu-nion of the bod - y of Christ.



The dis - ci-ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break-ing of the bread.





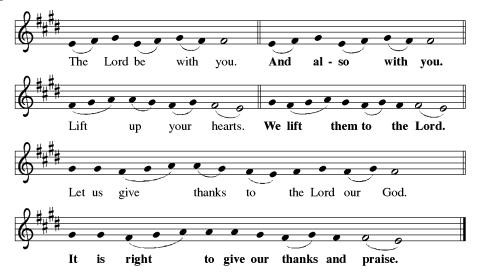
The dis - ci-ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break-ing of the bread.

Offering Prayer

- L Let us pray.
- A Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

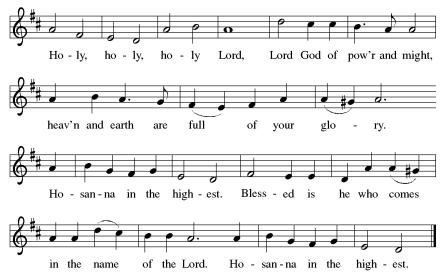


Preface

P It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you give strength to the weak, freedom to the prisoners, and an eternal home to the homeless. With the Son and the Spirit you lived before the world existed, and all things were created from your love. You led your people through the desert from slavery to the promised land, and nourished them through your law and prophets. Your Son, Jesus Christ, glorified you on earth by finishing your work, and making you known to us as the only true God in whom we find eternal life. When he was crucified, you raised him to new life, and when he ascended into heaven he promised to send the Holy Spirit, who fills us with your truth and power, and protects us in the name of Christ, so that we may be one, as you are one.

Therefore, with our hearts lifted high, we offer you thanks and praise at all times through Jesus Christ our Lord. We join our voices with all of the created universe, with Jiri Tranovsky, Justin Martyr of Rome, the Blessed Martyrs of Uganda, John XXIII, with Immanuel's Gold Star veterans, and with saints and angels above and below, singing with them the unending song of praise of your Most Holy Name:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

A Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

A Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

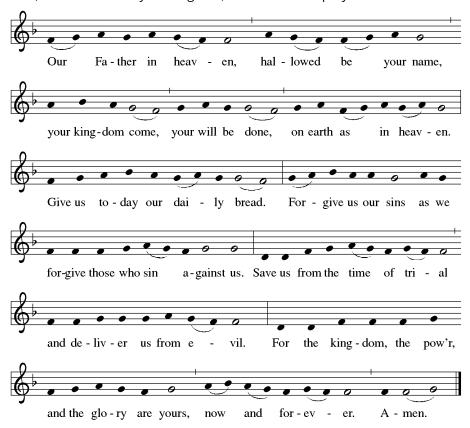
P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:



The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

- L Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!
- A Thanks be to God!

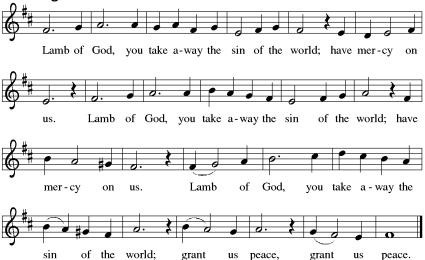
Distribution of Holy Communion

The Assembly is seated. Please come forward as the ushers direct, and as you are able.

During the Easter season, we stand to commune as a sign of resurrection life.

See the inside front cover for instructions concerning Holy Communion.





This Week's Commemorations

Jiri Tranovsky, hymnwriter, d 1637

Monday, May 29, 2017

Tranovsky is considered to be the father of Slovak hymnody as well as an important reformer of the Slavic church. He translated the Augsburg Confession (the basis of Lutheran teachings) and published a collection of Slovak hymns.

Visit of Mary to Elizabeth Wednesday, May 31, 2017

This festival marks the occasion when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visited her cousin Elizabeth who was herself pregnant with John. Elizabeth pronounced Mary "blessed among women," and Mary responded with the song called the *Magnificat*.

Justin, martyr at Rome, d. around 165 Thursday, June 1, 2017

Born of pagan parents, Justin was influenced by an elderly Christian in Ephesus. He became a teacher of philosophy and the Christian faith. Jailed for practicing an unauthorized religion, he refused to renounce his faith and was beheaded.

The Martyrs of Uganda, d. 1886

Saturday, June 3, 2017

On June 3, 1886, thirty-two young men were burned to death for refusing to renounce Christianity. The confident manner in which these Christians went to their deaths contributed to a much stronger Christian presence in Uganda.

John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, d. 1963

Saturday, June 3, 2017

When elected pope, the former Angelo Roncalli was expected to be a short-term caretaker. He showed great spirit, though, and convened the Second Vatican Council which helped bring great changes to Roman Catholic and other churches.



The Assembly stands when directed by the Presiding Minister.

Blessing after Communion

P The body and blood of our + Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

A Amen.

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Spanish verses are available in the hymnal for those who wish to sing in Spanish.



Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

A Amen.

Sending of Communion

P Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick or homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

A Amen.

Sending Song

"You Servants of God" (printed on following page) Hymnal 825

Please turn as the cross passes you to face the doors through which you will be sent out in mission.

Blessing

P Go now, steadfast in your faith. Resist the evil one, devote yourselves to prayer, and bear witness to Christ as he makes us one.

And may the God of all grace restore and strengthen you; May + Christ Jesus make the divine love known to you; And may the Holy Spirit rest upon you and give you power until all is fulfilled.

A Amen.

Dismissal

- L Go in peace. Share the Good News! Jesus Christ is risen! Alleluia!
- A Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Please stay for a time of fellowship immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall.

Refreshments today are provided by the Worship and Music Committee

Come enjoy one another's company, and hear about all the opportunities for service and community!

Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister	Pr. Keith Fry
Assisting Minister	Carolyn Nakic
Acolyte	
Lector	Susan Ross
Communion Minister	Susan Ross
Cantor	Kyle Johnson
Organist	Greg Hummel
Choir Accompanist	Drew Lu
Table Preparation	Kathryn Skelton
Communion Bread	TBA
Ushers	TBA

You Servants of God



Life with the Spirit

Why do you come to worship? Do you come out of duty or habit? Do you come to see friends and drink good coffee? Do you come for spiritual guidance, inspiration, or grounding? Do you come to gain strength, to listen to the word of God, or to hear the sermon? Do you come because you like to sing the hymns? Do you come to hear the words of forgiveness of sins or to receive the body and blood of Jesus? Do you come to worship because it satisfies your needs? Do you come because it satisfies God's desires?

As Jesus ascends to heaven, the disciples cannot help but stare upward in dumbfounded awe of what they are witnessing. Suddenly two men, possibly angels, appear and snap them out of their bewilderment. "Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?" they ask, as if what the disciples have just seen is nothing astonishing or unusual; as if what they are trying to say is, "There's nothing more to see here; get back to work."

Before he is lifted out of their sight, Jesus tells his disciples that they will be his witnesses (*Acts 1:8*). Being a witness is more than just watching an event; it requires giving testimony to what you have seen and heard. What the disciples have seen and heard throughout Jesus' ministry and in his death, resurrection, and ascension is astonishing, mind-blowing stuff. How would it be possible *not* to testify "to the ends of the earth" about what they have experienced?

If coming to worship is only about what we want, then all we are doing is gazing up to heaven. But if we join together in worship for the sake of God's desires, then we become eyewitnesses to how God came down, and continues to come down, to us. That's not useless staring into the sky—that's the kind of astonishing, mind-blowing stuff that sends witnesses who will testify to the ends of the earth.

Upcoming Events

Sunday June 4 Pentecost: You are encouraged to wear red or fire colors

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Keith Fry	Pastor
Kevin McDaniel	
Kyle Johnson	Cantor
Greg Hummel	
Laurie Stivers	
Kristen Wood	Parish Administrator

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Metropolitan Chicago Synod. We've been worshiping God and serving the Evanston community since 1888!