



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist
August 26, 2018**

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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, 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 a 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 kneel at the altar rail, starting at the walls. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand. (Gluten-free wafers are available. Just ask the pastor.) You may eat it immediately, then take the silver chalice and drink from it or, if you prefer, take a small cup from the tray. The cups in the outer ring contain wine. The cups in the center contain grape juice. As you return to your seat, place your empty cup in the trays provided at the ends of the front pews. 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 many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "Lord, to whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

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

Pre-Service Music

"Trios" *Bach and Albrechtsberger*

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
full of compassion and mercy,
abounding in steadfast love.

A Amen.

P Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Eternal God our creator,

A in you we live and move and have our being.

Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands.

Forgive us all our offenses,

and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.

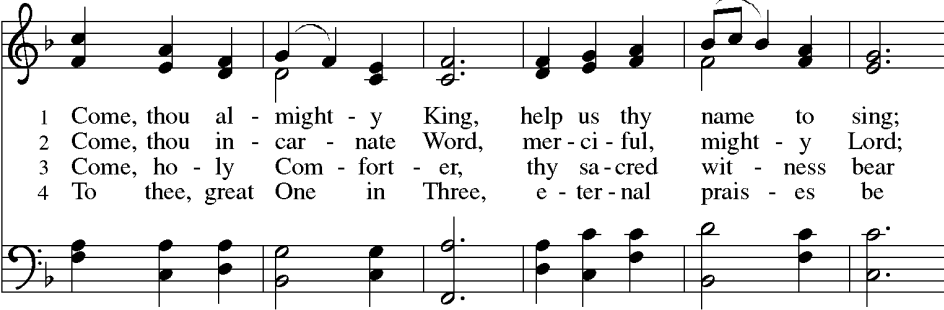
**By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit given to us.
In the mercy of almighty God,
Christ died for us while we still were sinners;
and for his sake, God + forgives you all your sins.

A Amen.

Gathering Song

"Come, Thou Almighty King" Hymnal 408



1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;
2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful, might - y Lord;
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be



help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -
our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy
in this glad hour! Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in
hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign maj - es - ty may we in



to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.
ev - 'ry heart, nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

A And also with you!

Kyrie

[Sing through twice, the second time a capella.]

Hymnal 154

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The melody is written in the upper staff, and the bass line is in the lower staff. The lyrics are placed below the upper staff.

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

The second system of music also consists of two staves in the same key signature and clefs as the first system. The melody continues in the upper staff, and the bass line continues in the lower staff. The lyrics are placed below the upper staff.

Canticle of Praise

Hymnal 163

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on
earth. Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and
Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glo-ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have
mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the
Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the
Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the
Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the
glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Welcome and Announcements

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

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

R A reading from Joshua.

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now, if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

Psalm 34:15-22

1. Your eyes, O God, are on the just; Your ears are
 2. You save the trou - ble of the right - eous in their need, For when they
 3. The Lord will save you will hear; Your face is set against the
 4. Evil doers shall be stoned, and the Lord will hear their cry; And You will not hear from the
 And Who hate the

o - pen to their cry; Your face is set a - gainst the
 cry, Lord, will you save you will hear; Those crushed in spi - rit you will
 just shall know your wrath; And You keep them safe from ev' - ry
 ser - vants'

12
 false To root them out from me - mo - ry.
 save, The bro - ken - hear - ted you are near.
 harm; Not one shall break a sin - gle bone.
 lives And chas - ten none who walk your path.

R A reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Hymnal 174

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. Both staves are in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of a series of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes on both staves. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

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

A Glory to you, O Lord!

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of 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**Time of Silence**

A bell will chime to begin a time of silence for reflection.

During this time, you may want to meditate on one word or phrase from the scriptures or from the sermon that stands out to you, asking the Spirit to show you how it applies to your own life.

When the bell sounds a second time, the Assembly stands to respond to the Word.

1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,
 2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,
 3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,
 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;

for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
 by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
 may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
 in the world to which you send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

The Apostles' Creed

L With the whole Church, let us profess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come 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 People

L Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

L God of our ancestors, bless the church universal in every place. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Wayne, our pastor, Keith, our president, Sara, our Council, and for all whom you have called here in your name. Inspire in us strength and courage to boldly proclaim the mystery of the gospel. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Creating God, bless wild animals and family pets, prairies and kitchen gardens, beaches and sandboxes, mountains and hearths. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L God of the nations, we pray for all nations in turmoil, and all people in danger. We pray especially for the people of Venezuela and the citizens of Hawaii. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L That God remember the poor and the brokenhearted and rescue all those in trouble, remembering especially Serena Bernstein, Margaret Carlson, Lynn Carson, Bob Fried, Kimberly Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Judy Hokenson, Ron Laudert, Richard Lewis, Joe Skelton, John and Doris Strom, and those we name now aloud or in our hearts [...]. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Watchful God, protect members and friends of this congregation along all our ways and empower us to serve Christ in sincerity and faithfulness. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

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 Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Faithful God, redeem the lives of those who have served in the faith and raise them up, according to the promises of Jesus Christ, the bread that nourishes eternal life. We remember today especially Augustine of Hippo and Moses the Black. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

P Almighty and loving God, we look to you in hope and trust, knowing that you will do far more than we can ask or imagine, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

A And also with you.

Greet one another in the peace of 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

Presentation of the Gifts

"Eat This Bread" Hymnal 472

Continue singing as the gifts are brought forward and the Table is prepared.

Refrain

“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

The image shows two systems of musical notation for the hymn "Eat This Bread". Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The first system is labeled "Refrain" and includes the lyrics: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry. OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger." The second system includes the lyrics: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.” Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst." The music is in a key with one sharp (F#) and a common time signature.

Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

**A Merciful God, you open wide your hand
and satisfy the need of every living thing.
You have set this feast before us.
Open our hands to receive it.
Open our hearts to embrace it.
Open our lives to live it.
We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

P The Lord be with you!

A And also with you!

P Lift up your hearts.

A We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

A It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you are the giver of honor and grace and we are eager for your presence with us. The heavens and the earth cannot contain you for you have created them and hold them in your hand. You call your people away from the worship of the many gods of this earth, and challenge us to choose you and only you as our God, in gratitude for your mighty acts.

You have sent your Holy One, Jesus Christ, to speak to us your word of Spirit and life. Though the forces of evil and death consumed him, he rose from the grave proclaiming your gospel of peace. Now he nourishes us with his body and blood and arms us with truth, righteousness, and salvation that we might stand firm against the corrupt spiritual powers that would tear down all who seek you with integrity.

Therefore, with hearts full of gratitude, we sing joyfully, giving thanks to you, who are both Father and Mother to us, at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We join our voices with Augustine and Moses the Black, and with all your holy ones of all times and places. With earth and all its creatures, with sun, moon, and stars, with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your Name, and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymnal, p. 193

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

The first system of the hymn features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,"

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the"

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the"

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

The fourth system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the"

high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The fifth system concludes the hymn. The lyrics are: "high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est."

Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.
You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air;
you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water.
You molded us in your image,
and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas,
you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.
That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit,
you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

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.

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 Together as the body of Christ,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

**A Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

P With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation.
We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection,
which renews the face of the earth.
We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom,
all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

A Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

P Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate,
send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit,
whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love.
Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food.
Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit,
that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

A Amen. Come, Holy Spirit!

P Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions,
as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing,
until, needy no longer and bound to you in love,
we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb:
through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

A Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

A Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

**Your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

L Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

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.
See the inside front cover for instructions concerning Holy Communion.*

Communion Song

"Lamb of God" Hymnal 195

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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.

Post-Communion Song

“What Does the Lord Require of You”

To be sung as a round: the right side of the Assembly begins the song with line 1; the left side begins line 1 when the right side begins line 2. Everyone sings through all three lines twice.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of three staves each. The lyrics are: "What does the Lord re - quire of you? Jus - tice, kind - ness, To seek jus - tice and love kind - ness. What does the Lord re - quire of you? walk hum - bly with your God. and walk hum - bly with your God." The first system contains lines 1, 2, and 3. The second system contains lines 4, 5, and 6. The score includes treble clefs, a key signature of one sharp, and various musical notations such as quarter notes, eighth notes, and rests.

Prayer after Communion

L Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

A Amen.

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

Sending of Communion

P Let us pray. 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

"O Jesus, I have Promised" (printed on next page) **Hymnal 810**

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

Blessing

P Go out, and make known the mystery of the gospel. Keep alert and pray at all times. Draw strength from God's power and so stand firm against all that would corrupt you.

And may God arm you with truth and righteousness;
May + Christ Jesus give you words of Spirit and life;
and may the Holy Spirit draw you near to God's presence
and bless you with honor and grace.

A Amen.

Dismissal

L Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve in Christ's name!

A Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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

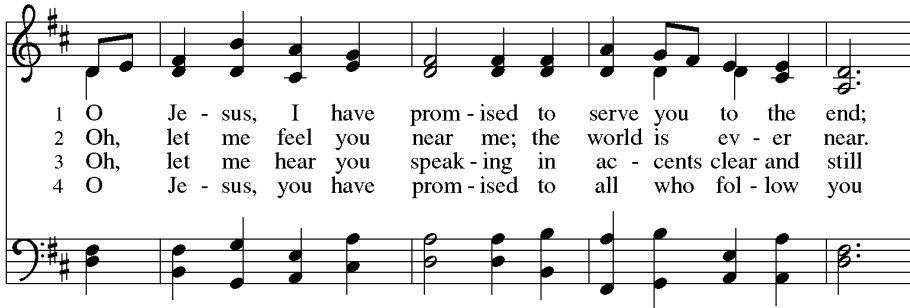
Refreshments today are provided by Linda Edlund and Judy Veramendi.

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 Caroline Nakic
Acolyte Judy Kratochvil
Lector Linda Edlund
Communion Minister Anne Heider
Organist Greg Hummel
Table Preparation Kathryn Skelton
Communion Bread Linda Edlund
Ushers Joe and Terri Simchak

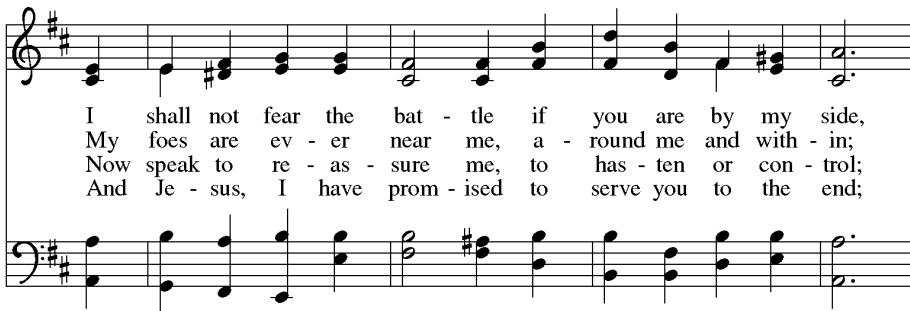
O Jesus, I Have Promised



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

This Week's Commemorations

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, d. 430

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria.

Moses the Black, monk, martyr, d. ca. 400

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.

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Hungry for an Answer

One Sunday morning in a little village church, a man, sitting in a corner alone at the far end of the last pew, shouted at the preacher. His log-splitter voice cracked the sermon into pieces like a steel blade brings shivers to dark grain in a white oak stump. “I don’t understand! What do you mean?” Though many in the congregation thought it was a gimmick, planned for dramatic effect, the bewildered man in the pew was not a prop—he was hungry for an answer.

Today’s gospel reading, the fifth and last in a series of episodes that dwell on Jesus as the Living Bread of Life, finds Jesus no longer on a grassy hillside or on the stormy sea. He is teaching in the village synagogue at Capernaum. Reactions are not favorable. Some of the disciples, bewildered and offended, balk at his words with a protest question: “Who can accept it?” (*John 6:60*). They are hungry for a reasonable answer. But Jesus won’t release the tension. He does not sort those who can from those who cannot “accept it.” Instead, he turns right back to the words he delivered, saying they are spirit and life. With that, he issues a challenge: “Do you also wish to go away?” (*John 6:67*).

Those two questions hang like cobwebs, practically invisible in darkness yet shimmering in light, holding on, waiting. They stretch and cling from the wide branches of Jesus’ inexhaustible readiness to give his very self to anyone who dares to believe that what he offers is life itself.

At the end, hungry for an answer, Simon Peter speaks for the twelve with one last and lasting question that broadcasts its own answer that had always been there; “Lord, to whom can we go?” (*John 6:68*).

Upcoming Events

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|-----------------------|---|--------------------|
| Tuesday August 28 | Lutheran–Catholic Dialog Group (at Immanuel) | 6:00 PM |
| Wednesday September 5 | Choir Practice | 7:30 PM |
| Sunday September 9 | Café Immanuel | 9:00 AM |
| | “God’s Work, Our Hands” | 12:00 noon–3:00 PM |

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Keith FryPastor
Sara Krentz..... Congregation Council President
James Morehead Music Director
Greg HummelOrganist
Laurie StiversAssociate Organist
Jane KaihatsuParish Administrator

**Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the
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We've been worshipping God and serving the Evanston community since 1888!**