



Immanuel  
Lutheran  
of Evanston

**Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Worship with Eucharist 10:30 A.M.**

**February 24, 2019**

# 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 ...*

*Mercy! Mercy! Mercy! Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of the glory of God revealed in the Christ.*

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

### Pre-Service Music

*Variations on hymns of the day*

*The Assembly stands.*

### Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who shines in glory,  
clothes us in compassion,  
and bears gifts of mercy for all.

**A Amen.**

P Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P God, Wonderful Counselor,

**A we confess that we have turned from your gifts  
and chosen our own way.**

**We have not made room for you  
in our hearts or in our world.**

**We have lived in fear;  
we have not welcomed the stranger;  
we desire gifts that will not endure.**

**Forgive us our sins, known and unknown,  
and open us to receive the peace of Jesus  
dwelling in and among us. Amen.**

P God's lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior.

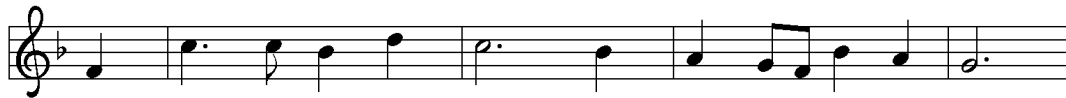
We are saved, not by anything we have done,  
but by God's mercy poured out on us richly.

In the name of + Jesus Christ,  
your sins are forgiven.

Through the Spirit living in you,  
may God give you faith to trust Jesus,  
who is Love born for you, now and always.

**A Amen.**

*You may reverence the cross as it passes you.*



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear  
 2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds  
 3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,  
 4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,  
 5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:  
 and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:  
 ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:  
 a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:  
 with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:

*Refrain*



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth, the love, the word, the tide.  
 Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,  
 praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*

7 Oh, praise the living Christ  
 with faith's bright songful voice!  
 Announce the gospel to the world  
 and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

**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**

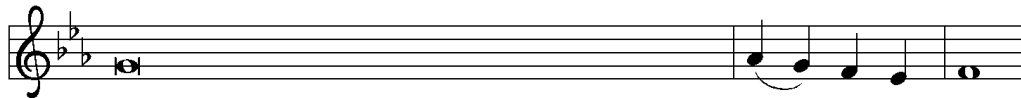
*The Leader sings the bids, and the Assembly sings the "Lord, have mercy" and "Amen."* **Hymnal p. 98**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



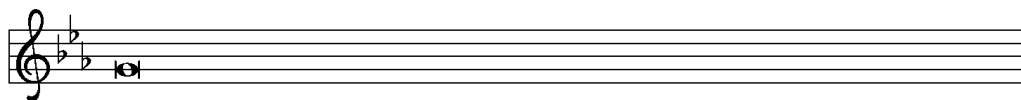
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



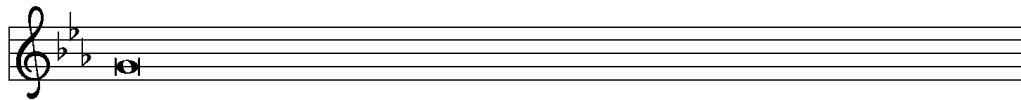
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



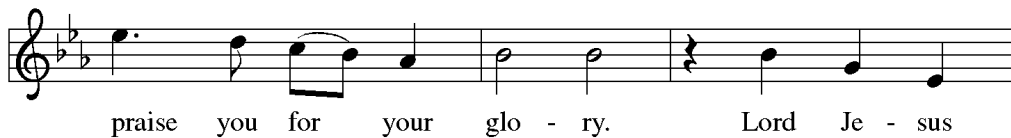
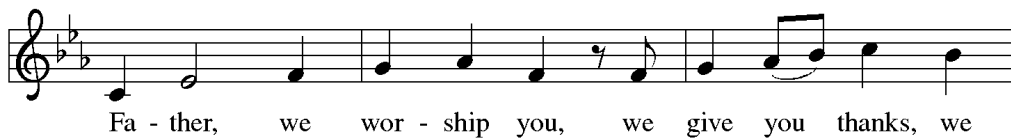
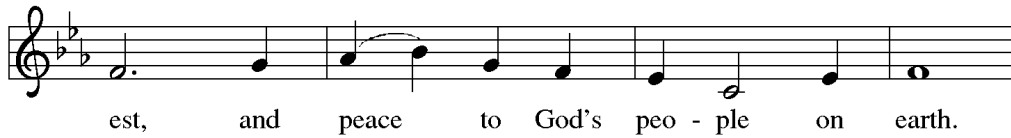
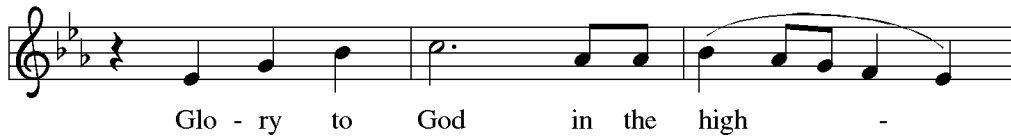
Lord, have mer - cy.



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




A - men, a - men.

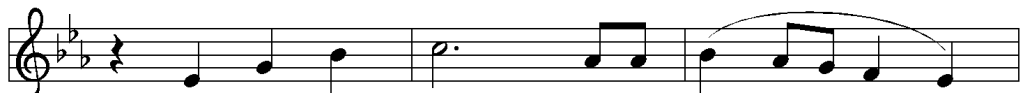




Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

### Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**A Amen.**

*The Assembly is seated.*

### Welcome and Announcements

**Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures**

**Genesis 45:3–11,15**

R A reading from Genesis.

<sup>3</sup>Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup>Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup>And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup>God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup>So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup>Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup>You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup>I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" <sup>15</sup>And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

R Word of God, word of life.

**A Thanks be to God!**



The organ will play the tone, and then the refrain, and then the Assembly will sing the refrain through.  
 The right side of the Assembly sings the lightface verses to the tone; the left side of the Assembly sings boldface verses.  
 All sing the refrain where indicated by "R."

**Tone:**



**Refrain:**



- 1 Do not be provoked by | evildoers;  
do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.
- 2 **For they shall soon wither | like the grass,  
and like the green grass | fade away.**
- 3 Put your trust in the LORD | and do good;  
dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.
- 4 **Take delight | in the LORD,  
who shall give you your | heart's desire. R**
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,  
and see what | God will do.
- 6 **The LORD will make your vindication as clear | as the light  
and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.**
- 7 Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently.  
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.
- 8 **Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;  
do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil. R**
- 9 For evildoers shall | be cut off,  
but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- | sess the land.
- 10 **In a little while the wicked shall | be no more;  
even if you search out their place, they will | not be there.**
- 11 But the lowly shall pos- | sess the land;  
they will delight in abun- | dance of peace.
- 39 **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from | you, O LORD;  
you are their stronghold in | time of trouble.**
- 40 You, O LORD, will help them and | rescue them;  
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you | they seek refuge. R

R A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

<sup>35</sup>But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?"

<sup>36</sup>Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup>And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup>But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

<sup>42</sup>So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup>It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup>It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup>Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup>But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup>The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup>As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup>Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

<sup>50</sup>What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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 p. 102**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

Love your enemies, and you will be called children of... the Most High;\* Forgive, and you will be for-given!

**Gospel Luke 6:27-38**

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

**A Glory to you, O Lord!**

[Jesus said:] <sup>27</sup>"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup>Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup>"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup>But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup>"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup>give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**A Praise to you, O Christ!**

*The Alleluia of the Gospel Acclamation is sung once again. The Assembly is then seated.*

## Sermon

## Time of Silence

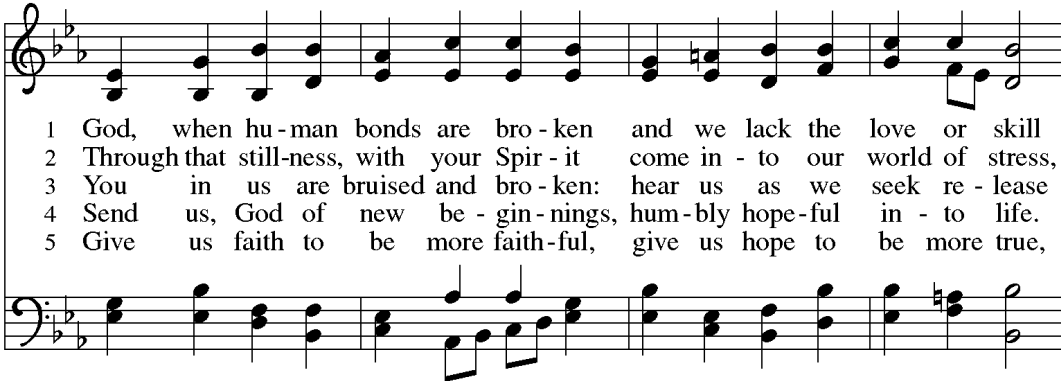
*A bell will sound to signal a time of silence for reflection.*

*During this time, you may want to meditate on one word 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.*

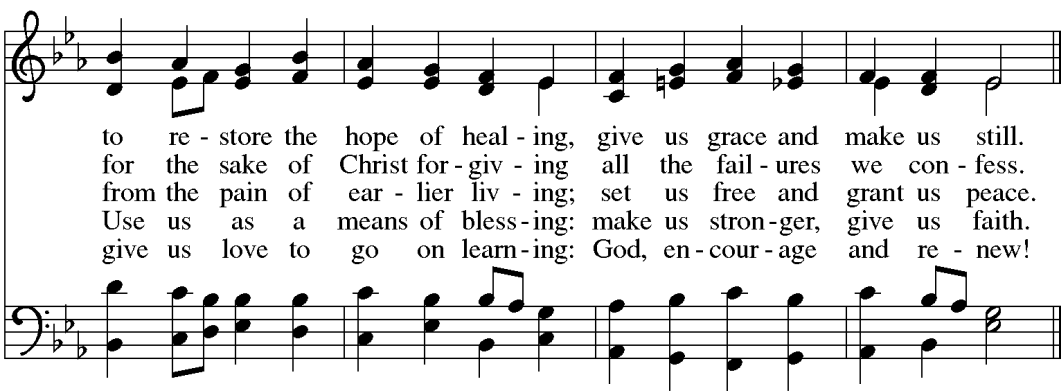
*When the bell sounds a second time, the Assembly stands to respond to the Word with song.*

## Hymn of the Day

"God, When Human Bonds are Broken" **Hymnal 603**



1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill  
 2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in - to our world of stress,  
 3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re - lease  
 4 Send us, God of new be - gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in - to life.  
 5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re - store the hope of heal - ing, give us grace and make us still.  
 for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing all the fail - ures we con - fess.  
 from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing; set us free and grant us peace.  
 Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.  
 give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en - cour - age and re - new!

## 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 United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in any need.

L We pray for the church. Fill us with a spirit of generosity and care. 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. Lead us to forgive as we have been forgiven. Lord, in your mercy,

**A hear our prayer.**

L For the earth. Grant seasonable weather for the planting and harvesting of crops. Protect farms, orchards, and gardens from damage. Bless those who till fields, those who care for livestock, and all who provide food. Lord, in your mercy,

**A hear our prayer.**

L For the nations. For all researchers and leaders who work to resolve complex issues; for all who teach peace and reconciliation to communities in conflict; for those affected by earthquake, drought, or storms, and all who come to their aid. Lord, in your mercy,

**A hear our prayer.**

L For those in need. For those who lack adequate food, shelter, or access to medical care; for those unable to find gainful employment. Heal the sick, and comfort the grieving, especially Serena Bernstein, Margaret Carlson, Lynn Carson, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Jo Ann Fry, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Judy Hokenson, Ron Laudert, Richard Lewis, Patti, Joe Skelton, Alyssa Steinberg, John and Doris Strom, and those we name now aloud or in our hearts [...]. Lord, in your mercy,

**A hear our prayer.**

L For this assembly. Inspire us to be good stewards of the resources you have entrusted to us. Teach us to give freely of ourselves and to offer our lives in service. 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, remembering especially Elizabeth Fedde, George Herbert, John Wesley, and Charles Wesley, whom we commemorate this week. Even in the midst of death, give us faith to trust your promise of everlasting life. Lord, in your mercy,

**A hear our prayer.**

P Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love; through Jesus Christ our 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 ...*

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

### Offering Music

"Prayer of St. Hildegard"

Barbara Wallace

Fire of the Spirit, life of the lives of creatures,  
Spiral of sanctity, bond of all natures;  
Glow of charity, lights of clarity,  
Taste of sweetness to sinners, be with us and hear us.

Composer of all things, light of all the risen,  
Key of salvation, release from the dark prison:  
Hope in disquietness, breath of consciousness,  
Joy in glory, our Savior, be with us and hear us.

—Hildegard von Bingen

### Presentation of the Gifts

"Light Shone in Darkness" **Hymnal 307**

*The Assembly stands and sings as the gifts are brought forward.*



1 Light shone in dark - ness at the world's cre - a - tion,  
2 Light shone in dark - ness at the new cre - a - tion;  
3 Light shines in dark - ness till the full cre - a - tion;



bath - ing in beau - ty na - ture's rev - e - la - tion. All that has be - ing,  
Christ rose in glo - ry, won for us sal - va - tion. Sing, earth and heav - en,  
Christ's bod - y, groan - ing, suf - fers trib - u - la - tion, longs for God's jus - tice,



cry in ad - o - ra - tion, "Praise for the light. A - men!"  
hymns of ju - bi - la - tion, praise for the light. A - men!  
glob - al trans - for - ma - tion, prays for the light. A - men!

## Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

**A Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger,  
and your love flows from the cross.**

**As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us,  
warm us to extend your care  
among the hungry and all in need.  
In Jesus' name we pray. 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 show love and kindness even to the ungrateful, and you raise us all to new life in glory and strength. You created all that is, shaping the earth with your own hands and raising creatures from the dust to fill it. Whenever famine or wickedness threatened your people, you have sent a savior to preserve their lives.

You sent your child, Jesus Christ, to reveal your nature to us all. He embodied your desire to go on loving even in the face of hostility and hatred. When he was killed by enemies of life, you raised him in power with a glorified body which will never die. Now he is a life-giving spirit, saving all who seek refuge in you, and preparing all your faithful children for rebirth into the life of your Kingdom.

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 Elizabeth Fedde, George Herbert, John Wesley, Charles Wesley 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:

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 high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

P We give you thanks, O God,  
 through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son,  
 whom you sent in this end of the ages  
 to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you,  
 through whom you created all things,  
 and in whom you take delight.

He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb.  
 He there took on our nature and our lot  
 and was shown forth as your Son,  
 born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.  
 He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will  
 and won for you a holy people;  
 he stretched out his hands in suffering  
 in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted,  
 in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one,  
 to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous,  
 to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection,  
 taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.



In the same way 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.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection,  
we take this bread and cup,  
giving you thanks that you have made us worthy  
to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church;  
gather into one all who share this bread and wine;  
fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,  
that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ;  
through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,  
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

**A Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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

**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 to the table where Christ meets you.  
Eat, rejoice, and be glad!

**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 p. 112

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.

Communion Song

“Come, Light of Lights”

*The Assembly is invited to sing. You may choose either part.  
 To sing in a round, you may begin at any of the lettered notes.*

Part 1 A B C D E  
 Come light of lights in - to my heart. Come  
 wis - dom of spi - rit in - to my heart. Come

Part 2 A B C D E  
 Come light of lights in - to my heart. Come  
 wis - dom of spi - rit in - to my heart. Come

*The Assembly stands when directed by the Presiding Minister.*

Blessing after Communion

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

A Amen.

## Post-Communion Song

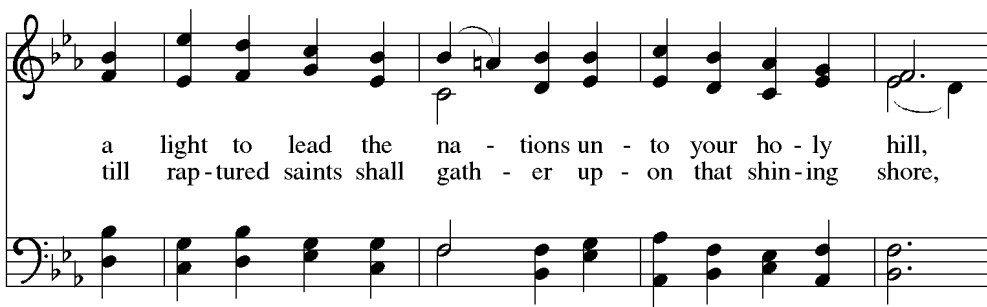
## "O Lord, Now Let Your Servant" Hymnal 313



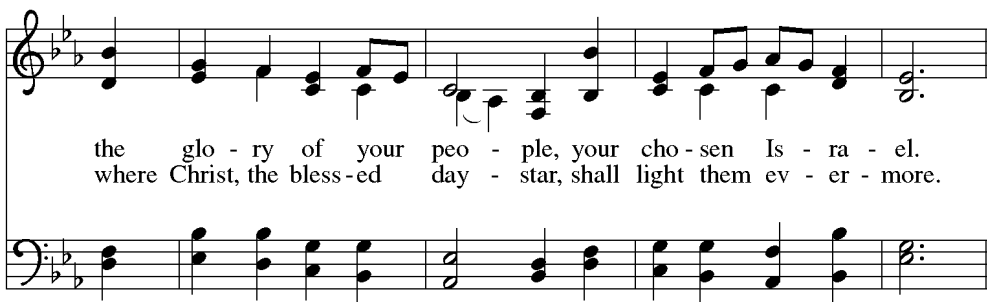
1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,  
2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:  
till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,  
till rap - tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin - ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
where Christ, the bless - ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

## Prayer after Communion

L Let us pray. God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever.

**A Amen.**

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

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**Sending of Communion**

P Let us pray. God of abundance, as you commanded your people to send food and sweet wine to those who could not be in the assembly on the day you declared holy, we send this bread and wine to our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound. May they know that a feast has been prepared for them, and may their grief be softened as they are reminded that your joy is their strength. We pray this through Christ our Lord.

**A Amen.**

**Sending Song**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” *[printed on next page]* **Hymnal 631**

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

**Blessing**

P Go now and give your life to the Lord. Trust in God and do good. Love and bless everyone, even your enemies. Do not judge others, but be merciful and generous to all. Forgive and be merciful to those who have wronged you. Treat others as you would have them treat you.

And may God be quick to act on your behalf;  
May + Christ Jesus raise you to new and everlasting life;  
And may the Holy Spirit go before you  
to prepare a place for you and provide for you.

**A Amen.**

**Dismissal**

L Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ!

**A Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude**

“Chacone” *Louis Couperin*

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

*Refreshments are provided by TBD.*

*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..... Kit McCarthy  
Acolyte ..... Tyler Knohl  
Lector ..... Mary Ann Kearns  
Communion Minister ..... Anne Heider  
Organist ..... Laurie Stivers  
Table Preparation ..... Kathryn Skelton  
Communion Bread..... Anne Heider  
Ushers.....Jim Rakowsky, Steve Warner

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## Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

## **This Week's Commemorations**

### **Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, d. 1921**

#### **Monday, February 25, 2019**

Born in Norway and trained there as a deaconess, Fedde was asked to come and minister to the poor and to seamen in New York City. She established the Deaconess House in Brooklyn as well as Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis.

### **George Herbert, hymnwriter, d. 1633**

#### **Friday, March 1, 2019**

An excellent scholar, Herbert served briefly in the English parliament, then became a parish priest. He was known for devoted care of his parishioners, as well as for writing poetry and hymns, including "Come, my way, my truth, my life." He died at age 40.

### **John Wesley, d. 1791; Charles Wesley, d. 1788; renewers of the church**

#### **Saturday, March 2, 2019**

These brothers led a revival originally intended to remain within the Church of England, one that involved frequent communion and advocacy for the poor. Except for a brief time in America, they worked in England. Charles was also a prolific hymn writer. After their deaths, their work led to the formation of the Methodist Church.



## Overflowing Love's Limits

Who do you find hardest to love? Maybe it is a family member or coworker who grates on your nerves. Maybe it is a group of people in our society whose party affiliation, different cultural habits, or lifestyle you find irksome. Maybe it is people whose race, hygiene, or mental abilities make them hard for you to approach or understand. Sadly, we are all limited in our capacity to love others because of our culture, history, hurts, and experiences. From unconscious biases to open disdain, our strength for love is constrained and wounded by the effects of sin.

Jesus' words in today's gospel show his deep acquaintance with our deficits in regard to loving. We tend to keep our love confined to limited pools of people and to measure it out far more sparingly to others. During today's time of confession and forgiveness, take a moment to trace some of the limits on your own ability to love others, and bring them before God.

The good news that Jesus shares with us today is that God's love is not under the same constraints as ours. God measures out love lavishly on all people regardless of worldly markers of identity, histories of harm and wrongdoing, or some human-derived preference. Against the backdrop of limited human love, divine love consumes us in its abundance. Words like *unconditional* and *limitless* only begin to point to the mystery of the love of God made known in Jesus Christ. We come to worship seeking to be inundated with that love so that our loving might become more generous through God's excess, spilling over the limits our sin has placed on it. In your prayers in worship today and throughout your week, let the thirst in your heart be quenched by God's overflowing love so you can in turn share it with others.

## Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 2	Indoor Farmers' Market	8:30 AM
Sunday, March 3	Café Immanuel	9:00 AM
	Adult Spiritual Growth Group	9:00 AM
	Feast of the Transfiguration	10:30 AM
Wednesday, March 6	Ash Wednesday Services	Noon, 7:00 PM

## Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Keith Fry .....	Pastor
Sara Krentz .....	Congregation President
Linda Edlund .....	Congregation Vice President
Susan Ross .....	Congregation Secretary
Tom Couch, Greg Hummel, Melisa Larson, Kevin McDaniel, Scott Romans, Erik Shearer, Jim Skelton, Grace Yarnoff .....	Congregation Council Members
Joe Simchak .....	Treasurer
Mary Ann Kearns .....	Financial Secretary
Elizabeth Stegner .....	Assistant Financial Secretary
James Morehead.....	Music Director
Greg Hummel.....	Organist
Laurie Stivers.....	Associate Organist
Jane Kaihatsu.....	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!**