

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist September 1, 2019

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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 until 1:00 P.M. 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! Activity bags are available from the greeters. 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! There is no specific age requirement for Communion. If you would like your child to commune, please let the pastor know. At the direction of the usher, come forward if you are able, and kneel or stand 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 or near 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.

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at the banquet table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

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

#### **Pre-Service Music**

Bach's mature masterworks

The Assembly stands when directed and turns toward the font.

#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- A Amen.
- P Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

Silence for reflection.

God of mercy,

- A we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care.
  We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else.
  We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need.
  Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, lesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- P When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us + all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross.
   For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news!
- A Amen.

The Assembly turns to face the back doors. You may reverence the cross as it passes you.



#### 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!



#### **Canticle of Praise**



#### Prayer of the Day

- P Let us pray. O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### **Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures**

#### Jeremiah 2:4–13

R A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

God, who has been faithful in leading Israel through the wilderness into a good land, calls upon the heavens to witness the incredible foolishness of a people who, under the flawed leadership of priests, rulers, and prophets, willingly abandon God's life-giving water for leaky cisterns.

<sup>4</sup>Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? <sup>6</sup>They did not say, "Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" <sup>7</sup>I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. <sup>8</sup>The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. <sup>9</sup>Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children. <sup>10</sup>Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. <sup>11</sup>Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. <sup>12</sup>Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD, <sup>13</sup>for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

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

#### **Psalm 112**

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.



## **Reading from the New Testament**

R A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

<sup>1</sup>Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." <sup>6</sup>So we can say with confidence,

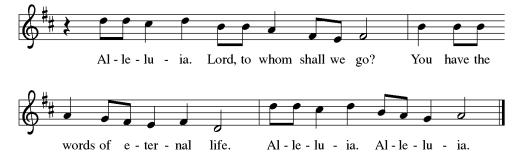
"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

- 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. 142

#### Gospel

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

## A Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to mimic God's gracious hospitality to the poor and the broken.

<sup>1</sup>On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

<sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup>"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

- 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 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.

## **Upcoming Events**

Monday, September 2	Labor Day (Office closed)	
Wednesday, September 4	First Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
Thursday, September 5	Daytime Quilters	10:00 AM
Sunday, September 8	Adult Spiritual Growth	9:00 AM
	Worship with Eucharist	10:30 AM
	God's Work, Our Hands	12:00 noon



#### This Week's Commemorations

#### Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, d. 1872 Monday, September 2, 2019

Grundtvig was, with Søren Kierkegaard, one of the two great Danish theologians of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. As a pastor, he battled the prevalent idea that Christianity was more a philosophy than divine revelation. He wrote over a thousand hymns.

# 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 Sustained and nurtured by our generous God, we gather as one to pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.
- L God of peace, we pray for the leaders, teachers, and preachers who fearlessly share your word and who reveal you through humble sacrifice. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Yehiel; for our pastor, Keith; for our president, Sara; for our Council; and for all those you have gathered here in your name. Give us the desire to invite to your banquet the most unlikely people. Lord, in your mercy,

# A hear our prayer.

L God of generosity, we pray for crops growing ripe in the fields and fruit becoming ready to harvest. Grant safety to workers who will gather this bounty, and bless the yield to come. We pray also for those affected by natural disasters. Lord, in your mercy,

# A hear our prayer.

L God of power, we pray for humility, kindness, and generosity to be instilled in the leaders of all nations. Inspire them to become models of servanthood, and to work for worldwide peace and prosperity. Lord, in your mercy,

# A hear our prayer.

- L God of love, we pray for all those who are forgotten or pushed aside; for those who are suffering from poverty, neglect, physical or emotional trauma. We pray for Serena Bernstein, Margaret Carlson, Lynn Carson, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Judith Kratochvil, Ron Laudert, Richard Lewis, Masuda and Azeem Mirzakhail, Joe Skelton, Alyssa Steinberg, Doris Strom, Verona Wilde, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...], and those who are homeless or are without a homeland. Lord, in your mercy,
- A hear our prayer.

L God of grace, we pray for students of all ages and disciplines, teachers and professors, teaching assistants and aides, substitute teachers, and administrators. Provide safety in travel and in the classroom, so that a spirit of learning is fostered for all. Lord, in your mercy,

# A hear our prayer.

L God of mercy, we remember those you love who now rest from their labors, remembering especially Bishop Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig. Grant all your beloved saints a place at your eternal banquet table. 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.

- P Assured by your promise to hear us, we lay our prayers before your throne of grace; 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 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.

## **Strangers No More**

When we look around in worship, we see a gathering of people knitted together as a community through Christ. Claimed in baptism, each one of us is a member of a community of faith that extends beyond the boundaries of church walls and national borders. Called and empowered saints, we each belong. Claimed by Jesus, we are each sent to share the good news. It may be easy to recognize this community of faith in our worshiping community. But who else is out there? Who are we missing?

Today we hear the call to look beyond the familiar, to look around the edges of our known community and beyond our comfort zones. We are called to deliberately seek out the overlooked. We are called to look directly into the eyes that others avoid. Maybe that person is someone you would typically avoid because you don't agree with them politically. Maybe it's the person next to you in worship who attends every week but doesn't feel like they belong.

When we live into this call from God, surprises abound! After all, the blessings of living in God's community are discovered in all the varied people who are part of it, not just in our corner of it. As God opens our eyes and hearts to those ignored by the world, or to those we would choose to avoid, our assumptions are shattered—and the strangers in our midst are recognized as angels, messengers from God *(Heb. 13:2)*.

The Christian community isn't about us, and it isn't up to us. In truth, if it depended on us, we ourselves would never belong. We were all on the fringe until God reached out to us in baptism, joining us to a community that never stops growing. We were all outsiders until Christ died to give us life and form us into one body. How could we ever keep that abundant life to ourselves?

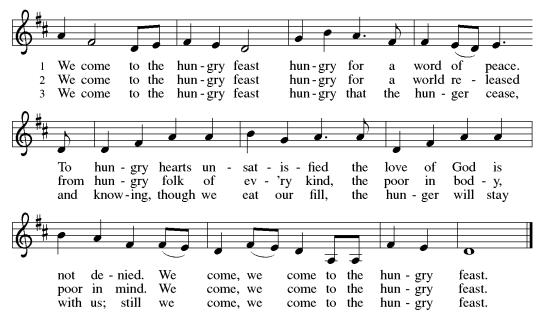
**Offering** An offering is gathered for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need.

## **Offering Music**

#### **Presentation of the Gifts**

"We Come to the Hungry Feast " **Hymnal 479** 

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



#### **Offering Prayer**

- L Let us pray.
- A Blessed are you, O God,

for the greening earth given for all, for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine. Transform us to be the Body of Christ, that, feasting on this food and drink, our lives may reflect your generosity; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# The Great Thanksgiving

# Dialogue

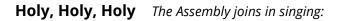
- P The Lord be with you!
- A And also with you!
- P Lift up your hearts!
- A We lift them up to the Lord!
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!
- A It is right to give our thanks and praise!

#### **Preface** The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:

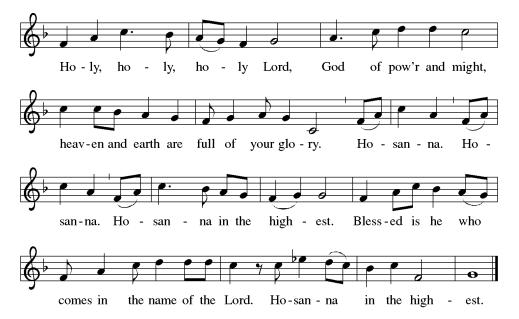
P It is indeed right to offer you our sacrifice of praise, O God, for despite our poverty, brokenness and blindness, you invite us to feast with you forever. You created all the earth and led your people out of slavery into a plentiful land to feast on finest wheat and pure wild honey.

When we abandoned you—our fountain of living water—going instead after things which were worthless and defiled, your love for us remained constant, and in mercy, you never abandoned us. Instead you sent us your child, Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. His witness to your all-embracing love so offended the values of the world that he was tortured to death, but you raised him to new life, and now, through him, you are teaching us to share and do good so that our lives may be a pleasing sacrifice to you.

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 Nikolai Grundtvig, 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:



#### Hymnal, p. 144



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

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.

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 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

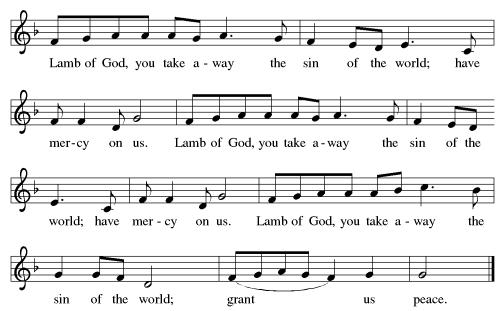
- L Christ invites you to this table of bounty. Come! The banquet is ready!
- A Thanks be to God!

## **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**



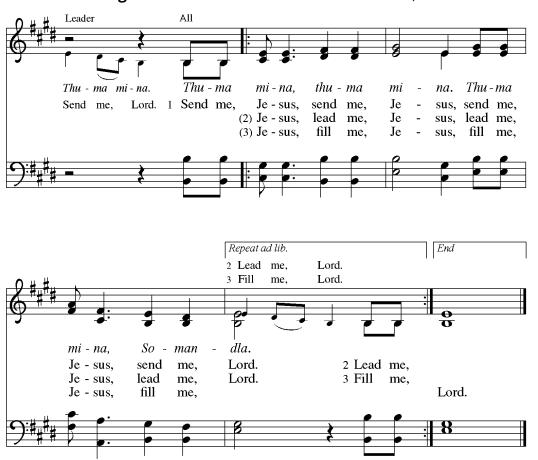


#### **Blessing after Communion**

- 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**

"Send Me, Lord: *Thuma mina*" Hymnal 809



#### **Prayer after Communion**

- Let us pray. O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table.
   Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.
- A Amen.

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## 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 God of Light" [printed on next page] Hymnal 507

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 walk in all God's ways. Keep your lives free from the love of money, but let love between people continue and be honored. Show hospitality to strangers. Pray for those who suffer torture and imprisonment, and do not neglect to do good.

And may God be your strength; may + Christ Jesus be for you an ever-springing fountain of living water; and may the Holy Spirit raise you to life with all God's righteous ones.

A Amen.

## Dismissal

- L Go in peace. Share the Good News!
- A Thanks be to God!

#### Postlude

Please stay for a time of fellowship immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall. Refreshments are provided by Linda Edlund. Come enjoy one another's company and hear about all the opportunities for service and community!

## Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Keith Fry
Assisting Minister	
Acolyte	
Lector	Anne Heider
Communion Minister	Terri Hummel
Organist	Greg Hummel
Table Preparation	
Communion Bread	-
Ushers	Nicolai Schousboe, Steve Warner

# O God of Light



#### 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	
Laurie Stivers	Associate Organist
Jane Kaihatsu	

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!