



Immanuel
Lutheran
of Evanston

First Sunday of Advent

**10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist
December 1, 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 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.

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

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the Word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

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

Pre-Service Music

Var. on "Wake, Awake," "Soul Adorn Thyself with Gladness," and
"O Savior of the Nations Come" *Bach et al.*

The Assembly stands when invited.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Assembly sings v. 1 as the first candle is lighted.

1. Light a can - dle bright and tall For the Hope with - in our world.
2. Light a can - dle bright and tall For the Peace we wish to know.
3. Light a can - dle bright and tall For the Joy this sea - son brings.
4. Light a can - dle bright and tall For a Love which knows no end.
5. Light a can - dle bright and tall For the Christ we greet to - day.

5
Hope that heard the a - ge's call As the stars and pla - nets whirled.
Peace on Earth for great and small God's Good News to us be - stows.
Joy like foun - tains brim - ming full. Through our world now let it ring!
Love that comes to one and all. Fear and ha - tred to us end.
Christ has come, our all in all. With the an - gels, let us say:

9
Shine with - in our hearts to - day Come, O Hope, to us, we pray.
Shine with - in our hearts to - day Come, O Peace, to us, we pray.
Shine with - in our hearts to - day Come, O Joy, to us, we pray.
Shine with - in our hearts to - day Come, O Love, to us, we pray.
Shine with - in our hearts to - day Come, O Christ, to us, we pray.

Advent Wreath Prayer

L Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
You call all nations to walk in your light
and to seek your ways of justice and peace,
for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.
Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath.
Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes
and welcome him into our hearts and homes,
for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

A Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

A Amen.

P Let us pray. God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us
from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess
our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection.

Gracious God,

A have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.
We are truly sorry and humbly repent.
In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things we have done and things we have failed to do.
Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith

A Amen.

1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
 2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
 3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and

on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
 heart with joy is spring - ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym - bal's clear - est tone.

Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
 Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
 Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to

thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.
 grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
 bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.

The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might

[cont.]

Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!

go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

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!



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



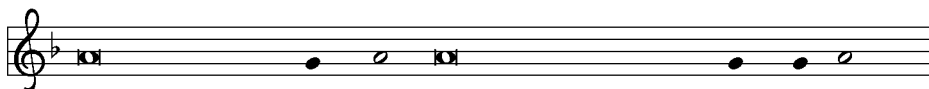
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, 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 ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

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

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 2:1-5

R A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of the Lord now!"

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

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:



- ¹I was glad when they | said to me,
 "Let us go to the house | of the Lord."
- ²**Now our | feet are standing
 within your gates, | O Jerusalem.**
- ³Jerusalem is built | as a city
 that is at unity | with itself;
- ⁴**to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the Lord,
 the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the Lord. R**
- ⁵For there are the | thrones of judgment,
 the thrones of the | house of David.
- ⁶**Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem:
 "May they pros- | per who love you.**
- ⁷Peace be with- | in your walls
 and quietness with- | in your towers.
- ⁸**For the sake of my kindred | and companions,
 I pray for | your prosperity.**
- ⁹Because of the house of the | Lord our God,
 I will seek to | do you good." R

R A reading from the Letter to the Romans.

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

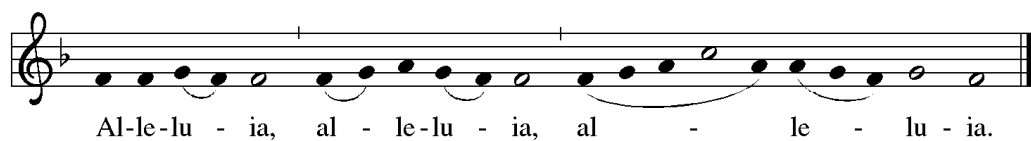
R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Hymnal p. 160



Repeat alleluia



Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

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

A Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ!

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

Sermon

Time of Silence

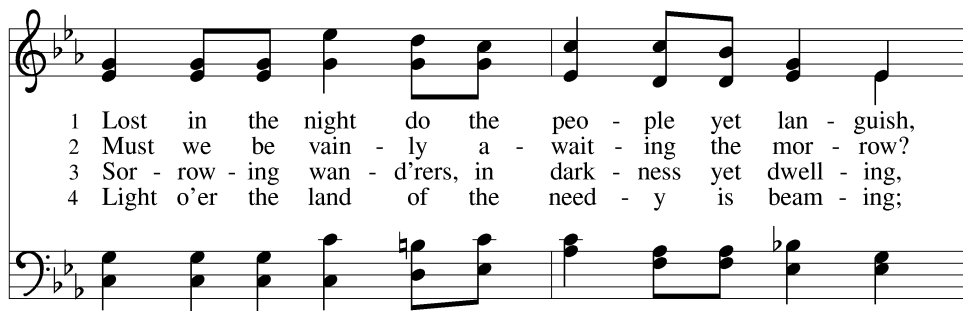
A bell will sound to signal a time of silence for reflection.

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

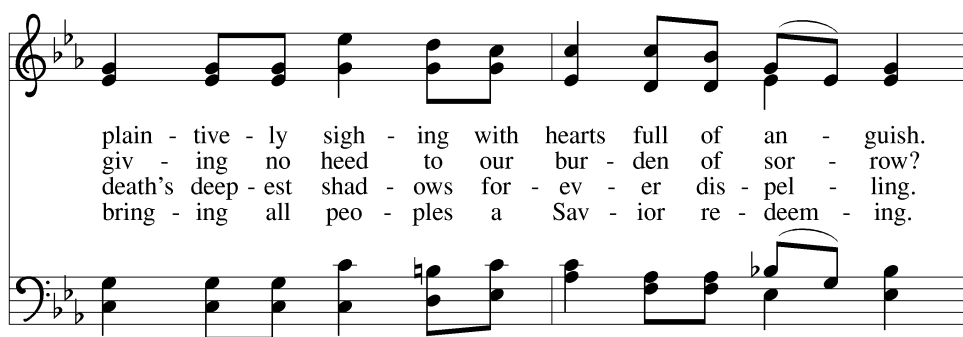
“Lost in the Night” Hymnal 243



1 Lost in the night do the peo - ple yet lan - guish,
2 Must we be vain - ly a - wait - ing the mor - row?
3 Sor - row - ing wan - d'ers, in dark - ness yet dwell - ing,
4 Light o'er the land of the need - y is beam - ing;



long - ing for morn - ing the dark - ness to van - quish,
Shall those who have light no light let us bor - row,
dawned has the day of a ra - diance ex - cel - ling,
riv - ers of life through its des - erts are stream - ing,



plain - tive - ly sigh - ing with hearts full of an - guish.
giv - ing no heed to our bur - den of sor - row?
death's deep - est shad - ows for - ev - er dis - pel - ling.
bring - ing all peo - ples a Sav - ior re - deem - ing.



Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?
Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?
Christ is com - ing soon! Christ is com - ing soon!
Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!

Prayers of the People

- L As we anticipate the fullness of the presence of Christ, we join with the church throughout the world, praying for all who are in need.

The Assembly sings this response now and after each petition.



(Advent) Come, Lord Je - sus, come, Lord Je - sus. Hear our prayer.

- L Not knowing the day or hour of your coming, O Lord, the church cries to you. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Yehiel; our pastor, Keith; our president, Sara; our Council; and for all whom you have gathered here in your name. Strengthen the church in the land of Jesus' birth. Wherever Christians gather, empower them to proclaim love and defy the powers of sin and evil. Hear us, O God. *[Response]*
- L Not knowing the day or hour of your coming, O Lord, your creation cries to you. Sustain the balance of all living things. Protect the earth from drought, bitter cold, eroding coastlines, and fires and floods, that the earth may flourish. Hear us, O God. *[Response]*
- L Not knowing the day or hour of your coming, O Lord, the nations cry to you. Bring justice to the marginalized, courage to peacemakers, wisdom to leaders, and hope to generations who have only known conflict, oppression, or poverty. Hear us, O God. *[Response]*
- L Not knowing the day or hour of your coming, O Lord, your people cry to you. Comfort those separated from loved ones by distance, estrangement, or loss. We remember especially the family of Ellen Abrahamson, Serena Bernstein, Margaret Carlson, the family of Lynn Carson, Babs Deacon, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Christine Imhoff and her daughter, Judith Kratochvil, Ron Laudert, Richard Lewis, the Moy family, Tom Rowan, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, Doris Strom, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. Help us as we care for others and rely on others' care. Hear us, O God. *[Response]*
- L Not knowing the day or hour of your coming, O Lord, this congregation cries to you. Guide our process of discernment as we seek to know your will for identifying those who will lead this assembly in the coming year on our Council. Hear us, O God. *[Response]*
- 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. *[Response]*
- L Not knowing the day or hour of your coming, O Lord, we remember those whose days on earth have ended, who live now in your eternal love, remembering especially Francis Xavier, missionary; John of Damascus, theologian and hymnwriter; Nicholas, Bishop of Myra; and Ambrose, Bishop of Milan. Remind us of their faithful witness, that their example might inspire our daily living. Hear us, O God. *[Response]*
- P Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, those spoken aloud and those known only to you, and grant us peace through Jesus Christ, our coming Savior.

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.

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

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" David Gawthorp

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring:
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Presentation of the Gifts

"We Are Awaiting the Coming of Jesus"

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

1 We are a - wait - ing the com - ing of Je - sus,
2 We are the vine you have plant - ed and tend - ed;
3 We bring these signs of our lives whol - ly giv - en;

yearn - ing in dark - ness for light and for peace,
we are the wheat you have wa - tered and sown.
let them for us be Christ's wine and Christ's bread

long - ing at last to re - jice on that
Take our first - fruits, take our bowed heads of
poured out in love for the heal - ing of

day when all peo - ple join in this feast.
grain, in - crease them and make them your own.
all and bro - ken that all may be fed.

Offering Prayer

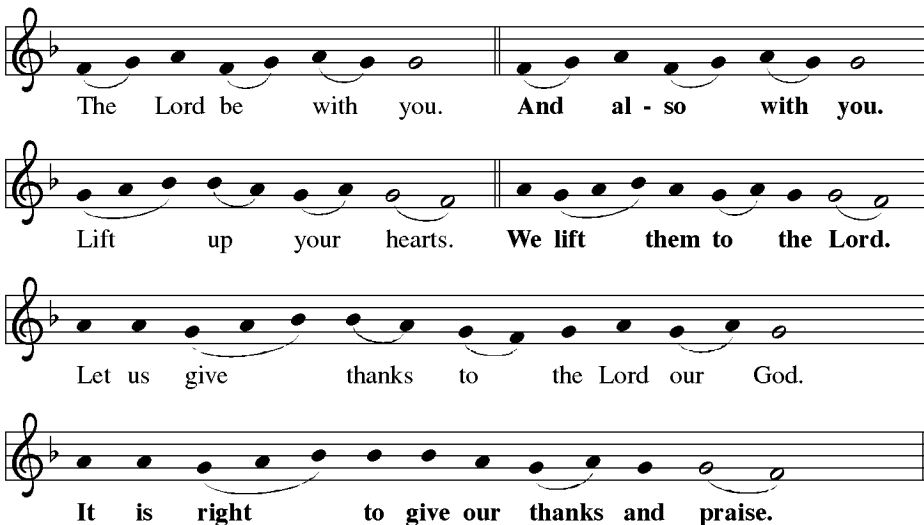
L Let us pray.

**A God of abundance,
we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation,
and with them our very lives.
Teach us patience and hope
as we care for all those in need
until the coming of your Son,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

Hymnal p. 161



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

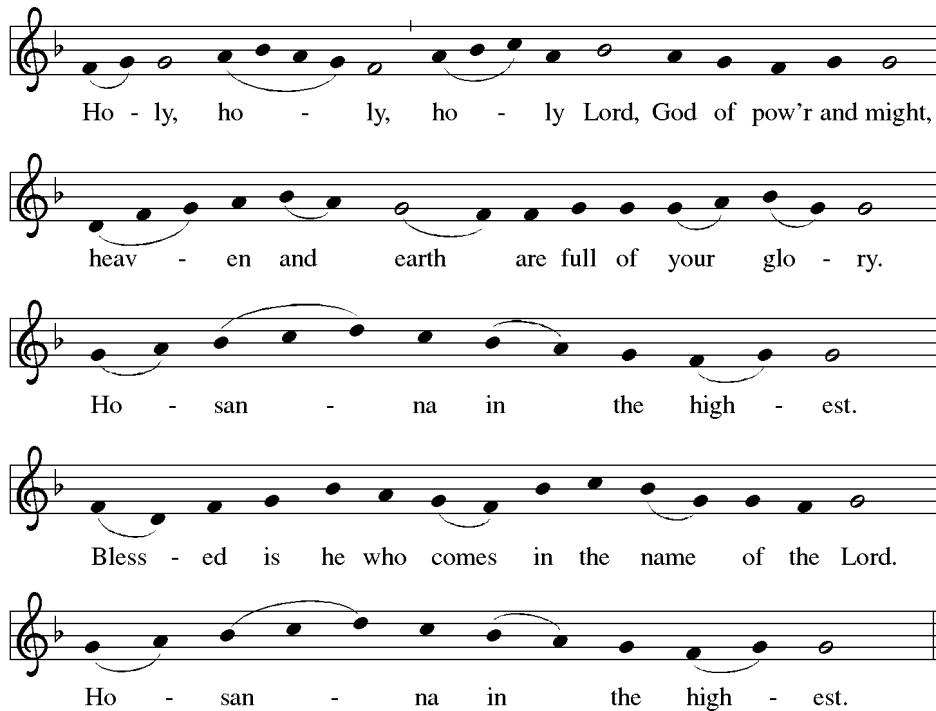
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface *The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:*

P It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for the night is nearly gone, and your light is dawning in the darkness. You created the earth and its inhabitants, and when the flood came in the days of Noah, you saved a people and called them to walk in your light. Though the day and hour cannot be known, through your prophets, you have given us visions of our approaching salvation.

In your child, Jesus the Anointed One, you have called all peoples to yourself and taught us your ways. When he was killed, you raised him to new life and promised a day when he will come at an unexpected hour to gather up your faithful ones and dwell with them, so that the weapons and works of darkness might be discarded and all might be securely clothed in Christ Jesus himself.

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 Francis Xavier, John of Damascus, Nicholas of Myra, Ambrose of Milan, 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'r and might,
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 name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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 Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

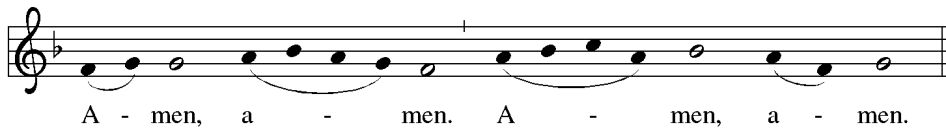
P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

A Come, Lord Jesus!

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

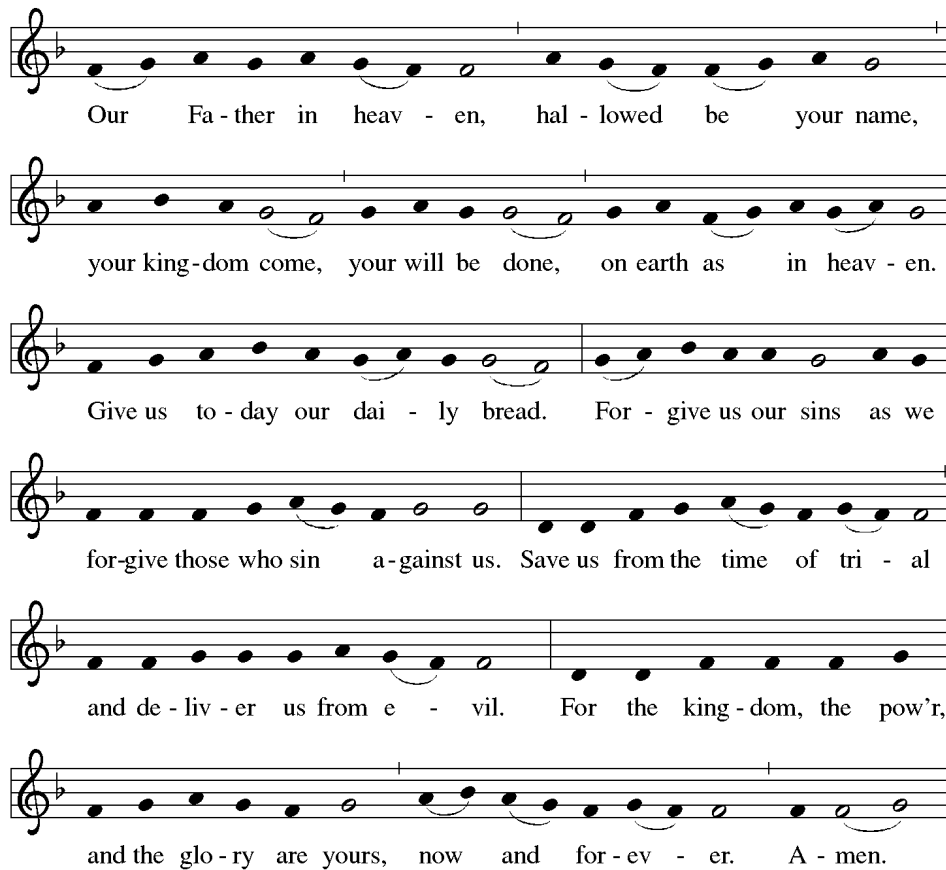
A Come, Holy Spirit!

P All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
One God, now and forever.



The Lord's Prayer

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



The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

L Come now with joy to Emmanuel's table! Feast at the banquet of hope and love!

A Thanks be to God!

Distribution of Holy Communion

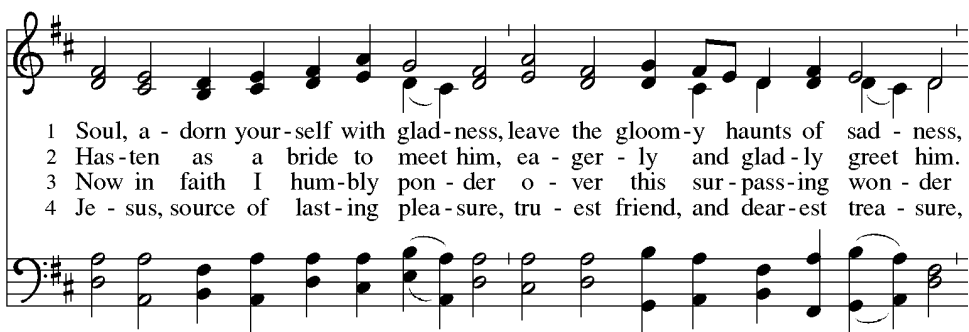
*The Assembly is seated. Please come forward as the ushers direct, and as you are able.
See the inside front cover for instructions concerning Holy Communion.*

Communion Song

"Lamb of God" Hymnal p. 164

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. A - men.

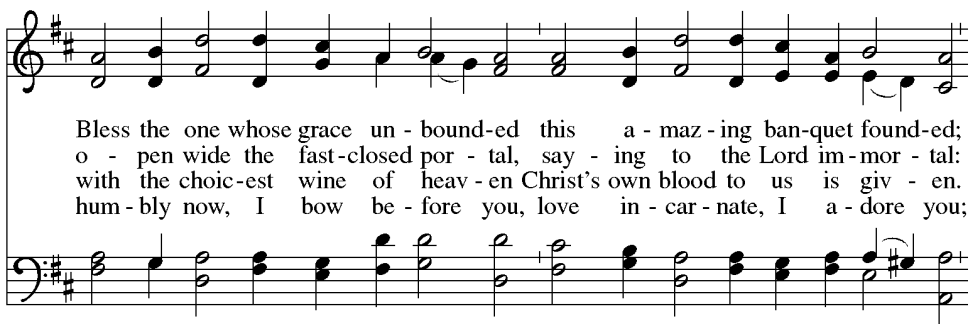
The image shows a musical score for the Communion Song "Lamb of God". It consists of five staves of music in a single system, written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some phrases connected by slurs. The piece concludes with a double bar line.




1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, leave the gloom - y haunts of sad - ness,
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and glad - ly greet him.
 3 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der o - ver this sur - pass - ing won - der
 4 Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, tru - est friend, and dear - est trea - sure,



come in - to the day - light's splen - dor, there with joy your prais - es ren - der.
 There he stands al - read - y knock - ing; quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing,
 that the bread of life is bound - less though the souls it feeds are count - less;
 peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing, joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing;



Bless the one whose grace un - bound - ed this a - maz - ing ban - quet found - ed;
 o - pen wide the fast - closed por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal:
 with the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en,
 hum - bly now, I bow be - fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you;



Christ, though heav'n - ly, high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 "Come, and leave your loved one nev - er; dwell with - in my heart for - ev - er."
 Oh, most glo - rious con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.
 wor - thi - ly let me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

The Assembly stands when directed by the Presiding Minister.

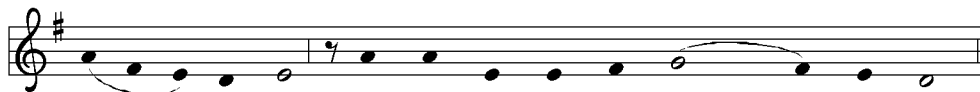
Blessing after Communion

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

A Amen.



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
 and open wide our heav'nly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,
 O Cornerstone that binds in one:
 refresh the hearts that long for you;
 restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 and ransom captive Israel,
 that mourns in lonely exile here
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Prayer after Communion

L Let us pray. God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

CREDITS: Liturgy texts and music from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #32867. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Preface and Benediction adapted from laughingbird.net.

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

Sending of Communion

P Let us pray. Gracious God, you come to us in our darkest night, dawning on us as the Sun of Righteousness. May your light and hope dawn on our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound as we send bread and wine forth from this table to be shared with them. May it be to them a star shining in the night to show them your presence in the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, "God with us."

A Amen.

Sending Song

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers!" *[printed on next page]* **Hymnal 244**

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 the light of the Lord. Stay alert, for the Lord is near. Put on the armor of light, and live openly and honorably. Pray for peace for all God's people.

And may God clothe you in the light of Christ;
may + Christ Jesus teach you his ways;
and may the Holy Spirit keep you alert and prepared for the coming day of the Lord.

A Amen.

Dismissal

L Go in peace. Christ is with you!

A Thanks be to God!

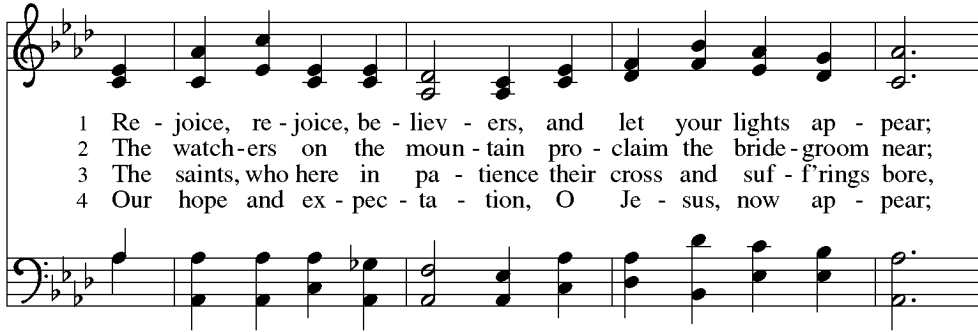
Postlude

*Please stay for a time of fellowship immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall.
Refreshments are provided by Diane Keeley, Terri Simchak, and Maren Baylaender.
Come enjoy one another's company and hear about all the opportunities for service and community!*

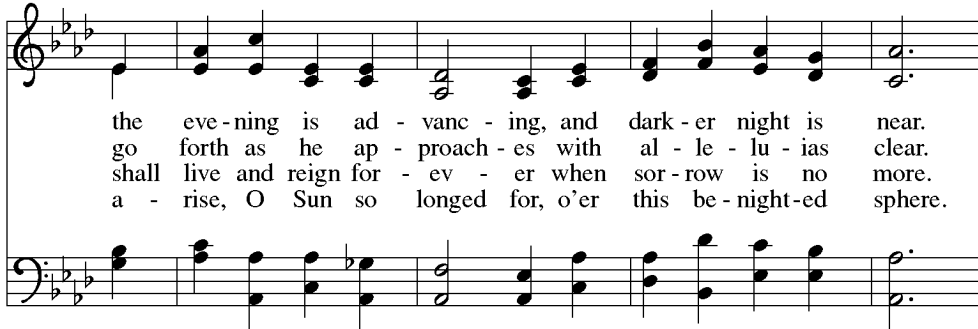
Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister.....The Rev. Keith Fry
Assisting Minister..... Kathryn Skelton
Acolyte Tyler Knohl
Lector Anne Heider
Communion Minister Terri Hummel
Organist Greg Hummel
Music Director James Morehead
Table Preparation Kim Milller
Communion Bread Linda Edlund
Ushers..... Steve Warner, Marlene Chatain

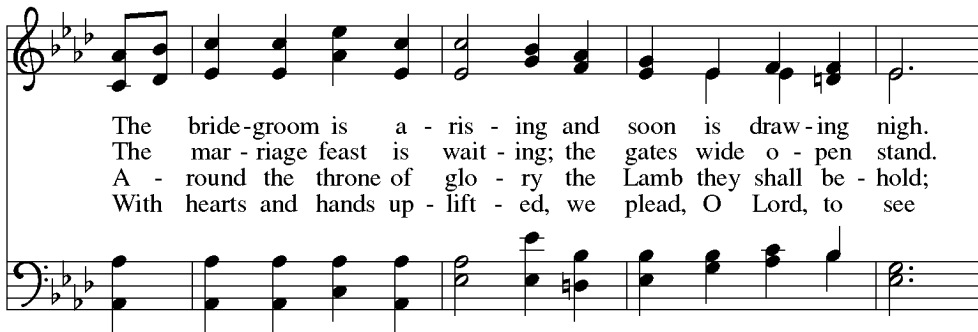
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



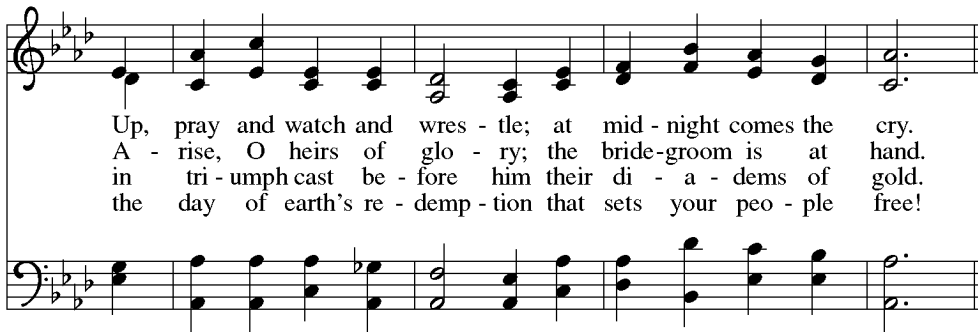
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

This Week's Commemorations

Francis Xavier, missionary to Asia, d. 1552

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

A native of the Basque region of Spain, Xavier became a missionary to India, Southeast Asia, Japan, and the Philippines. He also helped to found the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).

John of Damascus, theologian and hymnwriter, d. ca. 749

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

A monk in an abbey near Jerusalem, John wrote many hymns as well as theological works. One of his works, *The Fount of Wisdom*, remained influential for centuries.

Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, d. ca. 342

Friday, December 6, 2019

Little is known about Nicholas, except that he was a bishop in present-day Turkey. According to legend, he was famous for his giving to the poor, and so has become a symbol of anonymous gift-giving.

Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, d. 397

Saturday, December 7, 2019

While a governor of northern Italy, Ambrose was elected bishop of Milan on the same day he was baptized. He was a famous preacher, a writer of hymns we still sing today, and helped lead St. Augustine to faith.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Dec. 4	Advent Evening Prayer	7:00 PM
Thursday, Dec. 5	Daytime Quilters	10:30 AM
Friday, Dec. 6	Community Warming Center	2:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 7	Indoor Farmers' Market	8:30 AM
Sunday, Dec. 8	Second Sunday of Advent	
	Adult Spiritual Growth: Telling Our Stories	9:00 AM
	Worship with Eucharist	10:30 AM

Hurry! Hurry! Slow! Slow!

"Yalla! Yalla! Hurry!" shouted Yusef in a friendly, if impatient, order to his laggardly collection of travelers. He was their Palestinian guide. His Arabic "Yalla! Yalla!"—a plea as predictable as breath itself—urged them with the honking determination of a mother goose prodding disoriented goslings. Through the old city's ancient labyrinth of streets, shopkeepers' cries of "Schwei! Schwei!" ("Slow! Slow!") prefaced their own seductive plea for these same travelers to come in and spend. But the shopkeepers' mixed hopes of calculating and managing the day and its hours were lost in the fray of "yalla" and "schwei."

About the day and the hour no one knows.

Predictions are pointless, Jesus tells his disciples. What they wanted to know, he says, neither angels nor even the Son could tell them. Upon their first hearing, these words of Jesus may whistle by, their sharp edge of warning falling on the dull side of awareness. In our attempts to manage the unknown, we miss the unexpectedness of the Son of Man's coming.

Jesus' cosmic alert, among the last of his teachings before his death in Jerusalem, leads the church's Advent procession toward his very earthly birth in Bethlehem. Jesus' coming to us is beyond our attempts to manage, exempt from schedules, and unaffected by our pleas. "Yalla! Yalla! Schwei! Schwei!" To no avail.

Yet, we are still prompted to be ready for the unknown. How can that puzzle be solved? Only fools and charlatans compute the hours that even angels cannot assign. The answer to the divine riddle will not be revealed by asking "When?" Perhaps the question is "How?" Or, better yet, we may begin with "Where?" The rough and ragged chill of a Bethlehem stable is a good place to begin . . . a clue for the mystery ahead.

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!**