



**Immanuel
Lutheran**
of Evanston

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

**10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist,
Installation of Congregation Council,
and Rite of Farewell and Godspeed**

February 2, 2020

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 ...*

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

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

Pre-Service Music *Var. on "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" and "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"*
Bach, Bohm, et al.

The Assembly stands when directed and turns toward the font.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the Presiding Minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the eternal voice from heaven,
the anointed and beloved one,
the Spirit moving over the waters.

A Amen.

P As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession,
trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P God who searches us and knows us,

**A you have shown us what is good,
but we have looked to other lights to find our way.
We have not been just in our dealings with others.
We have chosen revenge over mercy.
We have promoted ourselves
instead of walking humbly with you.
With what shall we come before you?
Forgive us our sin,
and show us your salvation
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen**

P Beloved of God, you have not received the spirit of the world,
but the Spirit that is from God,
poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.
Receive the promise of baptism:
You are God's child; + your sins are forgiven.
Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven.

A Amen.

Gathering Song

"To Be Your Presence" Hymnal 546

You may reverence the cross as it passes, then turn to face the front of the worship space.



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

Greeting

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

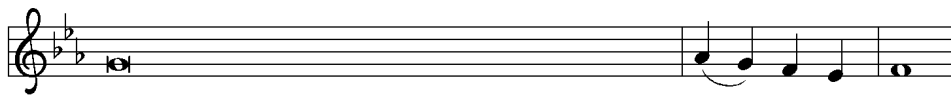
A And also with you!



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



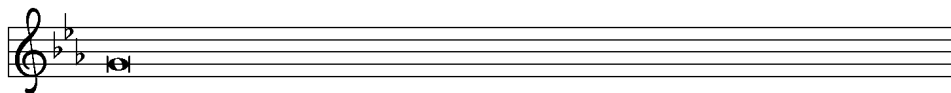
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



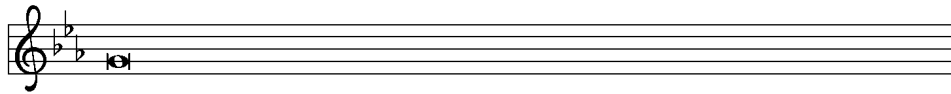
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.



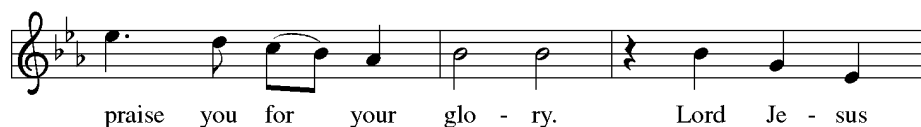
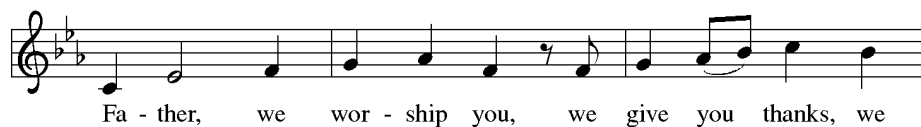
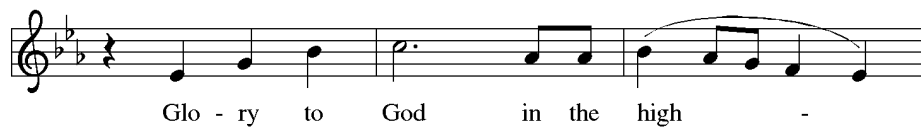
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

Canticle of Praise

Hymnal p. 99



[cont.]

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. Holy God, you confound the world’s wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Welcome and Announcements

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Micah 6:1-8

R A reading from the Prophet Micah.

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a symbolic lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.

¹Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the Lord has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³"O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

⁶"With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

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:



- ¹Lord, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your | holy hill?
- ²**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,
who speak the truth | from their heart; R**
- ³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.
- ⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the Lord.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.**
- ⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown. R

This Week's Commemorations

**Presentation of Our Lord
Sunday, February 2, 2020**

Forty days after the birth of Jesus we mark the day Mary and Joseph presented him in the Temple in accordance with Jewish law. There they were greeted by Simeon, an aged priest who offered the song "Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace," as well as by the prophet Anna, who spoke of the redemption of Israel.

**Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden, d. 865
Monday, February 3, 2020**

A monk who helped bring Christianity to Scandinavia, Ansgar returned to Germany where he was named bishop of Hamburg. He is remembered for his love for poor people.

**The Martyrs of Japan, d. 1597
Wednesday, February 5, 2020**

Christianity was brought to Japan in the 16th century by Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries. The religion was suppressed, however, and in 1597, 26 missionaries and converts were crucified. Nevertheless, Christianity survived and later prospered.

R A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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
Rejoice | and be glad,* for your reward is | great in heaven.

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

A Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the Reign of God.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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.

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

The Assembly is seated. Members of the new Congregation Council will come forward for a blessing and to be formally installed as leaders of the Assembly.

Installation of Congregation Council

Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 6	Daytime Quilters	10:00 AM
Friday, February 7	Organ Scholar Candidate Rehearsals	8:00 AM–9:30 PM
	Community Warming Center	2:00 PM–5:00 PM
Saturday, February 8	Organ Scholar Candidate Auditions	8:00 AM–7:00 PM
	Indoor Farmers' Market	8:30 AM–1:00 PM
Sunday, February 9	Adult Spiritual Growth	9:00 AM
	Worship with Eucharist	10:30 AM

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 Trusting that God hears us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

L God of liberation, you set your people free to serve others. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Yehiel; for our pastor, Keith; for our president, Scott; for our Council; and for all those you have gathered here in your name. Embolden your church, that we seek justice for the oppressed, share generously your lovingkindness, and live humbly together. Unite us as one people under the foolishness of the cross. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L God of the universe, your care is evident everywhere—from the foundations of the earth to the summit of the tallest mountains. Reconcile all of creation to itself and repair the environmental destruction caused by human carelessness and greed. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L God of the nations, you desire peace and justice among all people. Deliver us from systems of fear that seek to divide us. Guide our local and national leaders, especially the president and the Congress. May their decisions empower and serve the needs of the poor and the disenfranchised. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L God of the oppressed, you raise up the lowly and comfort those in despair. We lift up to you all who are victims of exploitation, discrimination, and greed. We pray for those who are suffering in any way this day, especially Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Margaret Carlson, Babs Deacon, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Judith Kratochvil, Hal Larson, Richard Lewis, Elaine Nelson, Andy Sheer, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, Doris Strom, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L God of courage, thank you for faithful teachers and evangelists in this and every place. We thank you for Pastor Keith's faithful ministry among us, and ask your blessing on his new ministry as he is sent out from this place. We pray for this Assembly and our leaders as we listen to the Spirit's voice in seeking a new pastor. Give us vision. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

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

The petitions and thanksgivings of the Assembly, silent or spoken aloud, are invited.

L Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L God of hope, we thank you for the saints who have gone before us, remembering especially Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, and the Blessed Martyrs of Japan. Keep us faithful in service to you until we are one with all the faithful departed. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

P Confident that you are able to accomplish more than we even dare to ask, we bring these prayers before you, believing in your saving grace revealed in 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.

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

"How Amiable are Thy Dwellings" Vaughn Richardson

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of Hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house; they will always be praising thee.
Hallelujah!

Presentation of the Gifts

"In the Singing" Hymnal 466

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



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

**A God of wonder,
you formed us in our mother's womb,
and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine.
We place them on your table,
together with our lives and all that you have made.
Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit.
We wait for your mercy;
we long for your peace;
we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ,
our banquet of life. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue *The Assembly sings the boldfaced responses.*

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.

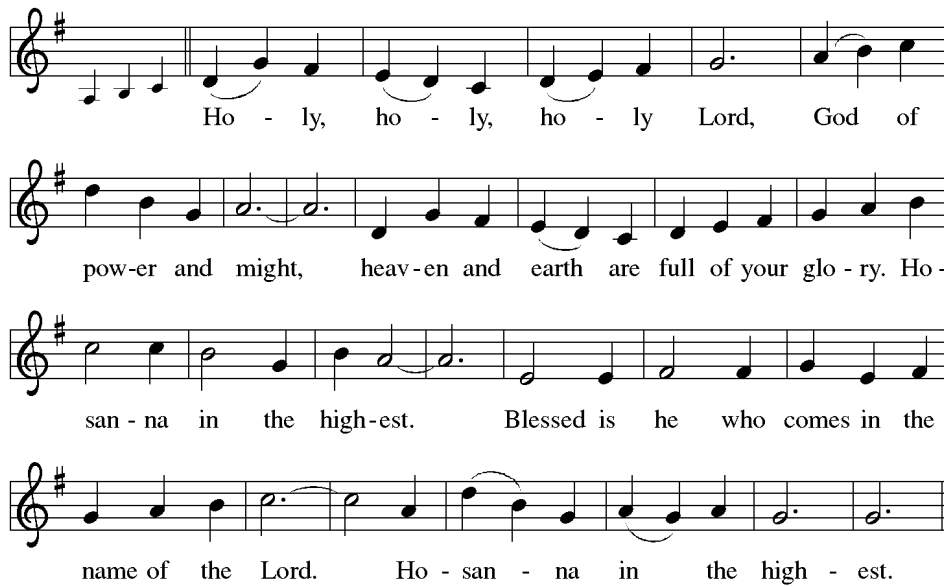
A It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface *The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:*

P It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you have always shown us what is good and what you require of us. You laid the foundations of the earth, and the mountains and hills witness to your justice. You redeemed your people from the house of slavery and called us to remember your saving acts, that we might know your ways and live our lives in justice, kindness and humility.

When our own wisdom and discernment failed to bring us near to you, you chose what was foolish, weak and despised in our eyes to break the grip of human wisdom and strength: Christ Jesus our Lord, and him crucified. Raised to new life, he has made known to us what the wise never guessed, that you honor not what the world seeks but those who walk with you the way of the cross.

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 Simeon and Anna, with Ansgar and the Blessed Martyrs of Japan, 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 Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, 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 Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table of mercy and joy!

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

“Blest Are They” **Hymnal 728**

Leader or All

1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; theirs is the
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; . . . they shall in -
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; mer - cy
 4 Blest are they who seek peace; . . they are the
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, . . . all . . . be -

king - dom of God. Blest are they,
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who
 shall . . . be theirs. Blest are they, the
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who
 cause . . . of me. Re - joice, be glad,

full of sor - row; they shall be con - soled.
 hun - ger and thirst; they shall have their fill.
 pure of heart; they shall see God.
 suf - fer in faith; the glo - ry of God is theirs.
 yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see.

Refrain
 All

Re - joice and be glad!

Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!

Re - joice and be glad!

Yours is the king - dom of God!

The Assembly stands when directed by the Presiding Minister.

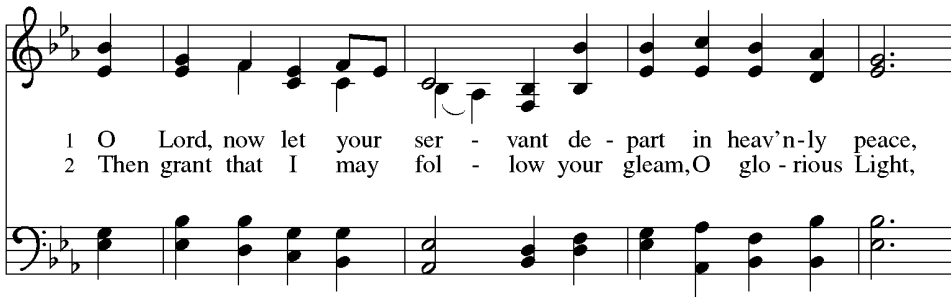
Blessing after Communion

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

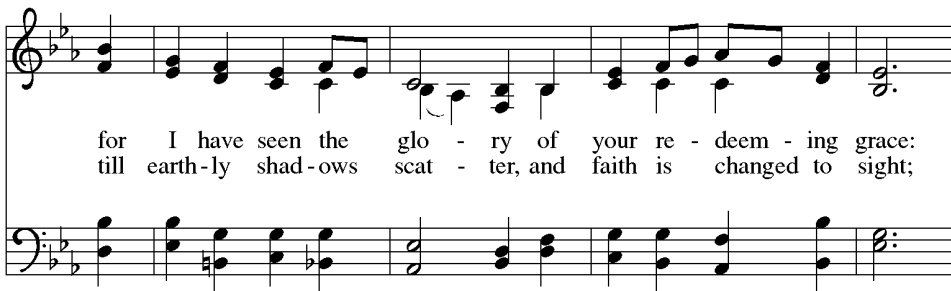
A Amen.

Post-Communion Song

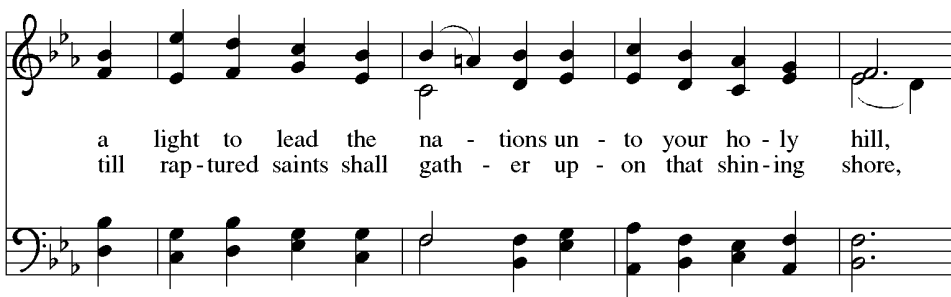
“O Lord, Now Let Your Servant” Hymnal 313



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 abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

A Amen.

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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 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.

Rite of Farewell and Godspeed for Our Pastor

L My dear sisters and brothers in Christ, in the book of Ecclesiastes, the Preacher writes:

"For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones,
and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose..."

Pastor Keith, in July 2015 we called you to be our pastor: to proclaim God's Word and teach us, to baptize new members into the Church of Jesus Christ, to announce God's forgiveness to us, and to preside at our celebration of the Lord's Supper. With the Good News, you have comforted us in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of our loved ones. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you have been important to our life together in this Assembly of the people of Jesus Christ and in our service to this community.

You have served our Assembly faithfully for four and a half years. At the Spirit's urging, we are now sending you from our midst to serve the wider church as the Executive for Administration and Assistant to the Secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. As the members of this Assembly, we wish to honor your ministry among us and bid you farewell and Godspeed in your new endeavor, bringing closure to your ministry here at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

P I thank the members of Immanuel Lutheran Church for the love, kindness, and support shown to me during my ministry among you. I ask your forgiveness for any ways I may have sinned against you during my time among you. I am grateful for the ways my ministry has been received, and for the countless ways you have blessed me. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

A We receive your thankfulness. We offer you our forgiveness, and we accept that you now leave to resume your ministry in a new place and in a new role. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for any ways we may have sinned against you. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

P I receive your gratitude and forgive you, trusting that both our time together and our parting are pleasing to God. Let us now together give thanks to God for these years of partnership in the Good News.

A “The Lord is loving to everyone; God's compassion is over all God's works. All your works praise you, O Lord, and your faithful servants bless you.” We give you thanks, O God, for your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all people. For our partnership in the Good News of Jesus Christ, for the Spirit that has empowered us to witness, we give you praise. In the name of the Creator, Savior, Spirit God we pray. Amen.

P Dear friends, you have allowed me to share the responsibilities of the ordained ministry in your midst. At the beginning of our ministry together, you presented me with symbols expressing my special role among you. It is time for me to return to you what you have lent me.

I was called among you to baptize. Here is water which symbolizes God's gift of belonging in Christ.

A vessel of water is given to a lay leader.

A Thanks be to God for the Water of Life!

P I was called among you to proclaim the Good News. Here is the Bible that expresses this call.

A Bible is given to a lay leader.

A Glory to you, O Lord, for the Good News of Jesus!

P I was called among you to lead worship and preside at Holy Communion. Receive now this chalice as a symbol of our worship and of the holy meal we share.

A chalice is given to a lay leader.

A Taste and see that the Lord is good!

P I was called among you to teach. Here is Luther's Small Catechism which represents this call.

A copy of the Small Catechism is given to a lay leader.

A Thanks be to God for the life-giving Word!

L Do you, Pastor Keith, release this Assembly from turning to you as our pastor?

P I do, with God's help.

L Do you offer your encouragement for the ministry that is to continue here?

P I do, with God's help.

L Do you, members of this Assembly, release Pastor Keith from his duties as your pastor?

A We do, with God's help.

L Do you offer encouragement for his ministry as it unfolds in his new place of service?

A We do, with God's help.

L Let us pray. God, whose everlasting love for all is trustworthy, help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care. The time we were together in your name saw our laughter and tears, our disappointments and hopes. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories, but move us in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Amen.

Sending Song

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve” **Hymnal 551**

For copyright reasons, we are unable to reproduce this hymn. Please turn to the hymnal.

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

Blessing

P I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, the Father may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to the One who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in + Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

A Amen.

P And now, sisters and brothers, it is time for me to say farewell. I ask you to send me forth with your blessing.

A We send you forth with our blessing.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor, and + give you peace. 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 the Hummel and Knohl Families.

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	Kit McCarthy
Lector	Stephen Warner
Communion Minister	Anne Heider
Organist	Greg Hummel
Music Director.....	James Morehead
Table Preparation.....	Kathryn Skelton
Communion Bread.....	The Bread Bakers
Ushers.....	Nicolai Schousboe

Blessed are you!

You are blessed, here and now, no matter what joy or struggle is yours today. Look and see: Jesus surveys the crowds and takes in their faces. They are various genders and ages, sick and well, poor and thirsting for a word of solace. He sees beyond outward appearance to the urgency of their hearts. They wait to hear a word of blessing and peace, longing for a breath to fan the fading flame of hope. But Jesus sees even more. Jesus sees the everlasting love of God at work in the people's lives. They are already blessed, greatly honored by the Holy One living within and among them.

God's Spirit speaks in the poverty of their hearts yearning for the fullness of the divine presence. In their sorrows and humility, they open their souls to receive the consolation of God's love.

Their hunger for mercy and peace is the Spirit crying out for God to heal the cycle of hurt and retribution that has scarred human history since Cain killed Abel.

Their thirst for righteousness is a prayer for the kingdom of heaven to fill every corner of creation with the lovingkindness of Jesus as he preaches, teaches, and heals.

The kingdom of blessedness is alive within them, aching, praying, crying out, drawing them to the feet of Jesus, who heals their hearts and reveals the compassionate kingdom of God in the midst of a troubled world.

Blessedness is the deepest truth of their lives, and ours. Each week, we come to hear the word of grace and share in the holy supper, that we may taste and see the healing power of the kingdom in every moment of life. We want to feel and know what we so often forget: We are blessed. The life of the one who is everlasting love lives within us, bringing God's kingdom, here and now.

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Keith Fry.....	Pastor
Scott Romans.....	Congregation President
Melisa Larson.....	Congregation Vice President
Sara Krentz.....	Congregation Secretary
Susan Ross.....	Congregation Treasurer
Dana Barron, Tom Couch, Linda Edlund, Greg Hummel, Bert Mount, Erik Shearer, Jim Skelton, Grace Yarnoff.....	Congregation Council Members
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!**