

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist February 9, 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.

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the Light of the World, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

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

Pre-Service MusicVariations on "Dearest Jesus at your Word" and other Epiphany hymns
by 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

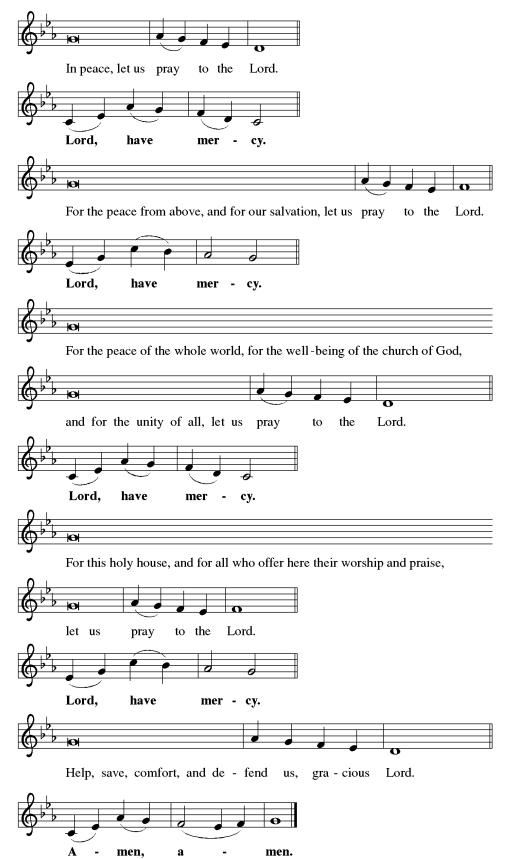
"Dearest Jesus, at Your Word" Hymnal 520

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



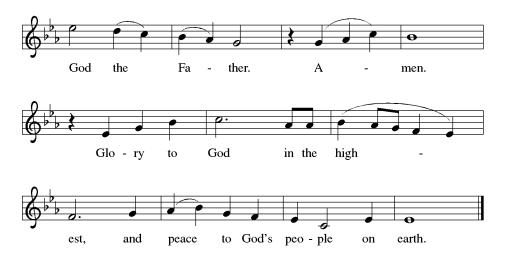
Greeting

- 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!





[cont.]



Prayer of the Day

- P Let us pray. Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Welcome and Announcements

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 58:1-12

R A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. ³"Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? ⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. ^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. ¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

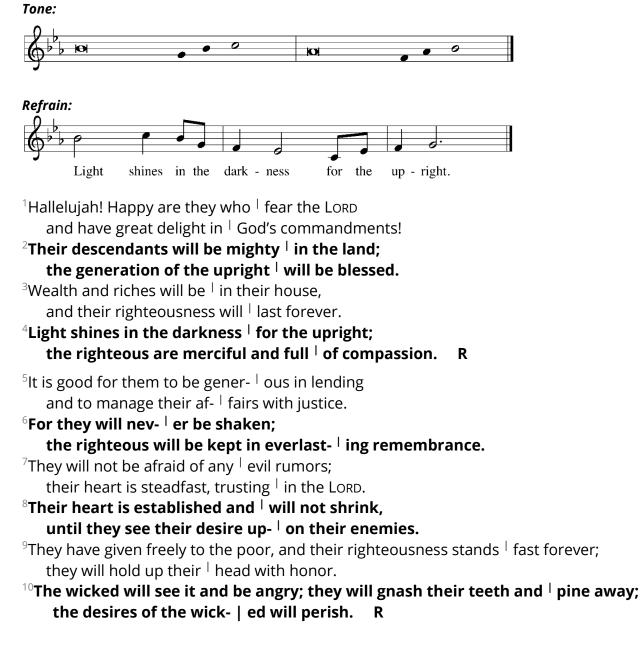
- R Word of God, word of life.
- A Thanks be to God!

Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

ELW Psalm Tone 1

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."



This Week's Commemorations

Cyril, monk, d. 869; Methodius, bishop, d. 885; missionaries to the Slavs Friday, February 14, 2020

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

Reading from the New Testament

R A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom, which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.

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

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.



Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20

P This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

[Jesus said:] ¹³"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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



Upcoming Events

Friday, February 14	Happy Valentine's Day!	
	Community Warming Center	2:00 PM-5:00 PM
Sunday, February 16	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 Holy God, it is your desire that all people might come to know you intimately. Lead our communities into deeper relationship with you. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Yehiel; for our president, Scott; for our Council; and for all those you have gathered here in your name. May your church radiate your righteousness to all whom we encounter. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L God of creation, you quench the dry ground, bringing water that sustains life. Satisfy the needs of all the earth, so that all living things bear witness to your verdant grace and continue to shout your praise. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L God of glory, during your time here on earth you were crucified by powerful rulers who did not understand you. Grant leaders in our day wisdom and discernment, that they may recognize you in the lives of the people they serve. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L God of justice, you free us from the oppression that binds us and exhort us to serve one another. 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 [...]. Liberate us from all fear, bigotry, and greed, and set our hearts and minds on love, equality, and justice. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L God of life, you reveal your saving love to us through the power of your Spirit. Give us that power during this time of waiting as we discern your will concerning the next pastor who will come to journey with us here. 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 all eternity, we give you thanks for the lives of the saints who have pointed us towards faithfulness in you, remembering especially Cyril, monk, and Methodius, bishop. 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

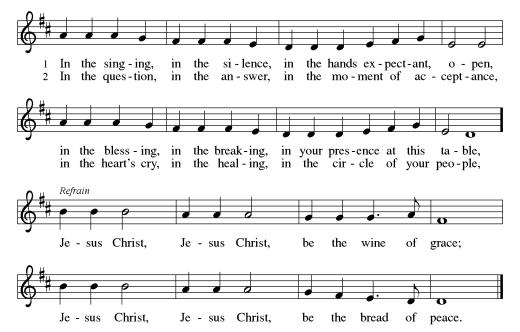
"O Jesus Christ, My Life, My Light" J. S. Bach

O Jesus Christ, my life, my light, my guard, my trust by day and night. On earth I roam, a passing guest; remove sin's weight and send me rest.

Presentation of the Gifts

"In the Singing" Hymnal 466

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



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.

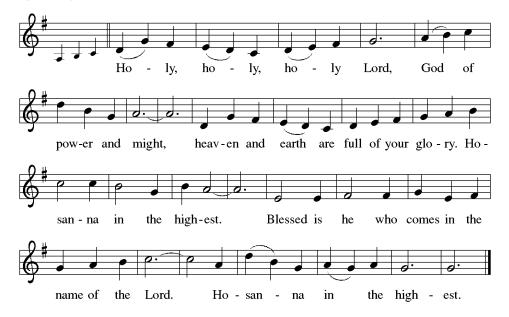
The Great Thanksgiving

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, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.
By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

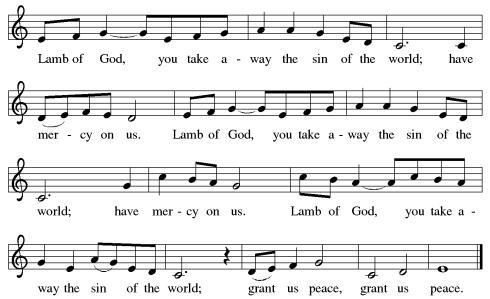
- L Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table of mercy and joy!
- A Thanks be to God!

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



Communion Song



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.



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.

Sending Song

"Rise, Shine, You People!"" [printed on next page] Hymnal 665

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

Blessing

P 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.

A Amen.

Dismissal

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

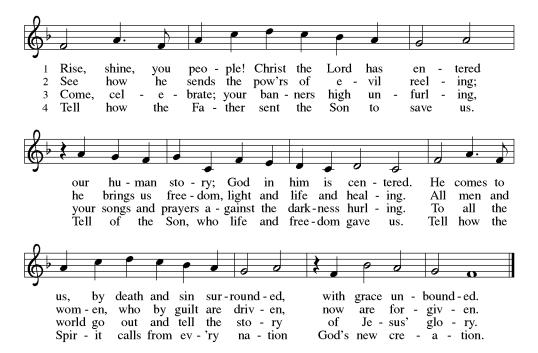
Postlude

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

Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister	The Rev. John Lang
Assisting Minister	Anne Heider
Acolyte	Scott Romans
Lector	Linda Edlund
Communion Minister	Susan Ross
Organist	Greg Hummel
Music Director	James Morehead
Table Preparation	Kathryn Skelton
Communion Bread	Linda Edlund
Ushers	Jim Rakowsky

Rise, Shine, You People!



Blessed are you!

Luciana's mother posted a photo on her Facebook page. The image was blurry and a little dark, but Luciana's unmistakable, toothy grin shined brighter than the flame of the baptismal candle on the table before her.

She's five now, and her candle is lit every year on her baptismal anniversary. The candle burns, reminding her that she is a beloved child of God, a holy vessel of an everlasting love. The light of God's joy dances in her eyes and illumines the hearts of her family and our congregation.

As with every child, difficult days will cloud her bright eyes. Doubts will trouble her mind. Moments will come when she feels rejected or not "good enough." Sadness will shadow her smile when loss and disappointments cause her to forget how precious and beautiful she is, and how much the world needs the love that shines from her heart.

When that happens, I hope she lights her candle and remembers who she is. I hope someone is there to tell her the truth: "Luciana, you are the light of the world. The love of Jesus shines in your heart. So be who you are. Let your light shine, that others may see your good works and give thanks to your Father in heaven."

Forgetting our identity is our greatest spiritual malady. We too, Luciana's siblings in Christ, are vessels of a great and everlasting love. We need to remember and remind each other of the mystery we carry in the depth of our being. This is why we come together, again and again, to pray and praise, to share the peace and break bread at the eucharist.

As we come to bask in the warm light of Christ, may we shine with the light that we are.

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

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		
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!