

24th Sunday After Pentecost, November 15th, 2020

Zoom Service 10:30 AM

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Prelude Let Streams of Living Justice ELW 710



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.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
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Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Let us unmute ourselves, or, remaining muted, confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

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.

Amen.

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!

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

Stewardship Temple Talk: “We Work for Social Justice” by Diane Keely

Reading from the New Testament, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Psalm 90:1-8, 12



- ¹Lord, you have | been our refuge
from one generation | to another.
- ²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the | earth were born,
from age to age | you are God.**
- ³You turn us back to the | dust and say,
"Turn back, O child- | ren of earth."
- ⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past
and like a watch | in the night;**
- ⁵you sweep them away | like a dream,
they fade away suddenly | like the grass:
- ⁶**in the morning it is | green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried | up and withered.**
- ⁷For we are consumed | by your anger;
we are afraid because | of your wrath.
- ⁸**Our iniquities you have | set before you,
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.**
- ¹²So teach us to num- | ber our days
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

Sermon

HYMN: Take My Life, That I May Be ELW 685



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

Prayers of the People

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need, responding muted or unmuted to each petition with, "Your mercy is great."

We pray for the church. Ignite us with the passion of your love. Raise up and sustain leaders who offer their talents to lead congregational ministries in this difficult time. We pray for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, pastor Kim, our president Scott, our council, call committee, and reopening team. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the earth. Open our eyes to your glory in creation. Restore its integrity where exploitation has caused ruin. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all the nations. Bring an end to war and terrorism. Cultivate a worldwide spirit of cooperation that seeks just international agreements and shared human rights. Rescue humankind from the worship of wealth, and give a homeland to migrants. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the United States. Restore national good will as we recognize deep divisions. End prejudice of all kinds, and lead us into a unity that embraces diversity. Comfort those who live in fear of the future. Bless all newly elected officials with a passion for justice and a commitment to honesty. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for relief from the pandemic. Bring meaningful work to those furloughed. Guide and watch over all first responders and essential workers. Surround with your presence family and friends who are anxious for those on the front lines of crisis. Inspire healthcare workers and medical researchers as we rejoice in news of vaccines. Be a powerful presence with those in quarantine, those who feel isolated, and with all students, teachers and staff in academic communities. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those in need. Send health and good medical care to all the sick, especially the tens of thousands contracting the coronavirus each day. Give food, housing, and comfort to those struggling to live. We pray especially for Steve Andes, Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Babs Deacon, Laura Burdick, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, John and Nancy, Judith Kratochvil, Ernie LeVon, Elaine Nelson, Veronica Repasz, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, George Stewart, Leslie Thais, Scott Weidler, and those whose names we call out to you here, muted or un-muted: . . . *A brief silence.* Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

And now, siblings, for what else shall we pray, silent or spoken aloud? *A longer period of silence.* Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We remember before you all the saints who have lived and died in the faith. At the end of time, bring us all into your peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you reign forever. **Amen.**

Peace

Offertory: Consecration, by Frederick Chatfield

We worship God with our offerings. We give thanks for those who support Immanuel's life and mission. [We invite you to do that online](#) or by mail, and with your presence, prayer, and talents.

Dedication and Sending of Stark Mission Grants

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray as we unmute ourselves for the Great Thanksgiving:

Gracious God, may these gifts of faith, mission and legacy be sent forth today with joy and thanksgiving. We bring with them what you have first given us: our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your love. Receive these gift and offerings.

We bless and send them as good news for our neighbors, for the sake of the one who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

Prayer at the Table

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:

Surrounded by evil and bordered by death

We appeal to you; our sovereign, our wisdom, and our judge.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace

And promised an end to injustice and harm.

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, The sacrifice of his life and death
And the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints
His loving redemption of our suffering world.
And for this we pray: **Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!**

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine
And on all who share in the body and blood of your son:
Teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ.
And for this we pray: **Amen! Come, Holy Spirit!**

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
In your holy church, both now and forever. **Amen**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
**A Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Communion

Come for all things are now ready; the gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

This is the body of Christ, given for you.

All communing may receive their bit of bread from God's hand, and may share with others in their household also using these words.

This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

All communing may drink of the cup they have prepared, and may share with others in their household also using these words.

For those fasting, receive this prayer of blessing in God's presence:

May God who loves you be truly present with the Spirit of grace, mercy and joy, uplifting and blessing you in the promise of your baptism.

Table Dismissal

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in God's grace.
Amen.

Benediction

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

Amen.

Go in peace, serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Coffee hour/Announcements

TODAY AT IMMANUEL

Our stewardship campaign: Alive in the Spirit and Active in Mission continues today with a temple talk by Diane Keely "We Work for Social Justice".

Stark Fund Mission Grants Dedication and Sending – as part of our offering today, we celebrate the stewardship of the Stark Mission Fund that spreads good news and hope in the legacy of Anna Stark.

Congregation Council

12:30 pm Today on zoom

THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL

Anti-Racism Team

7-8:30 pm Tuesday on zoom

Midweek Adult Spiritual Growth

7 – 8:15 pm Wednesday – Join us on zoom to look at our texts for next Sunday's worship

Quilting and Knitting via Zoom

10:30 am Thursday on zoom

NEXT SUNDAY AT IMMANUEL

Pledge Dedication- Please send pledges by email/mail: giving@immanuelevanston.org by 11/20

We conclude our Stewardship Season “Alive in the Spirit and Active in Mission” by dedicating our prayerfully considered pledges as we celebrate the Reign of Christ. This is the “New Year’s Eve” of our church year, and we plant the seeds of our offerings of ourselves, our time and our talents. that we pray will sustain and bring harvest in the year ahead.

LOOKING AHEAD

“Harvest Home” Gathering on Zoom:

Thanksgiving Eve Wednesday November 25th, 7 pm

Our plans may have changed for this Thanksgiving, but we have many things for which to give thanks. We’ll gather together to offer community, to hear from scripture, consider those things that we are most thankful for this year, to ask God’s blessings in prayer, and to sing a few favorite “harvest home” hymns. Join us for this time of worship and one-anothering!

What are you favorite Advent Hymns?!

Please send your favorite(s) to Sara Krentz or Pastor Kim so we can include the greatest hits in our Advent services!

How are you fixed for Advent Wreath possibilities?

This year we’re going to be lighting our candles and anticipating the gift of salvation.... just like always! But we’ll have a new opportunity to light our candles in our zoom worship areas this year! If you need five battery tea lights to fix yourself up and pray down our Savior, let Pastor Kim know!

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

Free Little Pantry At Grace Lutheran Church

Grace Church has received a grant to support an existing Little Pantry, modeled after the Little Libraries. While we’re a bit distant from Grace, if you run into people who might benefit from the free food offered there, or if you have any questions please contact conniewood44@gmail.com or 847.869.2289

Invitation to Contribute to Interfaith Action Council Hospitality Center for the Homeless

Every weekday St. Mark's Episcopal Church opens its doors to guests at the Interfaith Action Council Hospitality Center for the Homeless. They get support from a job coordinator, make calls about jobs or apartments, learn computer and other job skills, and find a place of welcome. Your gift makes it possible to bring people together to serve hungry and homeless people, pursue interfaith dialogue, and engage in advocacy that promotes social justice. You can make a contribution through Interfaith Action:

<https://interfaithactionofevanston.networkforgood.com/projects/112313-hospitality-center-fund>

or send a check to Interfaith Action of Evanston, P.O. Box 1414, Evanston IL 60204. Be sure to put St. Mark's in the subject line.