

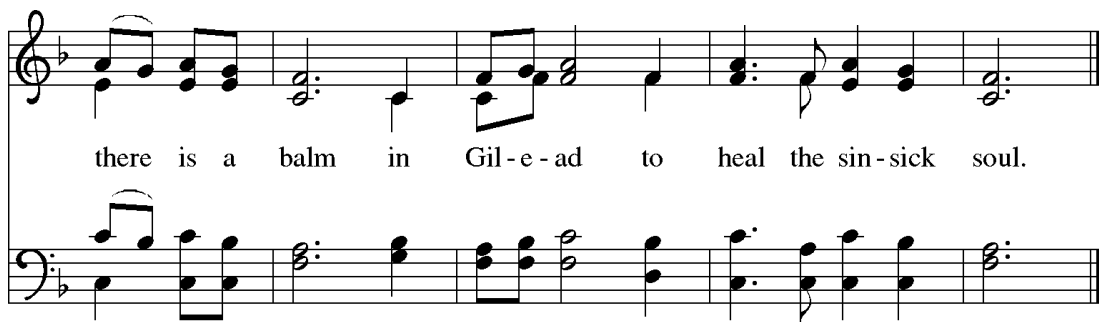
Fifth Sunday After Epiphany, February 7th 2021
Zoom Service 10:30 AM
Immanuel Lutheran Church

Prelude Balm in Gilead ELW 614

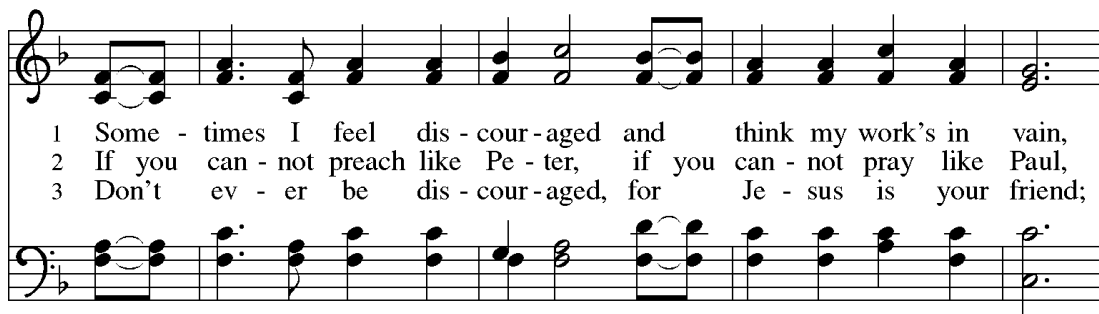
Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise

through Jesus Christ our Lord

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

We are welcomed into the body of Christ in baptism, and sent to share in the mission of God.
We rejoice that the following friends in Christ have been called to lead us in our common life
and mutual mission as a congregation as congregational council members, and officers:

Dana Barron

Tom Couch

Linda Edlund

Mary Ann Kearns, *financial secretary*

Lisa Larson, *vice president*

Bert Mount

Susan Ross, *treasurer*

Scott Romans, *secretary*

Jim Skelton

Steve Warner

Grace Yarnoff, *president*

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

On behalf of your siblings in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

People of God: Will you support these leaders, and share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

I now declare you installed as officers and council members of this congregation.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make these newly installed council members, and all of us, agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Reading from the Old Testament, Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” ³⁸He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Sermon

HYMN: Healer of Our Every Ill, ELW 612

Refrain

Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,

give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain

peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
 still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
 ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
 way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen

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Prayers of the People

Yearning for the Spirit’s enlivening, and confident in the revelation of God’s healing presence in Jesus, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need, responding to each petition muted or un-muted with the words “receive our prayer.”

Merciful God, you sent your son to be our peace, and his Spirit to be our comforter. Help all who suffer pain or grief, hopelessness or anxiety. In your great mercy,
receive our prayer.

God, source of human knowledge, give skill, wisdom, and compassion to all providing medical care and support in hospitals and care facilities, to researchers developing treatments and vaccines, and to those receiving them. Bring an end to the suffering of this coronavirus. Sustain workers at the frontlines of distribution: farmers, migrant laborers, factories, warehouse and meat processing workers, restaurateurs, grocers and delivery persons. Comfort those who experience the loss of work and meaningful activity. In your great mercy,
receive our prayer.

Give gentleness and courage to family members, friends, and caregivers as we live together in new ways. Bless our youth with resilience and hope, and their parents and teachers with stamina and wisdom to lead them into their future. Mend broken relationships, draw us together and toward you. Help us to forgive and be forgiven. Watch over those for whom home does not feel safe, and those without homes. Embrace all who are suffering including Steve Andes, Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Babs Deacon, Laura Burdick, Mid Carlson, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Pat Helm, Jim Jung, John and Nancy, Judith Kratochvil, Gordon Larson, Elizabeth and Ernie's family, Elaine Nelson, Veronica Repasz, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, George Stewart, Leslie Thais, family and friends of Scott Weidler and those that we name in our hearts (*pause for prayers*). Give us confidence in joy and life now and in days to come. In your great mercy,
receive our prayer.

Give guidance to government officials, epidemiologists, church leaders and all who are responsible for decision-making for the common good, preservation of life, and economic relief. Heal the earth with sabbath rest. In your great mercy,
receive our prayer.

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the world, who has sanctified us with commandments, and commanded us to protect life. As we put on our masks, and leave our homes each day, help us to consecrate this humble and necessary act, as a mitzvah, a gift of neighbor-love praising you for each breath. In your great mercy,
receive our prayer.

Renew our congregation, especially in this time of pastoral transition. As we come to an end of this interim, we bring before you any needs for healing and wholeness from hurts or harms in our church relationships. We pray for Pastor Mark and his congregation in their time of leavetaking. Bring us in your time to a return to ministries in the community and worship in

our sanctuary. Even now, build your community in ways we are just discovering. Help us be a force for good, upholding each other and upbuilding our community. In your great mercy, **receive our prayer.**

And now, siblings, for what else shall we pray, silent or spoken aloud? (*A longer period of silence.*) In your great mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal God, we thank you for all the faithful departed, especially
(those we name aloud or in our hearts during a time of silence)
Heal the pain of all who grieve. In your great mercy,
receive our prayer.

God, source of life and health, you came among us in Jesus, who became flesh and knew the depth of human suffering. We bring these prayers for healing before you, knowing you will hear us as you have promised, and that with Jesus, you will raise us up to new life.
Amen.

Bless the oil we have prepared as a sign of your healing balm.
May we all be healed, strengthened and renewed by the power of your Holy Spirit.
Amen.

If you have oil prepared, you may hold it in your hand, or anoint yourself or hold your hand over your heart as you are blessed:

Receive this oil or these words as a sign of forgiveness and healing in Jesus' name.
Be filled with God's grace and uplifted by the Spirit of hope and joy.
Amen.

Peace

Offertory Anthem: Spirit of Mercy arr Mark Schweizer

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.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together: We give you thanks, O God, that you are powerfully present with us in these gifts we share of bread and wine.

When we are afraid, give us courage; when afflicted, give us patience; when dejected, give us hope; and when alone, assure us of the support of your holy people and confidence we are not alone in the household of faith. Raise us even now with Christ, restored, renewed, to a life of joy and praise. 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

Blessed are you, O holy God:

you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our night,

revealing to us your mercy and power.

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 preaching and healing,

his dying and rising,

and his promise to come again,

we await that day when all the universe

will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

And for this we pray: **Come, Lord Jesus!**

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,

that, refreshed with this heavenly food,

we may be light for the world,

revealing the brilliance of your Son.

And for this we pray: **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

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you;

and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace.

Amen

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Coffee hour/Announcements

TODAY AT IMMANUEL

We install our congregational executive officers and our council members: Grace Yarnoff, *President*; Lisa Larson, *Vice President*; Scott Romans, *Secretary*; Susan Ross, *Treasurer*; Mary Ann Kearns, *Financial Secretary*; Dana Barron, Tom Couch, Linda Edlund, Bert Mount, Jim Skelton, Steve Warner.

THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL

Midweek Gathering

7 pm Wednesday on zoom

Join us for gathering, discussion on next Sunday's scripture readings, and prayer.

Coffee and Connections Check in!

9:30 am Thursday on zoom hosted by Linda Edlund and Pastor Kim

Look for the link on the Midweek Gathering email

NEXT SUNDAY AT IMMANUEL

Transfiguration Sunday – Valentine's Day.... And Farewell to the Alleluia!

You're invited to make an ALLELUIA and find a box or folder to "bury" it in for the Lenten season. Be as creative as you wish- from a scribble on a piece of paper, to a coloring sheet, to a chain of letters, or a small sewn banner! Here are some links to coloring sheets

<http://eastertemplate.com/easter-alleluia-coloring-page/>

<https://www.fun365.orientaltrading.com/download/easter-stained-glass-free-printable-coloring-page> http://www.mycatholicsource.com/mcs/pca/coloring_book_alleluia.htm Or

see a couple pre-colored alleluias on the last page to manipulate, print and cut out!

LOOKING AHEAD AT IMMANUEL

- **February 17th** - Ash Wednesday Join us on zoom at 7 pm for worship
We enter the season confessing the ways we yearn to turn to God for life, and receiving the cup of blessing in Holy Communion. In this pandemic year, we will not be imposing ashes. The service will feature a special joint choir anthem with Immanuel members along with Christ Lutheran and other Allentown, Pennsylvania congregations to lead us into the season of meditation and renewal.
- **February 24th** - "The Cup of Our Lives" Midweek Lenten Gathering 7 pm on zoom
Our simple mid-week gathering worship offers time for spiritual growth in Word, Song and Fellowship.
While it is not necessary in order to participate, Pastor Mark invites you to consider purchasing this daily/six week themed meditational resource for lent. Many used copies available! <https://www.amazon.com/Cup-Our-Life-Spiritual-Growth/dp/1933495316>
Week 1: The Cup of Life - You are invited to choose a cup from home. What is it's story?
- **February 28th** - Pastor Kim's last Sunday is February 28th

- **March 1st** - Pastor Mark Sloss will be beginning his service at Immanuel. A transition team has been appointed to prepare the way for this new ministry. During these weeks, Pastor Sloss is focusing on the important work of leavetaking in his current congregation. *Before March 1, if there is something you want Pastor Sloss to know about, or ask him about a preference, please send the information to Scott Romans. He will pass it on to Pastor Mark.*

