

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist In-Person and via Zoom September 5, 2021

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.

Please keep your masks on during the worship service and when moving to and from your place in the Fellowship Hall during coffee hour. Announcements, celebrations, and time to socialize with one another will take place after worship during coffee hour in the fellowship hall. You're welcome to attend the coffee hour in-person, or via Zoom. After worship Scan this QR code with your smartphone camera to join the coffee hour via Zoom

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 is printed in this bulletin. We will use the hymnal for hymns.

Receiving Holy Communion

We invite you to share with us in the sacramental meal because Christ invites you! There is no specific age requirement for Communion. For safety we have individually packaged communion with either wine or grape juice that you can pick up at the entrance of the sanctuary. We will commune all together in the pews at the designated time. Please deposit the cups and wrappers in the trash receptacles as you leave the sanctuary.

The Offertory

To practice safe social distancing, offerings and donations may be placed in the offering plate either as you enter the sanctuary or as you leave, after worship service.

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

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophoenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

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

Prelude

Selections from Bach's and Buxtehude's Early Masterworks

The Assembly stands when directed.

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, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.
- A Amen.
- P Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart..

Silence for reflection and self-examination

- P God, our comforter,
- A We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

- P All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

 By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

 Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.
- A Amen.

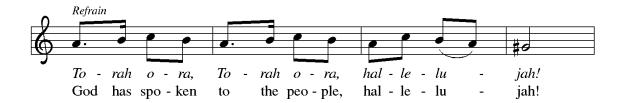
Gathering Song



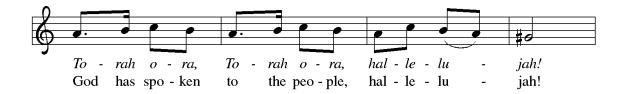
- O pen your ears, O faith-ful peo-ple, o pen your ears and hear God's word. They who have ears to hear the mes-sage, they who have ears, now let them hear;



roy - al priest-hood, God has come to O - pen your hearts, O they who would learn the way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.









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!

Canticle of Praise



Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

P Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord..

A Amen.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 35:4-7a

R A reading from Isaiah.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,

with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

Psalm 146

The organ will play the tone through once. The right side of the Assembly sings the lightface verses to the tone; the left side of the Assembly sings boldface verses.

Tone:



¹Hal- [|] lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

²I will praise the Lord as long | as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

³Put not your [|] trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there I is no help.

⁴When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth, and in that day | their thoughts perish.

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob ¹ for their help, whose hope is in the ¹ LORD their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that [|] is in them; who keeps promis- [|] es forever;

 7 who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to 1 those who hunger.

The LORD sets the | captive free.

⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares [|] for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

¹⁰The Lord shall | reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!

Reading from the New Testament

James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

R A reading from James.

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁵Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Mark 7:24-37

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

A Glory to you, O Lord!

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ!

The Assembly is 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



The Apostle's Creed

L With the whole Church, let us profess our faith.

A I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

- L Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. pause
- L Holy One, you bring your people together in worship. Enliven your church. Guide all evangelists, preachers, prophets, and missionaries who seek to share your love through word and deed. Lord, in your mercy,

A Hear our prayer.

L You provide water for thirsty ground and sunshine to feed hungry plants. Bless all who advocate for healthy forests, unpolluted air, and clean waterways. Inspire all people to show care for the world you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

A Hear our prayer.

L You show no partiality. Increase justice in all nations. Encourage leaders and governments to work with one another for the good of our common world. Especially as we celebrate Labor Day, unite us in seeking the health, safety, and dignity of all. Lord, in your mercy,

A Hear our prayer.

L You accompany those who are most in need. Shelter all fleeing violence or persecution, protect any who are in danger, and sustain them through uncertain and unstable times. Lord, in your mercy,

A Hear our prayer.

L You support the work of your disciples. Continue to nurture the leadership and ministries of this congregation, especially Steve Andes, Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Marlene & Jacques Chatain, Karen Davern, Babs Deacon, Lucas Forzley, Diana

Gourguechon and her daughter Alexis, Jim Jung, John and Nancy, Judith Kratochvil, Veronica Repasz, Lorrie Roche, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, George Stewart, Leslie Thais, Grace and Alex, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. Lord in your mercy,

A Hear our prayer.

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 You embrace all who have died in the faith and brought them into your glorious presence, especially Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia. We thank you for their example and rejoice in their lives. Lord, in your mercy,

A Hear our prayer.

P Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through 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 in an appropriate safe gesture as you speak peace to your neighbors.

Offering

An offering for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need. Offering may be placed in the offering plate either before or after you exit the sanctuary. You scan this code with your smartphone camera to make your financial offering online.



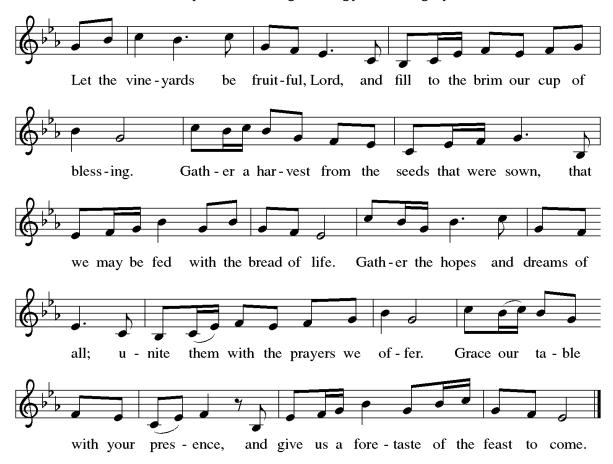
Offering Music

Selections from Bach's and Buxtehude's early masterworks

Presentation of the Gifts

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

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



Offering Prayer

- L Let us pray.
- L God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens.

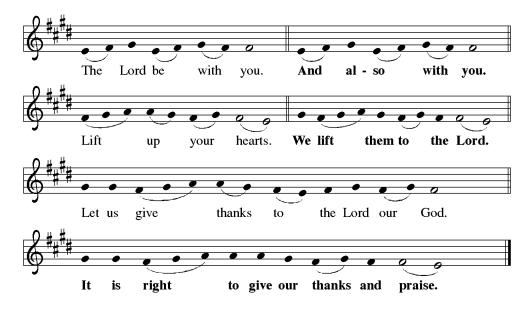
 Accept the gifts you have first given us.

 Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

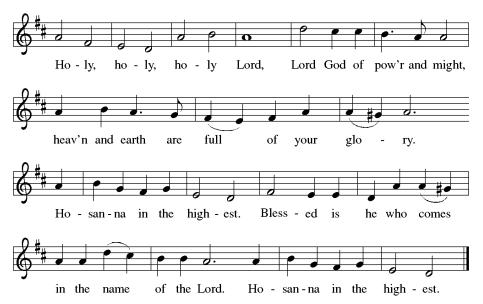
Dialogue The Assembly sings the boldfaced responses.



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;
Who on this day overcame death and the grave
And by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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:

Holy, Holy The Assembly joins in singing:



Thanksgiving at the Table

P O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life.
Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light.
Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song: The earth is full of your glory.

A The earth is full of your glory.

P O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection.

Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.

Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.

Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:

The earth is full of your glory.

A The earth is full of your glory.

P We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth. 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.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song: The earth is full of your glory.

A The earth is full of your glory.

P O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead.
Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.
Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ.
Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth.
Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again:
The earth is full of your glory.

- A The earth is full of your glory.
- P Amen, and amen.
- A Amen, and amen.

The Lord's Prayer

- 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.

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

- P Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.
- A Thanks be to God.

Distribution of Holy Communion

The Assembly is seated.

- P This is the body of Christ, given for you. *All communing may partake of the bread*
- P This is the blood of Christ, shed for you. *All communing may drink of their cup.*

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

P May God who loves you be truly present with the Spirit of grace, mercy and joy, uplifting and blessing you in the promise of never-failing love God makes to God's children.

The Assembly stands when directed by the Presiding Minister.

Table Dismissal

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

A Amen.

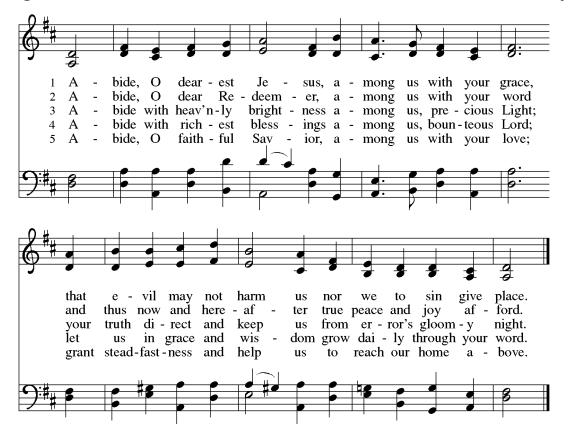
Prayer after Communion

L Let us pray:
Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen

Sending Song

"Abide, O Dearest Jesus" Hymnal 539



Blessing

P People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity,

→ one God, bless you now and forever.

A Amen.

Dismissal

- L Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.
- A Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Selections from Bach's and Buxtehude's early masterworks

Please stay for a time of fellowship immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall, as well as on Zoom.

Due to Covid-19 precautions, there will not be refreshments. Zoom Participants, alas, you must provide your own refreshments.

Come enjoy one another's company and hear about all the opportunities for service and community!

To join coffee hour via Zoom on a smartphone, scan with your camera to get the link.



Serving in worship today...

	The Rev. Michael WonderlichKit McCarthy
	Sara Krentz
Lector	Steve Warner
Organist	Greg Hummel
Music Director	James Morehead
Table Preparation	Kit McCarthy
Zoom Host	Grace Yarnoff
Audio-Visual Technicians*	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel
Ushers	Terri Hummel

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This Week's Commemorations

Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, died 1654 Thursday, September 9, 2021

Born into Spanish nobility, Claver became a Jesuit missionary, and served in present-day Colombia. His ministry was focused on the slaves that arrived there. He gave them food and medicine, learned their dialects, and taught them Christianity.

Upcoming Events – for details see the weekly e-blast, *Immanuel Newsfeeds,* or the website Calendar at www.immanuelevanston.org.

Monday, August 23 – Tuesday, September 7	Pastor Mark on Vacation	
Monday, September 6	Labor Day – Church Office Closed	
Wednesday, September 8	Midweek Adult Spiritual Discussion via Zoom	7:00 pm
Sunday, Sept. 12	God's Work Our Hands Sunday	
	Sunday Hybrid Worship	10:30 am
	New Community Church Worship	1:00 pm

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

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The Rev. Mark Sloss	
Grace Yarnoff	
Melisa Larson	Congregation Vice President
Scott Romans	Congregation Secretary
Susan Ross	Congregation Treasurer
Dana Barron, Tom Couch, Linda Edlund, Bert Mount, Jim Skelton, Steve Warner	
Mary Ann Kearns	Financial Secretary
Elizabeth Stegner	Assistant Financial Secretary
James Morehead	Music Director
James MoreheadGreg Hummel	Organist
Laurie Stivers	Associate Organist
Christine Kraemer	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!