



**Immanuel
Lutheran**
of Evanston

Midweek Lenten Series
Open My Life, Lord

Week 4
Open My Heart, Lord

March 30, 2022

7:00 P.M.



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• Parish Administrator: parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org

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 this evening! 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.

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. 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!

Open My Heart, Lord

Listening to Paul's teaching, Lydia opened her heart to God and was baptized. Her willing, trusting faith echoes down through the centuries as we witness her "open heart procedure."

Responding with open eyes, hands, ears, and hearts, consider including an ingathering of items for those in need locally, regionally, nationally, or globally.

P: *Presiding Minister* **A:** *Assembly*

The Assembly stands.

Welcome

P Open our hearts, Lord, to behold your laws:

A Teach us to walk in your commandments.

P Grant us grace to know and understand your will,

A for all that we are in body and soul is a gift from you.

P Lord, you are the everlasting Truth,

A the one who speaks the words of eternal life.

P Open our hearts, Lord, to behold your laws.

A Teach us to walk in your commandments.

Gathering Song

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil” ELW 512



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

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. ... Open our hearts, Lord, and fill us with your love. Grant us strength and courage, remove our hard-heartedness, and turn us always to you.

In Jesus' name we pray,

A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

¹As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see — we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

¹¹We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. ¹²There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. ¹³In return — I speak as to children — open wide your hearts also.

P Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

Psalm 28 *(read responsively by whole verse)*

¹To you, O LORD, I call;
my rock, do not refuse to hear me,
for if you are silent to me,
I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.

**²Hear the voice of my supplication,
as I cry to you for help,
as I lift up my hands
toward your most holy sanctuary.**

³Do not drag me away with the wicked,
with those who are workers of evil,
who speak peace with their neighbors,
while mischief is in their hearts.

**⁴Repay them according to their work,
and according to the evil of their deeds;
repay them according to the work of their hands;
render them their due reward.**

⁵Because they do not regard the works of the LORD,
or the work of his hands,
he will break them down and build them up no more.

**⁶Blessed be the LORD,
for he has heard the sound of my pleadings.**

⁷The LORD is my strength and my shield;
in him my heart trusts;
so I am helped, and my heart exults,
and with my song I give thanks to him.

**⁸The LORD is the strength of his people;
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.**

⁹O save your people, and bless your heritage;
be their shepherd, and carry them forever.

Reading from the New Testament

Acts 16:11-15

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city

of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

Reflection

Hymn of the Day

"Fling Wide the Door" ELW 259

1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
 2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
 3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
 4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen

comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
 gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
 king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
 wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -

Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
 scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
 hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
 on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly

to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
 to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
 Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
 Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We

praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
 wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
 a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
 praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Prayers of the People

P Lord of all life,
when we cannot see the beauty of your creation,
(you're invited to point toward your eyes)

A open our eyes, that all living things thrive and grow.

P When we neglect the poor, the sick, and the grieving,
(You're invited to stretch out your arms)

A open our hands to do your work in the world.

P When we ignore the cries of injustice in our midst,
(you're invited to point toward your ears)

A open our ears, that all will know your love.

P When we are hardened against our neighbor,
(you're invited to place your hands over your heart)

A open our hearts and heal our resentment.

P When we are closed to the grace you long to give us,
(you're invited to raise your arms to God)

open our lives and turn us to follow in the way of the cross.

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

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

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting
in your mercy as you open up our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

A Amen.

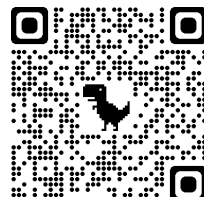
The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**A Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
forever and forever. Amen.**

Offering

An offering for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need. You scan this code with your smartphone camera to make your financial offering online. You may also place your offering in the plates provided as you enter or leave the sanctuary.



Offering Prayer

P Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

A Amen.

Serving in worship this evening...

Presiding Minister The Rev. Mark Sloss
Organist James Morehead
Music Director James Morehead
Zoom Host Tom Couch
Audio-Visual Technicians Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel, Tyler Heyl, Mark Kearns
Ushers Marlene Chatain

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Sending Song

"On My Heart Imprint Your Image" ELW 811

On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, king of grace,

that life's trou-les nor its plea-sures ev - er may your work e - rase.

Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,

is my life, my hope's foun-da-tion, all my glo-ry and sal - va - tion!

Blessing

P Go into the world with eyes open to the transforming light of Christ, hands open to serve those you meet, ears open to the call of the Spirit, hearts open to the bountiful love of God, and lives open to follow Christ to the cross. The God who opened for us the way of everlasting life + bless you now and forever.

A  Amen.

Dismissal

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.

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss	Pastor
Dana Barron	Congregation President
Bert Mount.....	Congregation Vice President
Steve Warner	Congregation Secretary
Susan Ross.....	Congregation Treasurer
Diane Keely, Michael Kloster, Lisa Larson, 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
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 worshipping God and serving the Evanston community since 1888!