

Midweek Lenten Series Open My Life, Lord

Week 5 Open My Life, Lord

April 6, 2022 7:00 P.M.



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!

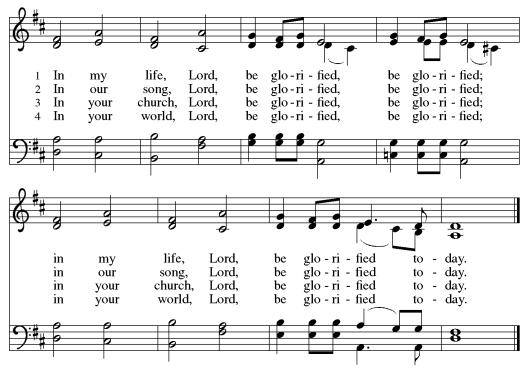
Open My Life, Lord

Moses presents us with a choice: death and adversity, or a life cracked open to the love of God. Writing to the Galatians, Paul tells us that we have died to the law so that we might live to God. It is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us.

P: Presiding Minister **A:** Assembly The Assembly stands.

Welcome

- P When our lives are joyous and laughter abounds,
- A Christ is dwelling there.
- P When the news is grim and we have nowhere to turn,
- A Christ is dwelling there.
- P In the water and word, the bread and wine,
- A Christ is dwelling there.
- P In our life and our death, in the new life to come,
- A Christ is dwelling there.



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 lives, Lord, to reflect your glory. Lead us to the cross, to the grave, to the empty tomb, and into the world as imitators of Christ. In Jesus' name we pray,

A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing

his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰Ioving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.PWord of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

Psalm 16 (read responsively by whole verse)

¹Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

²I say to the LORD, "You are my LORD; I have no good apart from you."

³As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my delight.

⁴Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.

⁵The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

⁶The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.

⁷I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

⁸I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

⁹Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

¹⁰For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.

¹¹You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Reading from the New Testament

Galatians 2:15-21

¹⁵We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. ¹⁷But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. ¹⁹For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; ²⁰and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,

who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

Reflection

Hymn of the Day

"Take My Life, That I May Be" ELW 583



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 your enter or leave the sanctuary.

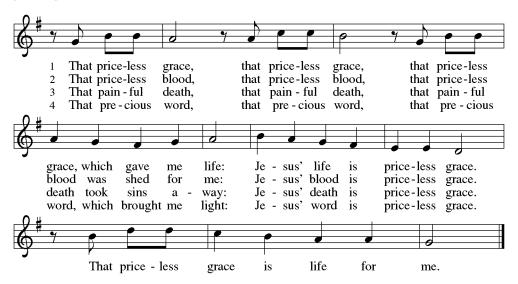


Offering Prayer

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.



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.

Serving in worship this evening...

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

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Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss Dana Barron Bert Mount Steve Warner Susan Ross	
Diane Keely, Michael Kloster, Lisa Larson, Jim Skelton, Grace Yarnoff Mary Ann Kearns Elizabeth Stegner James Morehead	Financial SecretaryAssistant Financial SecretaryMusic Director
Greg Hummel	Associate OrganistAssociate Organist

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!