

The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist January 28, 2024

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.

Masks are now optional during 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 ushers. 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. The liturgy is printed in this bulletin. If you're worshipping via Zoom, please remain muted until you get to the part where you will be invited to unmute and participate in some parts of the liturgy, as marked by this symbol. $\frac{1}{2}$ = UNMUTE

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. There are two options: You may come forward to receive the bread from the Pastor and wine or grape juice from the Assisting Minister. The glasses will be pre-poured, with the grape juice in the inner circle and wine in the outer circle. Each person will take their own glass from the tray. Empty glasses can be deposited in trays on the front pews. This will be a continuous communion, standing to receive the elements. The other option is we have individually packaged communion with either wine or grape juice that you can pick up at the entrance of the sanctuary. The pastor will say "The body of Christ given for you and the blood of Christ shed for you" following the singing of the Communion Song. Please deposit the cups and wrappers in the trash receptacles as you leave the sanctuary.

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

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

P: Presiding Minister **L:** Leader/Assisting Minister **R:** Reader **A:** Assembly

+ All may make the sign of the cross.

Prelude "The Only Son from Heaven" BWV 601 by J.S. Bach, "Ciacona in D Minor" by Johann Pachelbel, and "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" by Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.
- A 🚇 Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God, our rock and refuge,
- A we pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you.

We have wounded one another

and sinned against you.

We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit

dwelling in each of us.

Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation.

Restore us,

that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

P The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

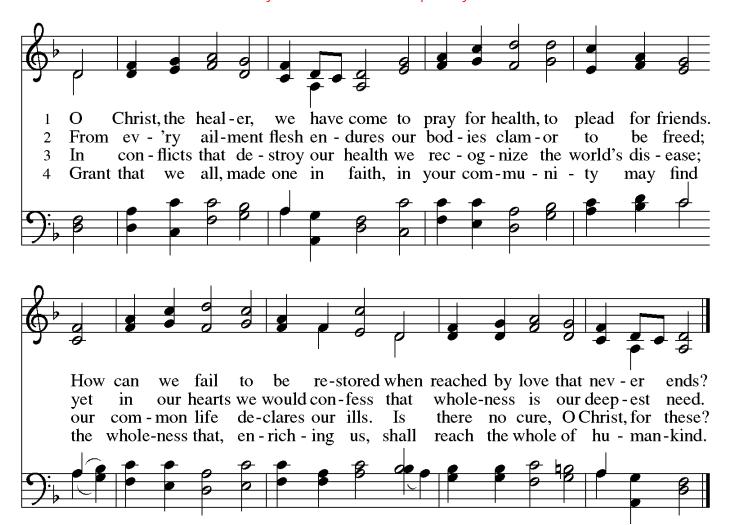
The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

You are God's beloved.

A 🚇 Amen.

You may reverence the cross as it passes you.



Greeting

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- A And also with you!

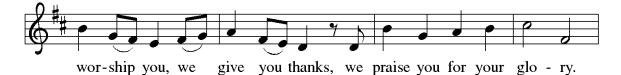
Canticle of Praise "Glory to God" 5148



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

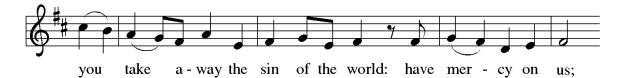


Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we

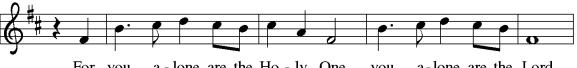




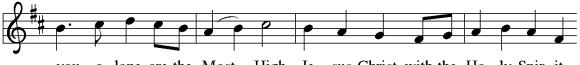
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it,



Prayer of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- A And also with you.
- P Let us pray...

Pause for a moment of silence...

- P Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Word: God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and song

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures.

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

R A reading from Deuteronomy.

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

- R The Word of the Lord. Or, Word of God, word of life.
- A Thanks be to God!

The organ will play the tone, and then the refrain, and then the Assembly will sing the refrain through. The organ will only accompany the first two verses and the refrain.

The right side of the Assembly sings the lightface verses to the tone; the left side of the Assembly sings boldface verses. The organ accompanies the first two verses and the remaining verses are sung unaccompanied.

All sing the refrain where indicated by "R."

Tone:



Refrain:



¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with ¹ my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the ¹ congregation.

²Great are your | works, O LORD, pondered by all who de- | light in them.

³Majesty and splendor [|] mark your deeds, and your righteousness en- [|] dures forever.

⁴You cause your wonders to [|] be remembered; you are gracious and full [|] of compassion. R

⁵You give food to ¹ those who fear you, remembering forev- ¹ er your covenant.

⁶You have shown your people the power | of your works in giving them the lands | of the nations.

⁷The works of your hands are faithful- ¹ ness and justice; all of your pre- ¹ cepts are sure.

⁸They stand fast forev- | er and ever, because they are done in | truth and equity. R

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove- [|] nant forever; holy and awesome [|] is your name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the begin- | ning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise en- | dures forever. R

R A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸"Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

R The Word of the Lord. Or, Word of God, word of life.

A • Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

S151a





Gospel Mark 1:21-28

P The holy gospel according to Mark.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus

rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- A Praise to you, O Christ!

The Gospel Acclamation is sung once again.

The Assembly is then 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.



"Cast Out, O Christ" (CONSOLATION) ACS 1016



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 As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

(brief pause)

L Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace,

A **§** receive our prayer.

L Strengthening God, energize our minds and hearts to care for those in our communities. We pray for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, our pastor Mark, our president Dana, our council, our justice ministries and all who guide and instruct our communities. God of grace,

A receive our prayer.

L Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace,

A receive our prayer.

L Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace,

A receive our prayer.

L Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer, especially Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Joel Brown, Jim Jung, Nancy Lang, Elaine Nelson, George Swierczynski, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. God of grace,

A receive our prayer.

L Still-speaking God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. God of grace,

A receive 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 God of grace,

A receive our prayer.

L Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors, and companions in the church and in our lives especially Thomas Aquinas and Ansgar. We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care. God of grace,

A receive our prayer.

- P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- A Amen.

Peace

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- A 👲 And also with you.

Greet one another in the peace of Christ, saying "Peace be with you,"

"The peace of the Lord," or similar words.

The Assembly is seated.

Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ ...

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.



Offering Music

"Ertöt uns durch dein Güte" By J. S. Bach

Ertöt uns durch dein Güte, Erweck uns durch dein Gnad; Den alten Menschen kränke, Dass der neu' leben mag Wohl hie auf dieser Erden, Den Sinn und all Begehren Und G'danken hab'n zu dir.

Put us to death through your goodness; Raise us [from the dead] through your grace; Mortify the Old Adam [within us], That the New [Adam within us] may live

Here on this earth as well, And have his disposition and all desires And thoughts be toward you.

Presentation of the Gifts

"Light Shone In Darkness" (LUX IN TENEBRIS) **ELW 307** *The Assembly stands and sings.*



bath - ing in beau - ty na-ture's rev - e - la - tion. All that has be - ing, Christ rose in glo - ry, won for us sal - va - tion. Sing, earth and heav - en, Christ's bod - y, groan - ing, suf - fers trib - u - la - tion, longs for God's jus - tice,

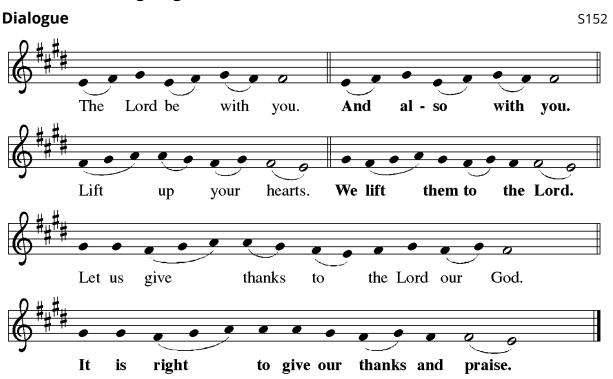


Offering Prayer

- L Let us pray.
- L Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

A Amen.

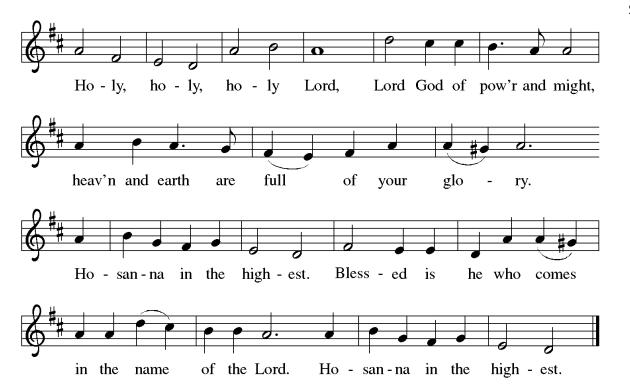
The Great Thanksgiving



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.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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:



Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Α Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus. Α

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Α Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Α Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

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.

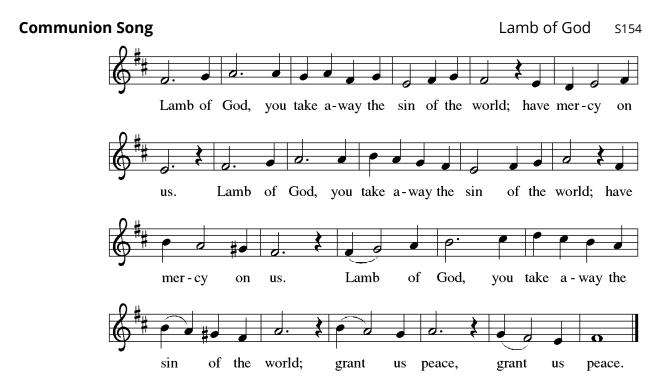
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

- P At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.
- A 👲 We come to be filled with your love.

The Assembly is seated.



Distribution of Holy Communion

For those who are communing with the packets or online, the pastor will say "The body of Christ given for you and the blood of Christ shed for you."

Those who wish, please come forward as the ushers direct, to receive the bread from the Pastor and wine or grape juice from the Assisting Minister. The glasses will be pre-poured, with the grape juice in the inner circle and wine in the outer circle. Each person will take their own glass from the tray. Empty glasses can be deposited in trays on the front pews. This will be a continuous communion, standing to receive the elements.

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

When you receive the elements, you may respond by saying, "Amen."



The Assembly stands as directed.

Blessing after Communion

P May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace.

A Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Giver of every gift,
 Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
 Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

A Amen.

Sending: God blesses us, and sends us in mission to the world ...

Blessing

P God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
+ bless you and remain with you always.

A 🚇 Amen.



Dismissal

- L Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
- A Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good" by Gerard Bunk

Please stay for a time of fellowship and announcements immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall.

Today's refreshments are a Soup & Sandwich Lunch hosted by the Council, preceding the Annual Meeting.

Come enjoy one another's company and this opportunity for extended fellowship!!



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

Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Mark Sloss
Assisting Minister	
Lector	
Acolyte	Kit McCarthy
Organist	
Music Director	
Table Preparation	
Zoom Host	
Audio-Visual Technician	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel
Ushers	Marlene Chatain & Nicolai Schousboe

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Upcoming Events – for details see the weekly e-blast, *Immanuel Newsfeeds*, or the website Calendar at www.immanuelevanston.org. Worship services can be attended either in person or online.

Sunday, Jan. 28	Annual Meeting	1:00 pm
Monday, Jan. 29	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
Tuesday, Jan. 30	Midweek Spiritual Gathering	12:00 pm Noon
Wednesday, Jan. 31	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Feb. 1	First Day Black History Month	
	Daytime Quilters	9:00 am
	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Saturday, Feb. 3	Indoor Farmers' Market	8:00 am
Sunday, Feb. 4	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday Worship-Blessing of the Quilts	10:30 am

This week's commemorations....

Thomas Aquinas, teacher, died 1274 Sunday, January 28, 2024

One of the most brilliant and creative theologians in the church's history, Aquinas worked to bring together scripture and the philosophy of Aristotle. A member of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), Aquinas was also a hymnwriter.

Presentation of Our Lord Friday, February 2, 2024

Forty days after the birth of Jesus we mark the day Mary and Joseph presented him in the temple in accordance with Jewish law. There they were greeted by Simeon, an aged priest who offered the song "Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace," as well as by the prophet Anna, who spoke of the redemption of Israel.

Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden, died 865 Saturday, February 3, 2024

A monk who helped bring Christianity to Scandinavia, Ansgar returned to Germany where he was named bishop of Hamburg. He is remembered for his love for poor people. From sundaysandseasons.com.

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss	Pastor
Dana Barron	Congregation President
Michael Kloster	
Steve Warner	Congregation Secretary
Susan Ross	Congregation Treasurer
Diane Keely, Jerry Larson, Michael Kloster, Kit McCarthy, Terri Simchak, Grace Yarnoff	Congregation Council Members
Laurie Stivers	
James Morehead	Music Director
Christine Kraemer	Organist
Laurie Stivers	Associate Organist
lane 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!