

# The Fifth Sunday After Epiphany Blessing of Quilts

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist February 4, 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 Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

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

+ All may make the sign of the cross.

#### **Prelude**

"Variations on "NETTLETON" by Undine Smith Moore and Six Variants on "ES IST EIN ROS" by Gerald Near

#### **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.

By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

A • Amen.



#### 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!

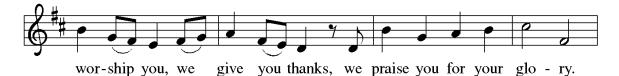
**Canticle of Praise** "Glory to God" 5148



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

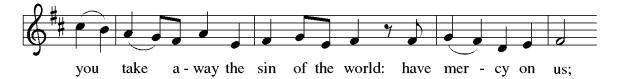


Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we





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.







#### **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 Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make 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.
- A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

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

## Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures.

Isaiah 40:21-31

R A reading from Isaiah.

Have 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?
It 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;
who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

<sup>24</sup>Scarcely 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.

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
 <sup>26</sup>Lift 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.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

28 Have 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.

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

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

31 but 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.

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:



<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises <sup>1</sup> to our God! How pleasant it is to honor <sup>1</sup> God with praise!

<sup>2</sup>The Lord re- | builds Jerusalem, and gathers the ex- | iles of Israel.

<sup>3</sup>The LORD heals the <sup>1</sup> brokenhearted and binds <sup>1</sup> up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup>The Lord counts the number | of the stars and calls them all | by their names. R

<sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and might- <sup>1</sup> y in power; there is no limit <sup>1</sup> to God's wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord lifts | up the lowly, but casts the wicked | to the ground.

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD <sup>|</sup> with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp <sup>|</sup> to our God.

<sup>8</sup>who covers the heav- | ens with clouds

and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- | on the mountains. R

<sup>9</sup>God provides food <sup>|</sup> for the cattle and for the young ravens <sup>|</sup> when they cry.

<sup>10</sup>God is not impressed by the might | of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed | of a runner,

<sup>11</sup>but finds pleasure in those who <sup>1</sup> fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love. <sup>20c</sup> Hallelujah! **R**  R A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>16</sup>If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

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.



S151a





Gospel Mark 1: 29-39

P The holy gospel according to Mark.

# A Glory to you, O Lord!

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He 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." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

- 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.



#### 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.

#### **Blessing of Quilts**

All are invited to place your hands on a quilt or extend arms out in front of you as an act of blessing (even if you're online).

- P God, you call us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Send forth your Spirit today as we call upon you to bless our work and make it holy. Help these quilts, our offerings of hope, travel across the furthest distances to reach our most weary neighbors and surround them with your grace and peace.
- A Jesus, open our hearts to love our neighbors.
- P God, we give you thanks for the pieces of fabric, thread, sewing machines, and all items collected. May their presence be a sign of your faithful promise, may these quilts wrap our neighbors in unending love, and offer dignity and healing.
- A Jesus, open our hearts to love our neighbors.
- P God, we give thanks for all those who have taken part in creating these quilts. May you guide us to greater empathy for our neighbors in crisis, for the mothers that struggle to feed their hungry children, for the fearful, the anxious, the isolated. May these quilts provide comfort and relief to those who are downtrodden around the world.
- A Jesus, open our hearts to love our neighbors.
- P God, be with those who will receive these gifts neighbors we have never met, neighbors who are far away, neighbors who, like us, long for your grace and mercy. May the work crafted from our humble hands serve as a beacon of light and hope to those who are desolate and hopeless and fill them with the peace that is only found in you.
- A Jesus, open our hearts to love our neighbors.

P We thank you for this ministry of service, for the opportunity to comfort those in their darkest hours, to remind our neighbors in Christ of your loving presence. Bring us ever closer to your heart and our neighbors in need throughout the world. We pray all this in the name of Jesus, the one who is our hope.

#### A 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 Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace,

## A **§** receive our prayer.

L Wise God, move our hearts and minds to seek ways to offer fairness and justice for all in our community. We pray for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, our pastor Mark, our president Michael, our council, our justice ministries and all who guide and instruct our communities. God of grace,

## A receive our prayer.

L Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace,

## A receive our prayer.

L God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace,

## A receive our prayer.

L God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need, especially Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Joel Brown, Kathy Hermann, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, 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 God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. 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 God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died, especially the Martyrs of Japan. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. 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**

"There Is a Balm in Gilead" By William L. Dawson

There is a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole
There is a balm in Gilead
To heal the sin-sick soul

Sometimes I feel discouraged And think my work's in vain But then the Holy Spirit Revives my soul again

Don't ever feel discouraged For Jesus is your friend And if you lack of knowledge He'll ne'er refuse to lend

If you cannot sing like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul You can tell the love of Jesus And say, "He died for all". 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,



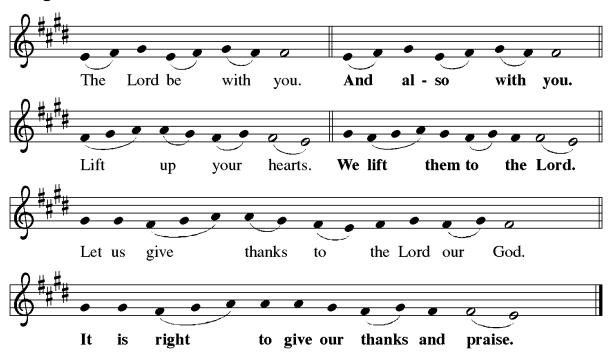
## **Offering Prayer**

- 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

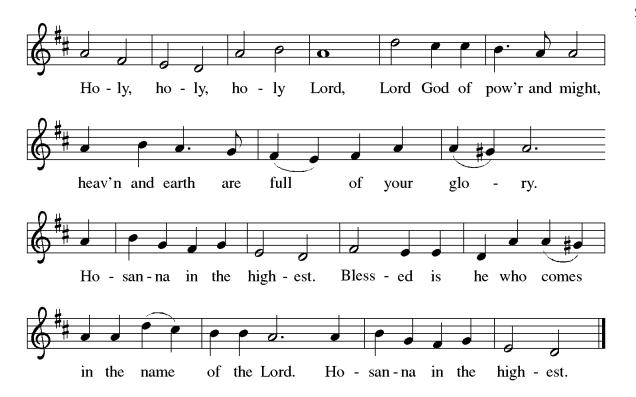




## **Preface** The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:

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.

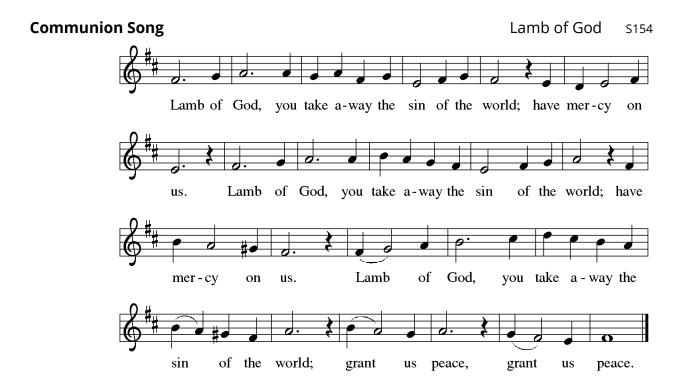
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

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.

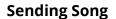
#### **Prayer after Communion**

- L 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, the bless you and remain with you always.
- A Amen.



"Rise, Shine, You People" (WOJTKIEWIECZ) **ELW 665** 



- 1 Rise, shine, you peo ple! Christ the Lord has en tered
- sends the pow'rs of See how he vil reel ing; e -Come, cel brate; your 3 e ban - ners high un furl ing,
- 4 Tell how the Fa ther sent the Son to save us.



sto - ry; God him cen - tered. our hu - man in is He comes to he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and dark-ness hurl - ing. your songs and prayers a - gainst the To all the the Son, who life and free-dom gave Te11 Tell how the of us.



us, by death and sin sur-round-ed, wom-en, who by guilt are driv-en, world go out and tell the sto-ry Spir-it calls from ev-'ry na-tion

with grace un - bound-ed. now are for - giv - en. of Je - sus' glo - ry. God's new cre - a - tion.

#### **Dismissal**

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

#### **Postlude**

"Toccata on "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" by Marilyn Biery

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

Today's refreshments are hosted by the Kraemer Family.

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	
Assisting Minister	
Lector	Steve Warner
Acolyte	Chris Djuric
Organist	
Music Director	James Morehead
Table Preparation	Kathryn Skelton
Zoom Host	Bert Mount
Audio-Visual Technician	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel
Ushers	Joe & Terri Simchak

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**Upcoming Events** – for details see the weekly e-blast, *Immanuel Newsfeeds*, or the website Calendar at <a href="https://www.immanuelevanston.org">www.immanuelevanston.org</a>. Worship services can be attended either in person or online.

Monday, Feb. 5	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
Tuesday, Feb. 6	Midweek Spiritual Gathering	12:00 pm Noon
Wednesday, Feb. 7	Group Spiritual Direction	10:00 am
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Feb. 8	Evanston Interfaith Clergy & Leaders Monthly Meeting	12:00 pm Noon
	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Saturday, Feb. 10	Trombone Choir Rehearsal	10:00 am
Sunday, Feb. 11	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday School	9:30 am
	Sunday Worship	10:30 am

#### This week's commemorations....

#### The Martyrs of Japan, died 1597 Monday, February 5, 2024

Christianity was brought to Japan in the sixteenth century by Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries. The religion was suppressed, however, and in 1597 twenty-six missionaries and converts were crucified. Nevertheless, Christianity survived and later prospered.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

## Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

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