

The Second Sunday in Lent

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist February 25, 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 ...

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

Prelude "O God, Our Faithful God" by Johannes Brahms and

"Let Us Break Bread Together" by J. Roland Braithwaite

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,
 who writes the law on our hearts,
 who draws all people together through Jesus.
- A 🔮 Amen.
- P Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God,

 A we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.
 P Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs,

and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ

A 🔮 Amen.

Gathering Song

"The God of Abraham Praise" (YIGDAL) ELW 831

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.

to you be glory, might divine,

and endless praise!

and trees of life forever grow

with mercy crowned.

A 🔮 And also with you!

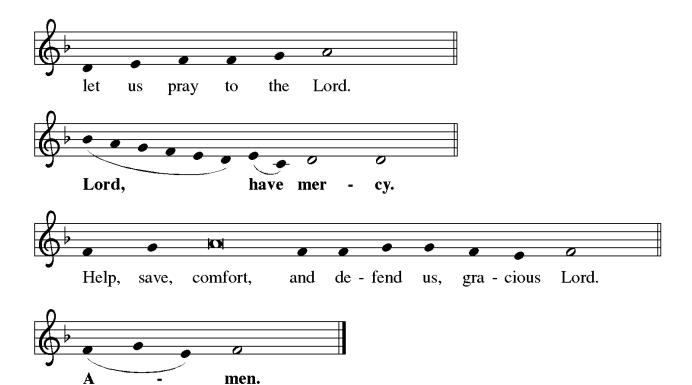
Kyrie



Kyrie...



For this ho-ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor-ship and praise,



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 O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures.

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

R A reading from Genesis.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

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

A Thanks be to God!

This week's commemorations....

Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, died 1921 Sunday, February 25, 2024

Born in Norway and trained there as a deaconess, Fedde was asked to come and minister to the poor and to seamen in New York City. She established the Deaconess House in Brooklyn as well as Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis.

George Herbert, hymnwriter, died 1633 Friday, March 1, 2024

An excellent scholar, Herbert served briefly in the English parliament, then became a parish priest. He was known for devoted care of his parishioners, as well as for writing poetry and hymns, including "Come, my way, my truth, my life." He died at age 40.

John Wesley, died 1791; Charles Wesley, died 1788; renewers of the church Saturday, March 2, 2024

These brothers led a revival originally intended to remain within the Church of England, one that involved frequent communion and advocacy for the poor. Except for a brief time in America, they worked in England. Charles was also a prolific hymn writer. After their deaths, their work led to the formation of the Methodist Church.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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.



Refrain:



²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's ¹ line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off-¹ spring of Israel.

²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid- ¹ den from them;

but when they cry out, [|] the Lord hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the ¹ great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who [|] fear the LORD.

²⁶The poor shall eat [|] and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever! R

- ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn ¹ to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow ¹ before God.
- ²⁸For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
- who rules o- [|] ver the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow ¹ down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- ¹ fore the LORD.

³⁰Their descendants shall [|] serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to genera- [|] tions to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people [|] yet unborn, saying to them, "The [|] LORD has acted!" **R**

Reading from the New Testament

R A reading from Romans.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and

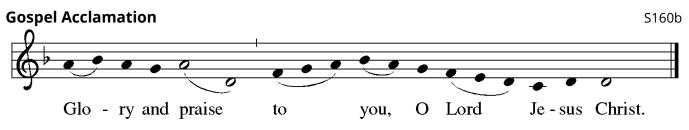
Romans 4:13-25

be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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







Gospel

Mark 8:31-38

P The holy gospel according to Mark.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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.

Hymn of the Day

"Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said" (BOURBON) ELW 667



The Apostle's Creed

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

Α	l believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
	l 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.
	l 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 Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

(brief pause)

L We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church. Give wisdom and discernment to our bishops, pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders. Hear us, O God.

A 🞍 Your mercy is great.

L We turn to you for patience. Fill our hearts with the patience needed to change our communities into ones of love. We pray for those among us who are the leaders in our faith community, that their hearts remain inspired and energetic. 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. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L We turn to you for renewal. Save lives and ecosystems threatened by pollution and a changing climate. Cleanse the earth's waters and restore the soil. Preserve rainforests, deserts, and wildlife, that generations to come may cherish your creation. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

- L We turn to you for justice. Uphold the worth and dignity of every person, especially any who experience hatred and rejection because of gender, ability, sexual orientation, color, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God.
- A Your mercy is great.

L We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate helpers to any who suffer because of war and violence. Shelter unhoused people, befriend those who are lonely, bring hope to any in despair, and console the bereaved Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Joel Brown, Kathy Hermann, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Nancy Lang, Elaine Nelson, Darryl Rohrer, George Swierczynski, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

- L We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ's sacrificial love. Hear us, O God.
- A Your mercy is great.
- 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 We turn to you for peace. We honor the saints who lived in service to others especially Elizabeth Fedde, George Herbert, John Wesley, and Charles Wesley. Inspire us by their example until you gather us into your kingdom. Hear us, O God.
- A Your mercy is great.
- P Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- 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.

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.



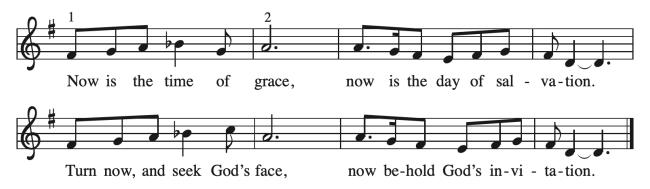
Offering Music

"A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth" By Hugo Distler

A lamb goes uncomplaining forth to save a world of sinners. He bears the burden all alone, shorn of all his honors. He goes to slaughter, weak and faint, is led to die without complaint: his spotless life he offers. He bears the shame, the stripes, the wrath: His anguish, mockery, and death for us he gladly suffers.

Presentation of the Gifts "Now is the Time of Grace" (NOW IS THE TIME OF GRACE) **ACS 918**

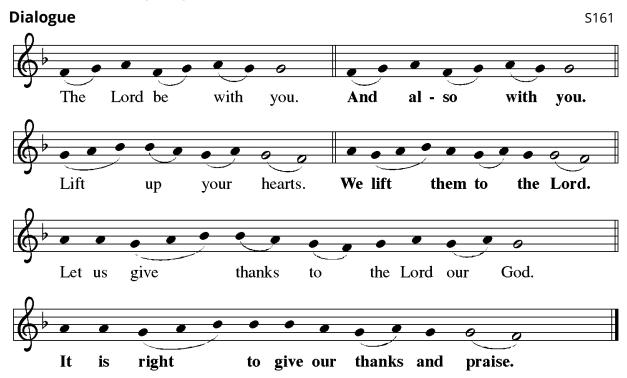
The Assembly stands and sings the Refrain twice as the gifts are brought forward.



Offering Prayer

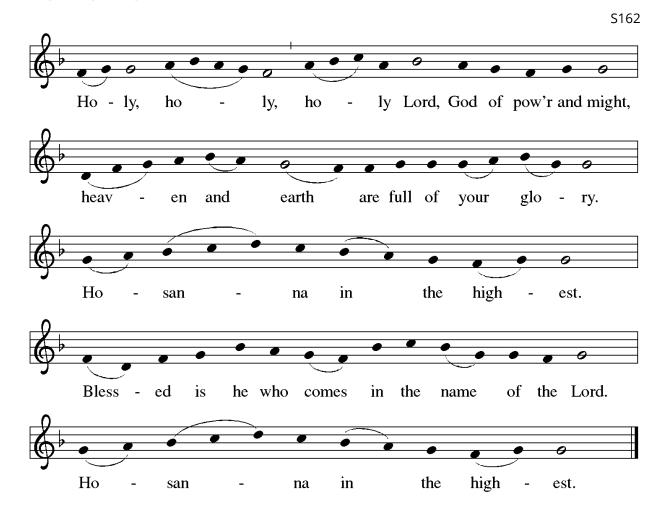
- L Let us pray.
- L Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.
 Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.
 Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace.
 We pray this in your name.
- A Amen.

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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 God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



P Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

A 🔮 Amen

P Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
 to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup
 with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.
 Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

A Amen

P Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.
 Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



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.

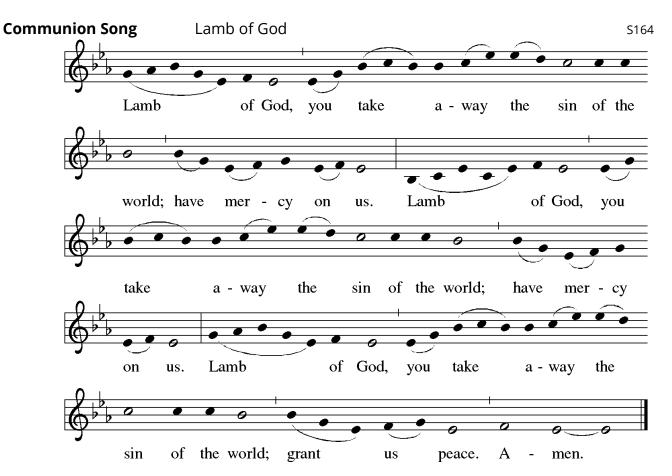
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

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 Bread for the journey.A feast for hungry hearts. Come!
- 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."

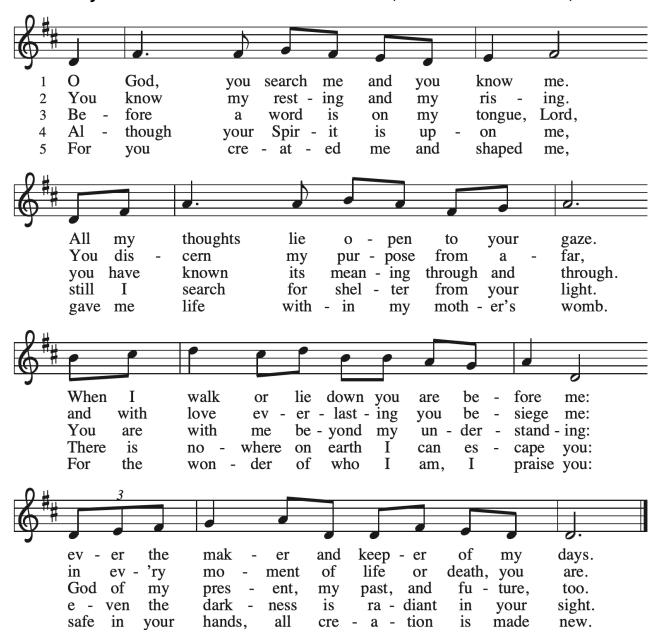
Those who wish, please come forward as the ushers direct, to receive the bread from the Pastor and wine or grape juice from the Assisting Minister. The glasses will be pre-poured, with the grape juice in the inner circle and wine in the outer circle. Each person will take their own glass from the tray. 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."

Communion Hymn

"O God You Search Me" (O GOD YOU SEARCH ME) ACS 1082



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 Let us pray...

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.

As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

A Amen.

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

Blessing

P Beloved,

we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace.

A 🔮 Amen.

"How Firm a Foundation" (FOUNDATION) Sending Song **ELW 796** How firm foun - da tion, O Lord, saints of the 1 а with 2 "Fear not, Ι am you, oh, be not dis - mayed, tri - als your life - time my 3 "When through fi - 'ry path - way shall lie, "Through - out 4 all their peo ple shall prove ~ 7 Word! is laid for your faith in Christ Je sus, the give you for Ι am your God and will still aid; all - suf - fi - cient, shall be my grace, your sup ply. my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love; you What more can he say than to he has said stand, I'll strength - en help you, and you, cause you to shall not you; on -tem de -The flames hurt Ι ly sign shall their and then, when gray hairs ples а dorn, 0 who the Sav for fled? un to ior ref - uge have hand." up held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent your like sume and your fine." dross to con gold to re borne." lambs they shall still in my bo som be

Dismissal

- L Go in peace. Share your bread.
- A 🔮 Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Solemn Processional" by Robert A. Harris

Please stay for a time of fellowship, congregational announcements, and celebrations immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall (on the east side of the building). Today's refreshments are hosted by the Café Immanuel Team. Come enjoy one another's company and this opportunity for connecting!!



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	Chris Djuric
Organist	
Music Director	James Morehead
Table Preparation	Terri Simchak
Zoom Host	Jim McCarthy
Audio-Visual Technician	
Ushers	Nicolai Schousboe and Jim Rakowski

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Monday, Feb. 26	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
Tuesday, Feb. 27	Midweek Spiritual Gathering	12:00 pm Noon
Wednesday, Feb. 28	Lenten Soup Supper	6:00 pm
	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
	Midweek Lenten Evening Prayers	7:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Feb. 29	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Saturday, Mar. 2	Indoor Farmers' Market	8:00 am
Sunday, Mar. 3	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday Worship	10:30 am
	New Community Church Worship & Gathering	1:00 pm, 3:00 pm

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss	Pastor
Michael Kloster	
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!