

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist April 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.

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

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

+ All may make the sign of the cross.

Prelude "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" by David Evan Thomas, "Come Down, O Love Divine" by Marilyn Biery, and "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song" by James Biery

The Assembly stands when directed and turns toward the font.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy

A 🔮 Amen.

P Look, here is water!

A 🔮 Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

 P Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
 We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.
 Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
 The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
 Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.
 Look, here is water.

A 🔮 Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.
We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

A 🔮 Amen.

- P Look, here is water!
- A Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Gathering Song"There in God's Garden" (SHADES MOUNTAIN)ELW 342You may reverence the cross as it passes you.



6

5 This is my ending, this my resurrection; into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit. This have I searched for; now I can possess it. This ground is holy. All heav'n is singing, "Thanks to Christ whose passion offers in mercy healing, strength, and pardon. Peoples and nations, take it, take it freely!" Amen! My Master!

Greeting

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

A 🔮 Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P The grace of our risen Lord Jesus, the love of God, who raised him from the dead, and the communion of the Holy Spirit who breathes new life into us, be with you all.

A 🛛 🚇 And also with you!



Canticle of Praise

S101



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, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through 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.

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

First Reading from the New Testament

Acts 8:26-40

R A reading from Acts.

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

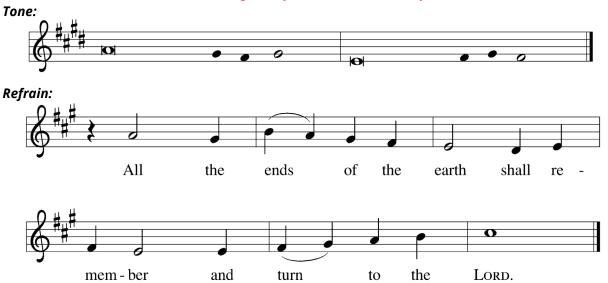
For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

- 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."

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 $^{\mid}$ live forever!

 ^{27}All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn $^{\text{I}}$ to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow [|] before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs [|] to the LORD,

who rules o- [|] ver the nations. R

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-[|] 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**

Second Reading from the New Testament

1 John 4:7-21

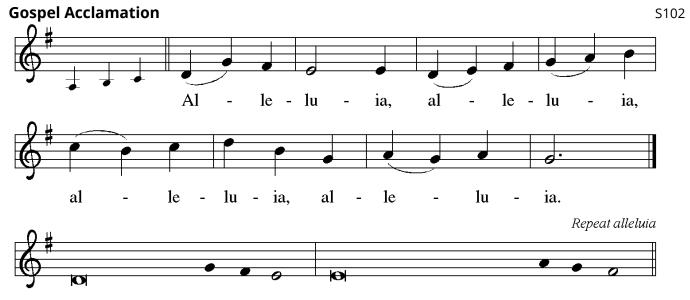
R A reading from 1 John.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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





I am the vine, you| are the branches.* Those who abide in me and I in them | bear much fruit.

Gospel

John 15:1-8

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in

me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

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

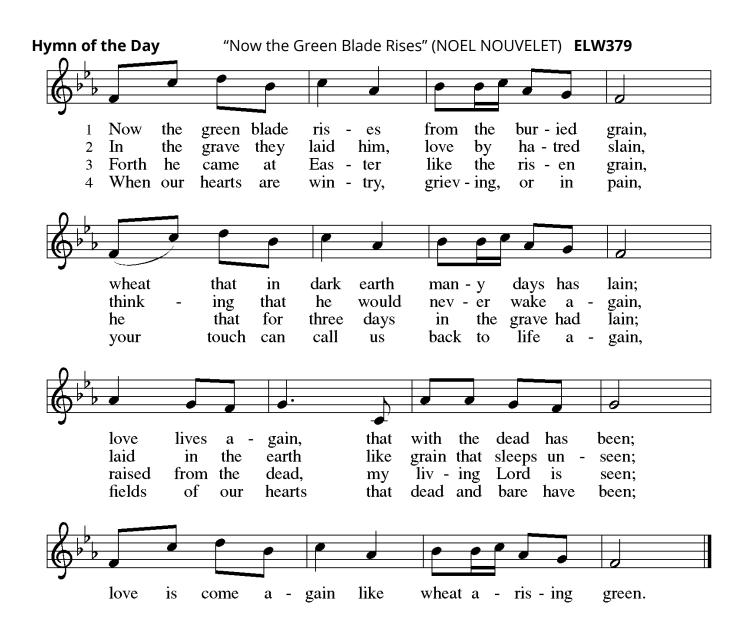
The Gospel Acclamation Alleluia is sung once again.

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 which 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 Nicene Creed

- L With the whole Church, let us profess our faith.
- A We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the + resurrection of the dead. and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

L Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

(brief pause)

- L We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,,
- A 🞍 hear our prayer.

L For the connections forged within and from our church congregations. 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 hear our prayer.

L For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering, especially Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Joel Brown, Kathy Hermann, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Nancy Lang, Kit McCarthy, Elaine Nelson, Darryl Rohrer, Joe Simchak, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts... God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. God of grace,

A hear 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 hear our prayer.

L With thanksgiving for the saints, especially Catherine of Siena, Philip and James, Athanasius, and Monica, who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

- P Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- 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

"Ego Sum Vitis" By John Reager

Ego sum vitis vera et vos palmites, qui manet in me, et ego in eo, hic fert fructum multum, Alleluia.

l am the true vine you are the branches; whoever remains in me; and l in him will bear much fruit, Hallelujah.



ELW 867

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



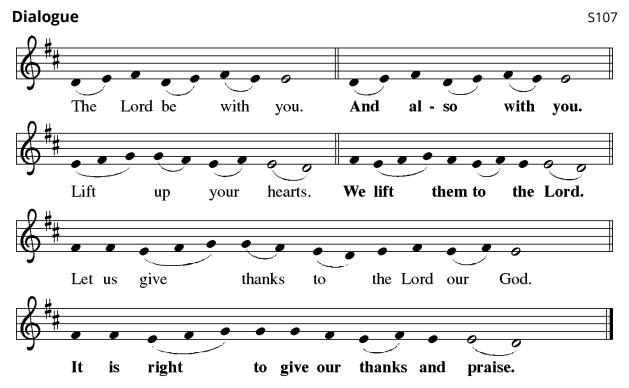
Offering Prayer

- L Let us pray.
- L Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

A Amen.

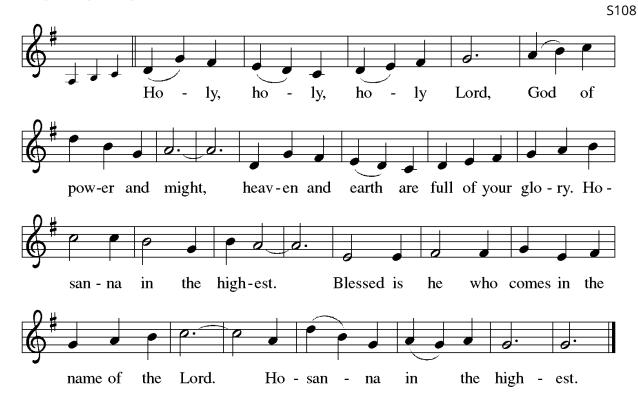
The Great Thanksgiving



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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy The Assembly joins in singing:



Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy God,you alone are holy,you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

A We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

A We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

A We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

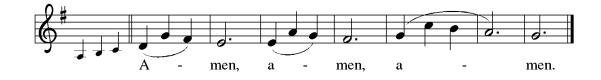


We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Α

Α

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.



The Lord's Prayer

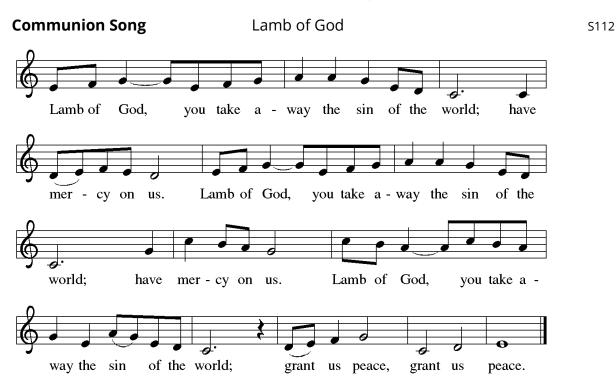
- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- A Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come, your will be done
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial, and 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 The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.Come and eat at God's table.

A We come to be filled with new life.

The Assembly is seated.

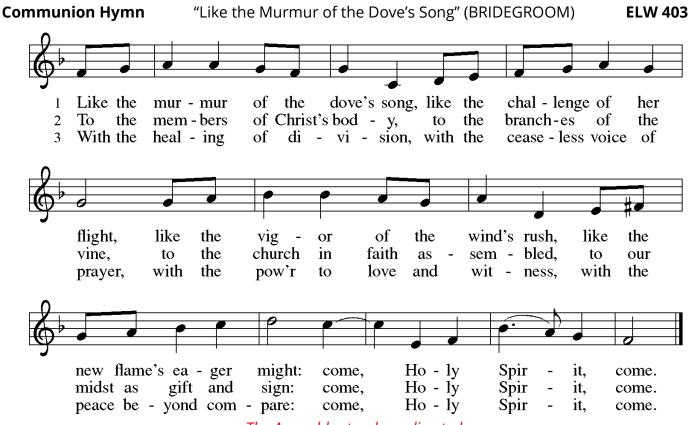


Distribution of Holy Communion

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 Let us pray...

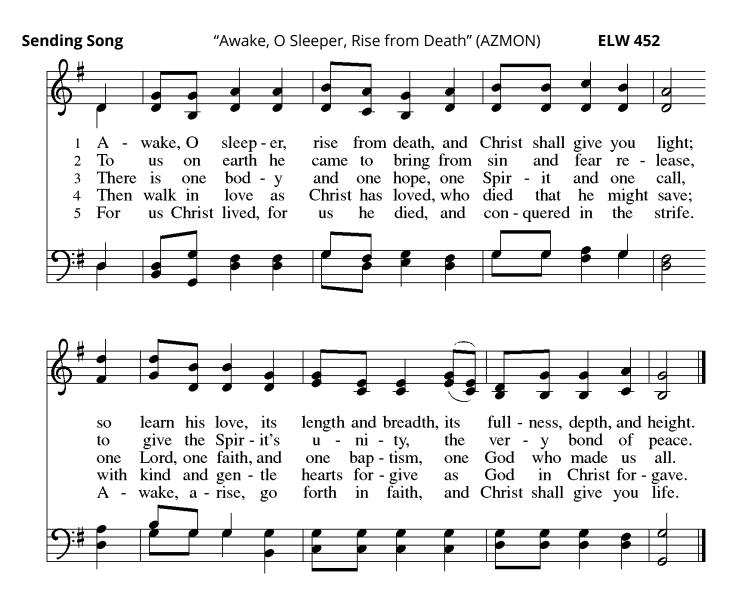
Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

A Amen.

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

Blessing

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- A Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope
 + bless you now and always
- A 🔮 Amen.



Dismissal

L Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

A 🔮 Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude Carillon Fantasy on "Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death" by Marilyn Biery

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 Café Immanuel. Come enjoy one another's company and this opportunity for connecting!!

Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Mark Sloss
Assisting Minister	Anne Heider
Lector	Anne Heider
Acolyte	Corbin Treadwell
Organist	Christine Kraemer
Music Director	
Table Preparation	
Zoom Host	Jerry McCarthy
Audio-Visual Technician	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel
Ushers	
Counters	Steve Warner

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This week's commemorations....

Catherine of Siena, theologian, died 1380 Monday, April 29, 2024

This theologian was the first woman among Roman Catholics to receive the title "Doctor [teacher] of the Church." Catherine was a Dominican sister known for her mystical visions as well as her work on behalf of people who were poor and imprisoned.

Philip and James, Apostles

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Philip was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and called Nathanael to "come and see." He later responded to an Ethiopian official's request for teaching and baptism. Little is known of James, the son of Alphaeus, called "the Less" to distinguish him from another apostle named James.

Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, died 373 Thursday, May 2, 2024

Best remembered for defending the teaching that Christ was fully God against those who taught otherwise, Athanasius was an influential church leader around the time of the Council of Nicea. He was banished from Alexandria five times for his forthright views.

Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387 Saturday, May 4, 2024

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful, but whom she helped bring into the Christian faith. She repeated the influence on her son Augustine, who went on to become one of the greatest church teachers.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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

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Sunday, Apr. 28	Confirmation Class at St. John's	12:30 pm
	Jesus, Pizza & Ice Cream	5:00 pm
Through Sunday, May 5	Evanston Overnight Shelter	8:30 pm
Tuesday, Apr. 30	Midweek Gatherings on Zoom	12:00 pm Noon
Wednesday, May 1	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, May 2	Daytime Quilters	9:00 am
Sunday, May 5	Sunday Worship	10:30 am
	Confirmation Class at St. John's	12:30 pm
	New Community Church	1:00 pm
	Gaza: Religion, Politics & Solidarity Event at First Presbyterian	2:00 pm
	Jesus, Pizza & Ice Cream	5:00 pm

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss	Pastor
Michael Kloster	Congregation President
Terri Simchak	Congregation Vice President
Dana Barron	
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	
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!