

The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist August 25, 2024

616 Lake St., Evanston, IL 60201 • 847-864-4464 • www.immanuelevanston.org E-mail: Church: immanuel@immanuelevanston.org • Pastor: <u>pastor@immanuelevanston.org</u> • Parish Administrator: <u>parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org</u>

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 today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

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

+ All may make the sign of the cross.

Prelude

"Chanson et Danse" by Federico Mompou, "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" by Kevin J. Sadowski, and "This Is My Father's World" by Lee Dengler

The Assembly stands when directed and turns toward the font.

Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.
- A 🖲 Amen.
- P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God, Our provider,
- A 🔮 help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen. P Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

A 🖲 Amen.

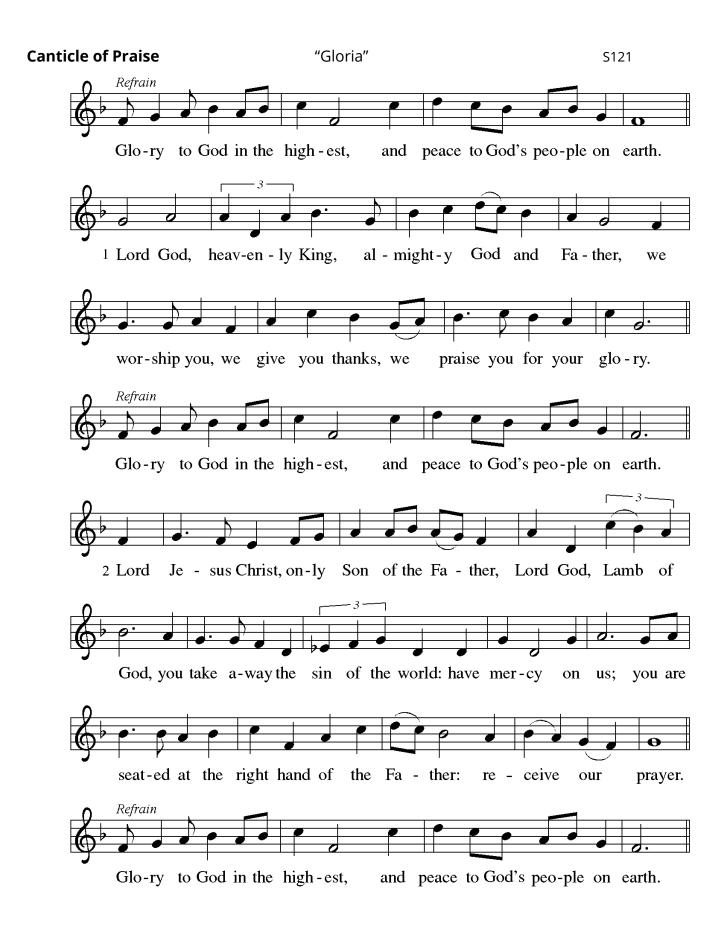
Gathering Song

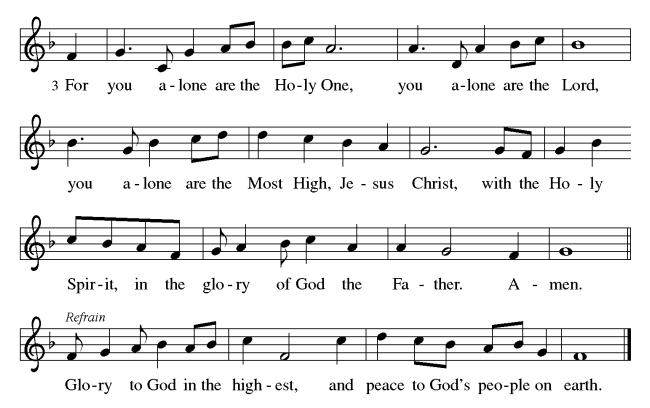
"When Morning Gilds the Skies" (LAUDES DOMINI) **ELW 853** *You may reverence the cross as it passes you.*



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!





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 Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through 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

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

R A reading from Joshua.

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve

other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

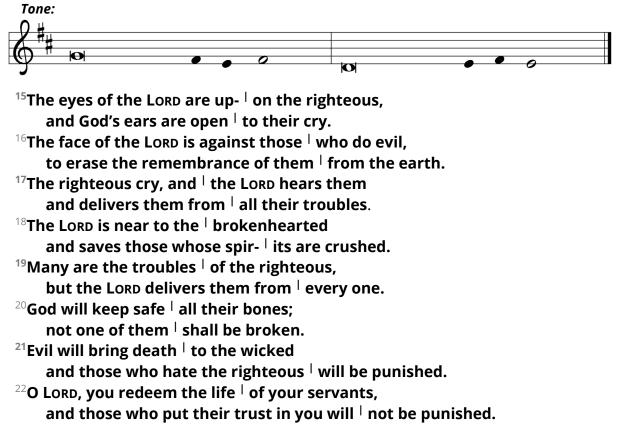
R The Word of the Lord. Or, Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

Psalm 34: 9-14

Psalm Tone 5, 2 sharps





Reading from the New Testament

Ephesians 6:10-20

R A reading from Ephesians.

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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





Lord, to whom | shall we go?* You have the words of e^{-1} ternal life.

Gospel

John 6: 56-69

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

[[]esus said,] ⁵⁶"Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

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 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 Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

(brief pause)

- L Holy God, you have the words of eternal life. Lead the church to put its trust in Jesus, the living Word. Direct preachers, teachers, writers, and all the baptized in faithful speech and bold witness. Merciful God,
- A 👲 receive our prayer.
- L God of service, make our hearts burst with compassion. 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. Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

L Creator God, we and all creation are sustained by your Word. We pray for all who remind us of our interconnectedness with all living things. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, ELCA advocacy, and local climate justice advocates. Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

- L God of wisdom, as our nation navigates another election cycle, guide our leaders to act justly for the sake of the world. Bring about fruitful conversation among your people and bring about change where you see fit. Sustain all who serve on juries in their deliberations. Merciful God,
- A receive our prayer.

L God of restoration, bring healing and wholeness to all who cry to you. Where pain is sharp, bring a sense of comfort and relief. Where grief runs deep, bring your tender mercy. Care for those in our hearts, especially for Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Nancy Lang, Elaine Nelson, Joe Simchak, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

L God of new life, protect students and teachers for a new school year. Bring an end to school shootings and cycles of violence. Move us to do all that is necessary to ensure a safe future for our children. Merciful God,

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 Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

- L God of every generation, we remember with thanksgiving all who have completed their baptismal journeys especially Augustine and Moses the Black. Strengthen us in our baptismal callings to serve you faithfully until our journey's end. Merciful God,
- A receive our prayer.
- P We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.
- 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 ...

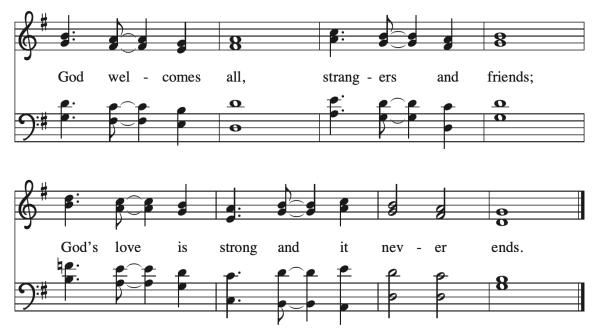


Offering An offering for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need. You scan this code with your smartphone camera to make your financial offering online.

Offering Music

"Angelico" from "Quiet Music" by Federico Mompou

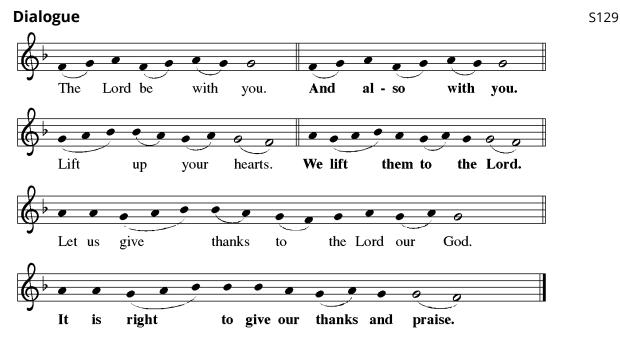
The Assembly stands and sings twice as the gifts are brought forward.



Offering Prayer

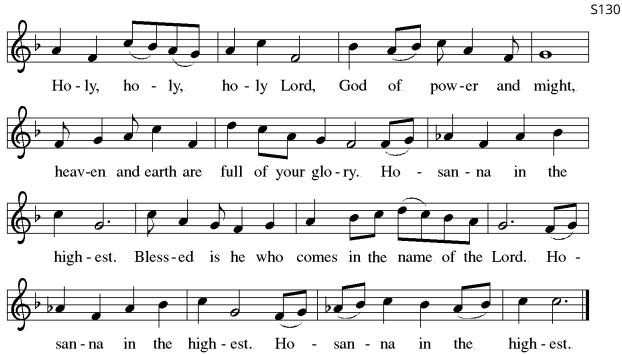
- L Let us pray.
- L Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.
 Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal.
 Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.
- A Amen.

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



Holy, Holy, Holy The Assembly joins in singing:

Thanksgiving at the Table

P Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You created the heavens and the earth, and fed our parents, Adam and Eve, with fruit from the garden. You open wide your hand and give food to every living creature. You restored the bounty of the earth after the flood; you gave your servants Abraham and Sarah food for their guests; you nourished Jacob and his family in a time of famine; you led your people into freedom and fed them with manna in the wilderness.

You fill the widow's larder with oil; you gather an abundant harvest of righteousness; you give us bread to eat, and so we live.

Your Spirit overshadowed your servant Mary, who gave birth to Jesus your Son, the Bread of Life. He fed the multitudes with barley loaves, the bread of the poor; he offered his own body as food for the life of the world. He reconciled his friends to himself at breakfast by the sea.

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.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:



O God, you are Wheat of Abundance: nourish us with your life.

O God, you are Oil of Gladness: pour over us the joy of your presence.

O God, you are Salt of the Earth: send us forth into your reconciling mission.

O God, you are Milk and Honey: return all people to their home in you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts. Let them be for us the Body and Blood of your Son, and grant that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may be filled with your life and goodness.

Leaven this gathered community with your Holy Spirit, that we with your whole creation might be renewed, and all might find a place at your abundant table. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.



Α

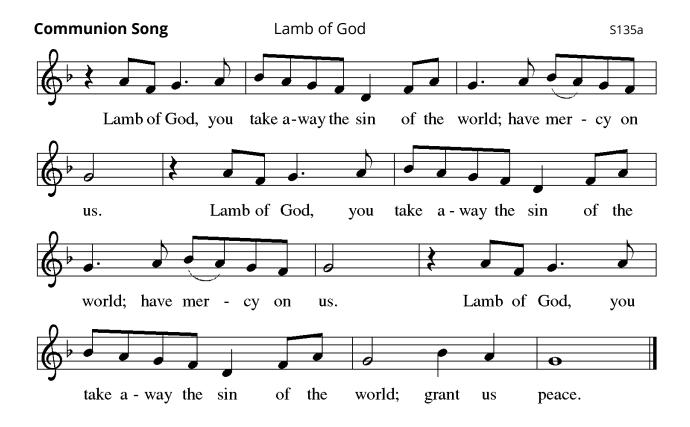
Α

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 Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!
- A 🎍 We come to be filled with your abundant life.



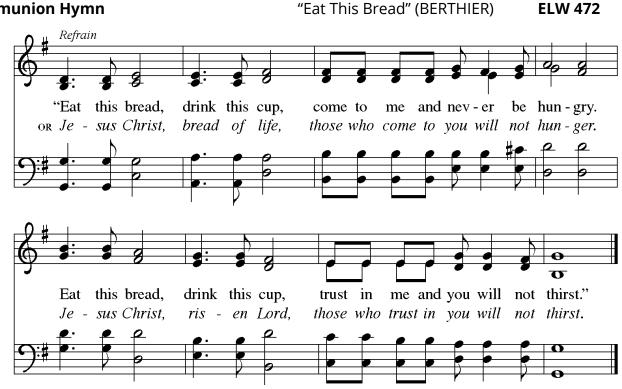
The Assembly is seated.

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.

Communion Hymn

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... Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

A Amen.

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

Blessing

- The blessing of God, Ρ who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever.
- Amen. Α

This week's commemorations....

Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, died 1153 Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430 Wednesday, August 28, 2024

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria.

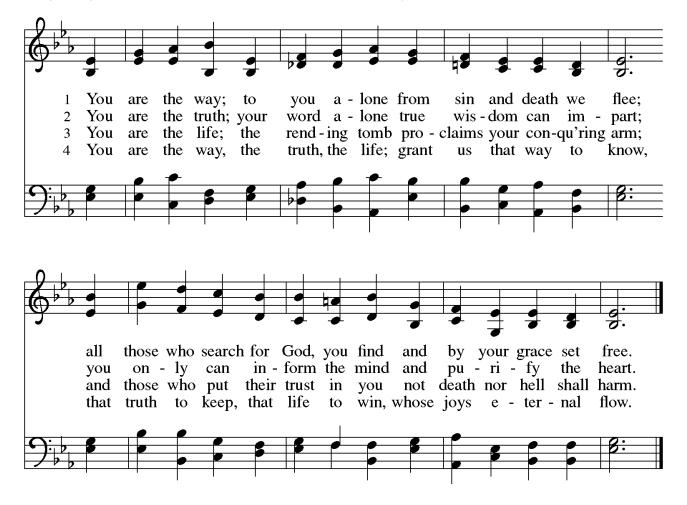
Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400 Wednesday, August 28, 2024

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Sending Song

"You Are The Way" (DUNDEE)



Dismissal

- L Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
- A Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Sonata No. 32 in C Major" by Domenico Scarlatti

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 Mark Kraemer. Come enjoy one another's company and this opportunity for connecting!!

Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Mark Sloss
Assisting Minister	Laurie Stivers
Lector	Anne Heider
Acolyte	Kit McCarthy
Pianist	Christine Kraemer
Music Director	James Morehead
Table Preparation	Kit McCarthy
Zoom Host	Jim McCarthy
Audio-Visual Technician	Kevin McDaniel, Tom Couch
Ushers	Nicolai Schousboe
Counters	Jerry Larson

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Wednesday, Aug. 28	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
Thursday, Aug. 29	Daytime Quilters	9:00 am
Sunday, Sept. 1	Sunday Worship	10:30 am
	New Community Church	1:00 pm
Monday, Sept. 2	Labor Day (Church Office closed)	

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

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