

# The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist September 1, 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 ...

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

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

+ All may make the sign of the cross.

#### **Prelude**

"Preludes in G, A, and B Major" by J.S. Bach and "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" by Lee Dengler

The Assembly stands when directed and turns toward the font.

# **Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

#### A • Amen.

P Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Gracious God,

#### A • have mercy on us.

We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.

The cravings at war within us

cause conflicts and disputes.

In our desire to be first

we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,

our Savior and Lord.

#### Amen.

P God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

#### A 👲 Amen.

You may reverence the cross as it passes you.



#### Greeting

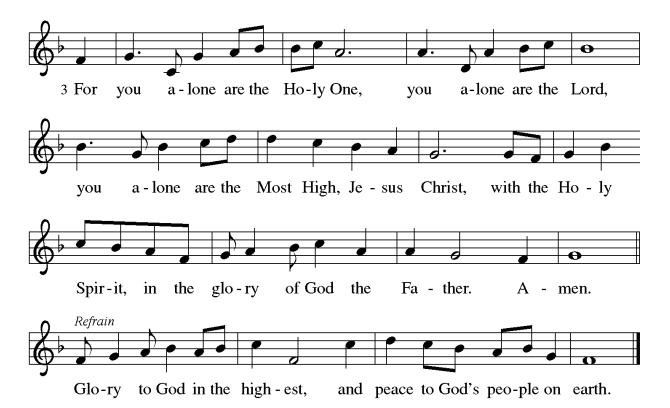
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with vou all.
- And also with you!

**Canticle of Praise** "Gloria" S121 Refrain Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. God and 1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. Refrain and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of 2 Lord God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are





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



# **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 our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved 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**

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

R A reading from Deuteronomy.

<sup>1</sup>So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

<sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances

as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

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

A Thanks be to God!

#### Psalm 15

# Psalm Tone 5, 4 sharps

The organ will play the tone. All sing the psalm in unison. There is no refrain.



<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,

who speak the truth | from their heart;

3they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil 1 to their friends;

they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the LORD.

They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.

# Reading from the New Testament

James 1:17-27

R A reading from James.

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is

this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

#### A • Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.



Gospel Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

# A Glory to you, O Lord!

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

This people honors me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me;

<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

<sup>21</sup>"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

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 Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

# (brief pause)

L God of every generation, give the church a sense of purpose and belonging. Sustain and build up leaders and lay people as we accompany one another in our life with Christ. Merciful God,

# A **§** receive our prayer.

L God of our communities, spread love and compassionate works far and wide. 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 God of creation, you named humans as co-creators with you. Where the earth cries out in pain, bring wholeness. Guide governments and industry, that environmental laws and practices seek to heal and not harm. Bring relief and justice to people and places suffering from climate catastrophe (especially). Merciful God,

#### A receive our prayer.

L Sovereign God, we pray for local communities of every kind: rural and urban; established and new. Lead those in authority to seek the good of all through their words and actions and to mentor others in honest and generous ways. Merciful God,

#### A receive our prayer.

L Healing God, you draw near to all who are hurting. Be with all who desire relief from chronic and acute illness, cancer, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Strengthen health care workers,

therapists, and caregivers. Tend to those who are close to 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 On this Labor Day weekend we remember and give thanks for all who have fought for workers' rights around the world. Continue to improve working conditions and establish fair wages so that all people may thrive. 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 Comforting God, console us as we mourn our departed, especially Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig. We hold fast to the promise that death has been defeated by our Savior Jesus Christ. Merciful God,

#### A receive our prayer.

P We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, 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.* 

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

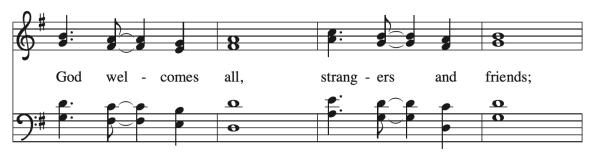
**Offering** An offering for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need. You scan this code with your smartphone camera to make your financial offering online.

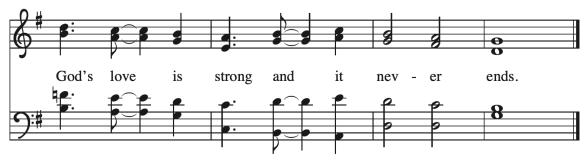


**Offering Music** 

"Prelude in C Major" by J.S. Bach

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

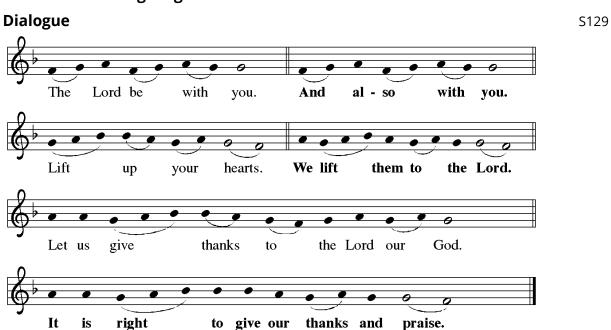




# **Offering Prayer**

- L Let us pray.
- Blessed are you, O God,
   source of every gift of your creation.
   By these gifts and with our lives,
   help us to serve one another and all in need,
   through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- A Amen.

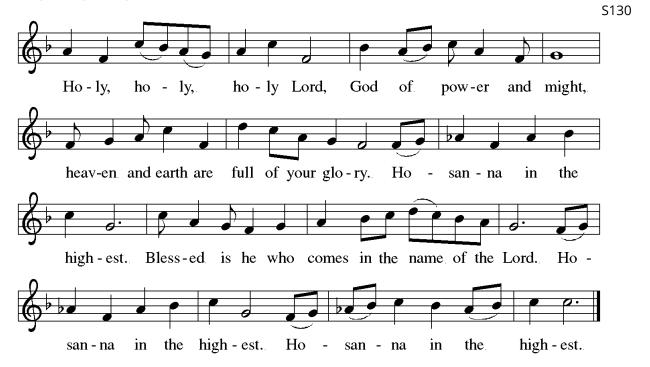
# The Great Thanksgiving



#### **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 Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water.
You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit,

you called to us through the life and death of Jesus. 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:

#### Α



With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation.

We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

#### A Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love.

Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food.

Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

# A Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

#### Α



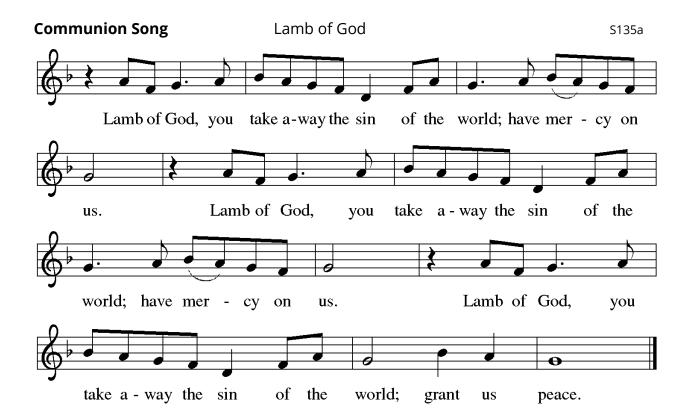
#### The Lord's Prayer

- 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 Behold what you are.
- A May we become what we receive.

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."

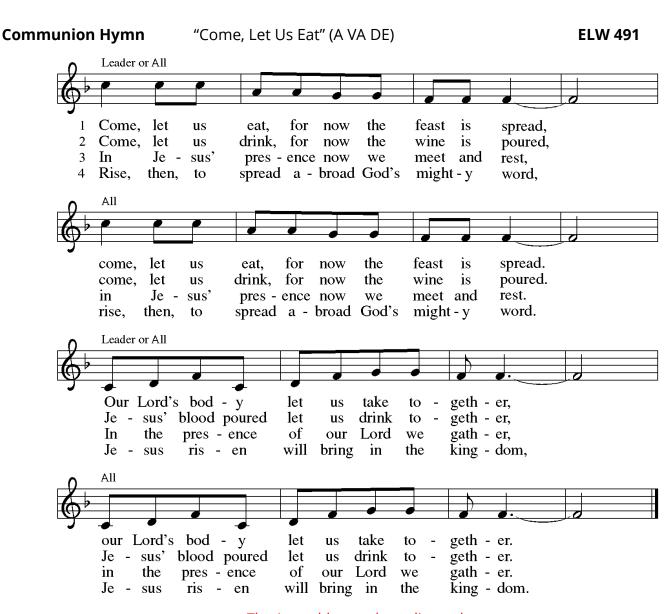
Those who wish, please come forward as the ushers direct, to receive the bread from the Pastor and wine or grape juice from the Assisting Minister. The glasses will be pre-poured, with the grape juice in the inner circle and wine in the outer circle. Each person will take their own glass from the tray. 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...
Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### A Amen.

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

# **Blessing**

P God all mighty,
God most merciful
H bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.

A 👲 Amen.



#### **Dismissal**

- L Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
- A Thanks be to God.

#### **Postlude**

"Fugue in C Minor" by J.S. Bach

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 MinisterAssisting Minister	
Lector	
Acolyte	
Pianist	Christine Kraemer
Music Director	
Table Preparation	Terri Simchak
Zoom Host	Jim McCarthy
Audio-Visual Technician	Kevin McDaniel, Tom Couch
Ushers	Nicolai Schouboe
Counters	Greg Hummel

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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.

Sunday, Sept. 1	Special Congregational Meeting	Noon
Monday, Sept. 2	Labor Day – Church Office closed	
Wednesday, Sept. 3	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
Thursday, Sept. 4	Daytime Quilters	9:00 am
	Wilmette Band	7:30 pm
Sunday, Sept. 8 - God's Work Our Hands	Sunday Worship	10:30 am
	God's Work Our Hands - Brown Bag Lunch, Activities	11:45 am

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

# Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, died 1872 Monday, September 2, 2024

Grundtvig was, with Søren Kierkegaard, one of the two great Danish theologians of the nineteenth century. As a pastor, he battled the prevalent idea that Christianity was more a philosophy than divine revelation. He wrote over a thousand hymns.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

# Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

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!