

Baptism of Our Lord

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist January 12, 2025

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 will be collected by the Acolyte. 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.

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

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

+ All may make the sign of the cross.

Prelude""To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord" by Dietrich Buxtehude, "The Only Son from
Heaven" BWV 601 by J.S. Bach, and "Pastorale No. 2" by Cecile Chaminade

Confession and Forgiveness

The Assembly stands as able. 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, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

A 🔮 Amen.

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful God,

A you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
 Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
 We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
 we resist your call to oppose injustice;
 we give in to scarcity and fear;
 we assume the worst about one another.
 Cleanse us from our faults
 and release us from their grasp.
 Show us your lovingkindness.
 Restore our hearts and repair your world,
 that we may live in Christ's ways.

A 🎍 Amen.

- P God proclaims these words of assurance:
 - "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine."

In 🕂 Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God.

A Amen.

Gathering Song

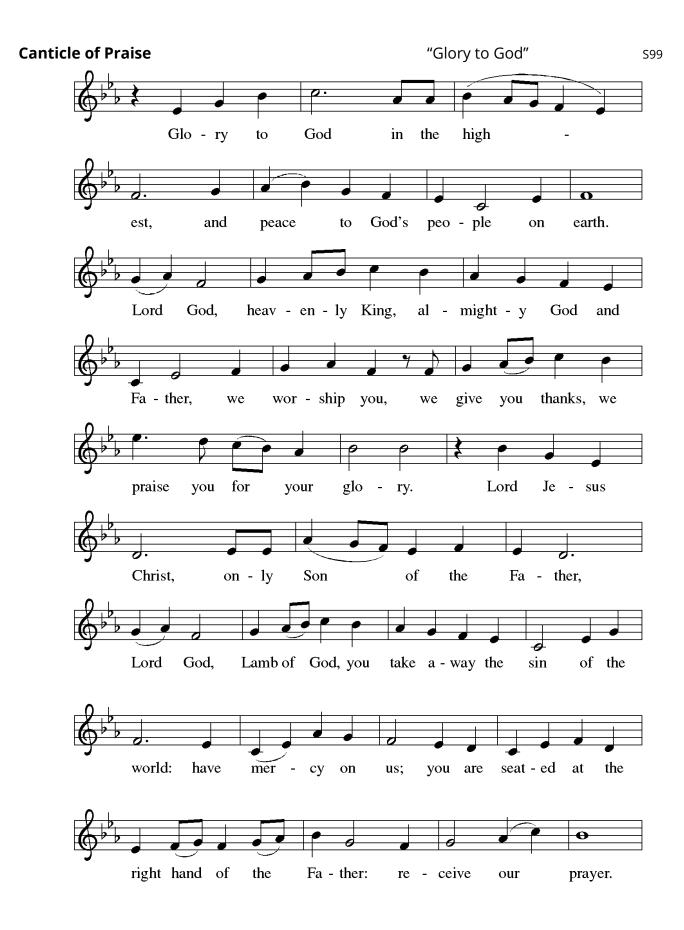
"Shall we Gather at the River" (HANSON PLACE)

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 Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, 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.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures.

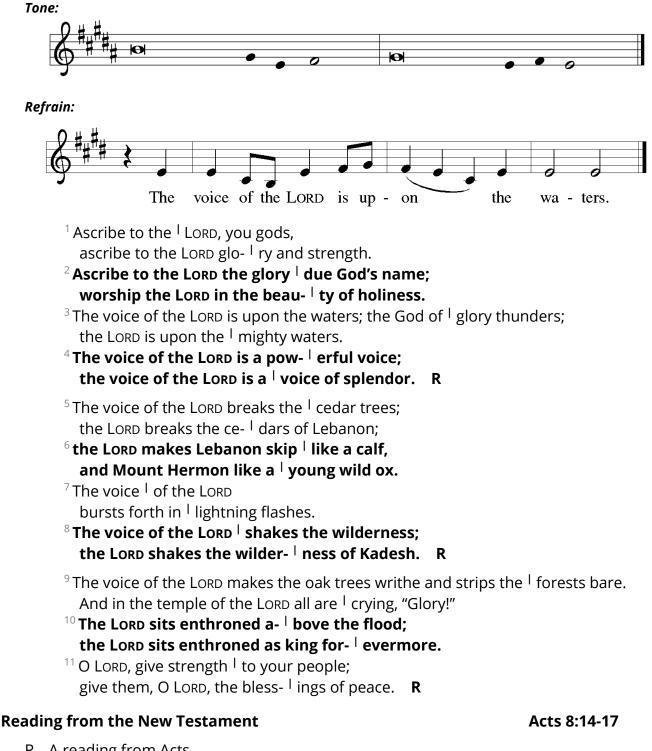
R A reading from Isaiah.

¹ But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

- 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 right side of the Assembly sings the lightface verses to the tone; the left side of the Assembly sings boldface verses.

All sing the refrain where indicated by "R."



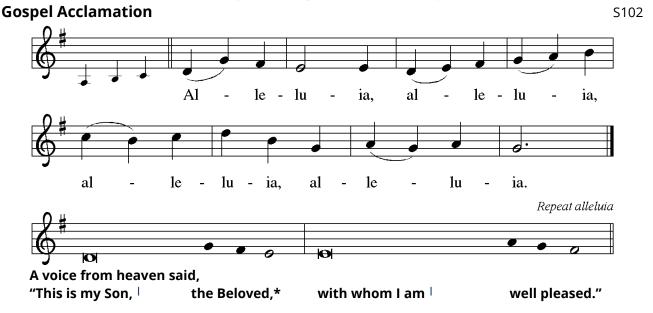
R A reading from Acts.

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them;

they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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





Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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

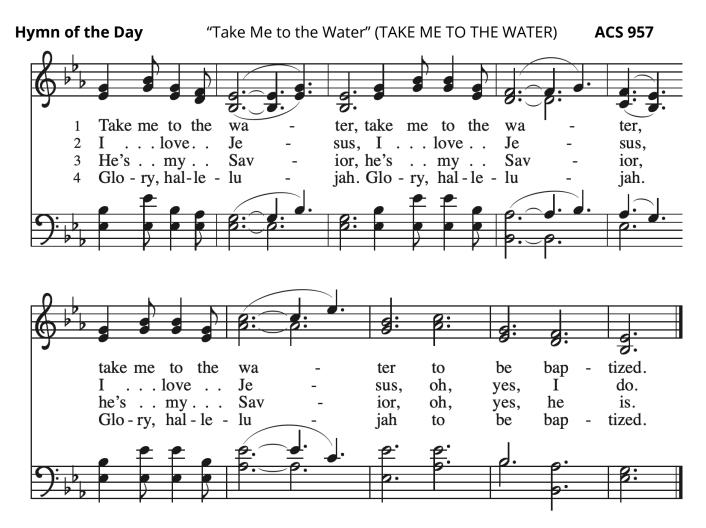
The Gospel Acclamation is sung once again.

The Assembly is then seated.

Sermon Time of Silence

A bell will sound to signal a time of silence for reflection.

During this time, you may want to meditate on one word from the scriptures or from the sermon that stands out to you, asking the Spirit to show you how it applies to your own life. When the bell sounds a second time, the Assembly stands to respond to the Word with song.



The Apostle's Creed

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

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Α 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 With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

(brief pause)

L You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace,

A 👲 hear our prayer.

L You teach us the art of compassionate service. We pray for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, our pastor Mark, our president Michael, our council, our ministries, and all who guide and instruct our community. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery, especially Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Marlene Chatain, Nancy Graf, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Mark Kraemer, Nancy Lang, Elaine Nelson, Kathy Roderer, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. 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 You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints, especially Martin Luther King Jr., Antony, Pachomius, and Peter, whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

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.

Offering Music

"Down to the River to Pray" Arr. by Steven Naylor

As I went down to the river to pray, Studyin' about that good old way, And who shall wear the robe and crown, Good Lord, show me the way, O brothers, let's go down, Let's go down, come on down, O brothers, let's go down, Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray, Studyin' about that good old way, And who shall wear the robe and crown, Good Lord, show me the way, O mothers, let's go down, Let's go down, come on down, O mothers, let's go down, Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray, Studyin' about that good old way, And who shall wear the starry crown, Good Lord, show me the way, O sisters, let's go down, Let's go down, come on down, O sisters, let's go down, Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray, Studyin' about that good old way, And who shall wear the robe and crown, Good Lord, show me the way, O fathers, let's go down, Let's go down, come on down, O fathers, let's go down, Down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray, Studyin' about that good old way, And who shall wear the robe and crown, Good Lord, show me the way, O mothers, let's go down, Let's go down, come on down, O mothers, let's go down, Down to the river to pray.

Presentation of the Gifts "Jesus, the Light of the World" (WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT) ACS 914

The Assembly stands and sings v. 2 as the gifts are brought forward.

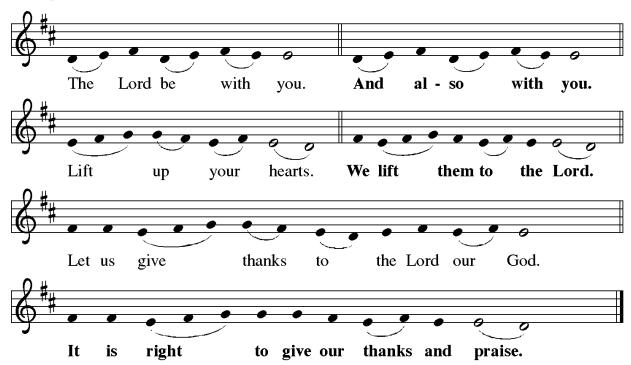


Offering Prayer

- L Let us pray.
- L God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
 Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
 Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.
- A Amen.

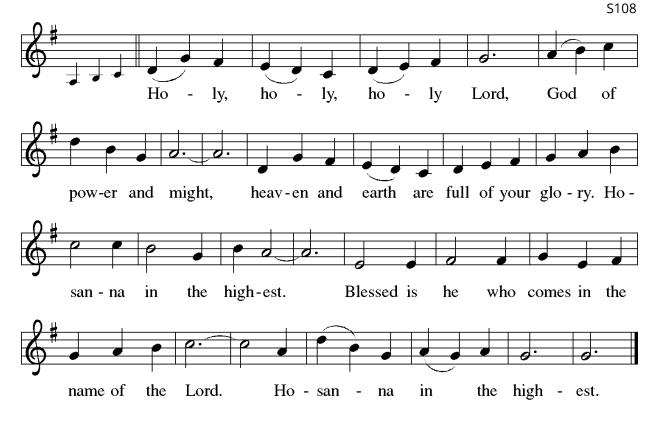
The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue



Preface The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.
By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn: S107



Thanksgiving at the Table

Ρ Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might. 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, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

A Amen.

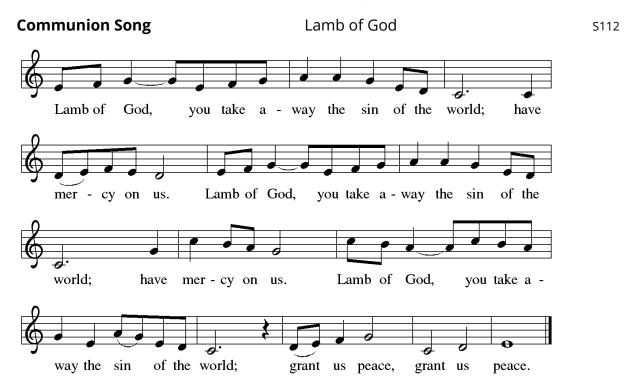
The Lord's Prayer

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- A Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come, your will be done
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

- P The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.
- A 🏾 We come to the table with open hearts

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 assemble around the rail to receive communion. Those who are able may kneel. You will 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 will be collected by the Acolyte. This will be a continuous communion.

- 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

- Let us pray...
 Nourishing God,
 at this table you have refreshed us
 with holy gifts of food and drink.
 Strengthen us for service,
 and send us out to embody your good news
 of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
 In the name of Christ we pray.
- A Amen.

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

Blessing

- P The Spirit of the triune God
 + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.
- A 🎍 Amen.



Dismissal

- L Go in peace. Live in hope.
- A Thanks be to God.

Please stay for a time of fellowship and announcements immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall. Today's refreshments are hosted by the Café Immanuel Team. Come enjoy one another's company and learn what's happening in and throughout the Immanuel congregation!!

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	Elora Kloster
Organist	Christine Kraemer
Music Director	
Table Preparation	
Zoom Host	lerry Larson
Audio-Visual Technician	
Ushers	Nicolai Schousboe
Counter	TBD

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This week's commemorations....

Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, martyr, died 1968 Wednesday, January 15, 2025

An American prophet of justice among races and nations, King was an eloquent preacher, a leader of the nonviolent resistance to race-segregated society, and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Born on this date, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356 Friday, January 17, 2025

One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.

Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346

Friday, January 17, 2025

Born in Egypt, Pachomius became a Christian while a soldier. He became a hermit (a solitary monk) and organized others into a religious community. His rule for monasteries influenced later ones in both the Eastern and Western churches.

Confession of Peter

Saturday, January 18, 2025

Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." This festival serves as a fitting beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.

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.

Sunday, Jan. 12	Council Meeting	2:00 pm
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Midweek Gathering on Zoom	2:00 pm
Wednesday, Jan. 15	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Jan. 16	Group Spiritual Direction	5:00 pm
	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Saturday, Jan. 18	Indoor Farmers' Market	8:00 am
Sunday, Jan. 19	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday Worship	10:30 am
	Budget Meeting	12:00 pm

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	Financial Secretary
James Morehead	
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!