



**The Seventh Sunday After  
Epiphany**

**10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist  
February 23, 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.  = 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.

## Gathering: *The Holy Spirit assembles us as the People of God ...*

*Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.*

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

*✙ All may make the sign of the cross.*

**Prelude**        “Spiritual: Round About the Mountain” by Noel Da Costa, Fugue on “LUCIS CREATOR”  
by Jean Alain, and Variations on “BALM IN GILEAD” by Rebecca te Velde

### 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.**

*You may reverence the cross as it passes you.*

1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood  
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,  
 3 Won-drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest  
 4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood

as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -  
 of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our  
 char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, "You have  
 as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -

men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en  
 thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,  
 done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry—  
 men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,

*Continued on the next page...*

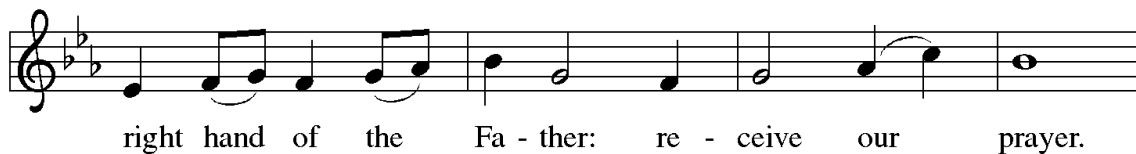
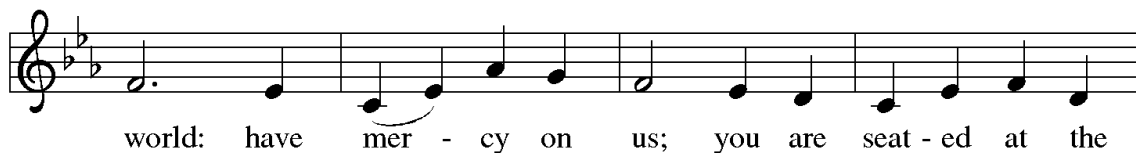
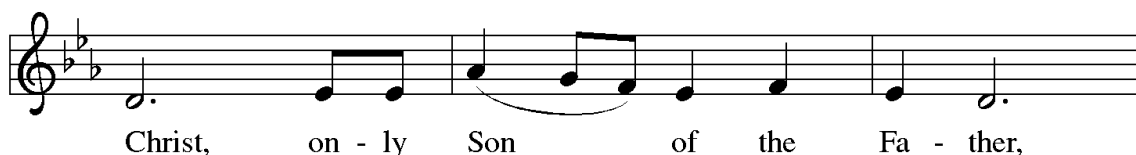
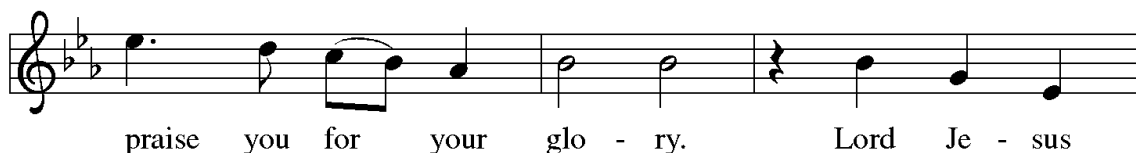
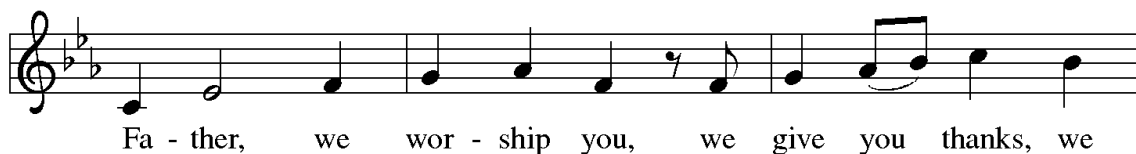
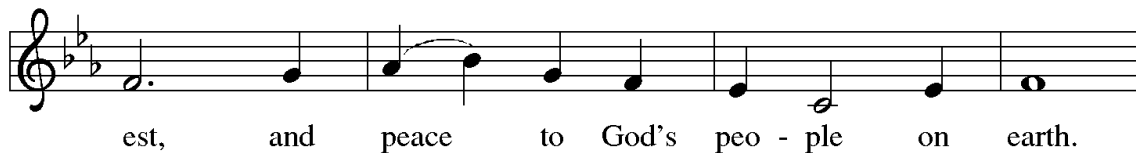
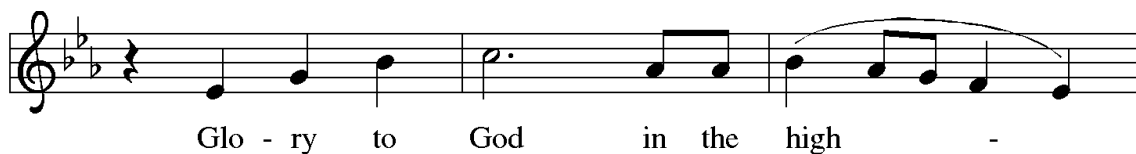
bless - ings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful  
 warmed by you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py  
 in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your  
 hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of

and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.  
 and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.  
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you."  
 all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

**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!**





For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -



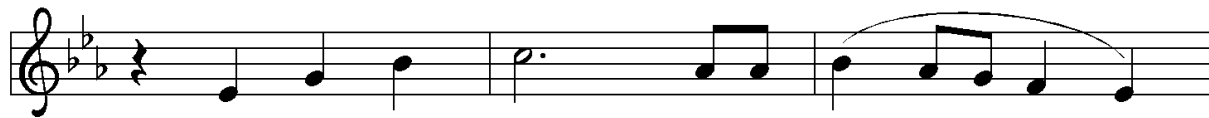
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.



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 Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father 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*

**Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures.**

**Genesis 45:3-11, 15**

R A reading from Genesis.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup> For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup> God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup> You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup> I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" <sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

**A Thanks be to God!**

**Psalm 137:1-11, 39-40**

**Psalm Tone 4, 3 flats**

*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."*

**Tone:**



**Refrain:**



The low-ly shall pos-sess the land; they will de -



light in a - bun - dance of peace.



- <sup>1</sup> Do not be provoked by <sup>1</sup> evildoers;  
do not be jealous of those <sup>1</sup> who do wrong.
- <sup>2</sup> **For they shall soon wither <sup>1</sup> like the grass,  
and like the green grass <sup>1</sup> fade away.**
- <sup>3</sup> Put your trust in the LORD <sup>1</sup> and do good;  
dwell in the land and <sup>1</sup> find safe pasture.
- <sup>4</sup> **Take delight <sup>1</sup> in the LORD,  
who shall give you your <sup>1</sup> heart's desire. R**
- <sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust <sup>1</sup> in the LORD,  
and see what <sup>1</sup> God will do.
- <sup>6</sup> **The LORD will make your vindication as clear <sup>1</sup> as the light  
and the justice of your case like the <sup>1</sup> noonday sun.**
- <sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD and wait <sup>1</sup> patiently.  
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in <sup>1</sup> evil schemes.
- <sup>8</sup> **Refrain from anger, leave <sup>1</sup> rage alone;  
do not be provoked; it leads on- <sup>1</sup> ly to evil. R**
- <sup>9</sup> For evildoers shall <sup>1</sup> be cut off,  
but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- <sup>1</sup> sess the land.
- <sup>10</sup> **In a little while the wicked shall <sup>1</sup> be no more;  
even if you search out their place, they will <sup>1</sup> not be there.**
- <sup>11</sup> But the lowly shall pos- <sup>1</sup> sess the land;  
they will delight in abun- <sup>1</sup> dance of peace.
- <sup>39</sup> **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD;  
you are their stronghold in <sup>1</sup> time of trouble.**
- <sup>40</sup> You, O LORD, will help them and <sup>1</sup> rescue them;  
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you <sup>1</sup> they seek refuge. R

## Reading from the New Testament

## 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

R A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>35</sup> But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" <sup>36</sup> Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup> And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup> But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

<sup>42</sup> So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup> It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup> It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup> Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup> As was the man of dust, so

are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

<sup>50</sup> What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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 Acclamation**

S102

Love your enemies,  
and you will be children of | the Most High;\* forgive, and you will | be forgiven.

**Gospel**

**Luke 6:27-38**

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

**A** **Glory to you, O Lord!**

[Jesus said:] <sup>27</sup> "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup> "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup> "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

A **Praise to you, O Christ!**

*The Gospel Acclamation is sung once again.  
The Assembly is then seated.*

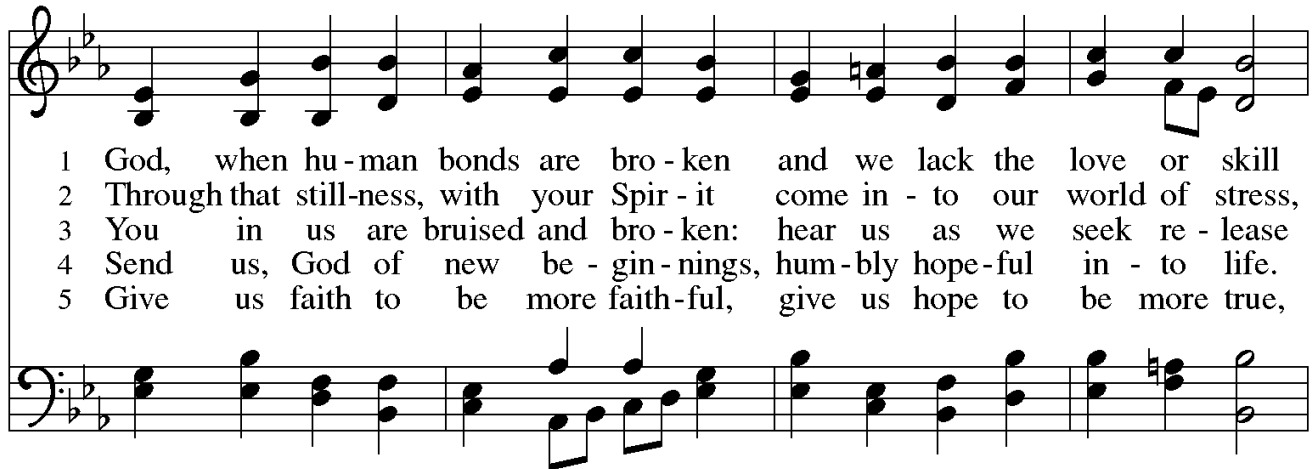
## **Sermon**

### **Time of Silence**

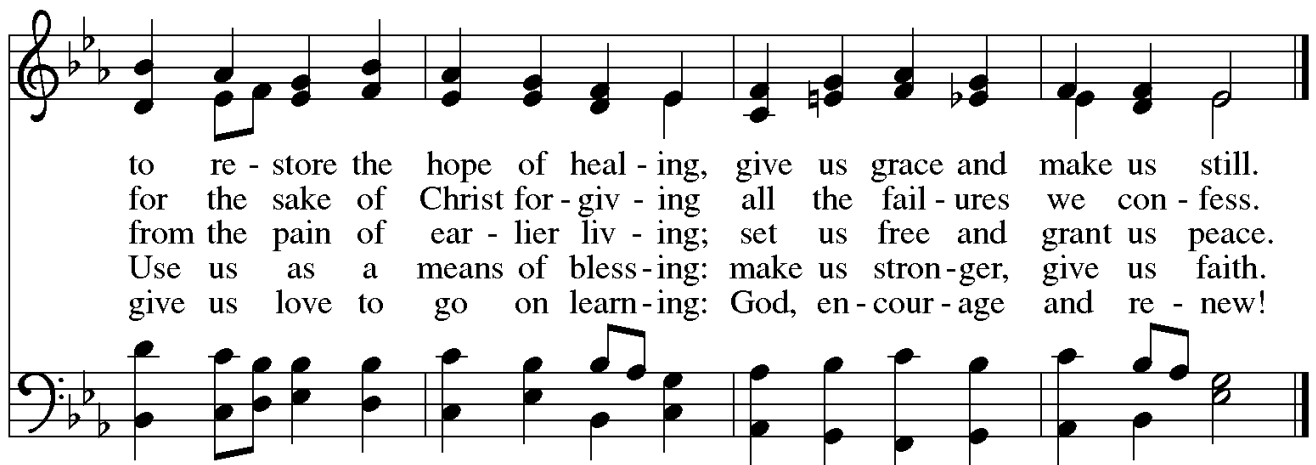
*A bell will sound to signal a time of silence for reflection.*

*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.*



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the love or skill  
 2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our world of stress,  
 3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we seek re - lease  
 4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful in - to life.  
 5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re - store the hope of heal - ing, give us grace and make us still.  
 for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing all the fail - ures we con - fess.  
 from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing; set us free and grant us peace.  
 Use us as a means of bless - ing: make us stron - ger, give us faith.  
 give us love to go on learn - ing: God, en - cour - age and re - new!

### 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 With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*(brief pause)*

L Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace,

**A** 🗣️ **hear our prayer.**

L Continue to inspire church leaders and fill them with passion. 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 As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace,

**A** **hear our prayer.**

L We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace,

**A** **hear our prayer.**

L We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care, especially, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Terri Hummel, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Nancy Lang, Elaine Nelson, Bill Pullin, Kathy Roderer, Steve Warner, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. God of grace,

**A** **hear our prayer.**

L Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. 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 We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us, especially Polycarp, Elizabeth Fedde, and George Herbert. May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. 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

"Love Your Enemies"

By George Alexander Macfarren

Love your enemies, bless them that curse you,  
do good to them that hate you,  
and pray for them who despitefully use you,  
or persecute you,  
that ye may be the children of your Father, which is in heaven.

## Presentation of the Gifts "Here is Bread" (HERE IS BREAD)

ELW 483

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



1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.



Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.  
Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Je - sus here.  
We'll pro - claim till he comes Je - sus cru - ci - fied.



In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is life for - ev - er.



In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

## 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

S107

The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

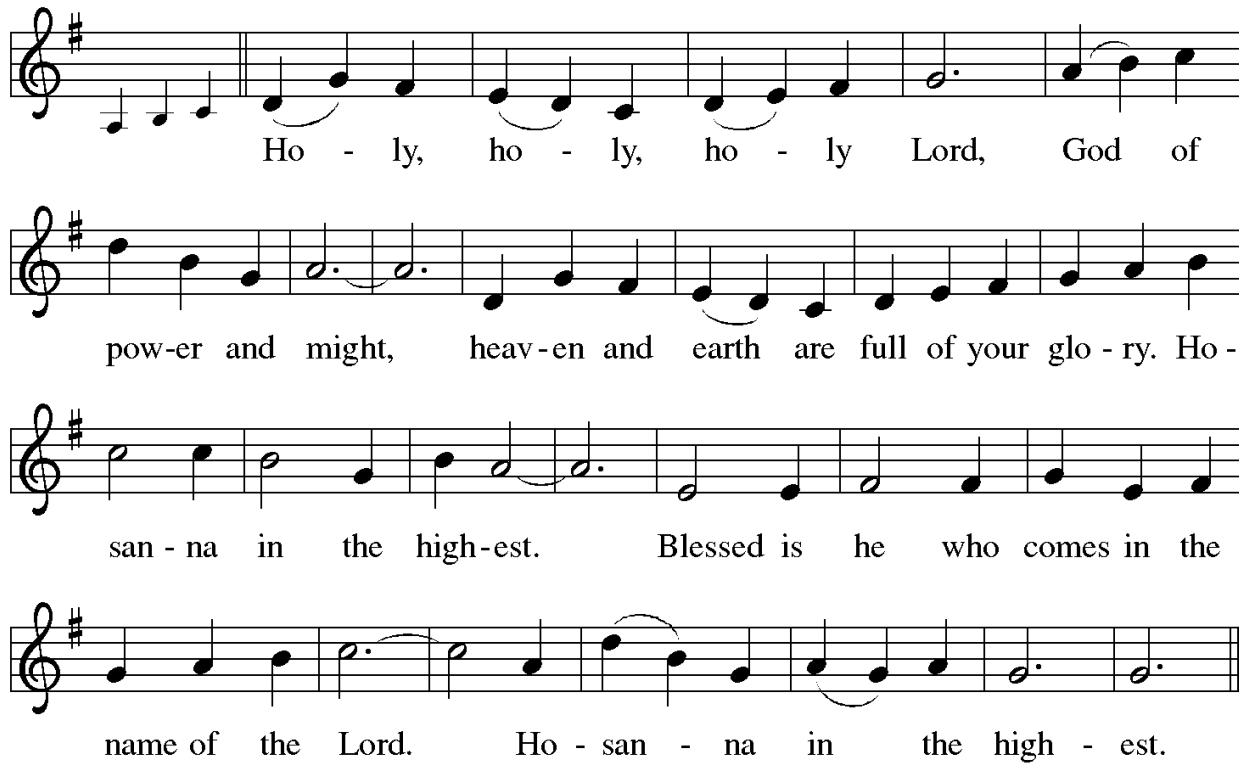
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Thanksgiving at the Table

P 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.*

### Communion Song

### Lamb of God

S112



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -



way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## 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."*

## Communion Hymn

"Build a Longer Table" (NOEL NOUVELET)

ACS 1062



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.  
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

*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...  
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 ...*

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## **Blessing**

P The Spirit of the triune God  
✠ bless you with joy,  
anoint you with compassion,  
and send you in love.

**A**  **Amen.**

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

### **Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, martyr, died 156**

**Sunday, February 23, 2025**

Because he is said to have been known by John, the author of Revelation, as well as the important early church fathers Irenaeus and Ignatius, Polycarp serves as a vital link in church history. He was burned at the stake at age 86 for refusing to renounce his faith.

### **Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, died 1921**

**Tuesday, February 25, 2025**

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

### **George Herbert, hymnwriter, died 1633**

**Saturday, March 1, 2025**

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

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com)

**Sending Song**

“Spirit, Open My Heart” (WILD MOUNTAIN THYME)

**ACS 1043**

*Refrain*



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's  
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my  
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and  
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and  
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

*Refrain*



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.  
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.  
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

**Dismissal**

L Go in peace. Live in hope.

A 🎵 **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

Finale on "BALM IN GILEAD" by Rebecca te Velde

*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 ..... Anne Heider
- Lector ..... Susan Ross
- Acolyte ..... Kit McCarthy
- Organist..... Christine Kraemer
- Music Director .....Jimmy Morehead
- Table Preparation .....Kit McCarthy
- Zoom Host .....Jim McCarthy
- Audio-Visual Technician ..... Kevin McDaniel
- Ushers ..... Marlene Chatain, Nicolai Schousboe
- Counter .....Kit McCarthy

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**Upcoming Events** – for details see the weekly e-blast, *Immanuel Newsfeeds*, or the website Calendar at [www.immanuelevanston.org](http://www.immanuelevanston.org). Worship services can be attended either in person or online.

Tuesday, Feb. 25	Tai Chi Class	6:30 am
	Midweek Gathering on Zoom	2:00 pm
Wednesday, Feb. 26	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Feb. 27	Tai Chi Class	6:30 am
Saturday, Mar. 1	Indoor Farmers' Market	8:00 am
Sunday, Mar. 2	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday Worship	10:30 am

### **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, Jerry Larson, Kit McCarthy, Laura McDaniel, Steve Warner .....	Congregation Council Members
Laurie Stivers .....	Financial Secretary
James Morehead .....	Music Director
Christine Kraemer .....	Organist
Laurie Stivers .....	Associate Organist
Jane Kaihatsu .....	Parish Administrator

**Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Metropolitan Chicago Synod.  
We've been worshipping God and serving the Evanston community since 1888!**