

# The First Sunday of Lent

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist March 9, 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 ...

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

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

+ All may make the sign of the cross.

#### **Prelude**

"Variations on "There Is a Fountain" by Undine Smith Moore and "If You but Trust in God to Guide You" BWV 647 by J.S. Bach

## **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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- A 👲 Amen.
- P Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love. Silence is kept for reflection.
- P Compassionate One,
- A you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.

  We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.

  We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.

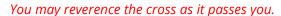
  We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

**Transform our lives** 

and guide us again in the way of the cross.

- A 🚇 Amen.
- P Beloved in Christ,
  God's arms are always stretched open wide
  to welcome the wandering ones home.
  In + Christ your sins are forgiven.
  You have a place in God's house forever..
- A Amen.



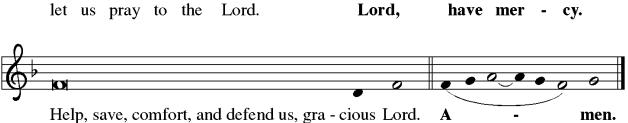


# Greeting

- 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!

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# **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 God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

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

## Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures.

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

R A reading from Deuteronomy.

<sup>1</sup> When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, 2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." 4When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, <sup>5</sup> you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. <sup>6</sup> When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, <sup>7</sup> we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; <sup>9</sup> and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup> So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. 11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

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

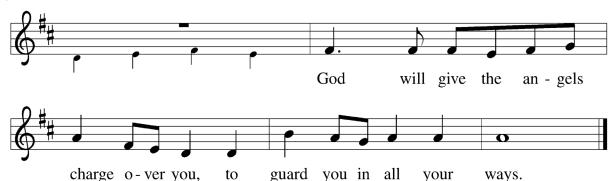
The organ will play the tone, and then the refrain, and then the Assembly will sing the refrain through. The right side of the Assembly sings the lightface verses to the tone; the left side of the Assembly sings boldface verses.

All sing the refrain where indicated by "R."

#### Tone:



#### Refrain:



- <sup>1</sup> You who dwell in the shelter of <sup>1</sup> the Most High, who abide in the shadow of <sup>1</sup> the Almighty—
- <sup>2</sup> you will say to the LORD, "My refuge | and my stronghold, my God in whom I | put my trust." R
- <sup>9</sup> Because you have made the <sup>|</sup> LORD your refuge, and the Most High your <sup>|</sup> habitation,
- <sup>10</sup> no evil | will befall you, nor shall affliction come | near your dwelling.
- <sup>11</sup> For God will give the angels charge <sup>I</sup> over you, to guard you in <sup>I</sup> all your ways.
- 12 Upon their hands they will | bear you up, lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone. R
- <sup>13</sup> You will tread upon the lion <sup>1</sup> cub and viper; you will trample down the lion <sup>1</sup> and the serpent.
- <sup>14</sup> I will deliver those who | cling to me;
  I will uphold them, because they | know my name.
- <sup>15</sup> They will call me, and I will <sup>1</sup> answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and <sup>1</sup> honor them.
- <sup>16</sup> With long life will I | satisfy them, and show them | my salvation. R

#### **Reading from the New Testament**

Romans 10:8b-13

R A reading from Romans.

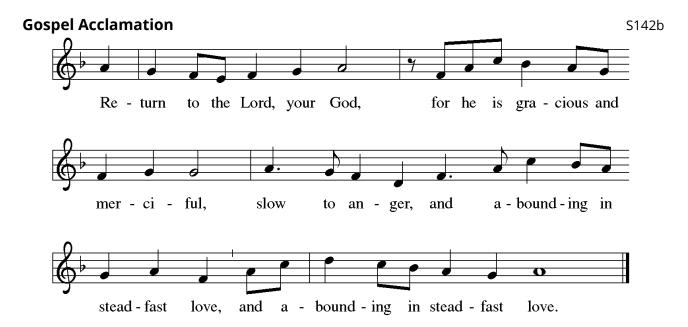
<sup>8b</sup> "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup> because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup> The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

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 Luke 4:1-13

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

# A Glory to you, O Lord!

<sup>1</sup>Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'

 $^{11}$  and

'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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.

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 Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

# (brief pause)

L Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy,

# A **§** receive our prayer.

L Wise God, fill our church leaders' souls with strength. 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. Energize their spirits for the work ahead. God, your mercy,

#### A receive our prayer.

L Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy,

## A receive our prayer.

L Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy,

#### A receive our prayer.

L Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill, especially, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Terri Hummel, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Nancy Lang, Elaine Nelson, Bill Pullin, Kathy Roderer, Patty Schubert, Larry Turpin, Steve Warner, the family of Julie Woestehoff, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. God, in your mercy,

#### A receive our prayer.

L Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy,

### 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 God, in your mercy,

# A receive prayer.

- L Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life especially Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, and Gregory the Great. Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy,
- A receive our prayer.
- P Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.
- 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.

After the greeting of peace, the newly installed leaders return to their places.

*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**

"We Shall Walk Through the Valley" Arr. by Undine Smith Moore

We shall walk through the valley in peace, If Jesus, himself shall be our leader, We shall walk through the valley in peace, Lord, we shall walk in peace.

There will be no trials there.

If Jesus, himself shall be our leader,
We shall walk through the valley in peace,
Lord, we shall walk in peace.

## **Presentation of the Gifts**

"On My Heart Imprint Your Image" (DER AM KREUZ) ELW 811



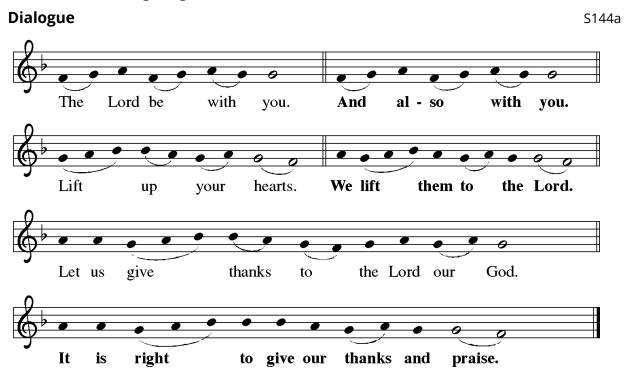


#### **Offering Prayer**

- L Let us pray.
- L Gracious Provider,
  you set your immense treasures among us,
  opening your heart to the world.
  As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
  deepen our commitment to sharing those
  treasures with others,
  through our Savior, Jesus Christ,
  now and always.

#### A Amen.

## The Great Thanksgiving

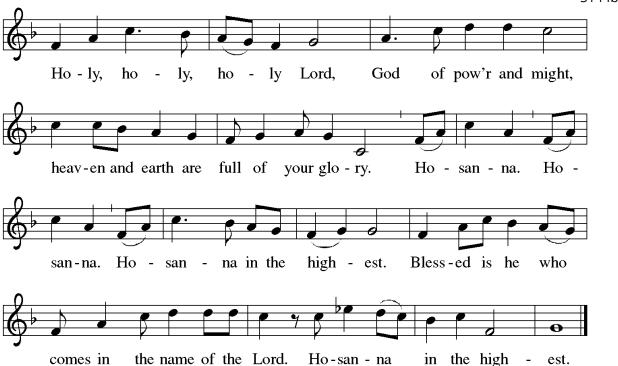


#### **Preface** The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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:



## Thanksgiving at the Table

P We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight.
He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

#### A Amen.

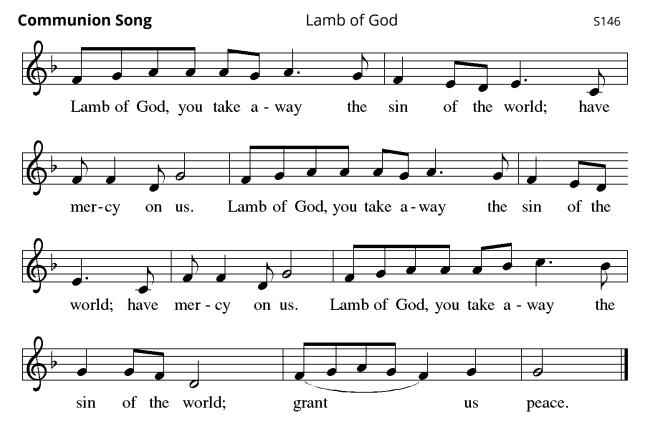
### The Lord's Prayer

- 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 All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.
- 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**

- L Let us pray... Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- A Amen.

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

# **Blessing**

- God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit,
  - → bless you now and forever.
- Amen. Α





#### **Dismissal**

- L Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
- A Thanks be to God.

#### **Postlude**

"Prelude in G Minor" by Johannes Brahms

Please stay for a time of fellowship and announcements immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall.

Today's refreshments are hosted by the Chatains.

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	Dana Barron
Acolyte	Chris Djuric
Organist	
Music Director	
Table Preparation	Barabara Huffman
Zoom Host	
Audio-Visual Technician	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel
Ushers	
Counter	

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

# Harriet Tubman, died 1913; Sojourner Truth, died 1883; renewers of society Monday, March 10, 2025

Harriet Tubman, born into slavery, helped about 300 others to escape slavery until the institution was abolished. Sojourner Truth, whose birth name was Isabella, was freed after slavery was abolished, and discerned a call to be a preacher. Taking the name Sojourner Truth, she set out on an evangelistic journey, where people found her testimony to be deeply moving.

#### Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, died 604 Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Born into wealth and power, Gregory was for a time the chief administrator of the city of Rome. Giving this up for a life in the church, he was elected pope in 590. He influenced public worship through the establishment of a lectionary and prayers to correlate with the readings. Gregorian chant is named in his honor.. From sundaysandseasons.com

**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.

Tuesday, Mar. 11	Tai Chi Class	6:30 am
	Midweek Gathering on Zoom	2:00 pm
Wednesday, Mar. 12	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
	Lenten Soup Dinner	6:00 pm
	Lenten Holden Evening Prayers	7:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Mar. 13	Tai Chi Class	6:30 am
	Daytime Quilters-Quilts in Sanctuary	9:00 am
	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Saturday, Mar. 15	Indoor Farmers' Market-Quilts Viewing in Sanctuary	8:00 am
	Ravenswood Trombone Quartet	3:00 pm
Sunday, Mar. 16	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday Worship-Blessing of Quilts	10:30 am
	Council Meeting	12:30 pm

# Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

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The Rev. Mark Sloss	
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	
Laurie Stivers	Financial Secretary
James Morehead	
Christine Kraemer	Organist
Laurie Stivers	Associate Organist
lane Kaihatsu	

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!