

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist April 6, 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 ...

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

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

+ All may make the sign of the cross.

Prelude Variations on "Spring Has Now Unwrapped the Flowers" by Rebecca te Velde and "The Hanging Garden" by Jehan Alain

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,

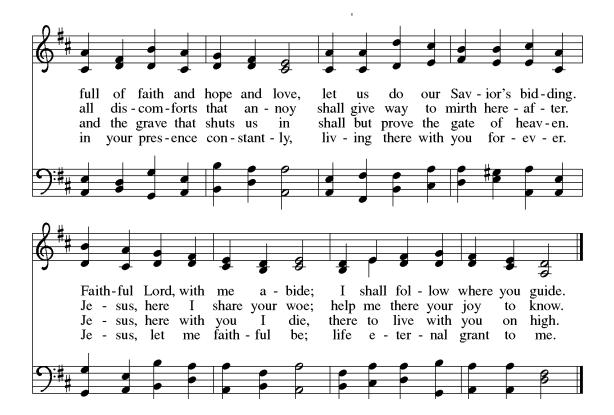
even though you have set us free again and again.
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.
Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.

- 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.

You may reverence the cross as it passes you.



Continued on the next page...



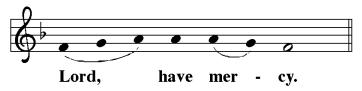
Greeting

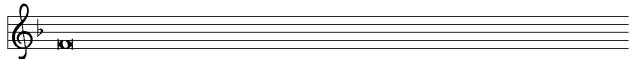
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- A And also with you!

Kyrie S138

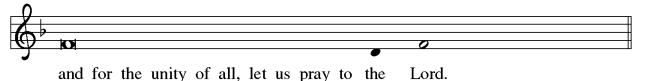


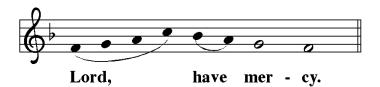
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

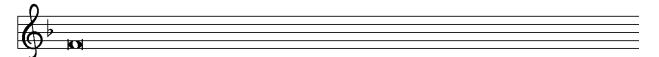




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,





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 Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, 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.

Isaiah 43:16-21

- R A reading from Isaiah.
 - ¹⁶ Thus savs the LORD.
 - who makes a way in the sea,
 - a path in the mighty waters,
 - ¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior;
 - they lie down, they cannot rise,
 - they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
 - ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.
 - ¹⁹I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
 - I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.
 - ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches;
 - for I give water in the wilderness,
 - rivers in the desert,
 - to give drink to my chosen people,
 - ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.
- R The Word of the Lord. Or, Word of God, word of life.
- A Thanks be to God!

Psalm 126

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:



- ¹ When the LORD restored the for- ¹ tunes of Zion, then were we like ¹ those who dream.
- ²Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great | things for them."
- ³ The LORD has done great ¹ things for us, and we are ¹ glad indeed.
- ⁴ Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD, like the watercourses | of the Negeb. R
- ⁵ Those who ¹ sowed with tears will reap with ¹ songs of joy.
- ⁶ Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed, will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. R

Reading from the New Testament

Philippians 3:4b-14

R A reading from Philippians.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if

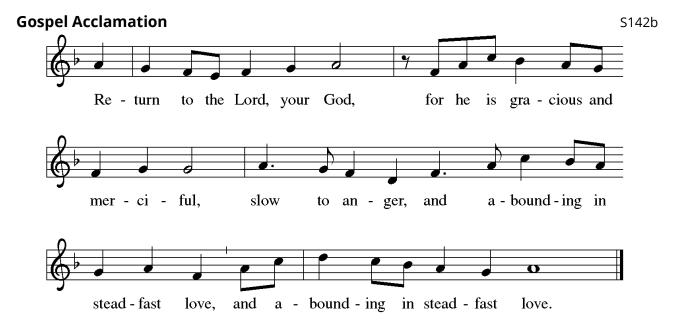
somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 John 12:1-8

P The holy gospel according to John.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

- 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.

"Holy Woman, Graceful Giver" (ALABASTER JAR) Hymn of the Day **ACS 1002** 1 Ho grace - ful proph - et, ly wom an, giv er, filled the How the fra grance dwell ing! How the 3 Lov - ing 1y Christ stilled the scoff who would er 4 Though dis dained though con of or test ed, acts and be liev - er, Mar - y with the oint-ment ser vant, act of beau - ty well - ing blest all those with - in the guard the cof - fer, point-ing hid - den grasp - ing to a love are nev - er wast - ed: beau - ty is a face of sought by Christ, daunt - ed, by scorn un knelt jar, in place! How of whis-p'ring the act pure de vo tion. trove: not all trea gain and fit, feed the sures pro God. Grace - ful Mar giv you have by your ing, у, his feet noint - ed for his bur - ial love, a com - ing of his com - ing pas - sion, blest the heart of Christ with spir - it poor, and feed the acts of beau - ty, acts of shown a way of liv ing: acts of beau - ty, love, and hour, for his bur - ial hour. com ing of grace, blest the heart Christ with grace! love, acts of beau ty, acts of love. good, acts of beau love, and good. ty,

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 The church declares your praise, O God. Guide us in the example of Isaiah's imagination, Paul's transformed identity, and Mary's faith and devotion; that our lives, too, may be poured out in love as we trust in your promises. God, in your mercy,

A **§** receive our prayer.

L The community of sisters and brothers declares your praise. 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. Show others how we worship and live out your word. God, in your mercy,

A receive our prayer.

L The earth declares your praise, O God. Make a way for the planet's future in the sea and the wilderness, the mountains and plains, the tundra and wetlands. Repair habitats and sustainable ecosystems on, above, and beneath the ground. God, in your mercy,

A receive our prayer.

L The nations declare your praise, O God. Where religious differences divide, bring together those who worship you in the name of Jesus Christ and those who call to you with different names. Guide interreligious dialogue, that faith may unite rather than divide communities. God, in your mercy,

A receive our prayer.

L The people declare your praise, O God. Restore those whose hope has been dampened through a health diagnosis, job or home loss, divorce, or death. Bring healing to those in need, especially, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Terri Hummel, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Nancy Lang, Jerry Larson, Elaine Nelson, Bill Pullin, Kathy Roderer, Joseph Sloss, Larry Turpin, Steve Warner, the family of Julie Woestehoff, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. May all who weep now sing songs of joy again. God, in your mercy,

A receive our prayer.

L The gifts of the Spirit declare your praise, O God. We thank you for artists who proclaim the gospel. Inspire music, poetry, and images that proclaim the new thing you are doing. 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 our prayer.

L The communion of saints declares your praise, O God, especially Albrecht Dürer, Matthias Grünewalk, and Lucas Cranach. Giving thanks for those who have died, we trust in the one who has made them his own: Christ Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior. 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.

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

"The Loving Lamb" By Jennifer Stammers

Alas! and did my Savior bleed And did my Sovereign die? Would He devote that sacred head For sinners such as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree? Amazing pity! grace unknown! And love beyond degree!

O the Lamb, the loving Lamb The Lamb on Calvary; The Lamb was slain and lives again, To intercede for me.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe: Here, Lord, I give my self away 'Tis all that I can do. The Assembly stands and sings as the gifts are brought forward.

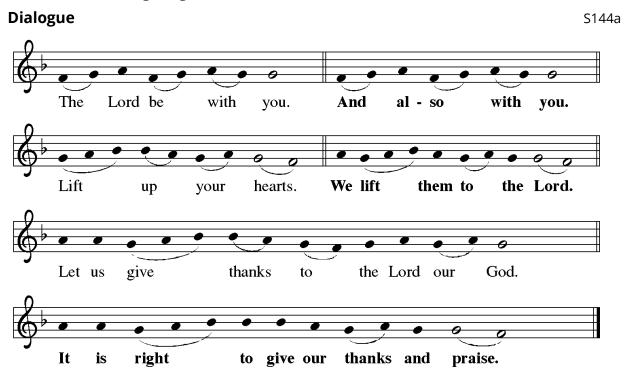


Offering Prayer

- 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

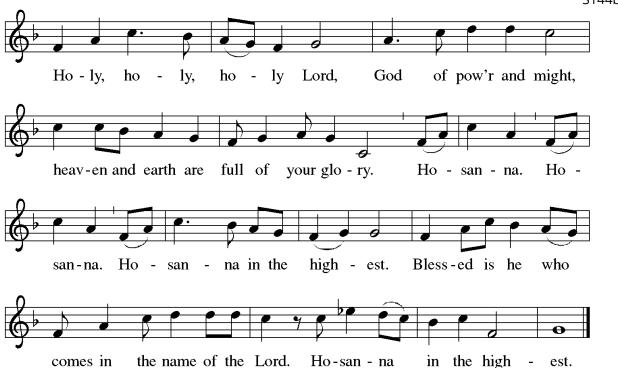


Preface The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:

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 Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, in the beginning you formed the heavens and earth and created us in your likeness.

You made us guardians of your good creation and left the earth in our care. All through our weary years and our silent tears, you did not abandon us to ourselves, but sought us out in love.

When we were captives in Egypt, you did not abandon us. When we wandered in the wilderness, you did not abandon us. When we turned to false gods, you did not abandon us. Through your holy prophets you called us to return to your graciousness, to your mercy, and to your steadfast love.

In the crowning act of love you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him will have eternal life. For you sent Jesus not to condemn the world, but to save the world from sin.

Through his death on the cross, we who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



With this bread and cup, we remember Christ's life among us; his association with outcasts, his eating with sinners, his healing of the sick, his care for the poor.

Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine, that we who share this meal may become a holy communion, the body of Christ in the world.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



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.

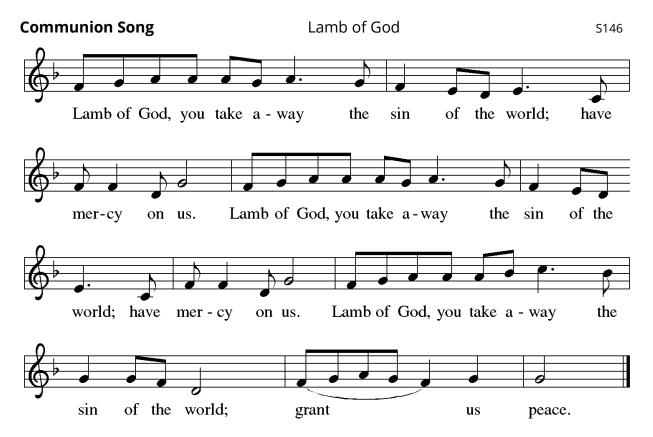
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

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

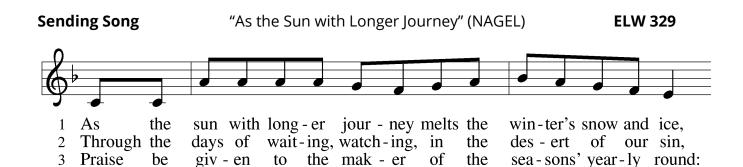
L Let us pray...
Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Amen.

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

Blessing

- P God our tender parent,
 God the crucified one,
 God the reconciling Spirit,
 + bless you now and forever.
- A Amen.





with its slow-ly grow-ing ra-diance warms the seed be-neath the earth, search-ing on the far ho - ri - zon for a sign of cloud or wind, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it—Source, Sus - tain-er, Lord of life,



may the sun of Christ's up - ris - ing gent-ly bring our hearts to life. we a - wait the heal - ing wa - ters of our Sav - ior's vic - to - ry. as the ev - er turn - ing a - ges roll to their e - ter - nal rest.

Dismissal

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

Postlude

"Finale on "Spring Has Now Unwrapped the Flowers" 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 Kraemers.

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	Elora Kloster
Lector	Kathryn Skelton
Acolyte	Chris Djuric
Organist	
Music Director	James Morehead
Table Preparation	Kathryn Skelton
Zoom Host	Jerry Larson
Audio-Visual Technician	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel
Ushers	Marlene Chatain, Nicolai Schousboe
Counter	Laura McDaniel

CREDITS: Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

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

Tuesday, Apr. 8	Tai Chi Class	6:30 am
	Midweek Gathering on Zoom	2:00 pm
Wednesday, Apr 9	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
	Lenten Soup Dinner	6:00 pm
	Lenten Holden Evening Prayers	7:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Apr. 10	Tai Chi Class	6:30 am
	Daytime Quilters	9:00 am
	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Friday, Apr. 11	Tai-Chi Class	6:30 am
Sunday, Apr. 13-Palm Sunday	Meet for Palm Processional	8:45 am
Holy Week Begins	Light Breakfast	9:45 am
	Sunday Worship – "Cry of the Whole Congregation"	10:30 am
	Immanuel Hosts Evanston Overnight	8:00 pm

This week's commemorations....

Albrecht Dürer, died 1528; Matthias Grünewald, died 1529; Lucas Cranach, died 1553; artists Sunday, April 6, 2025

These great artists revealed through their work the mystery of salvation and the wonder of creation. Dürer's work reflected the apocalyptic spirit of his time. Though he remained a Roman Catholic, he was sympathetic to Martin Luther's reforming work. Grünewald's paintings are known for their dramatic forms, vivid colors, and depiction of light. Cranach's work includes many fine religious examples and several portraits of Martin Luther. Cranach was also widely known for his woodcuts.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, died 1945 Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Bonhoeffer was a German theologian who wrote profoundly, yet in an accessible manner. In the Second World War, he became a leader of the Confessing Church in Germany that resisted the Nazi movement. Linked to a plot to kill Hitler, he was hanged shortly before the end of the war.

Mikael Agricola, Bishop of Turku, died 1557 Thursday, April 10, 2025

Consecrated bishop of Turku, Finland, without the approval of the pope, Agricola began a reform along Lutheran lines. In only three years, he translated the New Testament and worship texts into Finnish, in the process establishing the rules of Finnish writing that are still used today From sundaysandseasons.com

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss	Pastor
Michael Kloster	Congregation President
Terri Simchak	
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 worshiping God and serving the Evanston community since 1888!