

# The Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist May 11, 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. This will be a continuous communion, standing to receive the elements. The other option is we have individually packaged communion with either wine or grape juice that you can pick up at the entrance of the sanctuary. The pastor will say "The body of Christ given for you and the blood of Christ shed for you" following the singing of the Communion Song. Please deposit the cups and wrappers in the trash receptacles as you leave the sanctuary.

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

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those "who have come out of the great ordeal" in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

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

#### **Prelude**

"Sheep May Safely Graze from Cantata 208" by J.S. Bach and "A Meditation on Brother James's Air" by Harold Darke

The Assembly stands when directed and turns toward the font.

## **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- A Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!
- P In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.
- A 🖣 Amen.
- P Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.
- P Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,
- A make us one as you are one.
- P We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.
  - Baptized into you, O Living One,
- A make us one as you are one.
- P We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

  Baptized into you, O Living One,
- A make us one as you are one.
- **P** Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
- A Amen.

You may reverence the cross as it passes you.



## Greeting

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- P The grace of our risen Lord Jesus, the love of God, who raised him from the dead, and the communion of the Holy Spirit who breathes new life into us, 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 God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, 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 First Lesson**

Acts 9:36-43

- R A reading from Acts.
  - <sup>36</sup> Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup> At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup> Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup> So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup> Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.
- R The Word of the Lord. Or, Word of God, word of life.
- A Thanks be to God!

#### Psalm 23

## Psalm Tone 10, no flats, no sharps

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:



The LORD is my shep-herd; I shall not be in want.

- <sup>2</sup>The Lord makes me lie down | in green pastures and leads me be- | side still waters.
- <sup>3</sup> You restore my <sup>|</sup> soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways <sup>|</sup> for your name's sake.
- <sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me. R
- <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence <sup>1</sup> of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is <sup>1</sup> running over.
- <sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever. R

## **Reading from the Second Lesson**

Revelation 7:9-17

- R A reading from Revelation.
  - <sup>9</sup> After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup> They cried out in a loud voice, saying,
    - "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"
  - <sup>11</sup> And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

 $^{13}$  Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?"  $^{14}$  I said to him, "

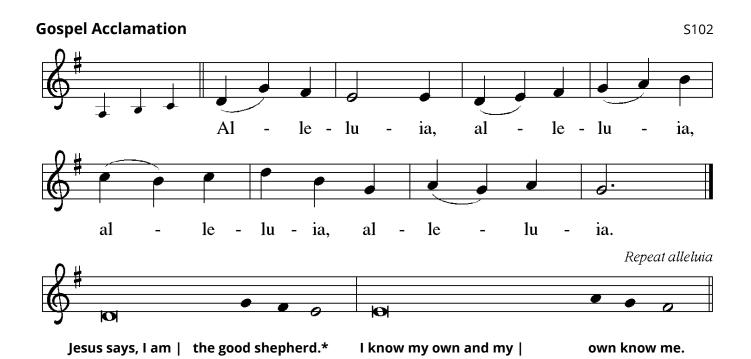
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The LORD <sup>|</sup> is my shepherd; I shall not <sup>|</sup> be in want.

Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

- <sup>15</sup> For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
- They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;
- <sup>17</sup> for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.".
- 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 10:22-30

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

<sup>22</sup> At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup> and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup> So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> The Father and I are one."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

## A Praise to you, O Christ!

The Gospel Acclamation Alleluia is sung once again.

The Assembly is then seated.

#### Sermon

#### **Time of Silence**

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

During this time, you may want to meditate on one word from the scriptures 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 Nicene Creed**

- L With the whole Church, let us profess our faith.
- A We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
  - We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
  - For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
  - For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
  - On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
  - He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
  - We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the + resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **Prayers of the People**

L God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

(brief pause)

L You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.

#### A **§** Your mercy is great.

L You inpart compassion into the hearts of those who serve. We pray for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, our pastor Mark, our president Michael, our council, our justice ministries and all who guide and instruct our communities. Hear us, O God.

#### A Your mercy is great.

- L You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God.
- A Your mercy is great.

L You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God.

## A Your mercy is great.

L You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care, especially Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Jim Jung, Nancy Lang, Jerry Larson, Elaine Nelson, Bill Pullin, Kathy Roderer, Larry Turpin, Steve Warner, the family of Julie Woestehoff, Marina Yarnoff, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Hear us, O God.

## A Your mercy is great.

L This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children.

## A Your mercy is great.

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 Hear us, O God.

#### A Your mercy is great.

L You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints especially, Matthias, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God.

## A Your mercy is great.

P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

#### A Amen.

#### Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

# A 🚇 And also with you.

Greet one another in the peace of Christ, saying "Peace be with you,"

"The peace of the Lord," or similar words.

The Assembly is seated.

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

**Offering** An offering for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need.

El Señor es mi pastor, nada me falta. (The Lord is my shepherd. I lack nothing.)

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; you make me lie down in green pastures. To cool, fresh, clear water you lead me to drink; my suffering soul you revive.

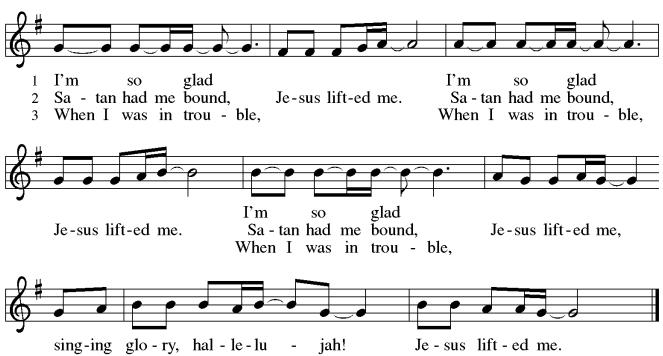
You guide me along the pathway of life, though death's fearful darkness surrounds me. Your loving hand chases the evil away; your staff and your crook are my guide.

A table you set in the sight of my foes; you anoint me with rich smelling fragrance. My cup overflows with such bountiful gifts; such wonderful kindness to me!

You goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days I am living. In your safe, strong dwelling my home shall be for now and the rest of my life.!

## Presentation of the Gifts "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me" (JESUS LIFTED ME) ELW 860

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

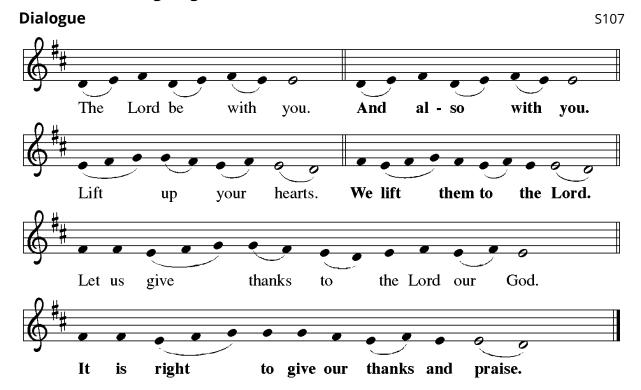


## **Offering Prayer**

- L Let us pray.
- L Risen One,
  you have gathered us around your table of grace
  along with these gifts we bring.
  Come among us again,
  breathe your life into us,
  and enliven us with this meal,
  that we may live as your risen body in the world.

#### A Amen.

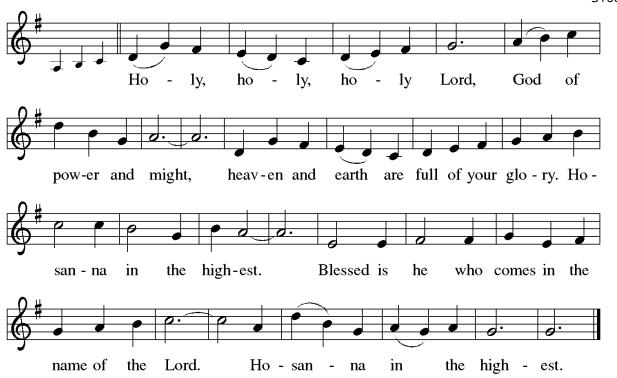
## The Great Thanksgiving



**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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## Thanksgiving at the Table

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

All creation sings your praise.
Sun, moon, and stars reflect your glory.
Mountains, lakes, and forests declare your wonders.

With Sarah and Abraham we go out in faith, trusting your promise.
With Miriam and Moses we celebrate our deliverance from bondage.
With Naomi and Ruth we bind ourselves together in covenant love.
With Jonathan and David we delight in the gift of deep and abiding friendship.
With Mary and Elizabeth we welcome your presence in the birth of Jesus, the Holy One.

With Lazarus, Martha, and Mary we give thanks for the blessings of family. With disciples and followers we marvel at the reign of God come near. With saints through the ages we ponder the mystery of Christ's dying and rising.

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.

With hearts full of memories and hopes, we break this bread and share this cup, remembering the death and resurrection of Christ, and his promise to be with us always as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

## A Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O Divine Lover, you are the breath within us. You are our heart's desire. You are our priceless treasure. You are the garden of paradise.

Come down, O Love divine. Come among us, O passionate Fire. Come within us, O Spirit of unity. Come, Holy Spirit.

## A Come, Holy Spirit.

Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts, which we are about to receive from your bounty. Bless our table and the feast we share. Bless us with gladness of heart. Come, Holy Spirit.

## A Come, Holy Spirit.

At this table make us your body.
Form us to be people of justice and peace.
Fill us with gratitude and generosity
that we may bear the fruit of love in word and deed.
Come, Holy Spirit.

# A Come, Holy Spirit.

Praise to you, Author of creation.
Praise to you, O Beloved One.
Praise to you, O Giver of all good things.
Praise to you, blessed and holy Trinity,
one God, 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.

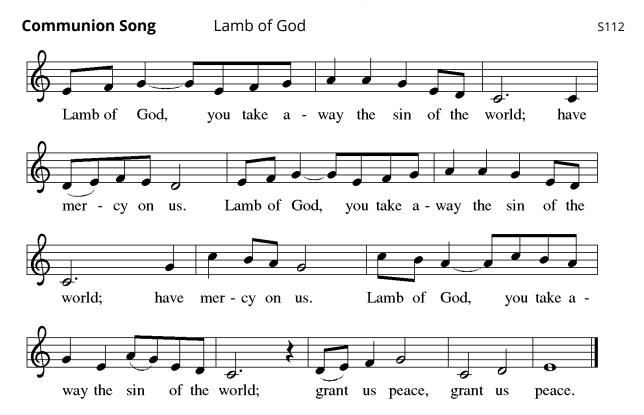
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

- P Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.
- A B We come to be filled with new life.

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."

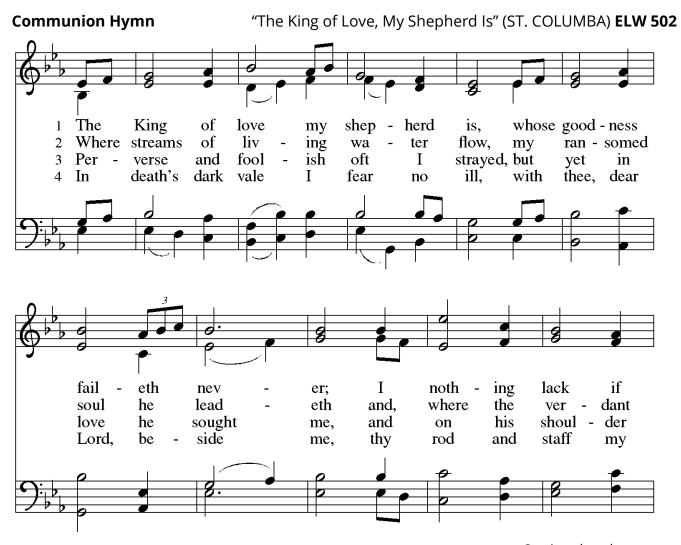
Those who wish, please come forward as the ushers direct. During the Easter season we stand for communion in celebration of the resurrection instead of kneeling at the rail, to receive the bread from the Pastor and wine or grape juice from the Assisting Minister. The glasses will be pre-poured, with the grape juice in the inner circle and wine in the outer circle. Each person will

take their own glass from the tray. The acolyte will collect the empty glass. This will be a continuous communion.

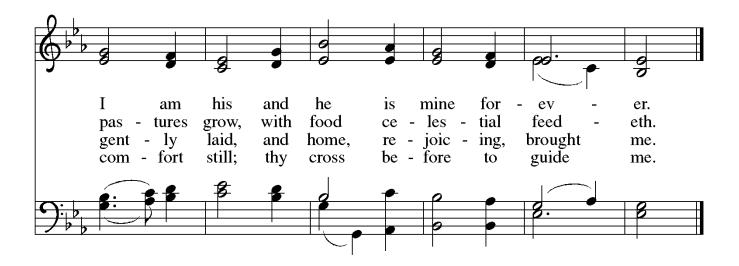
- P This is the body of Christ, given for you. *All communing remotely or with individual packets may partake of the bread.*
- P This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

  All communing remotely or with individual packets may drink of their cup.

  When you receive the elements, you may respond by saying, "Amen."



Continued on the next page...



- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth; and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never.
   Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

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...
Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.

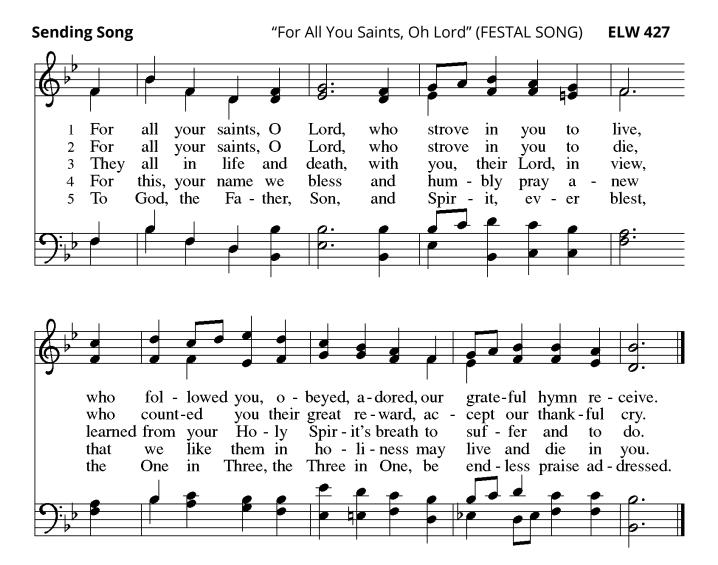
A Amen.

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

## **Blessing**

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- A Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope

  + bless you now and always
- A 🚇 Amen.



#### **Dismissal**

- L Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- A Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- L Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- A Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### **Postlude**

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

Today's refreshments are hosted by the Skeltons.

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	James Morehead
Table Preparation	Kathryn Skelton
Zoom Host	Jerry Larson
Audio-Visual Technician	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel
Ushers	Nicolai Schousboe
Counters	Terri Simchak

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**Upcoming Events** – for details see the weekly e-blast, *Immanuel Newsfeeds*, or the website Calendar at <a href="https://www.immanuelevanston.org">www.immanuelevanston.org</a>. Worship services can be attended either in person or online.

Sunday, May 11	Happy Mother's Day!	
Tuesday, May 13	Tai Chi Class	6:30 am
	Midweek Gathering on Zoom	2:00 pm
Wednesday, May 12	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, May 13	Tai Chi Class	6:30 am
	Daytime Quilters	9:00 am
	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Friday, May 14	Tai Chi Class	6:30 am
Sunday, May 18	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday Worship	10:30 am
	Generations Confirmation Class	12:30 pm
	Council Meeting	2:30 pm

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

## Matthias, Apostle Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Matthias was the apostle added to the Twelve after Jesus' resurrection, as a replacement for the dead Judas Iscariot. He had traveled among the followers of Jesus throughout the Lord's ministry. Formerly commemorated on February 24, Matthias's celebration is moved to May 14 in agreement with most Western calendars.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

# Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss	Pastor
Michael Kloster	
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
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!