



**The Eighteenth Sunday after
Pentecost**

**10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist
September 27, 2026**

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 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. This will be a continuous communion, standing to receive the elements. If you need communion brought to you in the pew, please tell the ushers.

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

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

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

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

Prelude

Prelude on "Ave Verum Corpus" and Adagio (for the glass harmonica)
by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

The Assembly stands when directed and turns toward the font.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

A 🗣️ **Amen.**

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

A 🗣️ **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ
Amen.**

P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✙ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

A 🗣️ **Amen.**

You may reverence the cross as it passes you.

1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
 2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm goin' - a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

A  **And also with you!**

Canticle of Praise

S195



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Continued on the next page...

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



3 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, a - men.

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 God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Mission Moment "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, Reaching Out with a Shout of Joy!"

Jim Miller

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

If you wish to see the text, then use the pew Bible - Page numbers are at the top of the page & in the center.

Reading from the Old Testament

p.685 in the pew Bible

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

R A reading from Ezekiel.

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

A 🎤 **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 25:1-9

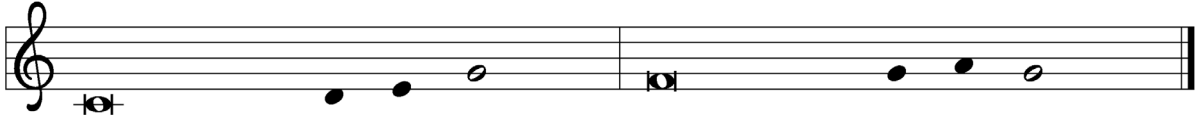
Psalm Tone 4, 0 flats, 0 sharps

The organ will play the tone, and then the refrain, and then the Assembly will sing the refrain through. The organ will only accompany the first two verses and the refrain.

The right side of the Assembly sings the lightface verses to the tone; the left side of the Assembly sings boldface verses. The organ accompanies the first two verses and the remaining verses are sung unaccompanied.

All sing the refrain where indicated by "R."

Tone:



Refrain:



¹ To | you, O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths. R**

⁵ Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.

⁸ **You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹ You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way. R

Reading from the New Testament

p.954 in the pew Bible

Philippians 2:1-13

R A reading from Philippians

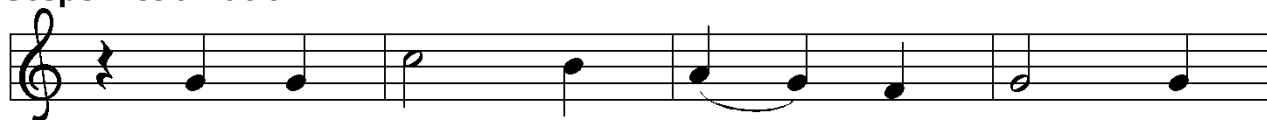
R The Word of the Lord. Or, Word of God, word of life.

A **Thanks be to God!**

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

S198a

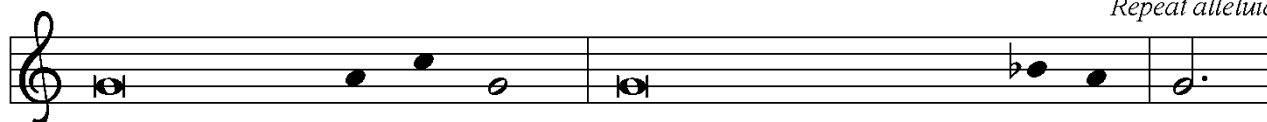


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia



My sheep hear my voice | says the Lord;* I know them and they | follow me.

Gospel

p.802 in the pew Bible

Matthew 21:23-32

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

The Gospel is read.

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

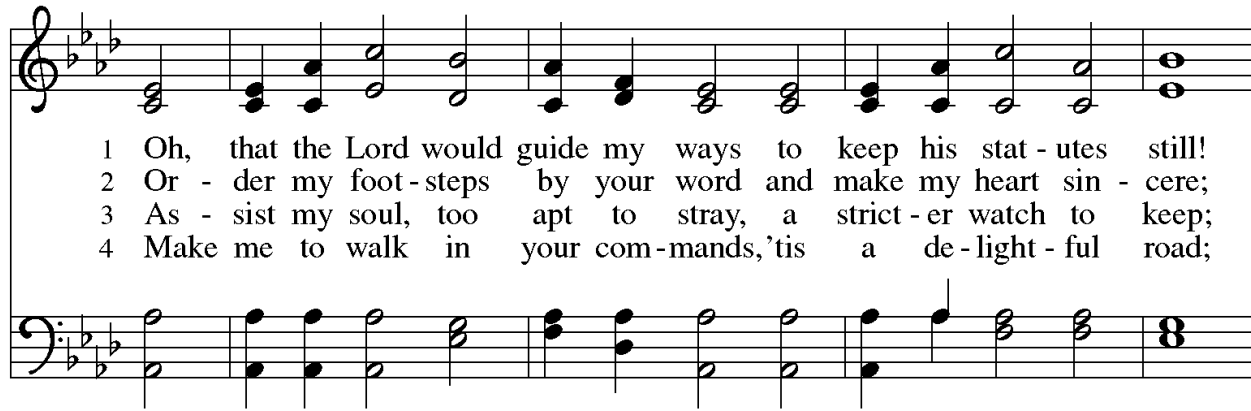
Time of Silence

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.



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

(brief pause)

L Center your church in humility as we strive to follow in your way. Help us listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly hurt by the church and dare to name difficult truths. Show all your love. Hear us, O God.

A  Your mercy is great.

L Keep our eyes, ears, and hearts open to know and understand the ways of our community. We pray for our bishops Yehiel, and Erik, our pastor Mark, our president Kit, our council, and our justice ministries. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L You call us to care for your creation. Lead us into your promise of a better world through sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their call to use their authority for the sake of the common good. Give them the gift of humility. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling. Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need, especially Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Jim Krokar, Nancy Lang, Shirley Patrick, Beth Rohrer, Ionie Smith, Laurie Stivers, Steve Warner, Marina Yarnoff, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Grant us your salvation. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Change this congregation's heart when we say no to your call. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or challenging places. Hear us, O God.

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 Your steadfast love holds all the saints, especially Michael and All Angels, and Jerome, who have finished their work and are at rest. As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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.
Hold your smartphone camera up to this QR code and click on the link that appears on
your screen to go to our website and make your financial offering online.*



Offering Anthem

"Christus Factus Est" by Anton Bruckner

*Christus factus est pro nobis obediens
usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis.
Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum et dedit illi nomen,
quod est super omne nomen.*

*Christ became obedient for us unto death,
even to the death, death on the cross.
Therefore God exalted Him and gave Him a name
which is above all names.*

Presentation of the Gifts "Let Us Talents & Tongues Employ" (Linstead) **ELW 674**

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



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Offering Prayer

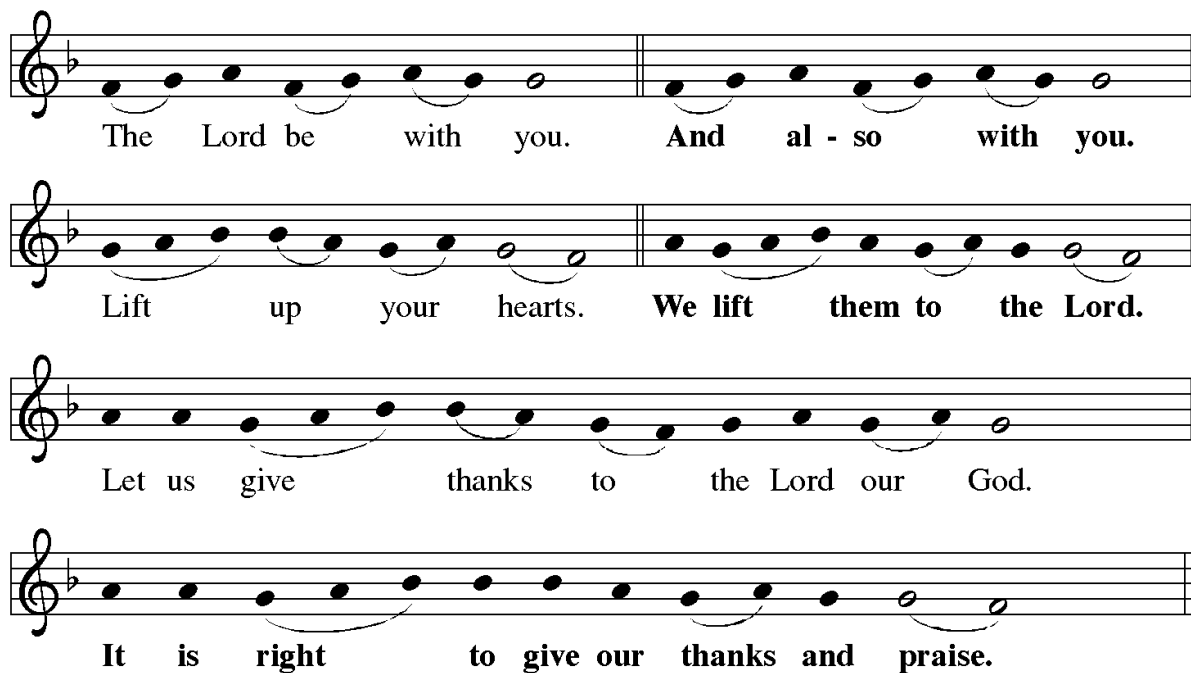
L Let us pray.
L God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

A Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

S199



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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P Blessed are you, Lord our God,
for creating us to live together in unity
and for forgiving our failures in following your call.
Blessed are you, Abba Father,
for sending your beloved Son
and for adopting us to be your family of sisters and brothers.
Lord, we receive this good news:

A Lord, we receive this good news.

Blessed are you, Sovereign of mercy,
for establishing your kingdom in Jesus the Messiah.
He healed the sick, and welcomed women and men, and taught the commandments.
Blessed is he, the Son of Man, who became a servant of all,
and who overcomes the might of Satan until the end of time.
Lord, we believe this good news:

A Lord, we believe this good news.

On the night in which he was betrayed, he 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.

We remember the good news of his life given for us,

his death on the cross, and his rising from the tomb, and together we sing,

A



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

By the power of your Spirit, hidden in the ministry of Jesus,

reveal yourself to us here, hidden in this bread and cup.

Do not forsake us, but save us in the time of trial.

By this mystery of Christ's body and blood, cast out our demons,

cleanse our hearts, and strengthen our service toward all in need.

Lord, do not ever forsake us:

A Lord, do not ever forsake us.

To you, Lord God, the Blessed One,

and to your Son, coming at the end in glory,

and to the Holy Spirit, descending on us now like a dove,

be all our praise and thanksgiving, now and forever.

A



A - men, a - men, a - men.

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**A Our Loving God in heaven, Father and Mother of us all,
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 Christ invites you to this table.

All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

A  **We come to be filled with new life.**

The Assembly is seated.

Communion Song

Lamb of God

S201



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

Those who wish, please come forward as the ushers direct, to assemble around the rail to receive communion. You may stand or 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. (If you need communion brought to you, please tell the ushers.)

Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a key with four flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The melody is in the Treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the Bass clef. The lyrics are written below the staves.

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...
Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

A Amen.

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

Blessing

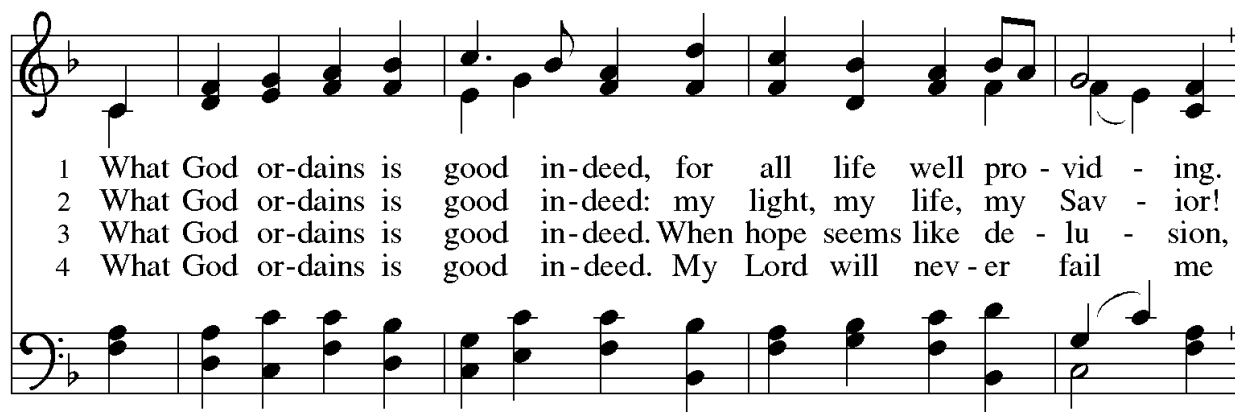
P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

A  **Amen.**

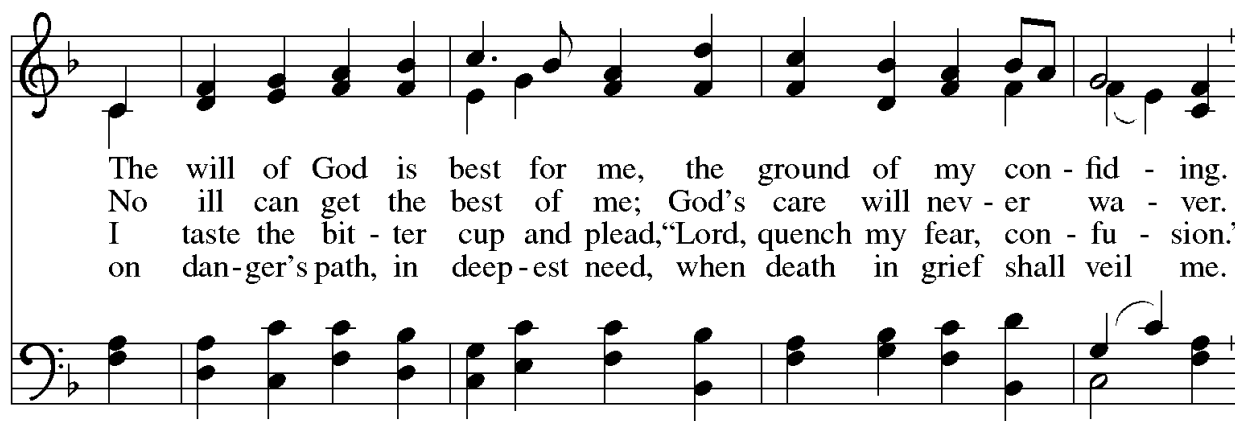
P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

A **Amen.**

P The God of grace
 bless you now and forever.
Amen.



1 What God or-dains is good in-deed, for all life well pro - vid - ing.
 2 What God or-dains is good in-deed: my light, my life, my Sav - ior!
 3 What God or-dains is good in-deed. When hope seems like de - lu - sion,
 4 What God or-dains is good in-deed. My Lord will nev - er fail me



The will of God is best for me, the ground of my con - fid - ing.
 No ill can get the best of me; God's care will nev - er wa - ver.
 I taste the bit - ter cup and plead, "Lord, quench my fear, con - fu - sion."
 on dan-ger's path, in deep-est need, when death in grief shall veil me.



My faith - ful God, on ev - 'ry road you know the way un -
 Through joy and pain I shall at - tain the dawn dis - clos - ing
 God ends the night, re - stores de - light; by faith I face to -
 My God so dear will draw me near, in lov - ing arms will



fold - ing and my hand you are hold - ing.
 clear - ly that God has loved me dear - ly.
 mor - row and yield to God all sor - row.
 hold me, at last in light en - fold me.

Dismissal

L Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
A **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Psalm 19 "The Heavens Declare" by Benedetto Marcello

*Come enjoy one another's company and learn what's happening in and throughout Immanuel congregation!!
Today's Coffee Hour is hosted by The Simchaks.
All are invited and welcome!*

**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 Chris Djuric
Lector Anne Heider
Mission Moment Jim Miller
Acolyte Elora Kloster
Organist Pat Radosavljevic
Music Director James Morehead
Table Preparation Terri Simchak
Zoom Host Bert Mount
Audio-Visual Technician Kevin McDaniel
Ushers TBD

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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.

Monday, Sep. 28	Group Spiritual Direction	7:00 pm
	Dinner Reservations for Vision Keepers 2026 Dinner Due	
	North Shore Squares	7:00 pm
Tuesday, Sep. 29	Tai-chi	10:30 am
	Midweek Gathering on Zoom	2:00 pm
	North Shore Squares (2 classes)	7:00 pm
Wednesday, Sep. 30	FA Meeting	6:15 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Oct. 1	Daytime Quilters	9:00 am
	Tai-chi	10:30 am
	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Sunday, Oct. 4-Blessing of Pets	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday Hybrid Worship	10:30 am
	New Community Church	1:00 pm

This week's commemorations...

Michael and All Angels

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts, is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels. The word "angel" means messenger, and in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, these beings have a fully spiritual nature and no physical body.

Jerome, translator, teacher, died 420

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

Jerome was a biblical scholar and translator, but rather than translating the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures into classical Latin, he worked in the commonly-spoken Latin of the day, creating a version called the Vulgate.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss	Pastor
Kit McCarthy	Congregation President
Michael Kloster	Congregation Vice President
Jim Miller	Congregation Secretary
Susan Ross	Congregation Treasurer
Greg Hummel, Jerry Larson, Laura McDaniel, Jared Peck, Terri Simchak.....	Congregation Council Members
Laurie Stivers	Financial Secretary
James Morehead	Music Director
Greg Hummel	Organist Emeritus
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!**