Immanuel Lutheran of Evanston

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Stewardship Sunday

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist
October 18, 2026

616 Lake St., Evanston, IL 60201 ● 847-864-4464 ● www.immanuelevanston.org
E-mail: Church: immanuel@immanuelevanston.org ● Pastor: pastor@immanuelevanston.org
● Parish Administrator: parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org

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 …*

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

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

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

Prelude "Diapason Voluntary by Gordon Young; "Commonwealth is God's Commandment" arr. by Roberta Rowland-Raybold; "Trio No. 1" by Joseph Rheinberger; "O God of Every Nation" arr. by Robert J. Powell

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.**

Gathering Song "God Is Here!" (ABBOT'S LEIGH) **ELW 526**

You may reverence the cross as it passes you.

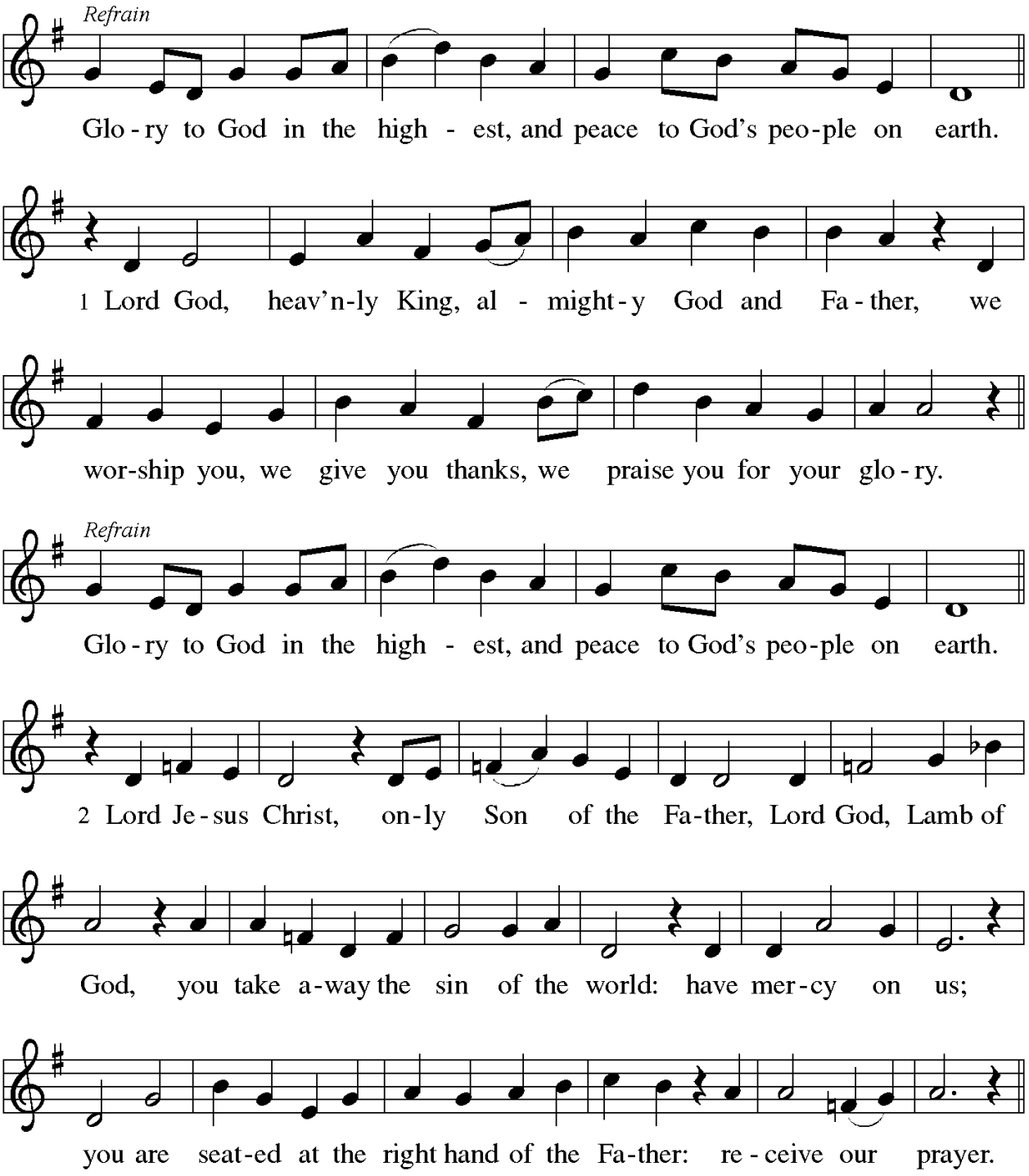
Continued on the next page...

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



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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 Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

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.568 in the pew Bible* **Isaiah 45:1-7**

R A reading from Isaiah.

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

A Thanks be to God!

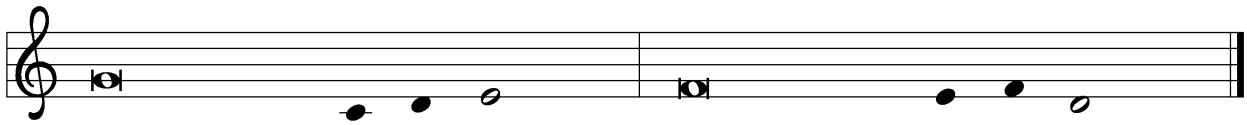
Psalm 96:1-13 **Psalm Tone 10, 0 flats, 0 sharps**

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.

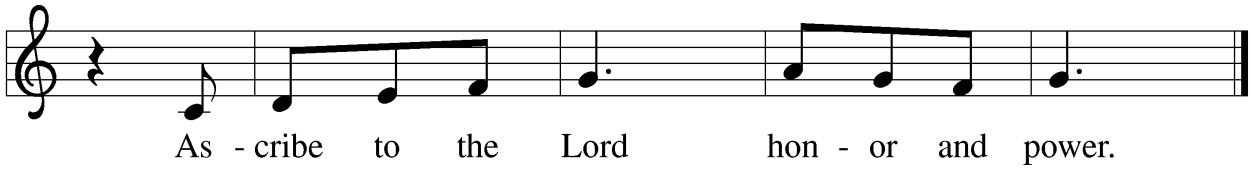
The right side of the Assembly sings the lightface verses to the tone; the left side of the Assembly sings boldface verses. The organ accompanies the first two verses and the remaining verses are sung unaccompanied.

All sing the refrain where indicated by "R.".

Tone:



Refrain:



1 Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.
2 **Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;**
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.
3 Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.
4 **For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,**
more to be feared | than all gods. R

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.
6 **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;**
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.
7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.
8 **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;**
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD. R

9 Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.
10 **Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!**
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peo- | ples with equity."
11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.
12 **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O LORD,**
for you come to | judge the earth.

13 You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth. **R**

Reading from the New Testament *p.959 in the pew Bible* **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

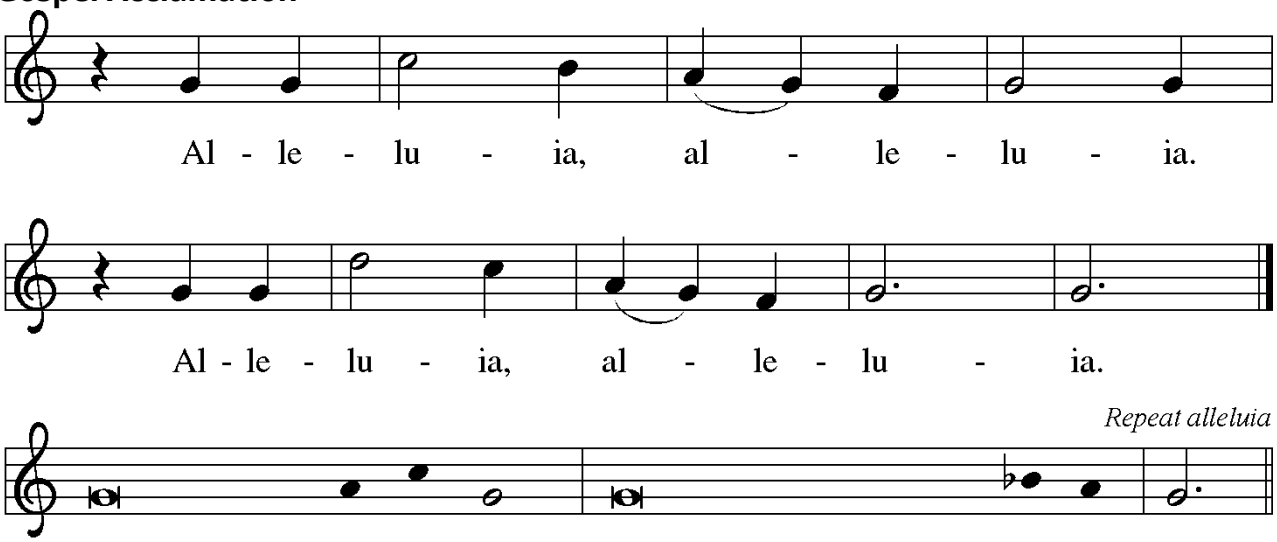
R A reading from Thessalonians

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



Gospel *p.803 in the pew Bible* **Matthew 22:15-22**

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.

Hymn of the Day "Commonwealth is God's Commandment" (RESTORATION) **ACS 1036**

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 Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

(brief pause)

L Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L We remember that leadership seeks to be compassionate and watchful. We pray for our bishops Yehiel, and Erik, our pastor Mark, our president Kit, our council, our work for justice, and all of our ministries. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering, especially Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Jim Krokar, Nancy Lang, Shirley Patrick, Beth Rohrer, Ionie Smith, Steve Warner, 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 We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church. Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. 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 We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you, especially Luke, and James. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

P Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 "Lift Every Voice and Sing" arr. by Rollo Dilworth

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
'til earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun
of our new day begun,
let us march on 'til victory is won.

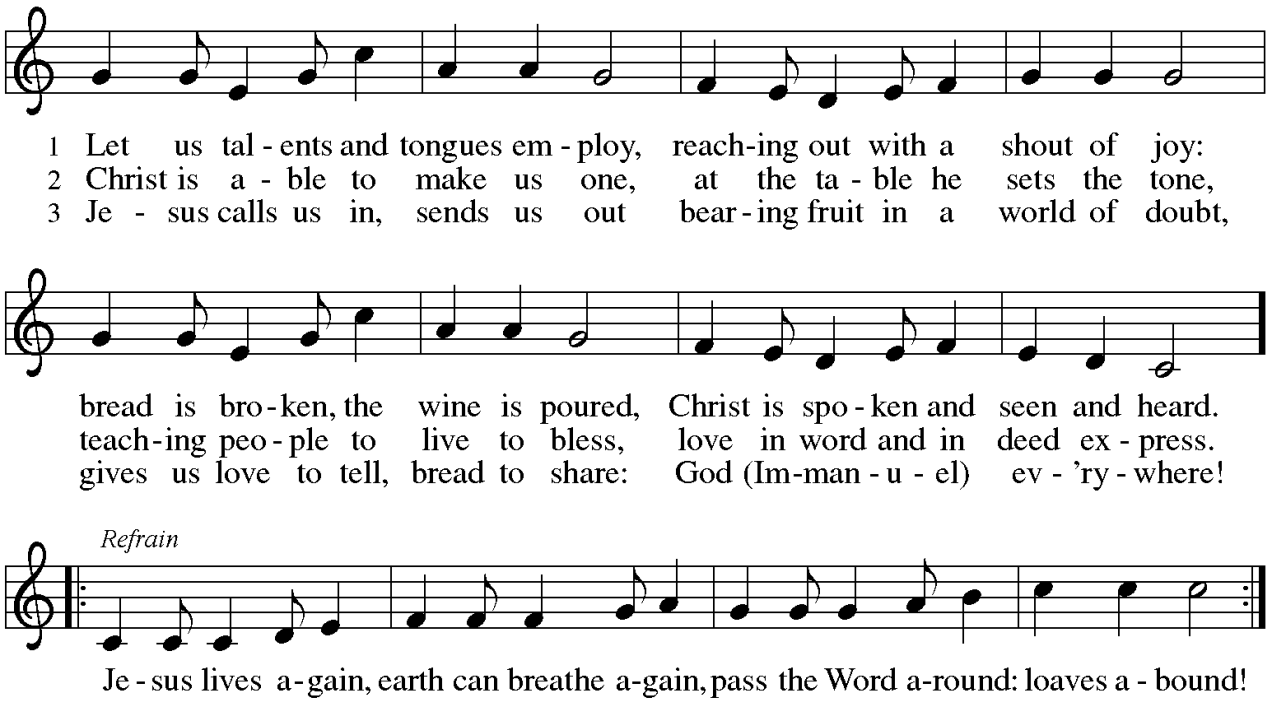
Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chast'ning rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our father's sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past,
'til now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might
led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path we pray.
Oh! Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee!
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

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

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



Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

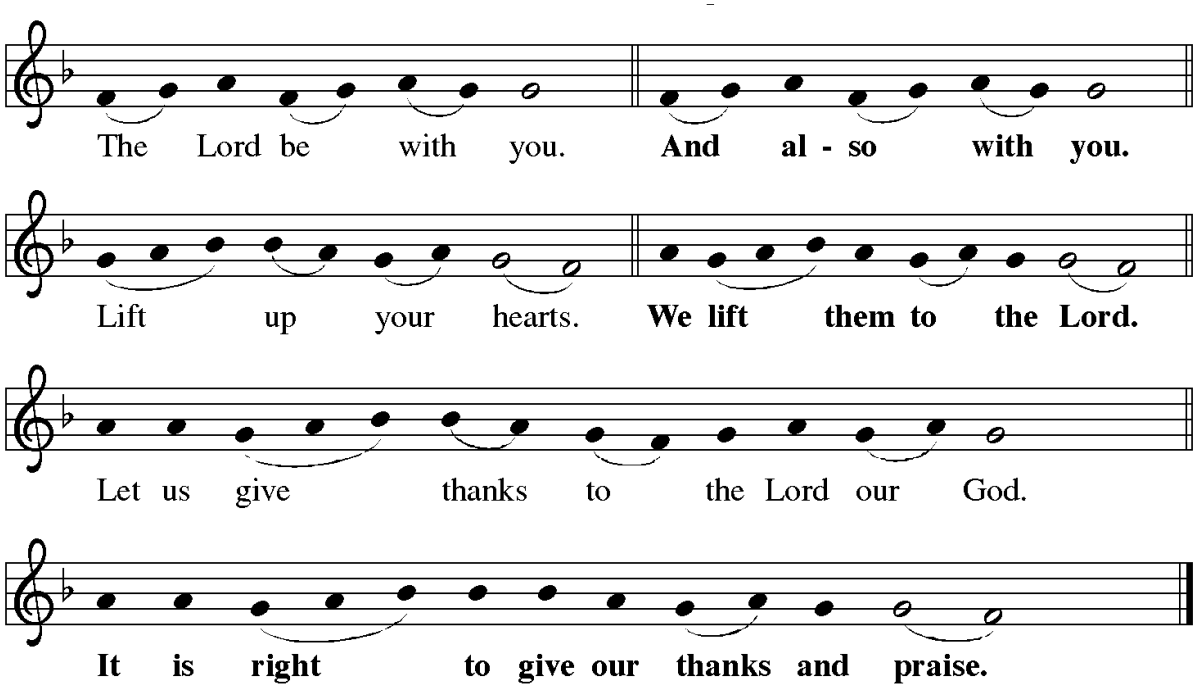
L God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

A Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

S199



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:

Holy, Holy, Holy *The Assembly joins in singing:*

S200

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

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

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.

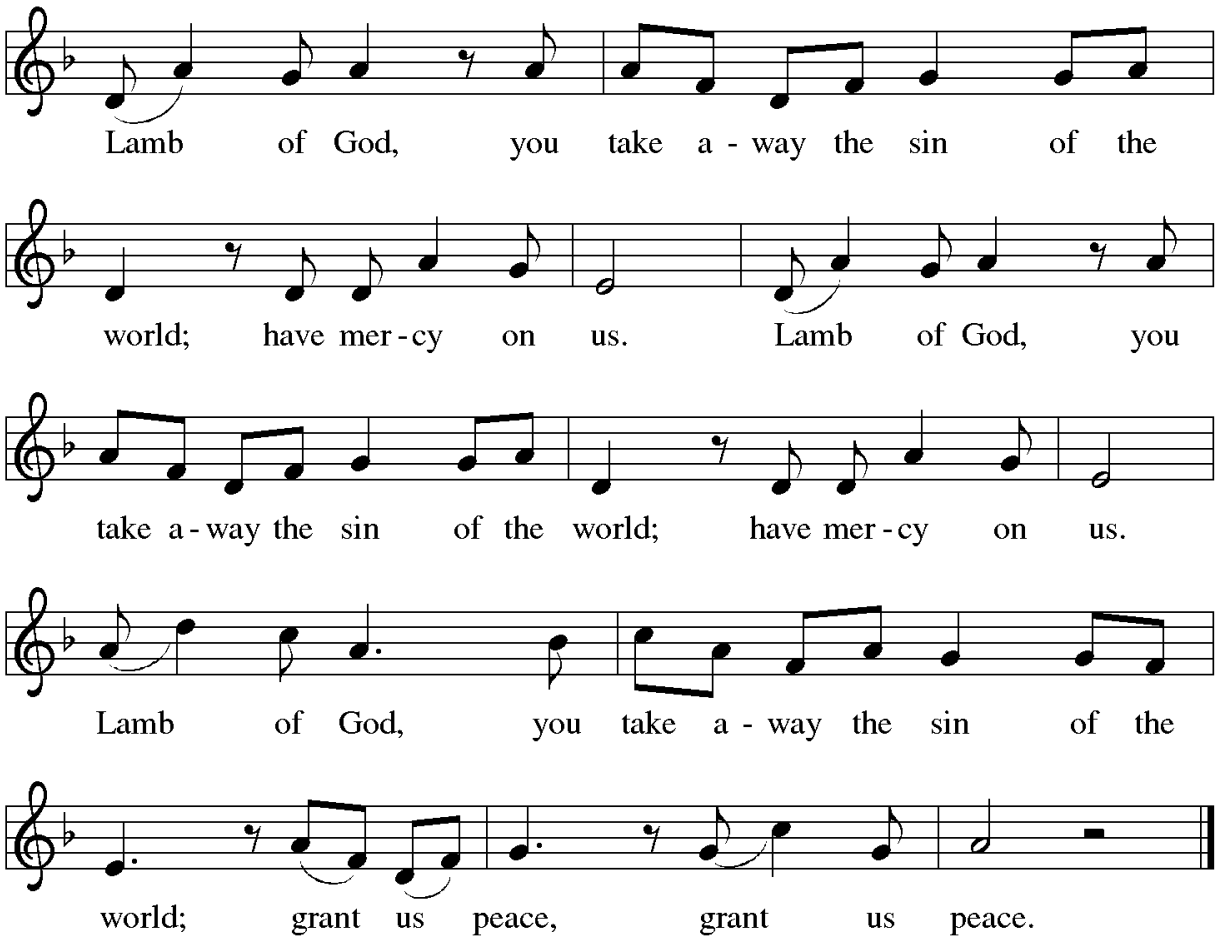
The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

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.

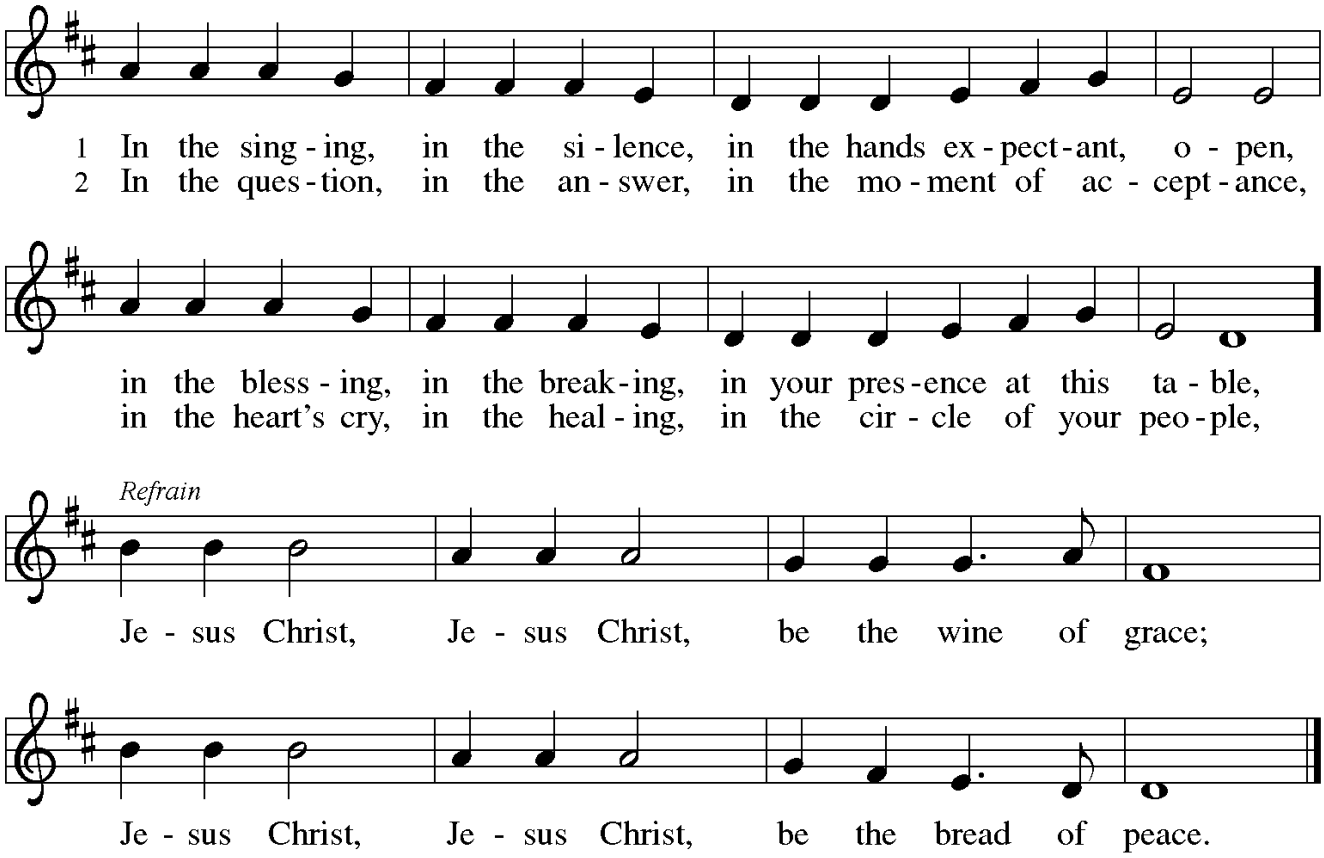
Communion Song Lamb of God S201



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.)

Communion Hymn "In the Singing" (BREAD OF PEACE) **ELW 466**



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.

Stewardship: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, Reaching Out with a Shout of Joy

You may now come forward and place your Statement of Intent cards in the basket provided.

Offering of Our Commitments

P Gracious and loving God,
giver of all that is good and true
and beautiful and life-giving.
These intent cards are but tokens of the abundant gifts
that have been given to us
and they are commitments in thanksgiving
for all we have received,
for all we have been inspired to be,
for all we are challenged to become.
Inspire our generosity, and us as we employ our talents and tongues with shouts of joy,
reaching out to spread the good news of your redeeming love.

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.

Sending Song "O God of Every Nation" (LLANGLOFFAN) **ELW 713**

Dismissal

L Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

A Thanks be to God.

Postlude "Chaconne" by Gordon Young

Come enjoy one another's company and learn what's happening in and throughout Immanuel congregation!!
Today's Coffee Hour is hosted by the Hummels.
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 ..... Anne Heider
Lector ..... Dana Barron
Acolyte ..... Chris Djuric
Organist ..... Laurie Stivers
Music Director ..... James Morehead
Table Preparation ..... Terri Simchak
Zoom Host ..... Bert Mount
Audio-Visual Technician ..... Kevin McDaniel
Ushers ..... Marlene Chatain & Terri Hummel

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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, Oct. 19	North Shore Squares	7:00 pm
Tuesday, Oct. 20	Tai-chi	10:30 am
	Midweek Gathering on Zoom	2:00 pm
	North Shore Squares (2 classes)	7:00 pm
Wednesday, Oct. 21	FA Meeting	6:15 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Oct. 22	Tai-chi	10:30 am
	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Sunday, Oct. 25	*Reformation Sunday at St. John's Lutheran Church, Wilmette*	10:30 am
	New Community Church	1:00 pm

This week's commemorations...

Luke, Evangelist
Sunday, October 18, 2026
Identified as the author of both Luke and Acts, Luke was careful to place the events of Jesus' life in their social and religious contexts. His gospel gives us some of the most beloved parables, as well as the songs of Zechariah, Mary, the angels, and Simeon.

James of Jerusalem, martyr, died around 62
Friday, October 23, 2026
One of three early-church leaders named James, this man is identified in the New Testament and by a historian of the time as a brother of Jesus. Scholars are uncertain whether this means a blood brother. He was a leader of the church in Jerusalem.
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 worshiping God and serving the Evanston community since 1888!