

The Season of Pentecost

August 23, 2026



Immanuel
Lutheran Church

Sharing in God's justice and kindness

Good morning and welcome to Immanuel

We are honored that you have chosen to spend Sunday morning with us at Immanuel. We pray that you will be renewed by this worship and reminded that God loves you just as you are. We will be sharing Holy Communion this morning. Regardless of your background, denomination, or where you are in your faith journey, you are welcome to receive this meal of grace and love.

Helpful Hints for Worship

- Our worship service is recorded. If you prefer not to be included, please speak to an usher. Communion is not recorded.
- If you have trouble hearing, please note the hearing loop has been installed in the nave. The testing of the loop shows the best location to sit is in the center and the first six pews.
- Prior to the start of worship, please silence cellular phones.

Reminder: the parking lots doors will be locked 15 minutes after worship begins.

Please use the QR code if you would like to make a gift to Immanuel online.



Joanne Groman-Stewart	Pastor
John F. Beeg	Pastor Emeritus
Ali Santos	Director of Music
Warren Jensen	Sexton
Nancy Mooney	Congregational President

- Gathering -

Prelude

Thanksgiving for Baptism

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

Water is poured into the font.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Thanks be to God!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Thanks be to God!

This is the water of life!

Thanks be to God!

Gathering Hymn 786 *O Holy Spirit, Enter In*

Greeting

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

And also with you.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y 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. Glo-ry to God in the



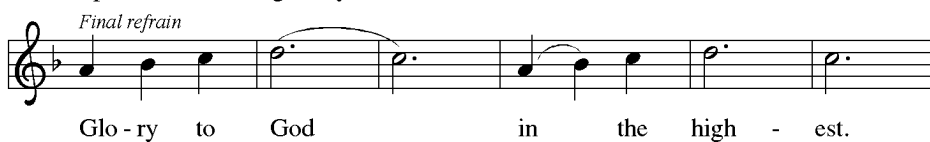
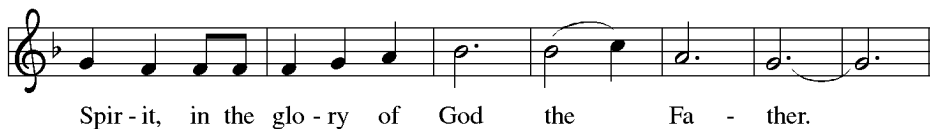
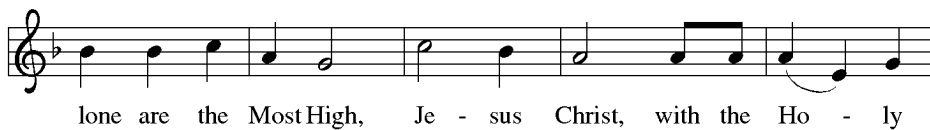
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



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:



Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Welcome

- *Word* -

Children's Message

First Reading *Isaiah 51:1-6*

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the Lord.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;

the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 138 *Sung responsively*



¹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with | my whole heart;
before the gods I will | sing your praise.
² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of
your steadfast | love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word a- | bove all things.**
³ When I called, you | answered me;
you increased my | strength within me.
⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise | you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words | of your mouth.**
⁵ They will sing of the ways | of the Lord,
that great is the glory | of the Lord.
⁶ **The Lord is high, yet cares | for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty | from afar.**
⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right | hand shall
save me.
⁸ **You will make good your pur- | pose for me;
O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of
your hands.**

Second Reading *Romans 12:1-8*

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.



Gospel *Matthew 16:13-20*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day 652 *Built on a Rock*

Apostles' Creed

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 Intercession

Each petition ends:

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

- Meal -

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

With Joyful Hearts

Voice

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

With_ joy - ful hearts we bring our gifts be - fore you, God of love,
Grate-ful lives with hands wide o - pen, we of - fer to you now.
Bless the la - bors here we of - fer; Bless the work of ev - ery hand.
May our lives be signs of mer - cy Through - out this hurt - ing land.
May your love so fill our hearts that we may walk where pain is found.
Send us forth to serve with joy and love, Till grace and peace a - bound.

Text: © Douglas L. Stewart
Tune: THAXTED, Gustav Holst,

Offertory Prayer

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Communion

All are invited to share in this meal of grace and love and may come forward at the direction of the usher, then return by way of the side aisles. The bread is gluten-free. Wine is shared by pouring chalice. Pre-filled cups of grape juice are available. If you would like to receive communion at your seat, please inform the usher.

Hymn 812 *Faith of Our Fathers*

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

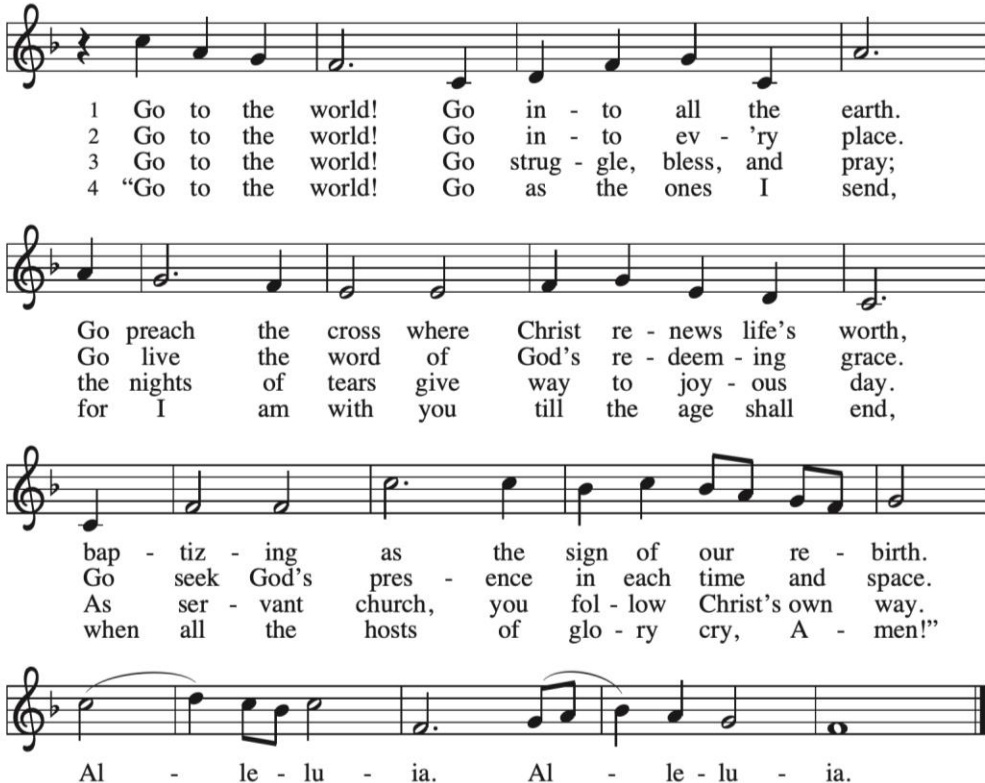
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

- Sending -

Blessing

Go to the World!



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
 4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
 Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
 for I am with you till the age shall end,
 bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
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Dismissal

Go in peace and joy to love and serve the Lord.

We go to live out God's justice and kindness. Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Summer Fellowship Following Worship

Stay after worship and enjoy some refreshments while gathering with friends! We gather in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level.

Bible Study Takes a Break

There is no Bible Study for the month of August. We will return and jump into the book of Acts on Wednesday, September 9 at 9 am at Panera Bread on Holt Road. Bring your bible, your questions, your curiosity, and plan to learn, share, and laugh!

School Kit Time!!!

Immanuel's ingathering for school kits will go to the Rochester City Schools. We will be collecting until September 11 to take advantage of the back-to-school sales which have already begun! Please put your donations in the box in the lower hallway. Thank you!

We will be collecting:

- 70-page notebooks, wide or college-rule
- unsharpened pencils with erasers
- ball point pens, blue or black ink
- pencil sharpeners
- 2 ½ inch erasers (the pink ones are good)
- blunt scissors
- 30 cm ruler (most 12" rulers are also metric)
- crayons - 16 or 24 count
- Glue or glue stick

Rally Day - Sunday, September 13

We celebrate fall with a Love Feast on Rally Day, September 13! Please bring finger foods to share during worship. As we hear God's word of love we share in community with one another as we share food during worship. We will also be collecting appropriate books to add to the Lending Library reserves. Please ONE BOOK PER HOUSEHOLD ONLY and on this day only. Mark your calendars for this wonderful Immanuel tradition and our celebration of reading in our community!!

The Bishop is Coming!

Bishop Lee Miller III will worship with us and bring us the sermon Sunday, September 20! Following worship he will share with us news from the Upstate New York Synod and the ELCA, as well as answer any questions we may have. Plan to be here for this special time together!

Called to Become

*You are called to become
A perfect creation.
No one is called to become
Who you are called to be.
It does not matter
How short or tall
Or thick-set or slow
You may be.
It does not matter
Whether you sparkle with life
Or are as silent as a still pool.
Whether you sing your song aloud
Or weep alone in darkness.
It does not matter
Whether you feel loved and admired
Or unloved and alone
For you are called to become
A perfect creation.
No one's shadow
Should cloud your becoming.
No one's light
Should dispel your spark.*

*For the Lord delights in you.
Jealously looks upon you
And encourages with gentle joy
Every movement of the Spirit
Within you.
Unique and loved you stand.
Beautiful or stunted in your growth
But never without hope and life.
For you are called to become
A perfect creation.
This becoming may be
Gentle or harsh.
Subtle or violent.
But it never ceases.
Never pauses or hesitates.
Only is—
Creative force—
Calling you
Calling you to become
A perfect creation.*

~ Edwina Gateley, b. 1943 – *There Was No Path So I Trod One*



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