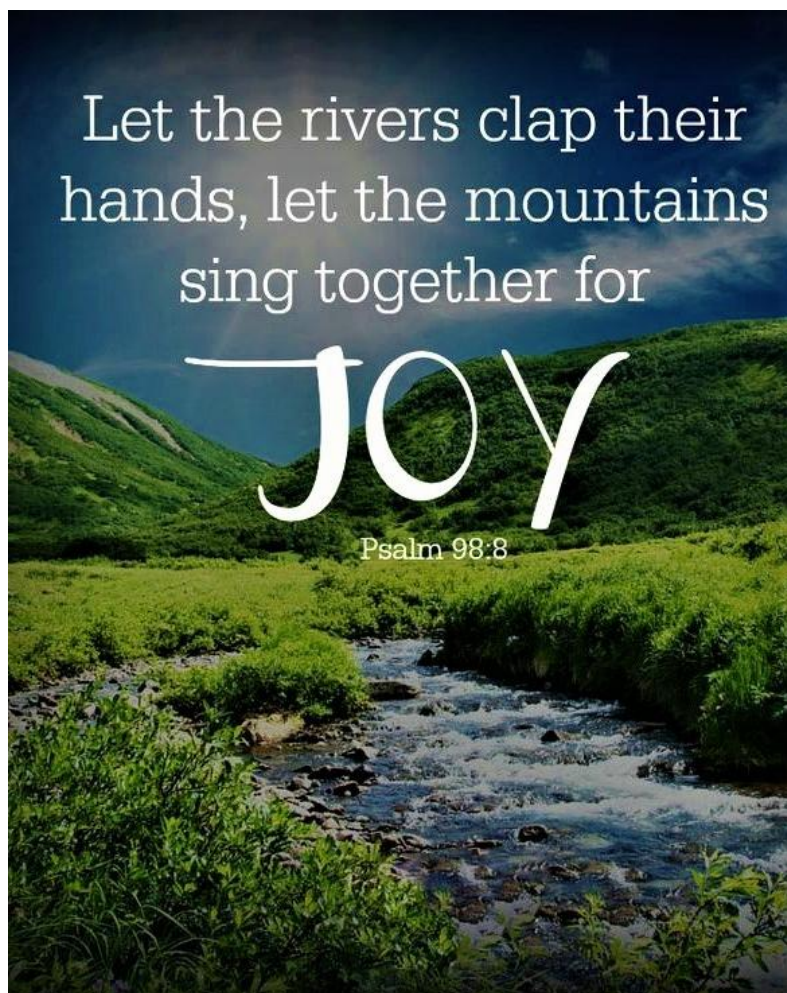


Welcome to Worship at Immanuel Lutheran Church



Life in the Temporary Kingdom

Sunday, November 16, 2025

9 a.m. Service Bulletin

Ordinary Time

Lectionary 33, Year C

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING TO WORSHIP WITH US!



WE BELIEVE THAT GUESTS ARE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, and we seek to make your visit positive! Please scan the QR code to the left or sign the Pew Register located in the red notebook.

WE BELIEVE THAT SERVING CHRIST MEANS SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS. Our name, Immanuel, means “God with us.” Everything we do is to welcome and serve the Lord who is here among us, in you, and in our neighbors. Our ministries, from our Worship to our Soup Kitchen and Food Bank, from our Jail Ministry to our Women’s Drug Recovery house, from our Homeless Children’s Ministry to our Campus Ministry at Lander University, are all designed and carried out to share “God with us” with our surrounding neighborhood and city. God’s Love is inexhaustible! People from all around town work alongside us to share this Love with our neighbors. You can too!

WE BELIEVE THAT CHURCH is where disagreements may occur, and the love of Christ draws us together to worship and work together. We do not all agree on everything, but we do love God and each other, and that is enough!

WE BELIEVE THAT GOD LOVES EVERYONE, so we do too! ALL are welcome here!

HOSPITALITY

RESTROOMS - Our Handicap Accessible Restroom is located just outside the door by the pulpit. We also have nearby restrooms downstairs.

THE CHILD CARE ROOM IS OPEN! - We have a room for parents that offers a private, quick, and convenient space for caring for children. The room is located just outside of the sanctuary through the door beside the pulpit.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The tone of today’s texts is ominous with warnings of the end of time. Importantly, the baptized should know how to live in the meantime and are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: “Do not be weary in doing what is right.”

Order of Worship

As the prelude begins, please prepare your heart and mind for Worship in SILENT meditation.

✝ THE PRELUDE

Solemn Melody Henry Walford Davies
Dr. Will Cleveland, Organist

✝ THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

During the chiming of the hour, please stand for the Processional Hymn.

✚ THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

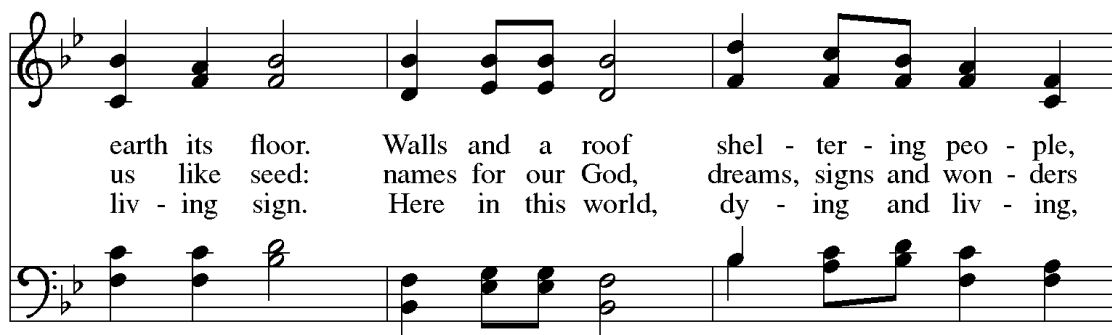
What Is This Place?

ELW # 524

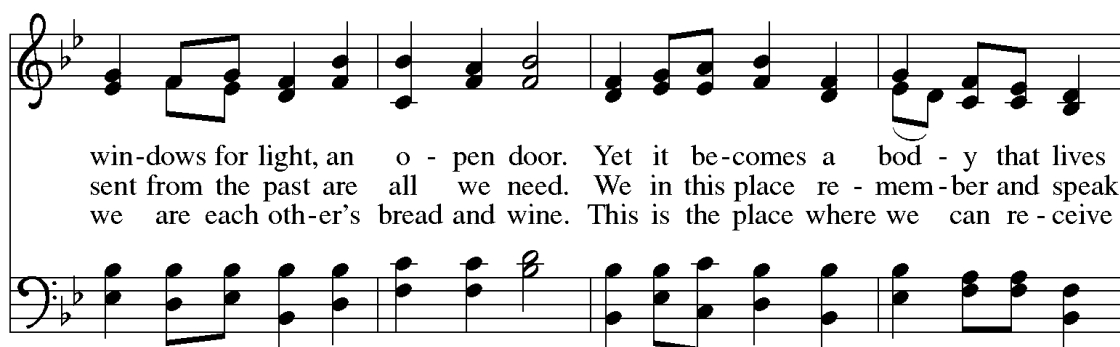
Please stand, as you are able.



1 What is this place where we are meet - ing? On - ly a house, the
 2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in
 3 And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,
 us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders
 liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing,



win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives
 sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem-ber and speak
 we are each oth-er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re - ceive



when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
 a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem-ing word.
 what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933

Music: A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626; arr. Adrian Engels, b. 1906

Text and arr. © 1984 TEAM Publications, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

✝ THE WELCOME

The Rev. Chris Christopher, Pastor

✝ THE CONFESSION

Please be seated or kneel.

Pastor Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives ALL our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

ALL AMEN.

Pastor Trusting in God's mercy, let us offer our confession.

Pastor Faithful God,

ALL you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths.
We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the Earth.
We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.
Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life. AMEN.

✝ THE ABSOLUTION (Declaration of Forgiveness)

Pastor Hear the Good news: God the Faithful One loves you, ✝ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

ALL AMEN.

✝ THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

Please stand, as you are able.

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

ALL And also with you.

✚ THE HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast of Victory

ELW Setting 4

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

✝ THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray: O God, the protector of ALL who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy.

ALL Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN.

The children may come forward for a short message, then go downstairs to Children's Church and return during Communion.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

✝ THE LESSON Malachi 4:1-2a

Summary

Lector *In today's lesson, we learn that Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that "the day is coming." On that day, evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, while the "sun of righteousness" shines on those who honor God. Now, the lesson from the book of Malachi in the Old Testament.*

Lector ¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

Lector Here ends the lesson. For the word given to us,
ALL Thanks be to God.

Lector ¹ Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

ALL ² O Lord, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Lector ³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the Earth have seen the victory of our God.

ALL ⁴ Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Lector ⁵ Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

ALL ⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the Lord.

Lector ⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

ALL ⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the Earth.

Lector ⁹ The Lord will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

✙ THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION AND READING

Luke 21:5-19

Please stand as you are able.

Pastor Alleluia! Stand up and raise your heads,
ALL for your redemption is drawing near. Alleluia!
Pastor The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke the 21st chapter.
ALL Glory to You, O Lord.

Pastor ⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, ⁶ “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.” ⁷ They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸ And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹ “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair on your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.
ALL Praise to you, O Christ.

✙ THE SERMON

The Rev. Chris Christopher

Please be seated.

✚ THE HYMN OF THE DAY

If God, My Lord, Be for Me

ELW # 788

Please stand, as you are able.



1 If God my Lord be for me, I may a host de - fy;
 2 I build on this foun - da - tion, that Je - sus and his blood
 3 Christ Je - sus is my splen - dor, my sun, my light, a - lone;
 4 For joy my heart is ring - ing; all sor - row dis - ap - pears;



for when I pray, be - fore me my foes, con - found - ed, fly.
 a - lone are my sal - va - tion, the true, e - ter - nal good.
 were he not my de - fend - er be - fore the judg - ment throne,
 and full of mirth and sing - ing, it wipes a - way all tears.



If Christ, my head and mas - ter, be - friend me from a - bove,
 With - out him all that pleas - es will vain and emp - ty prove.
 I nev - er should find fa - vor and mer - cy in God's sight,
 The sun that cheers my spir - it is Je - sus Christ, my king;



what foe or what di - sas - ter can drive me from his love?
 The gifts I have from Je - sus a - lone are worth my love.
 but be de - stroyed for - ev - er as dark - ness by the light.
 the heav'n I shall in - her - it makes me re - joice and sing.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, adapt.
 Music: IST GOTT FÜR MICH, English melody, 16th cent.; arr. hymnal version
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

✝ THE APOSTLES' CREED

AM Together, let us profess our faith.

ALL 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.

✝ THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please be seated or kneel. AM = Assisting Minister

AM Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and ALL who are in need.

Silence for preparation

AM God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the Gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep ALL the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call. Hear us, O God.

ALL **Your mercy is great.**

AM God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquakes, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and ALL that lives upon it. Restore people and places experiencing natural disasters. Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis. Hear us, O God.

ALL **Your mercy is great.**

AM God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that promote the common good. Hear us, O God.

ALL **Your mercy is great.**

AM God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for ALL who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind. Hear us, O God.

ALL **Your mercy is great.**

AM God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where ALL are valued. Hear us, O God.

ALL **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

AM God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness. Confident in Christ's victory over death, may we be inspired by the example of the faithful. Hear us, O God.

ALL **Your mercy is great.**

AM We offer these and ALL our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

ALL **AMEN.**

✙ THE PEACE

Please stand, as you are able.

AM The peace of the Lord be with you always.

ALL **And also with you.**

AM Let us turn to our AV Team and those worshiping with us on-line and on the radio and say together,

ALL **the peace of the Lord be with you.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Holy Communion

Please be seated.



*During this time the ushers will pass the offering plates. If you prefer, you may give remotely by scanning the QR code to the left or visiting our website www.ilcgreenwood.com and selecting GIVE from the menu. THANK YOU for your generosity.

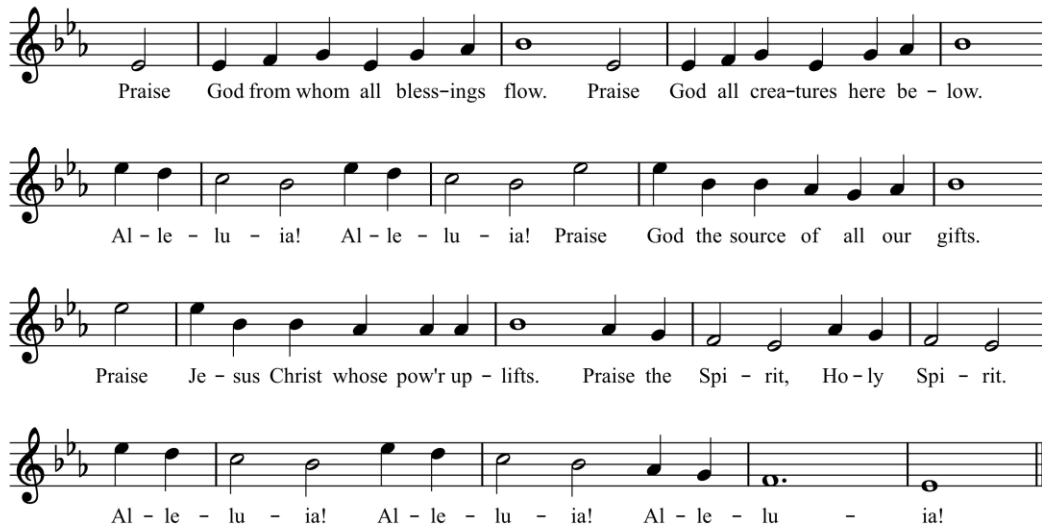
✙ THE OFFERTORY

Reflections from Micah Joseph M. Martin
The Chancel Choir

✙ THE DOXOLOGY

Please stand, as you are able.

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
LASST UNS ERFREUEN



✙ THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor
ALL

Let us pray: God of healing and hope,
you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill
that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of
your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and
forever.
AMEN.

✝ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor The Lord be with you.

ALL And also with you.

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

ALL We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor continues with the Words of Institution.

✝ THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

ALL Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN.

✝ THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Please be seated.

ALL are invited regardless of your understanding, your faith background, or sense of worth. Christ invites you. Jesus gives himself for you; Yes, for YOU. So come, come to the Table of the Lord. Communion is distributed by intinction, the dipping of the bread into the cup. The metal cups hold wine. The stoneware cups hold grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request; please ask for gluten free as you approach the server. Prepackaged elements are available inside a bowl at the head of the aisle. ALL are welcome to use the chancel rail for private prayer during the distribution.

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.

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✝ THE COMMUNION HYMN *Let Us Break Bread Together* ELW # 471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

✝ THE BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand, as you are able.

Pastor The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in
 God's Grace!

ALL AMEN!

✝ THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor Let us pray: God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
ALL you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world.
 Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good
 gifts for ALL who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's
 name. AMEN.

✝ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 18.

✝ THE BENEDICTION

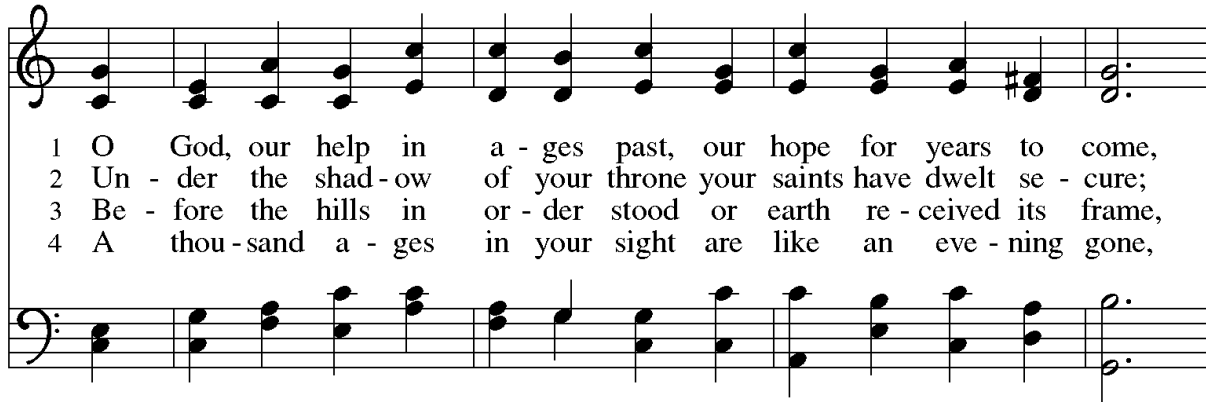
Pastor The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Redeemer save you, and
 God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you ✝
 and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

ALL AMEN.

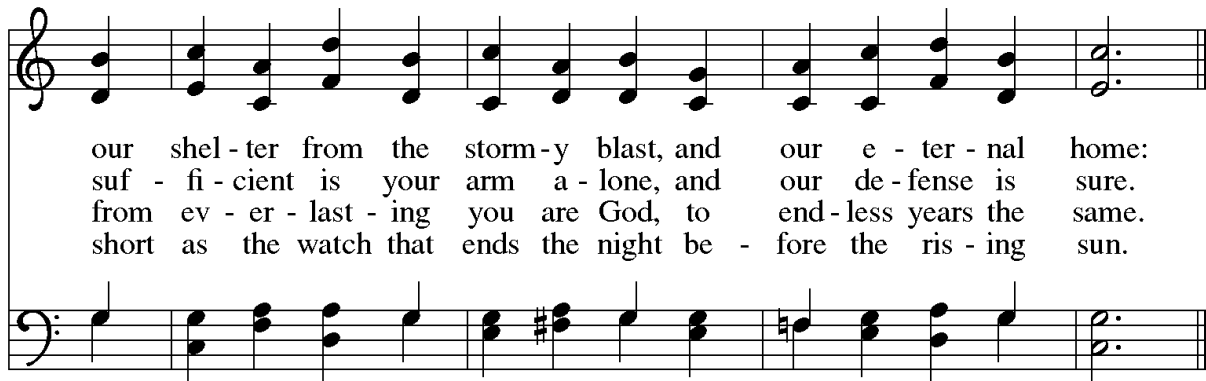
✝ THE CLOSING HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ELW # 632



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 we fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 still be our guard while troubles last
 and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

✝ THE PROCLAMATION OF OUR MISSION AND DISMISSAL

AM We proclaim together:
 ALL By the grace of God, we are disciples growing in faith, serving our communities,
 and connecting others to Christ.
 AM Go in peace.
 ALL Thanks be to God.

✝ THE POSTLUDE

Come, Thou Almighty King

Anna Laura Page

*After Worship, please join us downstairs in the Old Fellowship Hall for refreshments and Adult Christian Education.

THANK YOU to those serving in Worship today!

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Chris Christopher
Lector / Assisting Minister	Kim Leemhuis
Communion Assistants	Carl Monson, Kat Finkbeiner, and Sue Kaufman
Organist and Pianist	Dr. Will Cleveland
Sound and Video Technician(s)	George Beveridge and Ray Lorick
Ushers	Stacy Volpone and Larry Hammond
Altar Guild	Kim Leemhuis
Counter(s)	Steve Presley
Officer on Duty	Will Stroup

*Altar Flowers are given by Stacy Volpone to the glory of God and in gratitude to everyone who has recently donated to Kinard Manor.

✝ THE PRAYER LIST

*Please email Dr. Will to add or remove names.

If anyone needs visitation, please contact Pastor Chris.

Those in need of healing: Maddy Bell, Linda Beveridge, Peggy Bowman, Stephanie Branch, Wayne Cannon, Tom Carter, Vicky Crawford, Patricia Carteron, Steve Crooks, Nancy Crooks, Oliver Conaty, Laquana Davis, Michael Gagné, Traver Gowan, Pop Pop Gowan, Torsha Hicks, Chelsea Hall, Denise Kerth, Tracy Koester, David Krumwiede, Juan Luna, Judith Mutter, Chandler Patterson, Steve Presley, and Betty Weeks.

Those with long term needs: Gail Bouknight, Rick Coker, Richard Coker, Brenda Donahue, Latrosha Fuller, Jaquie Haymond, Willie Fred Kennedy, Lois Kuntz, Sara Russell, Jeanne Shealy, and Deanna Whitt.

Those in the military: Daniel Darling and Devin Rosenbaum.

Expectant and new again parents and siblings, the women of Kinard Manor and ALL in recovery, the people fed through our Soup Kitchen Ministry and Food Pantry Ministry, the people participating in our Jail Ministry, the people of our Matthew 25:40 Ministry, along with the people they continue to help in Guatemala, and

The families of Saints who have been received into their eternal rest: Mary Leone Kenzie

✝ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS (Week of 11/16/2025)

- **Sunday 2nd Worship Service** - TODAY at 4:30 p.m.
- **Fall Fellowship Meal** - TODAY from 5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Center)
- **ILC Thanksgiving Meal** - NEXT Sunday, November 23, 5:30 p.m.
Please bring a side dish to share. Reservations are required. Please e-mail Dr. Will by Wednesday, November 19. (will@ilcgreenwood.com)
- **Campus Ministries** - Monday, November 17, at 6:45 p.m.
McCombs Meeting Room
- **Choir Practice** - Wednesday, November 19
5 p.m. Handbell Choir
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir practice at First Baptist Church
- **Pickleball** - Wednesday, November 19, at 6 p.m. ALL are invited. If interested, please contact Larry Hammond at (landkhamm@gmail.com) or just show up.
- **Community Thanksgiving Service** – Monday, November 24, 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church located at 722 Grace Street in Greenwood. ILC's Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir will be participating.
- **Matthew 2540** - 864-993-6715 lbisenhower@gmail.com Or order online at www.matthew2540.net/fundraisers. Also, pecan time is here again. These make great holiday gifts while providing education and meals for an impoverished child studying at our school in Guatemala. For \$21.25 per bag, your purchase also feeds and educates a child for 5 days! Place your order now to ensure you get the variety and number of packages you want.



Please make sure you are registered to receive Immanuel's electronic communications and weekly newsletter by scanning the QR code. Announcements for the Sunday bulletin and the weekly newsletter are due to Dr. Will by Wednesday at 10 a.m. Materials for the December /January Messenger are due Tuesday, December 2, at 10 a.m.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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864-223-0590, Church Web Site: www.ilcgreenwood.com
office@ilcgreenwood.com
Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
* Closed on Mondays

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Chris Christopher, Pastor
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John Kinard, Congregation President
jlkinard29@yahoo.com

Dr. Will Cleveland, Parish Administrator / Director of Music
will@ilcgreenwood.com

George Beveridge, Parish Sexton
glblsb@outlook.com

Trey Morris, Campus Ministry Coordinator
treyorville@icloud.com

Sammy Hurley and Kristen Metts, Parish Custodians

SERVING THE CHURCH IN GREATER CAPACITIES

The Rev. Yehiel Curry, Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Ginny Aebischer, Bishop, South Carolina Synod