Welcome to Worship at Immanuel Lutheran Church



It Ain't Just about You

Sunday, September 28, 2025 9 a.m. Service Bulletin Ordinary Time 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

Today's readings emphasize that consideration of and care for those in need, especially those visible to us, represents an essential component of good stewardship. With the sharing of wealth, we avoid the snare of wealth.

Order of Worship

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

+ THE PRELUDE

Fix Me, Jesus

Marianne Kim

Dr. Will Cleveland, Organist

+ THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

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

Please stand, as you are able.



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
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in

our

love

fire . .

of

flesh and

our

bone.

+ THE WELCOME The Rev. Chris Christopher, Pastor

+ THE CONFESSION

Please be seated or kneel.

Pastor Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

ALL AMEN.

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

Pastor Most merciful and loving God,

ALL We confess that we have not fully lived out your call to share in abundant life and

unconditional love. We ask you to provide us with the courage to change as well as the energy, imagination, and love to be your people in ALL we say and do. We ask for your help, your power, and your Spirit to grow more each day into the image

of Christ. AMEN.

♣ THE ABSOLUTION (Declaration of Forgiveness)

Pastor Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world

to save ALL. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins

are forgiven!

ALL AMEN.

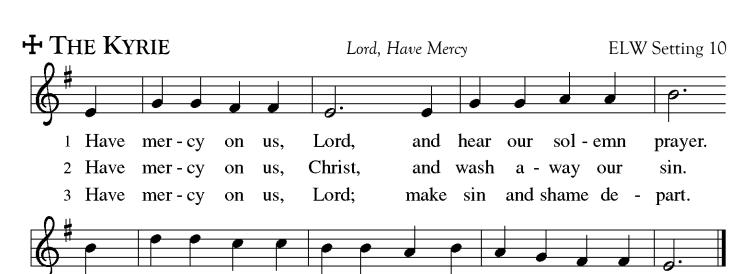
4 THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.



We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re - new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!



5



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

♣ THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray: O God, rich in mercy,

ALL you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord AMEN.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

+ THE FIRST LESSON Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Summary

Lector

In today's first lesson, we learn that the prophet Amos announces Israel's great wealth is a cause for sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes. Now, the first lesson from the book of Amos in the Old Testament.

Lector

^{1a} Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria. ⁴ Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and lounge on their couches and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the stall, ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David improvise on instruments of music, ⁶ who drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Lector

Here ends the first lesson. For the word given to us,

ALL

Thanks be to God.

^{*}The children may come forward for a short message. There will be no Children's Church today.

+ THE PSALM 146

Lector

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

ALL

² I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have

my being.

Lector ³ Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

ALL ⁴When they breathe their last, they return to Earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

Lector ⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God;

ALL ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

Lector ⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free.

ALL ⁸ The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

Lector ⁹ The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

ALL ¹⁰ The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.

+ THE SECOND LESSON 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Summary

Lector

In today's second lesson, Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of the implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich. Now, the lesson from the first book of Timothy in the New Testament.

Lector

⁶ Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Lector

Here ends the second lesson. For the word given to us,

ALL Thanks be to God.

+ THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION AND READING

Luke 16:19-31

Please stand, as you are able.

Pastor Alleluia! Hear the Good News!

ALL Alleluia! We know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was

rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that through his poverty we might

become rich. Alleluia!

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the 16th chapter.

ALL Glory to You, O Lord.

The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus

Pastor

Jesus said: 19 "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. 20 And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' 25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷ He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house 28 for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹ Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' 30 He said, 'No, Father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' ³¹ He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead."

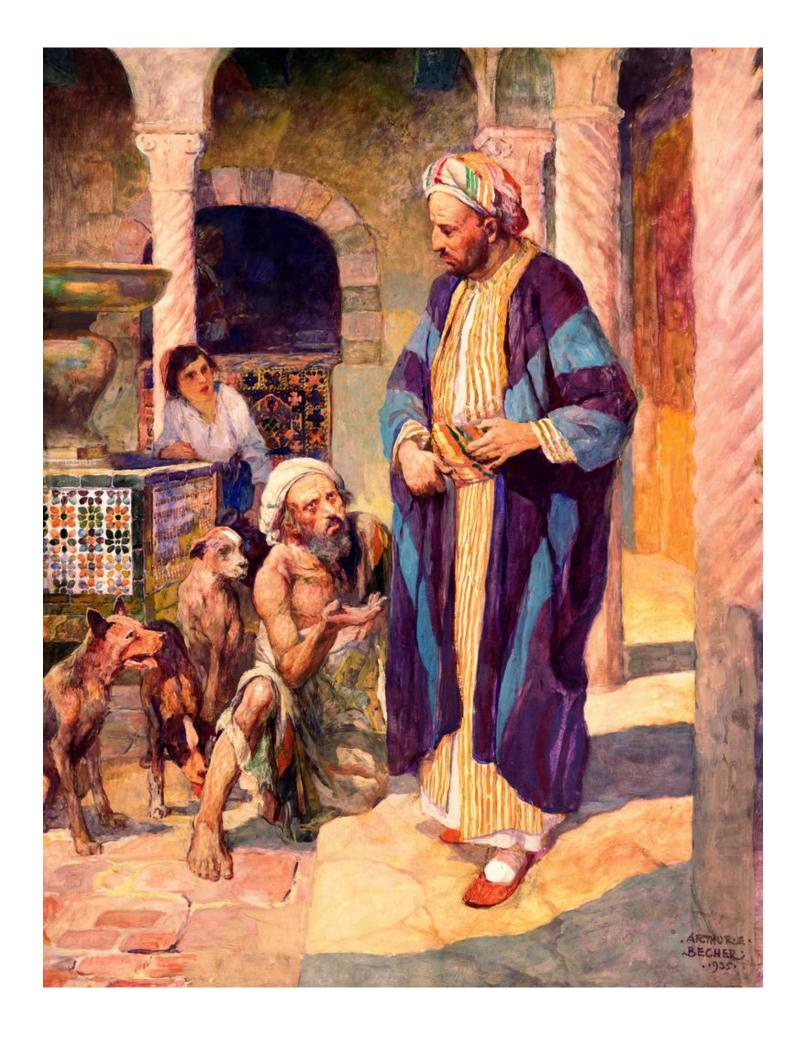
Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL Praise to you, O Christ.

+ THE SERMON

Gimme That Old Time Religion The Rev. Chris Christopher

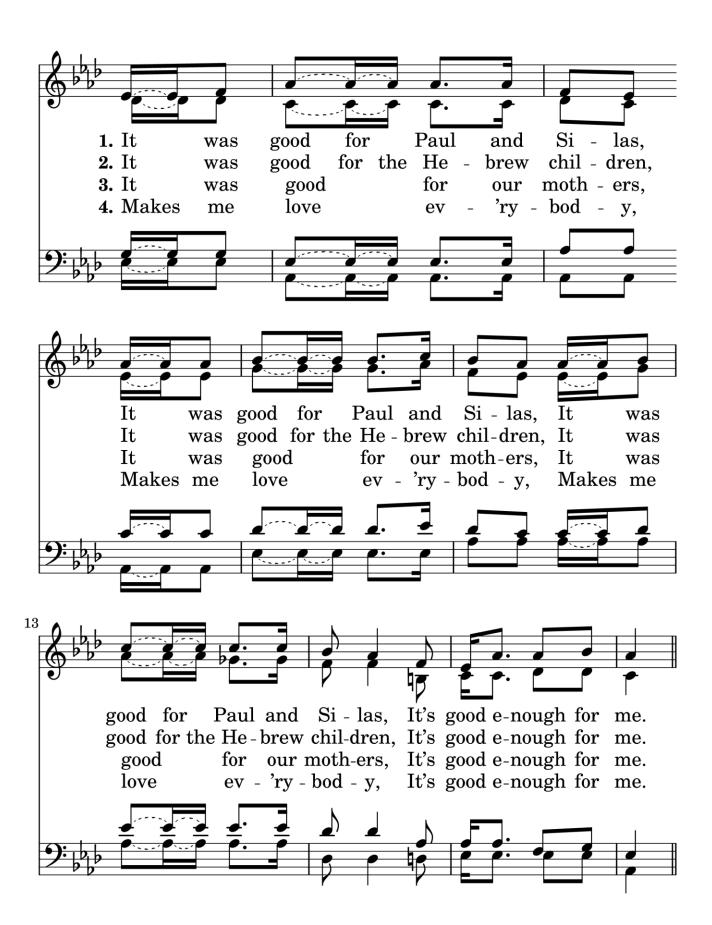
Please be seated.



Give Me That Old Time Religion

Please stand, as you are able.





廿 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 Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and ALL in need.

Silence for preparation

AM We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the Gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. God of grace,

ALL receive our prayer.

AM We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the Earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace,

ALL receive our prayer.

AM We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of ALL people and working to promote peace and prosperity for ALL. God of grace,

ALL receive our prayer.

AM We pray for people in any need. Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from ALL that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace,

ALL receive our prayer.

AM We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where ALL can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies and guide us in building a community of mutual support. God of grace,

ALL receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

AM We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors and bring us to eternal life. God of grace,

ALL receive our prayer.

AM We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

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

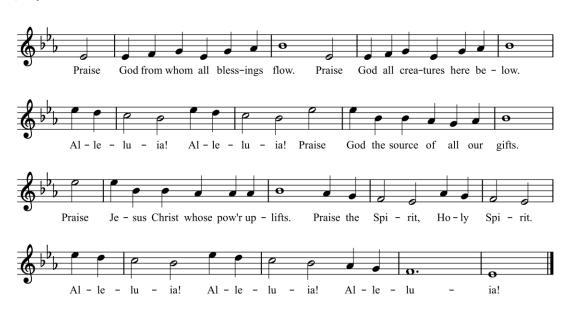
How Firm a Foundation Emma

Emma Lou Diemer

+ THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Please stand, as you are able.



ALL **+** THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor

Let us pray: Creator God,

ALL

in your wisdom you bring forth ALL that is good, and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the Earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of ALL, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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.

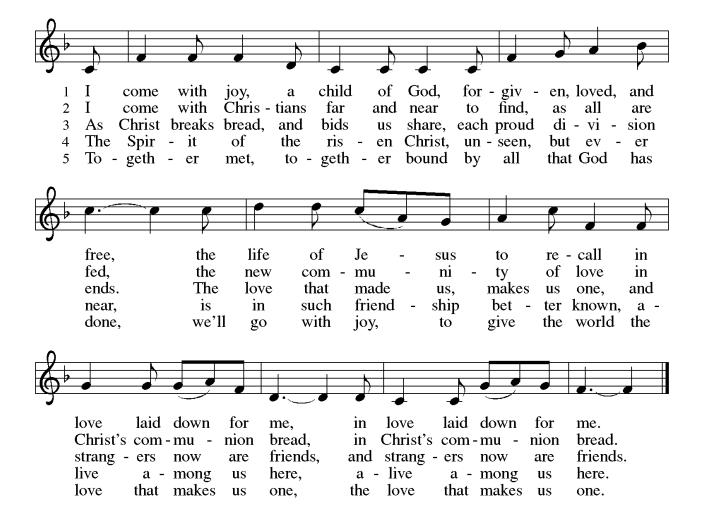
+ THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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.



from Land of Rest Acclamations by Richard Proulx



Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

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+ 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 abundance,

ALL with this bread of life and cup of salvation, you have united us with Christ, making

us one with ALL your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the

risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

→ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see page 24.

+ THE BENEDICTION

Pastor The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the

hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

ALL AMEN.

THANK YOU to those serving in Worship today!

Presiding Minister The Rev. Chris Christopher

Lector / Assisting Minister Bo Bowman

Communion Assistants Kat Finkbeiner, Danny Kinard, and Lianne Smith

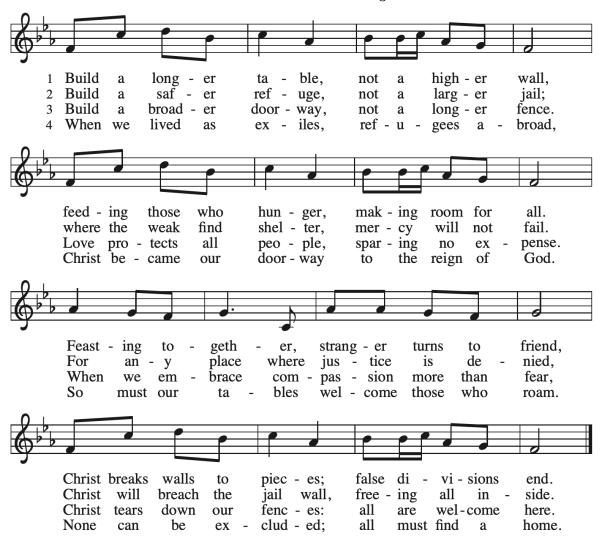
Organist and Pianist Dr. Will Cleveland Sound and Video Technician(s) Larry Hammond

Ushers Chandler Darling and Sue Frantz

Altar Guild Sue Frantz
Counter(s) YJ and Janet Ahn
Officer on Duty Kevin Reeder

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Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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+ 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

Love, Mercy, and Grace James Conely

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

+ 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: Linda Beveridge, Peggy Bowman, Stephanie Branch, Wayne Cannon, Tom Carter, Vicky Crawford, Patricia Carteron, Steve Crooks, Oliver Conaty, Laquana Davis, Michael Gagné, Traver Gowan, Pop Pop Gowan, Torsha Hicks, Suellen Holmes, Tracy Koester, David Krumwiede, Juan Luna, 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, Mary Kenzie, 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:

Kristen Antley, Robert Beveridge, Mary Butler, Nancy Bollinger, Kenneth Bowen, Peter Dubuque, Suzanne Crowder Han, Phyllis Hartley, Tommy Hipp, Sabrina Hood Kumar, Fred McDowell, Lee Peterson, Jane Shealy Putnam, Jean Roberts, Francine Sheppard, Juna Wergin, and Carolyn Brammer Wolfer.

+ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS (Week of 9/28 /2025)

- Campus Ministries Monday, September 29, at 6:45 p.m.
- Veterans Stand Down Wednesday, October 1, 9 a.m. 1 p.m. at Immanuel. This event is for any veteran that needs help. Please bring your DD-214, VA Card, or ID Card. Resources and services provided include FREE lunch, FREE haircut, housing, job training, and more.
- **Pickleball** Wednesday, October 1, at 6:30 p.m. ALL are invited. If interested, please contact Larry Hammond at (landkhamm@gmail.com) or just show up.
- Choir Practice Wednesday, October 1
 4:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
 5:15 p.m. Handbell Choir
- Matthew 2540 next year's mission trip will be May 21-29, 2026. Interested people are encouraged to reserve their spot ASAP. Also, the photos in the pew folders have been updated to reflect this past year's mission trip. Please take a look.
- Devotion books October, November, and December are now available.



- Baked Goods Needed or other homemade goodies needed for the Fiesta de Guatemala on Friday, Oct. 3. Smaller portions or individual ones are preferred so people can purchase more than one kind of goodie. Contact Lynn if you can help. (lbisenhower@gmail.com) 864-993-671
- Altar Flowers given today by Sue Frantz to the Glory of God and in memory of her mother, Phyllis Herzog Hartley (8/19/1930 – 6/17/2025)



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. The October Messenger will be distributed electronically Friday, October 3.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Immanuel Lutheran Church

501 East Creswell Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29646 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 pastorchris.ilcgreenwood@gmail.com

John Kinard, Congregation President <u>ilkinard29@yahoo.com</u>

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

Kristen Metts, Parish Custodian

SERVING THE CHURCH IN GREATER CAPACITIES

The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop, ELCA (The Rev. Yehiel Curry, Presiding Bishop - Elect)
The Rev. Ginny Aebischer, Bishop, South Carolina Synod