

# Immanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA



## Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA

726 Fuller Avenue  
Big Rapids, MI 49307

[immanuelbigrapids726@gmail.com](mailto:immanuelbigrapids726@gmail.com)  
231-796-8273

[www.immanuelbr.com](http://www.immanuelbr.com)

Instagram: [ILCbigrapids](https://www.instagram.com/ILCbigrapids)

Facebook: [@immanuelbr](https://www.facebook.com/immanuelbr)

## Easter Sunday

9:30 a.m. Worship Service April 5, 2026

Welcome! We're glad that you are here, and we hope this service of worship will be a blessing to you. Welcome Packets are available in the entryway

*In the ELCA we welcome all believers to receive the Holy Communion. Communion elements for our service include: Pre-packaged wafers (they are also gluten free), individual cup of wine or grape juice.*

Restrooms are located through the entryway and to the left (signs are posted).

**Assisted Listening:** The Hearing Loop system in place for the hearing impaired will allow hearing aids equipped with a telecoil to serve as wireless loudspeakers, delivering sound right inside the ear. By activating a switch on your hearing aid, the sound is transmitted directly to your ears.



**MISSION:** To inspire members to grow in loving devotion to Jesus Christ, caring concern for one another, welcoming outreach, and loving service to our neighbors.

**VISION STATEMENT:** Immanuel Lutheran Church will be known for welcoming hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity.

# **EASTER SUNDAY**

Lutheran Book of Worship Holy Communion Setting 1  
April 5th, 2026

## GATHERING

PRELUDE

BELLS

SHARING TIME

PASSING THE PEACE

CANDLE LIGHTING

**Transition Song: “God Is Here!” WOV#719**

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,  
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share;  
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

*\*(Please stand as you are able)*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

A: This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34): Christ’s resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God’s faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God’s endless love.

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Merciful God, You are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## GATHERING HYMN "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" ELW #365 Red Hymnal

### GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

### KYRIE

**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.

**C** A - - - men

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*\*(Please be seated)*

## **FIRST READING: Acts 10: 34-43**

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

A: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24**

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;

**God’s mercy endures forever.**

<sup>2</sup> Let Israel now declare,

**“God’s mercy endures forever.”**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and my song,

**and has become my salvation.**

<sup>15</sup> Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:

**“The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup> The right hand of the Lord is exalted!

**The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!”**

<sup>17</sup> I shall not die, but live,

**and declare the works of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> The Lord indeed punished me sorely,

**but did not hand me over to death.**

<sup>19</sup> Open for me the gates of righteousness;

**I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.**

<sup>20</sup> “This is the gate of the Lord;

**here the righteous may enter.”**

<sup>21</sup> I give thanks to you, for you have answered me

**and you have become | my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the build- | ers rejected  
**has become the chief | cornerstone.**

<sup>23</sup>By the Lord has | this been done;  
**it is marvelous | in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the | Lord has made;  
**let us rejoice and be | glad in it.**

**SECOND READING: Colossians 3: 1-4**

<sup>1</sup>If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

A: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 28: 1-10

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 28: 1-10**

<sup>1</sup>After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." <sup>8</sup>So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*\*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON: Pastor John Brown**

*\*(Please stand as you are able)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY : “Christ Is Risen, Alleluia” ELW #382 Red Hymnal**

**P:** Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle’s Creed.

**C: APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

*\*(Please be seated)*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Response following each petition:*

**A:** Merciful God,

**C:** Receive our prayer.

*\*(Please stand as you are able)*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERINGS**

**\*\*LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL\*\***

**Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.**

Merciful God,  
C: accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,  
Amen.

### MEAL

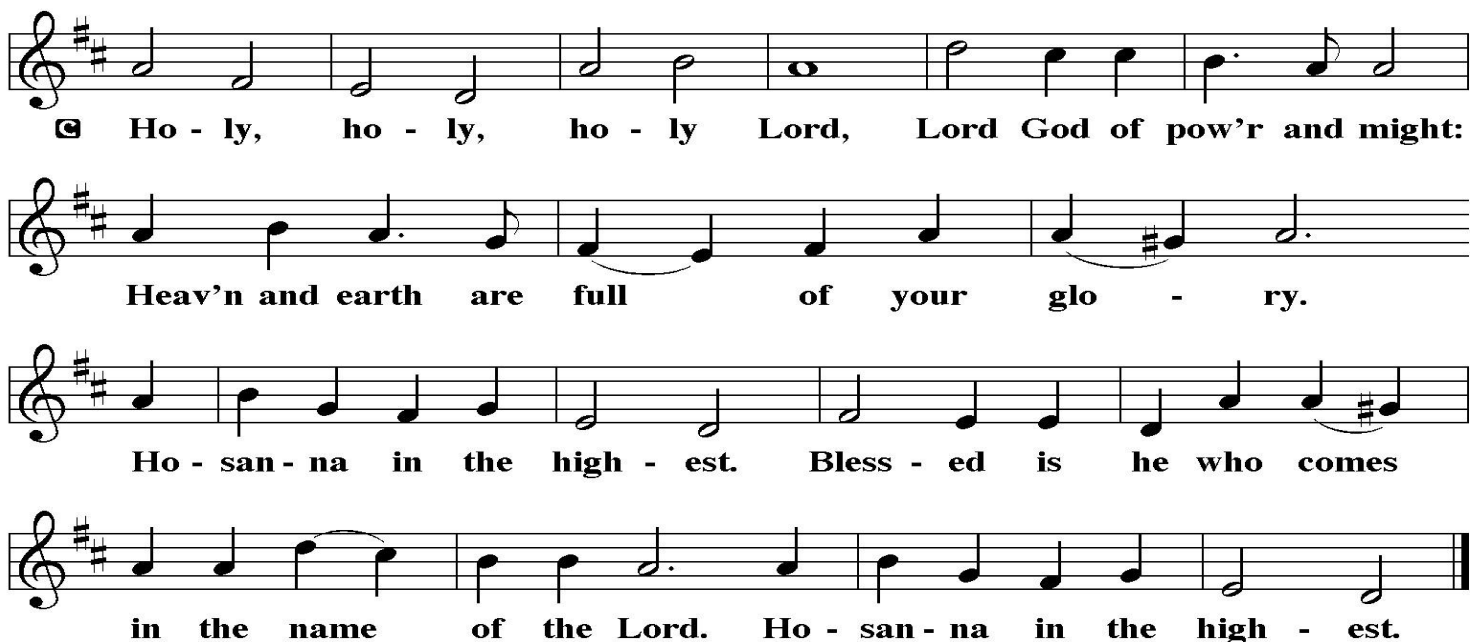
#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.  
C: **And also with you.**  
P: Lift up your hearts.  
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**  
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### PREFACE:

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n 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.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

**P:** Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take this 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."

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**P:** Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**C: 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.**

*(Please be seated)*

## COMMUNION

*In the ELCA we welcome all believers to receive the Holy Communion. Communion elements include this morning: Pre packaged wafers (they are also gluten free), individual cup of wine or grape juice.*

## LAMB OF GOD

⑧ 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.

*\*(Pease stand if you are able)*

### COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

### POST COMMUNION CANTICLE “Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise”



**☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev- 'ry- one what he has done.**



**Let ev- 'ry- one who seeks the Lord re - joice and proud- ly bear his name.**



**He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy**



**with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.**

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

A: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C: Amen.

### BLESSING

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: “Thine Is The Glory” ELW #376 Red Hymnal

### PRAYER

A: Let us pray together Immanuel's Opening Doors prayer.

**C: Dear Lord, we thank and praise you for your everlasting love and enduring mercy. Continue to send your holy spirit: To bless us, to watch over us and to guide us in all that we do so that we grow in: Our love for you, our love for each other and our love for those in our community.**

**Grant us the courage to be bold in opening doors by inviting and welcoming others in our community to God's church. Give us strength: To trust in you and to have faith and hope in your plans for God's church. In Jesus name we pray. Amen**

### **DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### **POSTLUDE**

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The congregation and ministries of this church rely on your weekly offerings and gifts. We encourage you to continue your tithing to Immanuel. If you have a key, you may stop by & leave them in Cindi's mailbox or slip them under her door. You may also mail them to Immanuel at 726 Fuller Ave. Big Rapids, MI. Thank you to everyone who has been sending in your offerings.

*~Stewardship Committee*

**Please join us for fellowship in the Fellowship Hall following Worship today! (on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month, cake will be served for all birthdays celebrated in the month.)**

### **SERVING IN SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

**Musician: Janet Mallett**

**Altar Duty: Carol Zimmerman, Phyllis Cousineau**

**Presiding Minister: Pastor John Brown**

**Worship Assistant: Lee Wolken**

**Greeter: Phyllis Lindsey**

**Usher: Linda Obermier**

**Reader: Michelle Kauffold**

**Sound Technician: David Scott**

**A/V Projection Technicians: David Scott**

## **Easter Lilies**

**Phyll Cousineau**

**Cathy Lee & Lily Lee**

**Linda Greene**

**Troy & Tammy Lindsey**

**In Memory of loved ones**

**Michelle Kauffold**

**In Memory of her sister Maggie Rollenger**

**Phil & Maggie Keating**

**In Memory of Bob Keating and  
In Honor of Family**

**Janet & Gordon Mallett**

**In memory of Families  
In Honor of Family**

**Carol Wilson- Jungck**

**Brother's Robert & Scott**

**Gunder Myran**

**In Memory of Marliss Myran**

**Judy O'Dell**

**In Memory of Roger**

**Linda Obermier**

**In Memory of her Parents**



**ANNOUNCEMENTS  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Birthdays this week** – A belated Happy Birthday to Robert Schweitzer (4/1) & Beth Windquist (4/4) who were somehow missed last week.

**Happy Anniversary** None to report.

**Altar Flowers** – by Linda Obermier, in memory of her Mom.

**Readings for April 12<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter):**

**Acts 2: 14a, 22-32**

**1Peter 1: 3-9**

**Psalm 16**

**John 20: 19-31**

**Upcoming In Person meetings**

Office Staff Meeting **Tue April 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am**

Movie Matinee **Sat. April 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm “Ball of Fire”**



**Helpful Hints from Parish Nurse Phyllis Lindsey** –

**Apr 5:** Stress Management Awareness. Stress is tension—the kind you feel when faced with a change, like something new, unpleasant, or even pleasant. Stress is a fact of life—some is good because it helps give you the strength to meet life’s challenges. Too much stress all at once, however, can be harmful for your physical, mental, and emotional life. It is good to learn some ways to control stress so that it doesn’t control you. (More on stress next Sunday).



**‘Ball of Fire’ Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

This month’s Movie Matinee is ‘Ball of Fire’ (1941) starring Barbara Stanwyck & Gary Cooper. It is listed as a screwball comedy.



Shepherd’s Hooks & Needles now meet on the third Tuesday of the month. The next session is **Tues. April 21<sup>st</sup> at Noon.**

### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**Manna Pantry:**

April: Macaroni or spaghetti & sauce

May: Canned Pasta

**Project Starburst:**

Mac & Cheese

Spaghetti Sauce

**Grade School**

Kleenex, shampoo, toothpaste/brushes, soap, underwear, sweatpants (neutral colors), socks. Sizes for children to fifth grade. Also hats, mittens, scarves, sweatshirts

**Please Note:**

The Big Rapids branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is collecting gently used books, CDs, and DVDs for its annual book sale. Donation bins are located at Artworks, Immanuel Lutheran Church, First United Methodist Church, the United Church of Big Rapids, Conley's Bakery, Canadian Lakes Pharmacy, Coldwell Banker Lakes Realty, and the Mecosta County Commission on Aging and Activity Center. Please, no textbooks or encyclopedias. The sale will be held Friday, April 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 304 Elm Street, Big Rapids. Proceeds fund scholarships for nontraditional Ferris students. For more information, call or text 231-287-7022.



# BOOK SALE

**April 17, 9am-5pm**  
**April 18, 9am-2pm**

**First United Methodist Church**  
**304 Elm Street**

Now collecting donations of *gently* used books, CDs, & DVDs  
(no encyclopedias or textbooks) at these locations:

- Artworks
- First United Methodist Church
- The United Church of Big Rapids
- Immanuel Lutheran Church
- Conley's Bakery
- Canadian Lakes Pharmacy
- Coldwell Banker Lakes Realty
- Mecosta County Commission on Aging and Activity Center

**Proceeds fund scholarships for Ferris students.**  
**For more information, call or text 231-287-7022.**

## Ministry Leadership Team Meeting Schedule

April 12<sup>th</sup>

MLN Meeting

**Dinner Sixes Kickoff!**

Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm

If you are interested and did not respond to the survey, please contact Nedra Neumann or Carol Wilson-Jungck.

You can find more information in the April Newsletter.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Spring Gathering 2026, Hosted by the NW Lower Michigan Women of the ELCA, will be April 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Greenville Michigan. There will be more information in April's Newsletter.

## TUBA BACH SCHEDULE

April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Concert - 250 Years of American Song	4:00pm
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Noah Mallett ( <i>Piano</i> and <i>marimba</i> )	4:00pm
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Summer Concert - Bruce Forman	4:00pm

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday, April 5th, 2026