

Immanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA

726 Fuller Avenue
Big Rapids, MI 49307

immanuelbigrapids726@gmail.com
231-796-8273

www.immanuelbr.com

Instagram: ILCbigrapids

Facebook: @immanuelbr

Second Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m. Worship Service April 12, 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Evangelical Lutheran Book of Worship Holy Communion Setting 1
April 12th, 2026

GATHERING

PRELUDE

BELLS

SHARING TIME

PASSING THE PEACE

CANDLE LIGHTING (While We Sing the Transition Song)

Transition Song: “God Is Here!” ELW #526

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: In today’s gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

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.

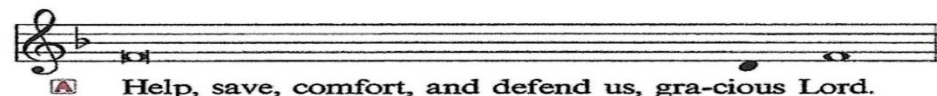
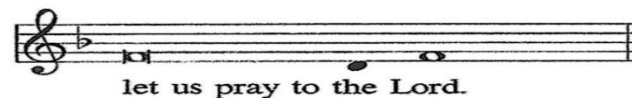
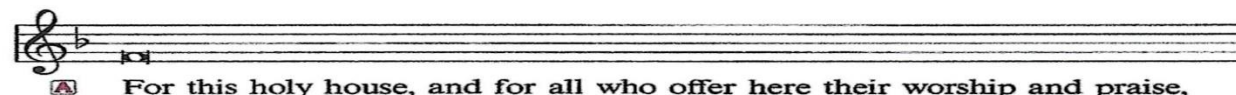
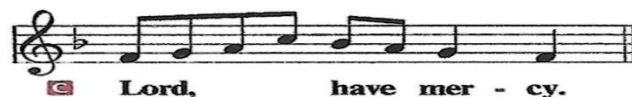
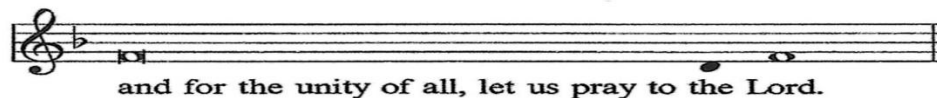
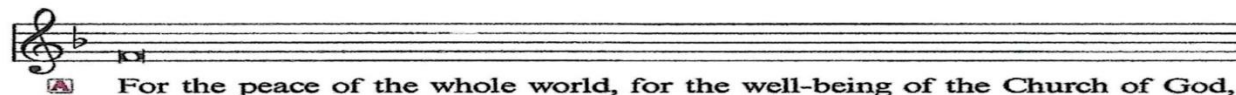
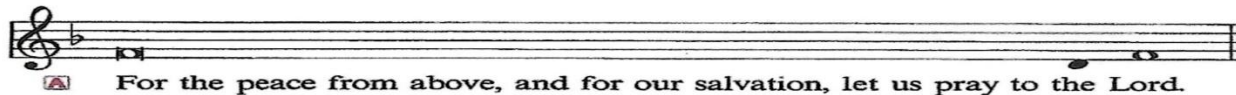
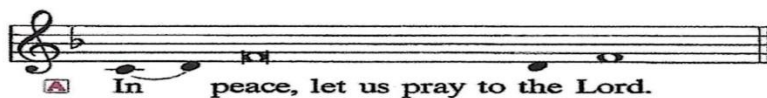
GATHERING HYMN "That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright" ELW 384 Red Hymnal

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



my heart teaches me night | after night.

⁸ I have set the LORD al- | ways before me;

because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken.

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices;

my body also shall | rest in hope.

¹⁰ For you will not abandon me | to the grave,

nor let your holy one | see the pit.

¹¹ You will show me the | path of life;

**in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures
for- | evermore.**

SECOND READING: 1Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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 John the 20th chapter verses 19 through 31.

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

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

**(Please be seated)*

SERMON: Lay Minister Linda Obermier
Video sermon by:
Missy Schroeder, Indiana Kentucky Synod

**(Please stand as you are able)*

HYMN OF THE DAY : "We Walk by Faith" ELW 635 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.

A: Let us pray.

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.**

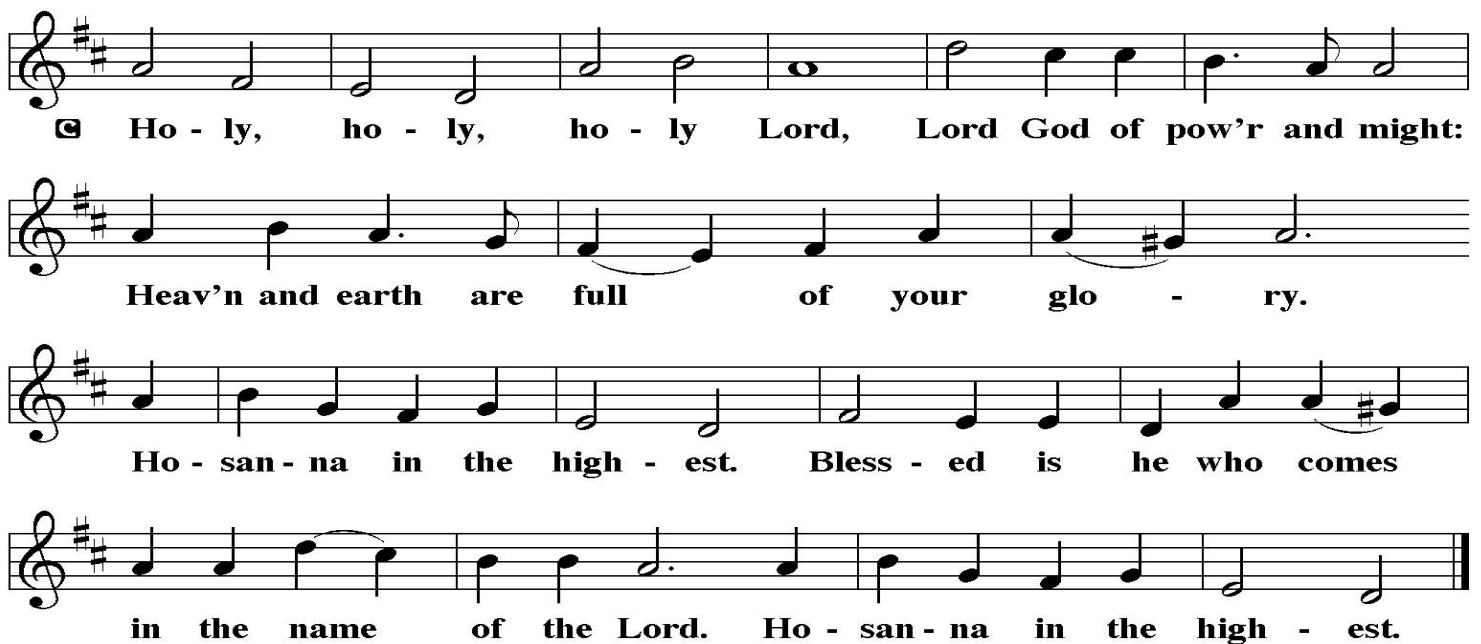
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



⑨ 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.

COMMUNION HYMN: "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" ELW 484 Red Hymnal

**(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 - jice 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: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!” ELW 385 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

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #42463. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by Permission. All rights reserved.

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 3rd 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: Lay Minister Linda Obermier

Worship Assistant: Jim Lindsey

Greeter: Phyllis Lindsey

Usher: Steve Neumann

Reader: Linda Greene

Sound Technician: David Scott

A/V Projection Technicians: David Scott

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Birthdays this week - None to report.

Happy Anniversary Robert & Deborah Flores (4/13) and Richard & Bette Jo Brown (4/15)

Altar Flowers - by Linda Greene, in memory of Denny Greene.

Readings for April 19th (3RD Sunday of Easter):

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

1Peter1:17-23

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Luke 24:13-35

Upcoming In Person meetings:

MLN Meeting **Sun April 12TH at 10:45am**

Tuba Bach **Sun. April 12th at 4:00pm**

Office Staff Meeting **Tue April 14th at 10:30am**

Council Meeting **Tue April 14th at 12:30pm**

Worship & Music **Tue April 14th at 2:00pm**

Dinner Sixes **Fri April 17th at 5:30pm (@ Gunder's)**



Helpful Hints from Parish Nurse Phyllis Lindsey -

Apr 12: How can a person control stress in his/her life? First of all, realize that you are “stressed out”. If you have a good friend around, you can vent your feelings (get it all out in the open). Then decide on ways to act upon reducing the stress, like exercising, doing something you like to do, such as a hobby, and be sure to eat a balanced diet and get plenty of sleep. Avoid too much alcohol, caffeine, nicotine, or medication not prescribed by a physician. Prayer for acceptance and direction can be very effective as well.



‘Swing Time’ Saturday, May 9th, 2026

Next month’s Movie Matinee is ‘Swing Time’ (1936) starring Fred Astaire & Ginger Rogers.



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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Manna Pantry:

April: Macaroni or spaghetti & sauce

Project Starburst:

Mac & Cheese

May

Canned Pasta

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 12th

MLN Meeting

Dinner Sixes Kickoff!

Friday, April 17th at 5:30pm
Gunder Myran's Home; 8032 W. Royal Rd. Canadian Lakes

- Purely for hospitality, getting to know one another beyond Immanuel.
- Preferences will be discussed during this kickoff dinner and groups arranged.
- Commitment is for May, June & July. Rearrangement of groups will occur in August.
- Bring a dish to pass and your favorite drinks. Host will provide main course.

ENJOY!

DUMP & RUN IS ALMOST HERE!

There will be some welcome and interesting changes for this year's Dump & Run, thanks to our new Ferris representative's innovative approach to this undertaking. Starting May 1st through the 9th we hope to see many of you here helping out!

More information in the May Newsletter

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Spring Gathering 2026, Hosted by the NW Lower Michigan Women of the ELCA, will be April 25th at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Greenville Michigan. There is more information in April's Newsletter.

TUBA BACH SCHEDULE

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Sunday, April 12th, 2026