

Immanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA

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Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m. Worship Service April 26th, 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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Evangelical Lutheran Book of Worship Holy Communion Setting 1
April 26th, 2026

GATHERING

PRELUDE

BELLS

SHARING TIME

PASSING THE PEACE

CANDLE LIGHTING (While We Sing the Transition Song)

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: Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the lamb!

C: Amen.

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 "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" ELW 807 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 our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

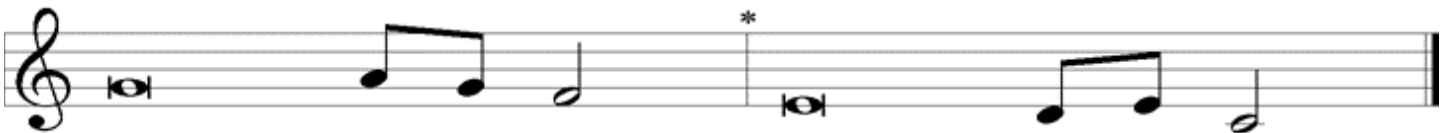
**(Please be seated)*

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23 (We sing the Psalm)



¹ The LORD ¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not ¹ be in want.

² The LORD makes me lie down ¹ in green pastures
and leads me be- ¹ side still waters.

³ You restore my ¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways ¹ for your name's sake.

⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall ¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they ¹ comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence ¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is ¹ running over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days ¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the ¹ LORD forever.

SECOND READING: 1Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was

found in his mouth.”²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian 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 10th chapter verses 1 through 10.
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

[Jesus said:] ¹ “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

**(Please be seated)*

SERMON: Pastor Kim Bos

**(Please stand as you are able)*

HYMN OF THE DAY : “The Lord’s My Shepherd” ELW 778 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.**

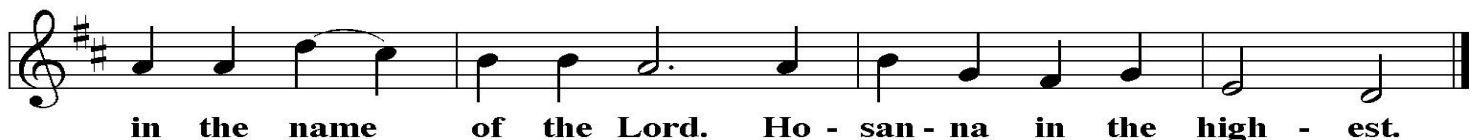
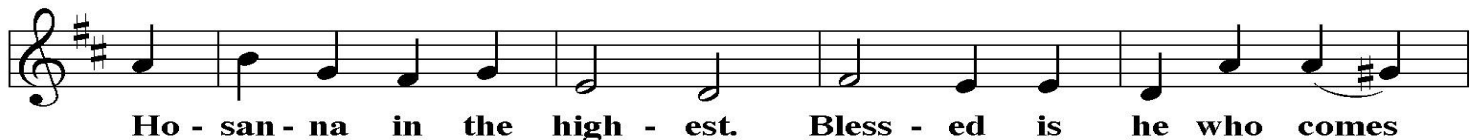
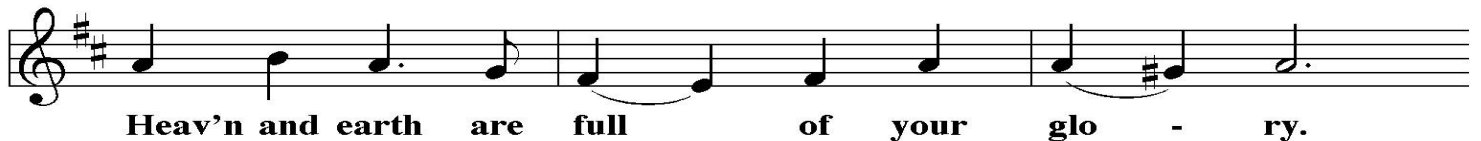
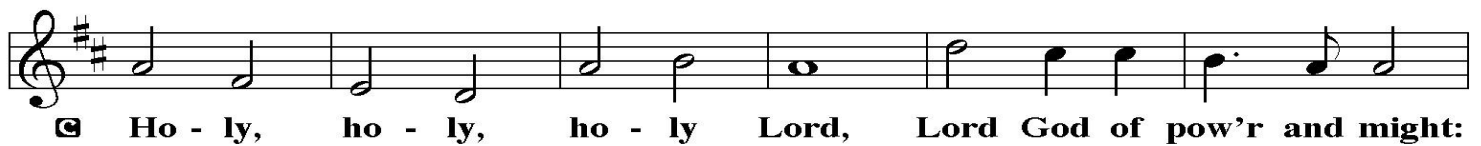
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



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



④ 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: "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" ELW 789 Red Hymnal

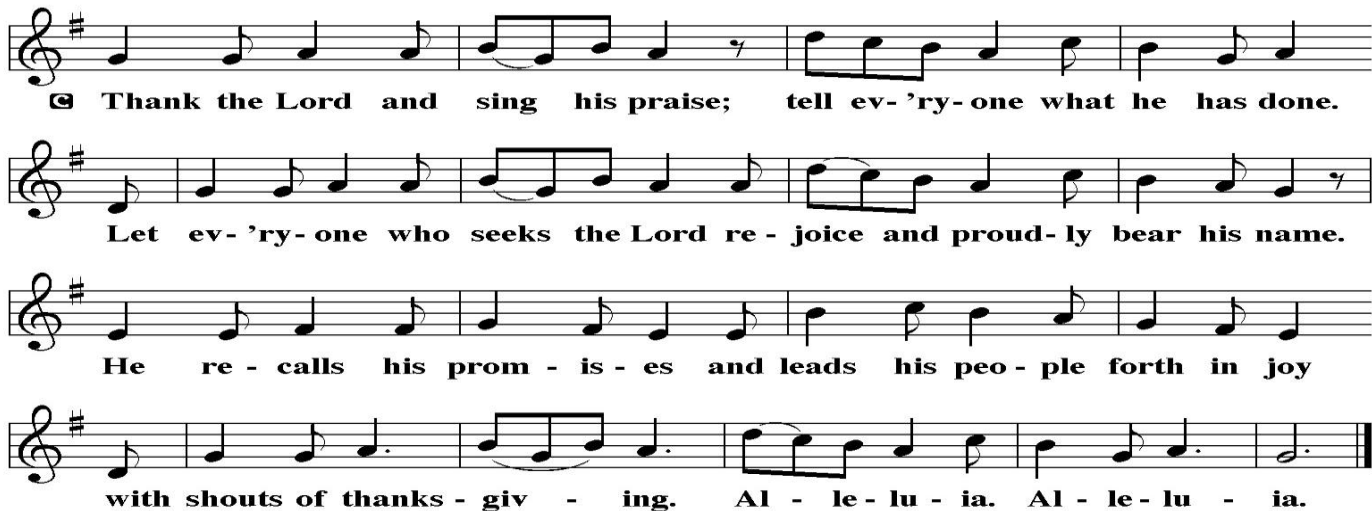
**(Pease stand if you are able)*

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-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: "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" ELW 362 vss. 1,2,7,8
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 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: Pastor Kim Bos

Worship Assistant: Jim Lindsey

Cantor: Vicky Scott

Greeter: Phyllis Lindsey

Usher: Cindi Neumann

Reader: Nedra Neumann

Sound Technician: David Scott

A/V Projection Technicians: David Scott



Birthdays this week - Tammy Lindsey (4/28)

Happy Anniversary None to report.

Altar Flowers - by Cindi Neumann, in Honor of Grandpa Neumann's Birthday

Readings for May 3rd (5th Sunday of Easter):

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

Upcoming In Person meetings:

Congregational Conversations **Sun April 26th at 10:45am**

Office Staff Meeting **Tue April 28th at 10:30am**

Hymn Planning **Tue April 28th at 2:00pm**



Helpful Hints from Parish Nurse Phyllis Lindsey -

Apr 26: Who can donate their organs/tissues after they are through with them? Anyone can, including newborn babies up to individuals in their 80's and 90's. At the time of death organs and tissues are evaluated and determined suitable for donation. If one is under 18 years old, a parent or guardian must give written consent. If one is 18 or older, one can donate tissues and organs if one goes to the Secretary of State of Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), depending on the state where one resides. The donor will then receive a "heart" on his or her driver's license or picture identification card.



'Swing Time' Saturday, May 16th, 2026

This 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. May 19th 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

NATIONAL BLUE SUNDAY

Today we will pray, along with churches across the nation, for the victims of child abuse and those that rescue them.

TUBA BACH SCHEDULE

May 3 rd	Noah Mallett (<i>Piano</i> and <i>marimba</i>)	4:00pm
June 21 st	Summer Concert - Bruce Forman	4:00pm

It's time for Dump and Run!

The system is changing this year. We have been offered assistance by Charles Stanley, who coordinates a new initiative at Ferris called “Bulldogs Give Back” (BGB). BGB has been started to assist low- income students coming in the fall with things like microwaves, refrigerators and other things useful to students who can't afford them. They have minimal storage space, so will not be taking many of the things students leave behind. In a nutshell, they will work with us to bring all donations to a designated area at Ferris and set aside those things agreed upon for the entering students. Instead of having to go to each dorm for pick up, we will place our boxes as usual, this time on April 27 th , and only have to do one pick up at a designated spot, with students assisting with loading, etc.

Bulldogs Give Back determined that many students leave the week prior to finals week, either because they do not have finals or they are doing them on line. They are hoping to “catch” those students leaving by having the boxes and bins ready—they will have their own bins as well.

We may need assistance the week prior to our usual Dump and Run dates if there is a lot of drop off that previous week. We will need: Drivers and assistants for two runs each day, sorters, weighers, etc. for the entire week of May 4 th -9 th , including pick up and clean up on May 9 th . We will also be welcoming the assistance of United Church members and our usual New Journey crew.

Please sign up on the communication counter, and if you have any questions, please contact Phyllis

Cousineau, Lee Wolken or Carol Wilson.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Sunday, April 26th, 2026