

Immanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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Second Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m. Worship Service April 27, 2025

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 include this morning: Pre-packaged wafers (they are also gluten free), individual cup of wine or grape juice.



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.

Lutheran Book of Worship Holy Communion Setting 1

Second Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

PRELUDE

BELLS

SHARING TIME

PASSING THE PEACE

CANDLE LIGHTING

TRANSITION SONG: Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this Place,
I can feel his mighty power and his grace;
I can hear the brush of angel's wings,
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this Place.

**(Please Stand as you are able)*

CALL TO WORSHIP

A: In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

P: Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: Make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your Church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: Make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: Make us one as you are one.

P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

C: Amen.

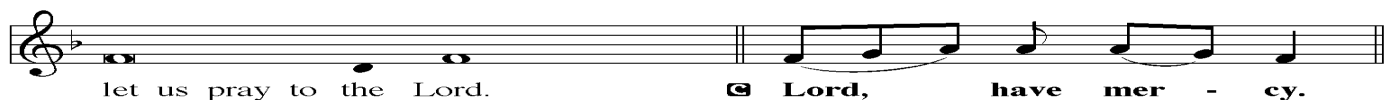
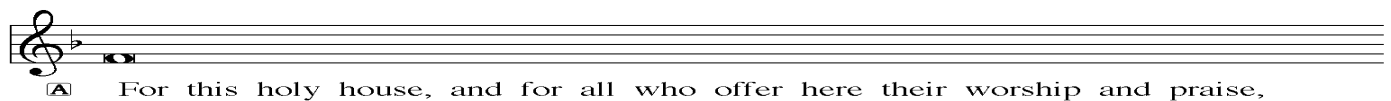
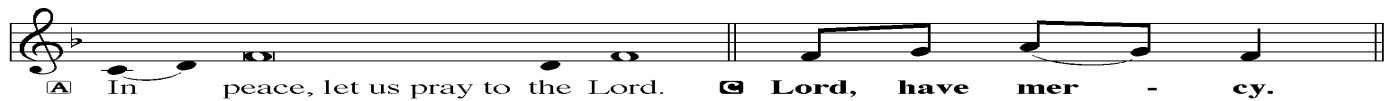
GATHERING HYMN "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me" WOV 673, Blue Hymnal

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



(Please be seated)

HYMN OF PRAISE

☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **☐** Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was
slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **☐** Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **☐** Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and
join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **☐** For the Lamb who was
slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Acts 5: 27-32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles], they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 150 (We sing the Psalm)



- ¹ Hallelujah! Praise God in the | holy temple;
praise God in the | mighty firmament.
- ² Praise God for | mighty acts;
praise God for ex- | ceeding greatness.
- ³ Praise God with | trumpet sound;
praise God with | lyre and harp.
- ⁴ Praise God with tambou- | rine and dance;
praise God with | strings and pipe.
- ⁵ Praise God with re- | sounding cymbals;
praise God with loud | clanging cymbals.
- ⁶ Let everything | that has breath
praise the LORD. | Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Revelation 1: 4-8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**(Please Stand as you are able)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 20th chapter, vss. 19-31

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

P: Gospel: John 20:19-31

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

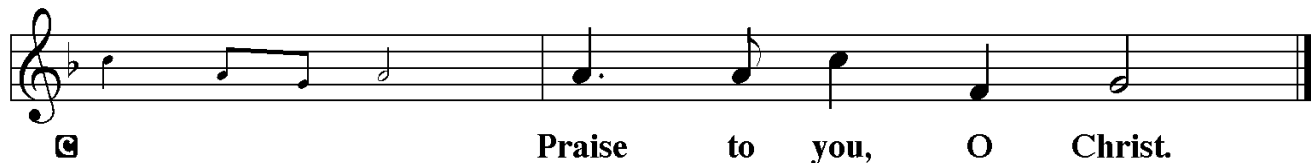
¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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."

²⁶A 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.



(Please be seated)

SERMON

Pastor Dan Ward

**(Please stand as you are able)*

HYMN OF THE DAY "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight" WOV 675 Blue hymnal

NICENE CREED

P: With the whole church let us confess our faith:

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response following each petition:

A: Hear us, O God,

C: **Your mercy is great.**

**(Please stand as you are able)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERINGS

P: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may
live as your risen body in the world.

C: **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 everlasting 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 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, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
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: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all who believe in him should not perish but have everlasting life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: 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 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

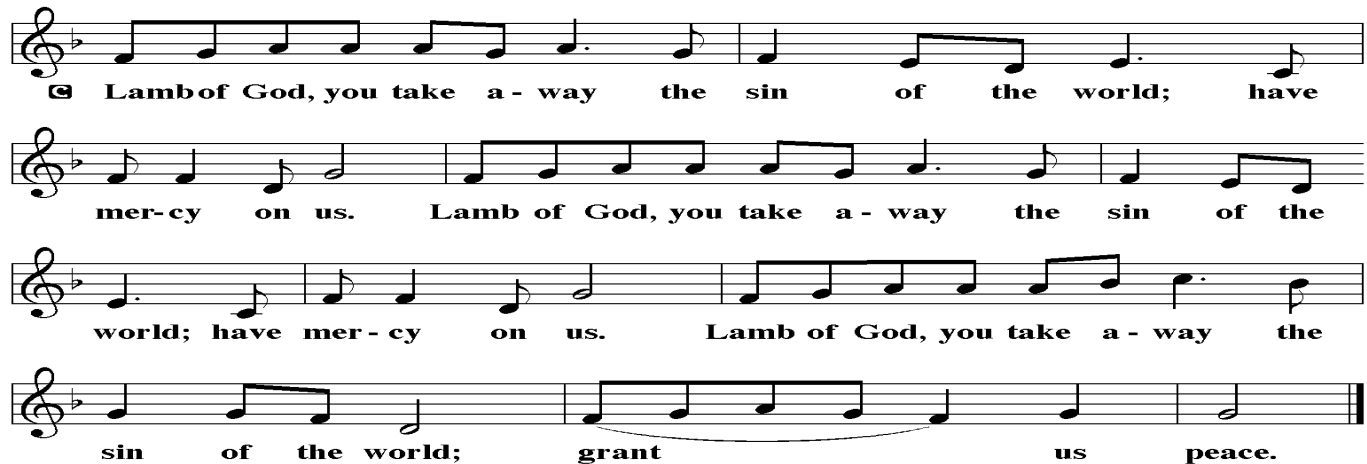
C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. 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



☞ 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.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Be Thou My Vision”

WOV 776 Blue hymnal

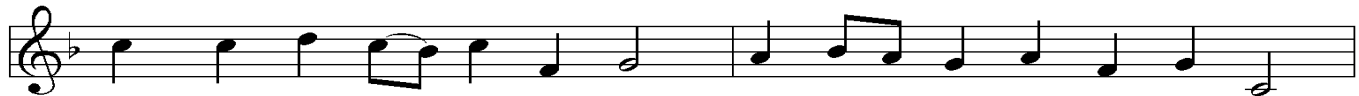
(Please Stand as you are able)

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; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek 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,

Living one, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN "On Our Way Rejoicing" LBW 260 Green 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: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

A: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship hour will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the Worship service. (on 3rd Sunday of the 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 Dan Ward**

Worship Assistant: **Linda Obermier**

Cantor: **Vicky Scott**

Greeter: **Phyllis Lindsey**

Usher: **Steve Neumann**

Reader: **Linda Obermier**

Sound technician: **Darrell Corrie**

Live Streaming: **David Scott / Troy Lindsey**

The congregation and ministries of this church rely on your weekly offerings and gifts. We encourage you to continue your tithing to Immanuel. You may mail them to Immanuel at 726 Fuller Ave. Big Rapids, MI. Thank you to everyone who has been sending in your offerings. ~Stewardship committee

Birthdays this week – Tammy Lindsey (4/28), Nancy Spengler (5/03)

Anniversaries this week – None to report.

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Caroll Wilson-Jungck

Upcoming In Person Meetings: Office Staff Meeting **Tues 4/29 at 10:30 am**
Hymn Planning **Tues 4/29 at 3:00 pm**

Readings for Sunday May 4th – 3rd Sunday of Easter:

Acts 9: 1-6 [7-20]

Revelations 5: 11-14

Psalms 30

John 21: 1-19



HELPFUL HINTS from Parish Nurse Phyllis Lindsey – Apr 27:
April is Eye Health Safety Month. Take good care of your eyes by:
1) eating healthy – greens, eggs, nuts, beans, fish, citrus fruit, 2) quit smoking, 3) wear sunglasses, 4) wear safety glasses when working with tools, etc, 5) look away from the computer periodically, 6) visit your eye doctor regularly.



SHEPHERD’S HOOKS & NEEDLES now meet on the third Tuesday of the month. The next session is **Tues. May 20th at Noon.**



MAY 15th MOVIE:

“Mr. Smith Goes to Washington” 1939 – with Jimmy Stewart and Jean Arthur

This is one of the best films of the greatest year in Hollywood history – 1939!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SOCIAL CONCERNS:

Containers for Manna Pantry, Project Starburst, 3rd Avenue Pantry and Grade School Kids are in the Narthex, signs indicating what is to be collected monthly. Social Concerns welcomes new members!

Manna Pantry

April: Macaroni or Spaghetti & Sauce
May: Canned pasta

Project Starburst

April: Macaroni and cheese
May: Spaghetti Sauce

Grade Schools

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

GRIEFSHARE – A Christian group offering support and encouragement to adults who have lost a loved one. A 13-week session will be offered every Wednesday at 6pm, starting April 2 and continuing through June 25, 2025 at Resurrection Life Church, 14734 215th Ave, Big Rapids. Participants can register at <http://www.griefshare.org/events/24135> or contact the church at (231) 796-4080

Dump & Run

Donation bins in residence halls May 2-May 10

Donations distributed to local food pantries and service organizations

Contact Carol to volunteer: carolwj2014@gmail.com

Share stuff you don't want to take
with you when you leave campus



Anyone with a disability who needs special accommodations to participate should call 231-796-8273 or email carolwj2014@gmail.com at least 72 hours in advance.

Ferris State University is an equal opportunity institution. For information on the University's Policy on Non-Discrimination, visit www.ferris.edu/non-discrimination.

Coordinated
by

Immanuel
LUTHERAN CHURCH
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726 Fuller Avenue, Big Rapids



In collaboration with
FSU Housing and
Residence Life