

Immanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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**Second Sunday of Pentecost
9:30 a.m. Worship Service June 22, 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

The Holy Trinity

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: This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life.

C: Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✝ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "Here in This Place" WOV 718 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

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

(Please be seated)

HYMN OF PRAISE

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

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

I This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **I** 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.

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

I This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 65:1-9

The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

¹ I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name.² I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices;³ a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks;⁴ who sit inside tombs and spend the night in secret places; who eat the flesh of pigs, with broth of abominable things in their vessels;⁵ who say, "Keep to yourself; do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long.⁶ See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps⁷ their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions.⁸ Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake and not destroy them all.⁹ I will bring forth descendants from Jacob and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:19-28

(We sing the Psalm)



In the midst of the assembly I will praise you. (Ps. 22:22)

¹⁹ But you, O LORD, be not | far away;

O my help, hasten | to my aid.

²⁰ Deliver me | from the sword,

my life from the power | of the dog.

²¹ Save me from the | lion's mouth!

From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.

²² I will declare your name | to my people;

in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.

²³ You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.

²⁴ For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's

face hid- | den from them;

but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.

²⁶ The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

²⁸ For dominion belongs | to the LORD,

who rules o- | ver the nations.

Second Reading: Galatians 3:23-29

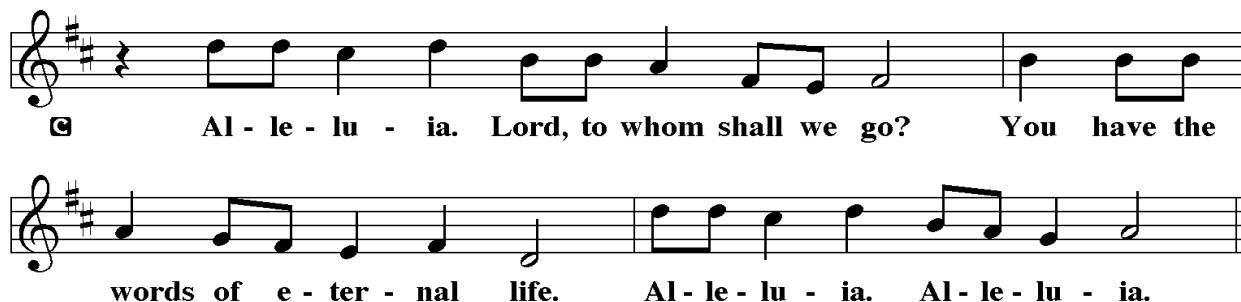
For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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 Luke the 8th chapter, vss. 26-39



P: Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

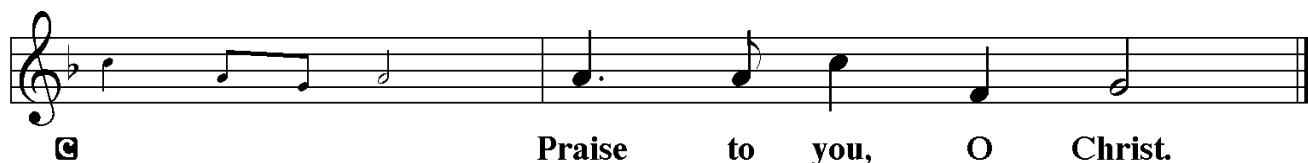
Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

²⁶ Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the region of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ As he stepped out on shore, a man from the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had not worn any clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, shouting, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me," ²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding, and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd stampeded down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they became frightened. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ Then the whole throng of people of the surrounding region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone out begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

The Gospel of the Lord.



(Please be seated)

SERMON Pastor Dan Ward

**(Please stand as you are able)*

HYMN OF THE DAY “Healer of Our Every Ill” WOV 738 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: God of Grace,

C: Hear Our Prayer

**(Please stand as you are able)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERINGS

P: Creator God, 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.

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, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 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.

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 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. 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.

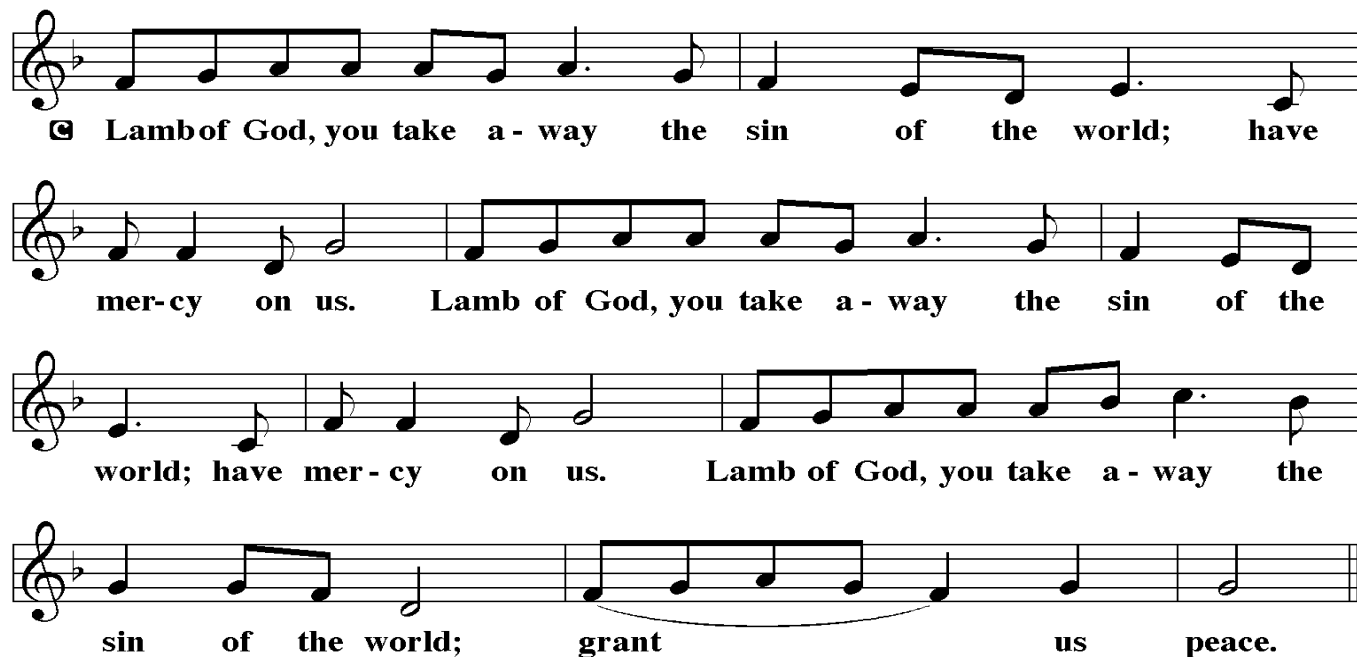
(Please be seated)

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



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 “There Is a Balm in Gilead” WOV 737 Blue Hymnal

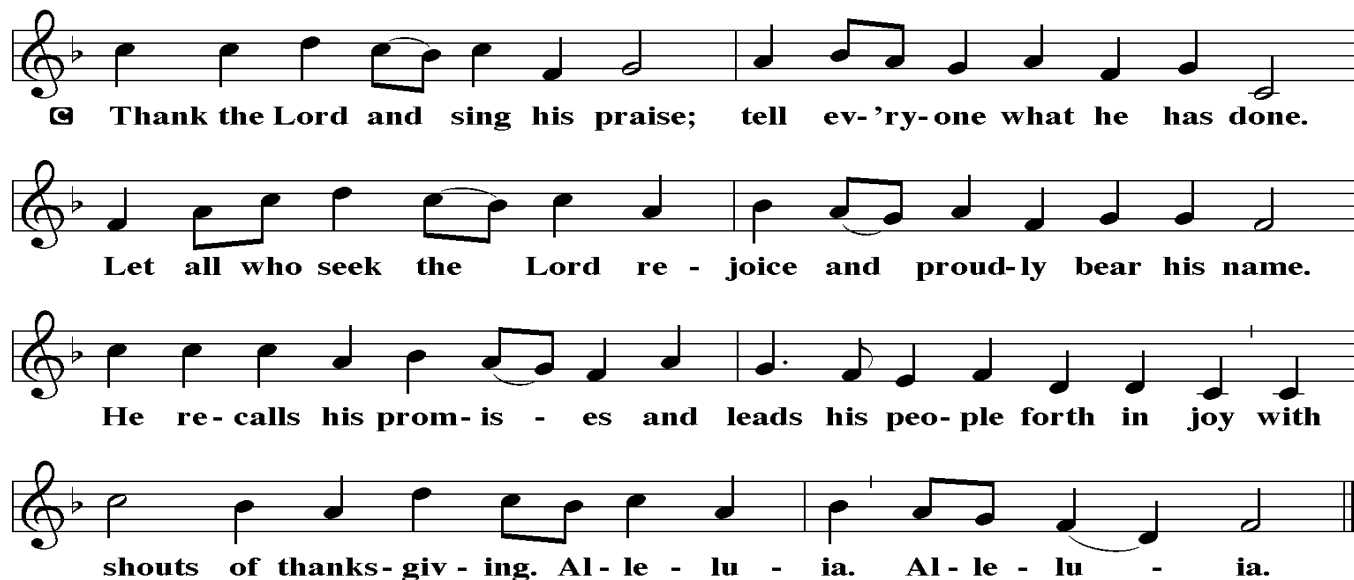
(Please Stand as you are able)

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 - 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,

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" WOV 731 Blue 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. Live by the Spirit

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's fellowship will honor Pastor Dan Ward's last Sunday service with us. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after service today as we thank him for his time with us. Cake and snacks will be served.

SERVING IN SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Musician: **Janet Mallett**

Altar Duty: **Carol Zimmerman & Phyl Cousineau**

Presiding Minister: **Pastor Dan Ward**

Worship Assistant: **Jim Lindsey**

Cantor: **Vicky Scott**

Greeter: **Phyllis will be gone this week**

Usher: **Steve Neumann**

Reader: **Michelle Kauffold**

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 – Pastor Garrels (6/26)

Anniversaries this week – Chris & Michelle Kauffold (6/25), Tim & Kristin Conley (6/25)

Altar Flowers by Michelle & Chris Kauffold in celebration of their 20th Anniversary

Upcoming In Person Meetings: Office Staff Meeting
Hymn Planning

Tues 6/24 at 10:30 am
Tues 6/24 at 3:00 pm

Readings for Sunday June 29th – Lectionary 13:

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21
Psalms 16

Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Luke 9:51-62



HELPFUL HINTS from Parish Nurse Phyllis Lindsey –

June 22: The American Red Cross shelters, feeds, and provides emergency support to disaster victims, supplies 40% of the nation's blood supply, teaches skills that save lives, and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is not-for-profit and depends on volunteers and generosity of the American public to perform its mission.



SHEPHERD'S HOOKS & NEEDLES now meet on the third Tuesday of the month. The next session is **Tues. July 15th at Noon.**

July 17th MOVIE:



“Yankee Doodle Dandy” 1942 with James Cagney & Joan Leslie

A great film to celebrate our country's 250th birthday.

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

June: Pork-n-Beans/Black Beans
July: Boxed macaroni & cheese

Project Starburst

June: Vegetables – any canned
July: Juice

Grade Schools

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

Lillian Patterson, of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, is working with other churches in Big Rapids to put together a **"Concert of Praise"** on Friday, August 15th, 2025. All local churches who wish to participate will come together and sing hymns and praise songs to God. They have the Middle School Bandshell reserved for the night and the event is open to the public. Please let the council know if you are interested in participating!



Help Support Project Starburst: Neighbors Helping Neighbors – \$100,000 GoFundMe Campaign Launched Big Rapids, MI – June 2025

In an effort to continue meeting the rising needs of families across Mecosta and Osceola counties, Project Starburst Food Pantry Plus has launched a new GoFundMe campaign with the goal of raising \$100,000 to support critical operational costs

While donations of food and hygiene products are essential, the campaign aims to fund the less visible but equally vital operational costs that make service delivery possible. These include:

- ☐ **Utilities, phone, and internet to keep the facility running**
- ☐ **Staff and volunteer coordination to manage daily operations**
- ☐ **Office and program supplies for efficient service delivery**
- ☐ **Building maintenance, insurance, and essential services**

"These are the behind-the-scenes needs that keep our doors open and allow us to serve every client with care and respect," Alice Bandstra, board president added.

The organization is calling on residents, local businesses, and community groups to donate or share the campaign so that no neighbor has to go without.

Ways to Support:

- ☐ **Donate via GoFundMe: <https://gofund.me/ac543a58>**
- ☐ **Give online: www.projectstarburst.org**
- ☐ **Mail a check: 120 S State Street, Big Rapids, MI 49307**

"Even if you're unable to give right now, sharing our campaign can make a powerful difference," said Bandstra. "Together, we can make sure that compassion, not hardship, defines our community."

About Project Starburst Food Pantry Plus:

Project Starburst is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to providing food, hygiene items, and emergency support to individuals and families in Mecosta and Osceola counties. The organization delivers services with dignity, compassion, and a belief that no one

should have to face hunger or hardship alone

. For decades, Project Starburst has been a lifeline for thousands of individuals facing food insecurity and economic hardship. With a focus on dignity, compassion, and respect, the organization annually serves more than 12,000 people, distributes over 500,000 meals, and provides 8,000+ personal care items to neighbors in need.

“Every day, we see families forced to choose between paying rent, buying medication, or putting food on the table,” said Diane Long, executive director of Project Starburst. “We’re here to make sure no one has to face those choices alone - but we can’t do it without community support.”

Dignity Matters - Project Starburst is more than a food pantry - it is a welcoming and judgment-free space. Here, clients find not just groceries and toiletries, but also hope, kindness, and community.

**** Information regarding the GoFundMe Initiative as well as Donation Opportunities, Tiers & Perks will be posted in the Fellowship Hall ****



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

JUNE 22ND, 2025