Immanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA

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Twelfth Sunday of Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Worship Service August 16th, 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.

Twelfth Sunday of Pentecost

Evangelical Lutheran Book of Worship Holy Communion Setting #10
August 16th, 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 Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✢ one God, whose compassion endures forever.
C: Amen.

P: Compassionate God,

C: We confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

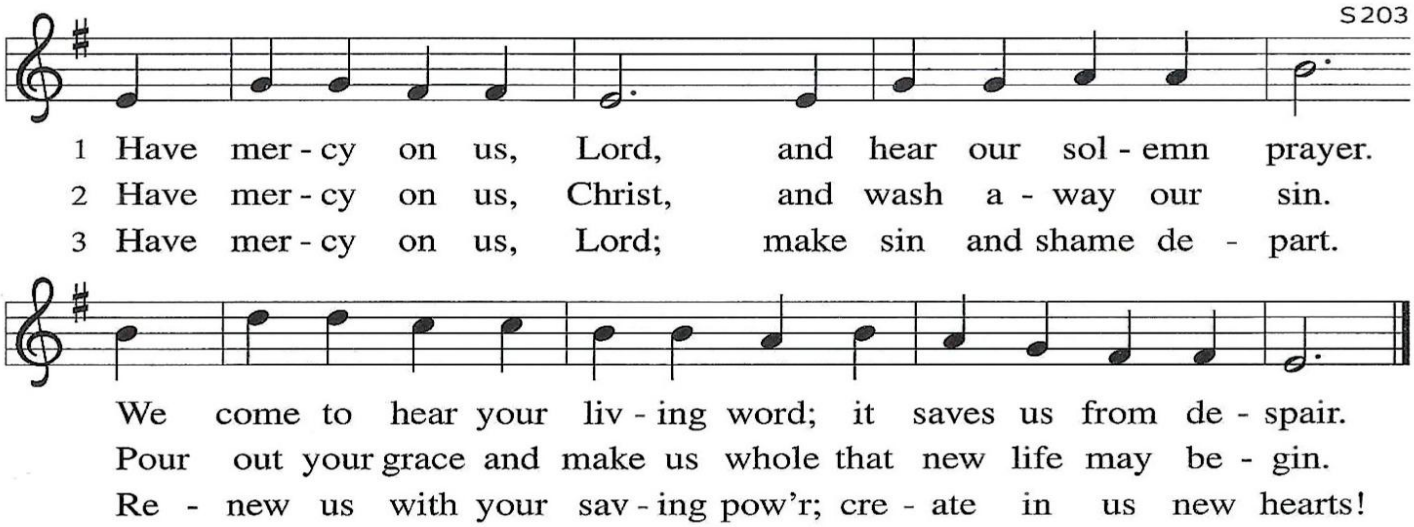
P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✢ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **C: Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN **"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" ELW 886 Red Hymnal**
Verses 1-4

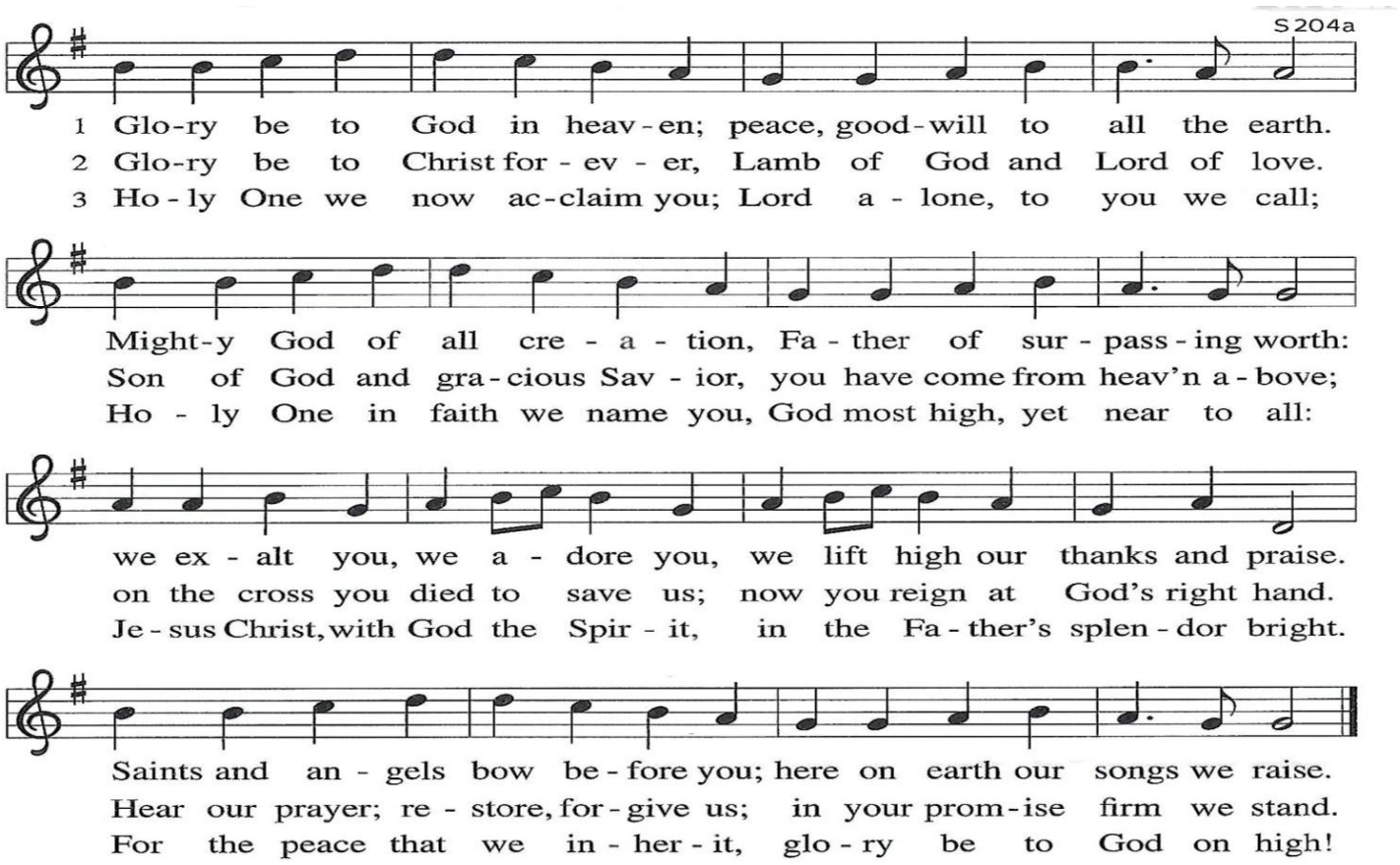
GREETING

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



CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen.

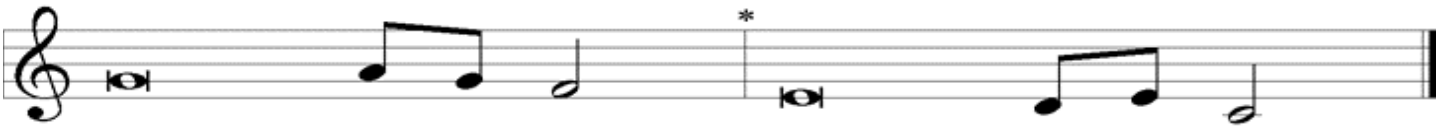
**(Please be seated)*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

1 Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will
come and my deliverance be revealed.

6 And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name
of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it and hold
fast my covenant—7 these I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my
house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. 8 Thus says the Lord GOD, who
gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

A: The Word of the Lord
C: Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 67 (We sing the Psalm)

1 May God be merciful to | us and bless us;
may the light of God's face | shine upon us.
2 Let your way be known | upon earth,
your saving health a- | mong all nations.
3 Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.
4 Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- | tions on earth.
5 Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.
6 The earth has brought | forth its increase;
God, our own | God, has blessed us.
7 May God | give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe.

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

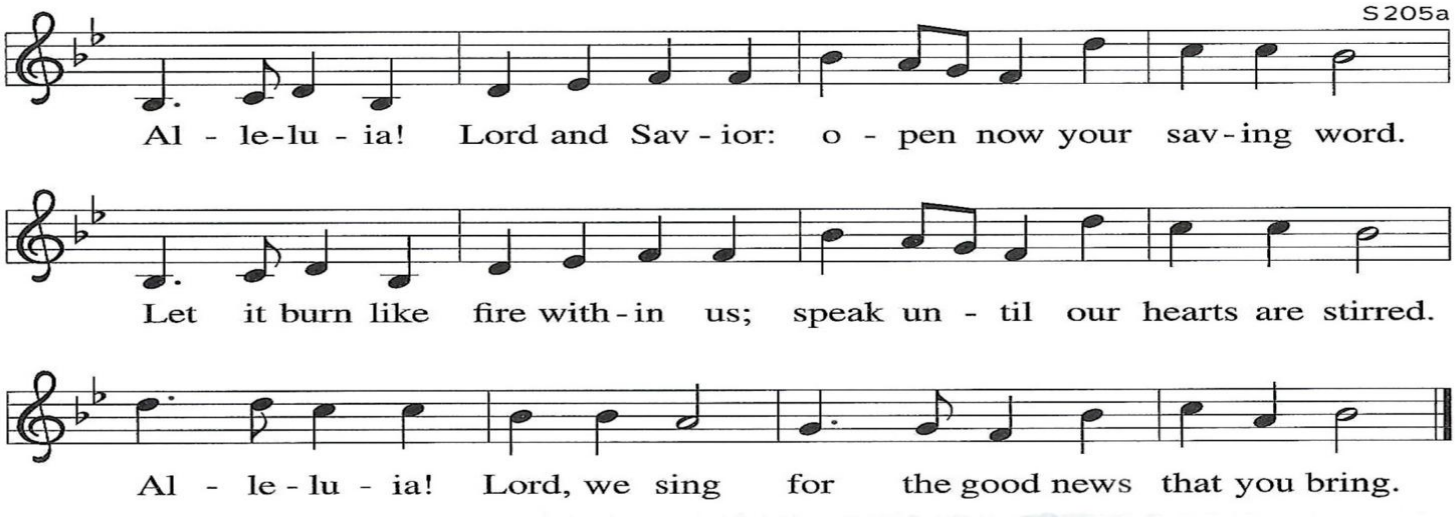
[Paul writes:] [1] I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. [2a] God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

[29] For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. [30] Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, [31] so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. [32] For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

A: The word of the Lord
C: Thanks be to God

(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 15.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 15: [10-20] 21-28

[[10] [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:[11] it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." [12] Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" [13] He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. [14] Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." [15] But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." [16] Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? [17] Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? [18] But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. [19] For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality,

theft, false witness, slander. [20] These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

[21] Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. [22] Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." [23] But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." [24] He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." [25] But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." [26] He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." [27] She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." [28] Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

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)*

<u>HYMN OF THE DAY</u> : "In Christ There Is No East or West" ELW 650 Red Hymnal

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

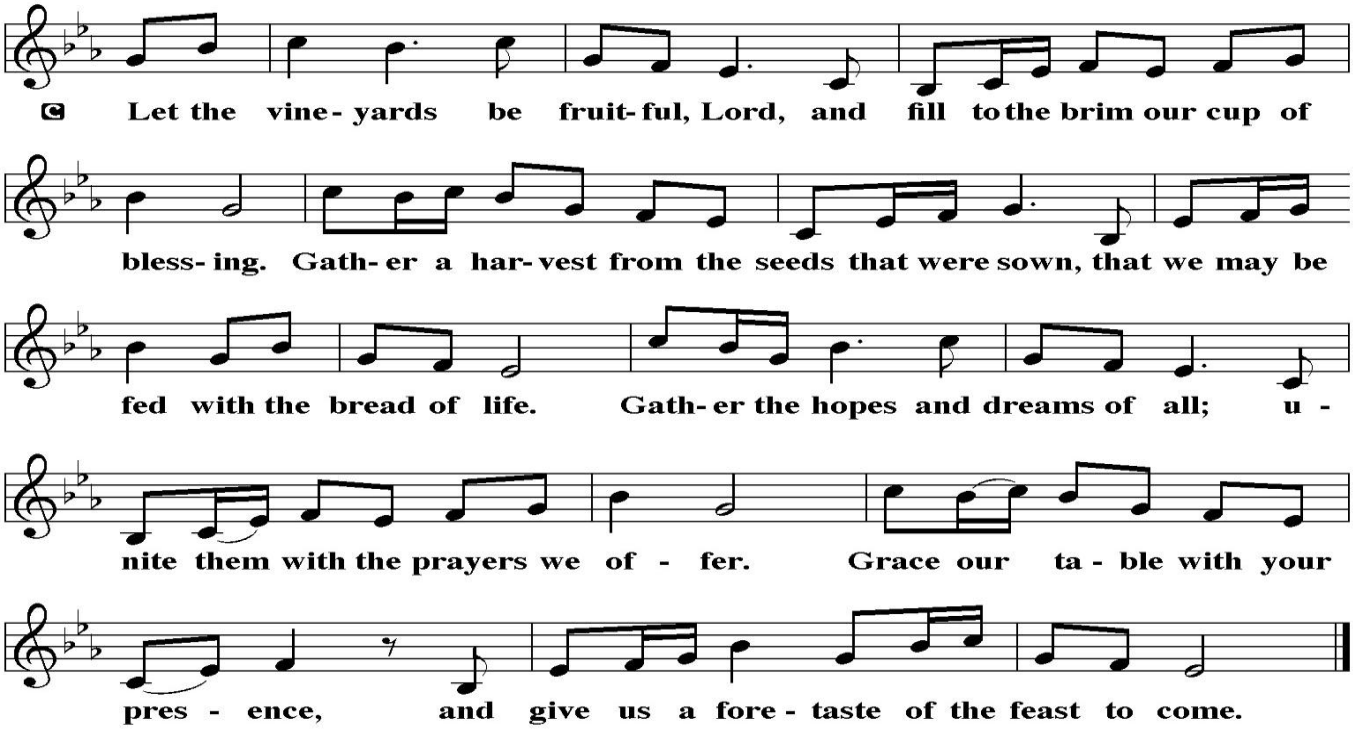
C: <u>APOSTLES' CREED</u>
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended 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)*

<u>PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION</u>

Response following each petition:
A: God of grace,
C: Hear our prayer.

**(Please stand as you are able)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERINGS
****LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL****

A: Let us pray.
Loving God,
C: We offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

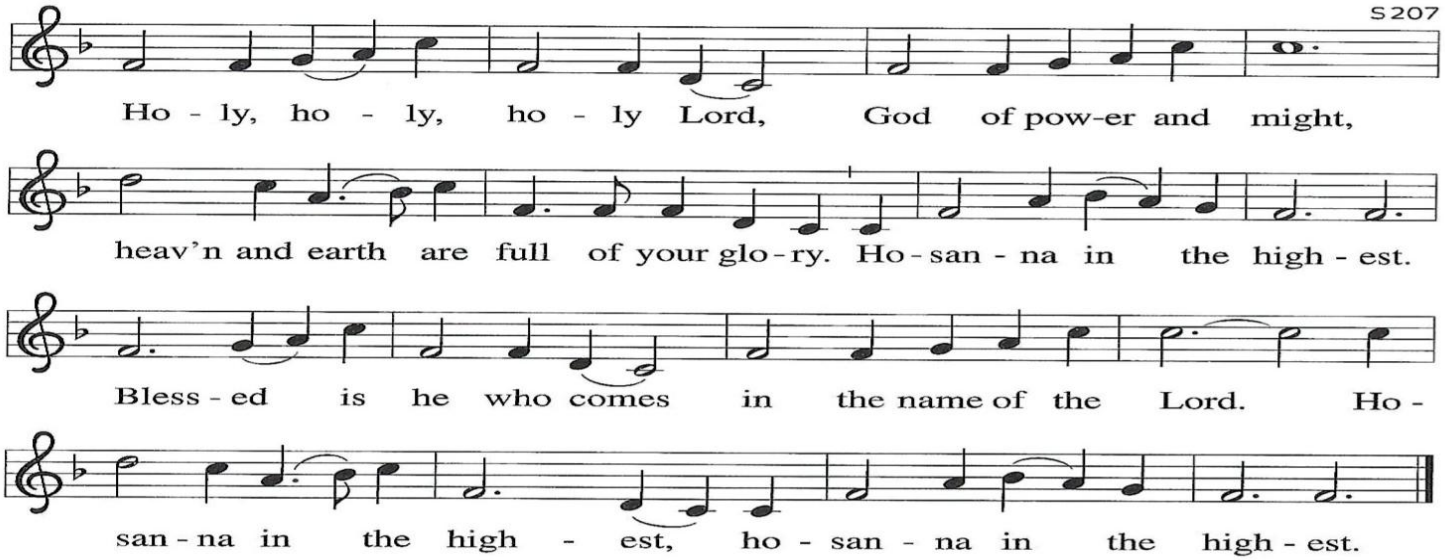
MEAL

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



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

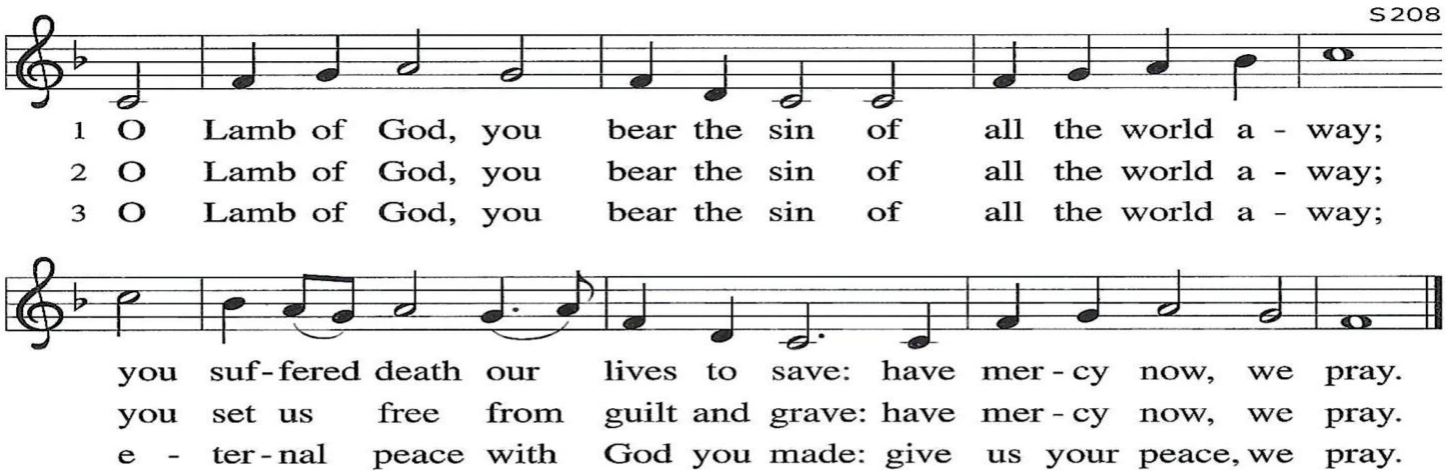
P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

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

COMMUNION HYMN: "One Bread, One Body" ELW 496 Red Hymnal

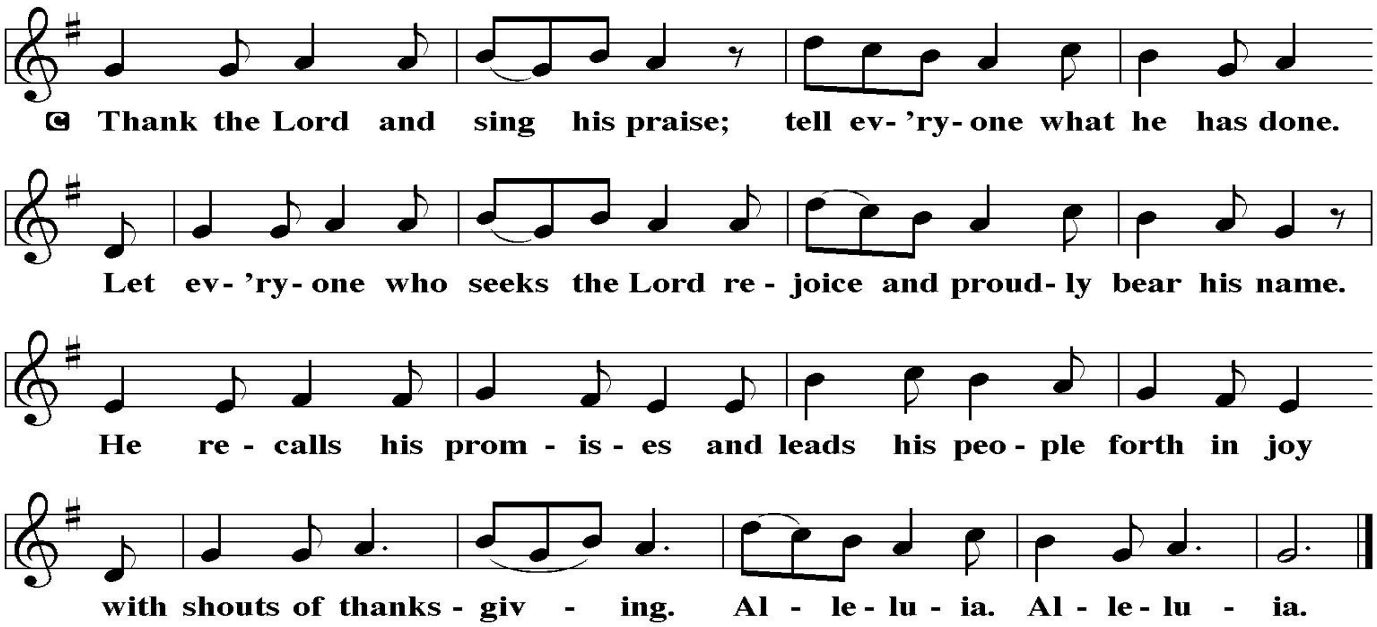
**(Pease stand if you are able)*

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"



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" ELW 759 Red Hymnal

PRAYER

A: Let us pray together Immanuel's Congregational 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 Immanuel, and by supporting and serving those who are struggling. Give us strength: To trust in you and to have faith and hope in your plans for your church. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

DISMISSAL

A: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
C: Thanks be to God.

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 John Brown
Worship Assistant: Lee Wolken
Greeter: Phyllis Lindsey
Cantor: Vicky Scott
Reader: Linda Greene
Usher: Cindi Neumann
Sound Technician: David Scott
A/V Projection Technicians: David Scott

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthdays this week – Leah Monger (8/19), Darrell Corrie (8/21) and Melanie Richardson (8/22)

Happy Anniversary – Troy & Tammy Lindsey (8/17)

Altar Flowers – by Darrell Corrie & Barb Pillsbury, in memory of loved ones.

Readings for August 23rd:

Isaiah 51:1-6	**Romans 12:1-8**
Psalm 138	**Matthew 16:13-20**

Upcoming In Person meetings:

New Member Class **Mon August 17th 1:30pm – 3:30pm**
Office Staff Meeting **Tue August 18th at 10:30am**
Knitting group **Tue August 18th at noon**
Bible Study **Thu August 20th at 6:30pm**
Movie Matinee **Sat August 22nd at 2:00pm**

Helpful Hints from Parish Nurse Phyllis Lindsey –

August 16th: Autism is a mental condition made up with many developmental disorders and is diagnosed in toddlers. The incidence of autism is and has been rising; many blame this on MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine. Others say that there is a more accurate reporting by doctors. Several researchers have found no evidence of immunizations causing autism.

'Rhapsody in Blue' (1945) Saturday, August 22, 2026

Starring: Robert Alda & Joan Leslie

Shepherd's Hooks & Needles now meet on the third Tuesday of the month. The next session is **Tues August 18th at Noon.**

GET READY FOR SOME SUMMER DELICIOUSNESS!!
The Annual Church Picnic is scheduled for **Sunday, August 30th** after the church service. The picnic will be held at the church, and please bring a dish to pass – we've been doing pretty well without a sign up sheet, so bring whatever you wish to share! We'll continue to keep this reminder in the bulletin until the week before the event. Hope to see you there!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Manna Pantry:

August	Canned green beans
September	Canned corn

Project Starburst:

Peas
Mushroom soup

Grade School
Kleenex, glue sticks, markers, colored pencils, pencils, sanitizer, head phones, wet wipes, erasers, and post-it notes. Also hats, gloves, mittens and sweat pants in unisex colors to fifth grade sizes.

PLEASE NOTE: We will be having a New Member's Class on Monday, August 17th from 1:30pm until 3:30pm. Contact Lee if you need more information.
ALSO: **Our final bible study in this series will be on Thursday, August 20th. We will be studying 1Corinthians. Pick up your study guide and sign up in the fellowship hall!**