



The Messenger

November
2023

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

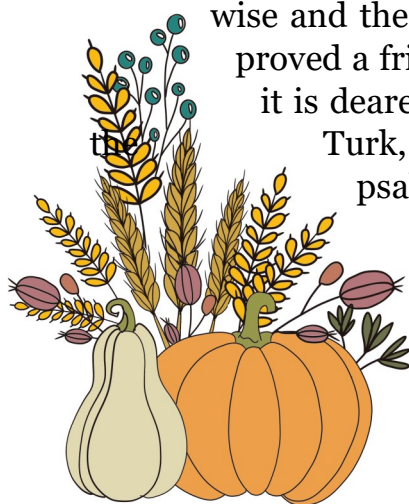
*Praise the LORD, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
Praise the LORD!
Psalm 117*

November at Immanuel is a month of Thanksgiving. We end October with Reformation Sunday in thanks to God for those who laid the foundation of our church. Then we enter November with All Saints Sunday in gratitude for all those who have come before us in faith. We celebrate Thanksgiving with a Thanksgiving Eve meal and service coming before the Lord in praise for our many blessings. The month and the church year end with Christ the King Sunday as we pay homage to our glorious King and Lord.

The Psalms have been used by worshippers down through the ages to praise, thank, and glorify God’s Holy name. The above Psalm 117, one of the psalms of Thanksgiving, is the shortest Psalm. Consisting of only two verses, it is also the shortest chapter in the whole Bible. We often praise God and give thanks for the many gifts and blessings we have received. All those freely given gifts which we could never earn on our own. But as we count our blessings, let us not forget to reserve our greatest thanks for our greatest blessing – God. As the Psalmist exclaims, “Praise the Lord . . . (f)or great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.”

In honor of the Reformation and Thanksgiving, let us reflect on and enjoy Martin Luther’s favorite Psalm, number 118. As he wrote,

“This is my own beloved Psalm. Although the entire Psalter and all of Holy Scripture are dear to me as my only comfort and source of life, I fell in love with this psalm especially. Therefore I call it my own. When emperors and kings, the wise and the learned, and even the saints could not aid me, this psalm proved a friend and helped me out of many great troubles. As a result, it is dearer to me than all the wealth, honor, and power of the pope, the Turk, and the emperor. I would be most unwilling to trade this psalm for all of it.”



May this Psalm bring you joy and peace
as we give thanks and praise to God. Amen.

*Please read Psalm 118
found on page 2.*

Welcoming All. Growing Together in Faith. Sharing Christ & Love



¹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!
²Let Israel say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."
³Let the house of Aaron say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."
⁴Let those who fear the LORD say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."
⁵Out of my distress I called on the LORD;
the LORD answered me and set me in a broad place.
⁶With the LORD on my side I do not fear.
What can mortals do to me?
⁷The LORD is on my side to help me;
I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.
⁸It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to put confidence in mortals.
⁹It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to put confidence in princes.
¹⁰All nations surrounded me;
in the name of the LORD I cut them off!
¹¹They surrounded me, surrounded me on every side;
in the name of the LORD I cut them off!
¹²They surrounded me like bees;
they blazed like a fire of thorns;
in the name of the LORD I cut them off!
¹³I was pushed hard, so that I was falling,
but the LORD helped me.
¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.
¹⁵There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;
¹⁶the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."
¹⁷I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the LORD.
¹⁸The LORD has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.
¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.
²⁰This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.
²¹I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
²³This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
²⁵Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.
²⁷The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.
²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.
²⁹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Stewardship, in its simplest form, is the practice of gratitude and generosity; giving thanks to God and faithfully using what God has entrusted to our care — our time, our talents and our treasures — to love and serve our neighbors.

Included is a pledge card for 2024. Please prayerfully consider how you can share of your financial resources next year and help Immanuel continue it's ministry of loving and serving our neighbors. Please return your pledge card by **Sunday, December 3.**

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped with the Rummage Sale. Because of you, our sale was a success. We really appreciate all who helped!

Kathy Herron, Rummage Sale Committee

Thank you for your recent gift of \$626.63 to Lutheran World Relief! When you love your neighbors with generous gifts to LWR, you change lives in amazing ways!

Daniel Speckhard, LWR President & CEO

Thank you for your generous gift of \$626.63 to Camp Tomah Shinga Thank you for supporting the mission out at camp to proclaim the Gospel of Christ!

Ethan Feistner, Camp Director

Accessible Door Update

As of October 26, we have raised \$6,712! Thank you to everyone who participated in the Spaghetti Feed fundraiser and/or made a donation to this project. Donations are still welcome to help cover the \$14,488 cost.

Budget Report

Financial Results through September 30, 2023

General Fund Income - Cash: \$147,957.92

General Fund Expenses: \$171,468.82

Deficit: \$23,510.90

Congregation Council Action from September 2023:

Approved motions for constitutional revisions.

Approved transfer out of Eyler Anderson to Salemsborg Lutheran Church.

Wednesday, Nov 1

5:30-7:00 pm

5:30 pm Gathering & Dinner

6:00 pm Messy Activities

Come, journey through the creation story! All ages are invited to get messy together through games, crafts, singing, and Biblical storytelling.

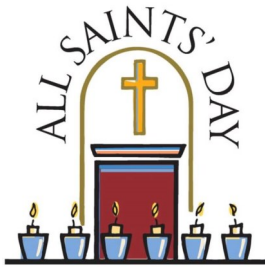


Daylight Saving ends November 5.

Make sure to set your clock back 1 hour Saturday night before you go to bed!

November 5

When we confess the Apostles' Creed and proclaim our belief in the "communion of saints", we remember all the saints, famous or obscure, who have died and are at rest with God. On All Saints' Sunday, we especially remember those members who have died in the last year: Arvid "Lee" Grahn, Greg Solberg, Arno Rinas, Milo "Mike" Sloo, and Verna Smith.



Joint Council Meeting

Sunday, November 5 at 3:00 pm

Council members are reminded of the meeting with St. John's and Redeemer at St. John's Lutheran Church. Please let Janet Ireton know if you are not able to attend.

Constitution Revisions Meeting

Sunday, November 12

Copies of the proposed constitutional revisions are available in the narthex. These revisions will be voted on at the November 19 congregational meeting. If you have questions about the revisions, there will be an informational meeting Sunday, November 12 following worship.

Altar Guild

Wednesday, November 15 at 5:15pm

Plans for Advent and Christmas will be made!

Saturday, November 18

Live Nativity * 1:00-2:30 pm

Pioneer President's Place lawn
(across the street from the church)

Volunteers are needed!

Please see the sign-up in the narthex.

Parade of Lights * 6:00 pm

Immanuel, Redeemer, and St. John's will have a shared float Parade! Volunteers are needed as: Float Decorators, Parade Walkers, Float protectors, Candy distributors, Choir members, and Technical "Stage hands". Questions? Contact Henry Diehl or Connie Beisner.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 19

The meeting will be held in the sanctuary, immediately following worship. Elections will be held, the 2024 budget and constitutional revisions will be voted on, as well as a recommendation to replace the west steps for \$8,860. The 2024 proposed budget is enclosed. Contact the church office for a copy of the constitutional revisions and bid for the west steps.

WELCA

Monday, November 20

All women are invited to this
1:30 pm gathering at the church.



Thanksgiving Eve Dinner & Worship

Wed, November 22

5:30 pm Dinner (\$5/person)

7:00 pm Worship with Communion

Reservations due by noon on Friday, Nov 17.

Call 825-4750 or email the church office.

Volunteers are needed to prepare the meal, contact Mindy Tillberg if you can help.

The church office will be closed

Friday, November 24.



Give thanks for unknown blessings already on their way. ~ Native American saying

NOVEMBER Worship Volunteers as of 10/27/2023

| | November 5 <small>All Saints/Daylight Savings</small> | November 12 | November 19 | November 26 <small>Christ the King</small> |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| Greeter | Tom Davis | | | |
| Usher | | Tom Davis | | |
| iPad | | | | |
| Acolyte | | Tom Davis | | |
| Cantor | Pam Michel | | | |
| Assisting Minister | Pam Michel | | | |
| Lector | Karen Olson | Kathy Herron | Monica Davis | |
| Children's Sermon | | | | |
| Communion Assistant | | | | |
| Altar Guild Communion Care | Kathy Herron & Diana Looney | Monica Davis | | |
| Fellowship Hosts | | | | |

DECEMBER Worship Volunteers as of 10/27/2023

| | December 3 | December 10 | December 17 | December 24 | December 31 |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Greeter | | | | | |
| Usher | | | | | |
| iPad | | | | | |
| Acolyte | | | | | |
| Cantor | | | | | |
| Assisting Minister | | | | | |
| Lector | | | | | |
| Children's Sermon | | | | | |
| Communion Assistant | | | | | |
| Altar Guild Communion | | | | | |
| Fellowship Hosts | | | Yosai/Milleson | | |