

righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Master, Let Me Walk With You” ELW Hymn 818

*APOSTLES’ CREED

ELW Page 127

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

...Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you

OFFERTORY - "Abide With Me" arranged by Westin Sorrel

*OFFERING SONG

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful” ELW Hymn 184

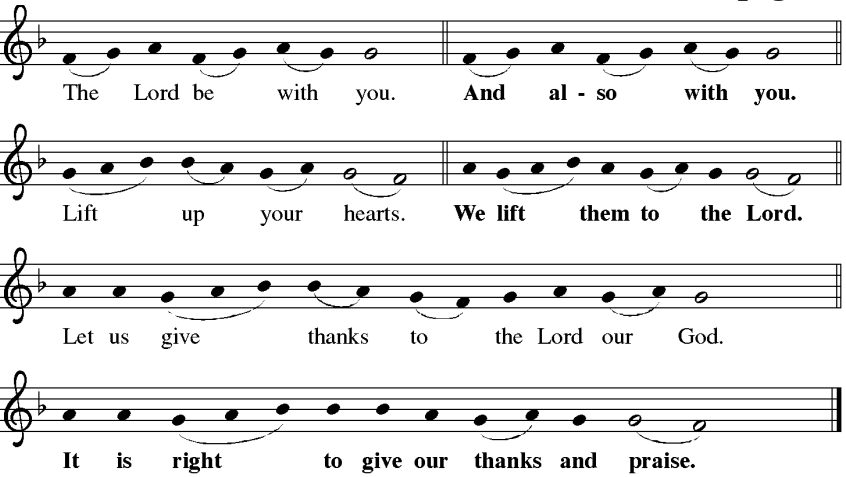
*OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

MEAL

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW page 129



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

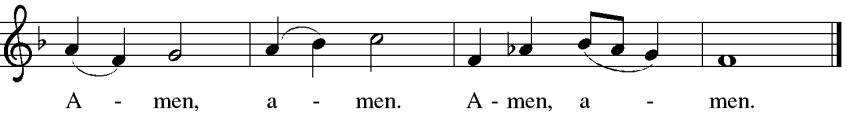
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS - “Holy, Holy, Holy”

ELW Page 130

God our Mother, we give thanks, through Jesus Christ your beloved Son...
...with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.



A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

*LORD’S PRAYER

ELW Page 134

God, remember us in your love and teach us to pray:

**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.**

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

At the direction of the usher, please come forward, forming two lines in the center aisle, to stand or kneel at the chancel rail to receive the gift of God’s living Word in bread and wine. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request, and you may choose wine (glass) or alcohol-free juice (stainless steel). To receive communion at your seat, simply notify an usher. All are welcome at this table.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Lamb of God”

ELW Page 135

“O Blessed Spring”

ELW Hymn 447

*TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace. **Amen.**

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING

*BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**
The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**
The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN

“What God Ordains Is Good Indeed”

ELW Hymn 776

*DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE - "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word," by Thomas

Gieschen (1931-2006)

Based on ELW 517

Welcome to Worship

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Immanuel Lutheran Church

September 27, 2026
10:00 AM



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026
10:00 AM

Setting 2 begins on page 116

Bold=All

*Please stand as you are able

PRELUDE - "Adagio," from Sonata I, by Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace
Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN**
“At the Name of Jesus”

ELW Hymn 416

***GREETING**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

***GLORIA**

ELW Page 121

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your
grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and

guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this
proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour
grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the Lord
GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all
lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine:
it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of
Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the
righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they
shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die.

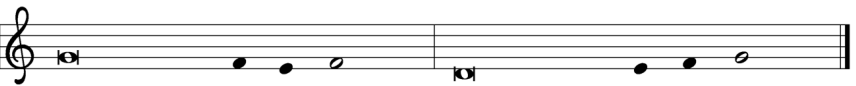
²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have
committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life.

²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions
that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet
the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of
Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to
your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your
transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you
all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get
yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of
Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord
GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY: Psalm 25:1-9



1 To | you, O Lord,
I lift | up my soul.
**2 My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**
3 Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.
**4 Show me your | ways, O Lord,
and teach | me your paths. R**
5 Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.
**6 Remember, O Lord, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**
7 Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your
good- | ness, O Lord.
**8 You are gracious and up- | right, O Lord;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**
9 You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way. **R**

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

¹If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any
partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ²make my
joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full
accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty
conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each
of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵Let
the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
¹⁰so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in
my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own
salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who is at work in you,
enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW Page 124

***GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32**

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the
people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are
you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to
them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I
will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of
John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with
one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did
you not believe him?’” ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of
the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus,
“We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what
authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and
said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’” ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not,’
but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second
and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹Which
of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to
them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into
the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of