

Immanuel Lutheran Church


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Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 25, 2025



PRELUDE

HYMN "Thine Forever, God of Love" #687

Please stand as you are able.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

John 16:33

Pastor: Let us ask God for forgiveness and guidance.

People: **At times, O Lord, it feels like You have left us and gone into heaven, leaving us to fend for ourselves. We confess that we fail to remember Your word of promise about Your presence with us and Your love for us. We fear what might happen, and we regularly face our own desires and temptations. We forget that You "have overcome the world." Forgive us and renew in us strong faith in Your presence and protection.**

Pastor: God has not left us alone. Christ is with us, and He has broken every barrier between us and the promised Jerusalem awaiting us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

✕ WORD ✕

KYRIE

pew hymnal page 151

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: **♪ Lord have mercy**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **♪ Lord have mercy**

Pastor: 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.

People: 🎵 **Lord have mercy**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: 🎵 **Lord have mercy**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.

People: 🎵 **Amen**

HYMN OF PRAISE “This is the Feast” *pew hymnal page 155*

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. **Refrain**
2. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. **Refrain**
3. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation.
4. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. **Refrain**
5. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. **Final Refrain**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: 🎵 **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, our Lord Jesus has returned to You, but He promised us to live with Him in the new Jerusalem. Grant us, by Your Spirit, steadfastness of faith, so that we never doubt but will live each day in joyful expectation of seeing Him again; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: 🎵 **Amen**

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 26:1-8

26 In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

We have a strong city;

God makes salvation
its walls and ramparts.

² Open the gates

that the righteous nation may enter,
the nation that keeps faith.

³ You will keep in perfect peace

those whose minds are steadfast,
because they trust in you.

⁴ Trust in the Lord forever,

for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.

⁵ He humbles those who dwell on high,

he lays the lofty city low;
he levels it to the ground
and casts it down to the dust.

⁶ Feet trample it down—

the feet of the oppressed,
the footsteps of the poor.

⁷ The path of the righteous is level;

you, the Upright One, make the way of the righteous smooth.

⁸ Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws,

we wait for you;
your name and renown
are the desire of our hearts.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 10:19-25

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold un-swervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

ALLELUIA and VERSE

pew hymnal page 156

♪ **Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?**

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 24:3-14

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 24th chapter.

People: ♪ Glory to You, O Lord.

³ As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"

⁴ Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. ⁵ For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many. ⁶ You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. ⁷ Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸ All these are the beginning of birth pains.

⁹ "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. ¹⁰ At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, ¹¹ and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. ¹² Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, ¹³ but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. ¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: ♪ Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED *(found on the last page of the pew hymnal)*

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" #657

SERMON *Pastor Mark Croucher*

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Reader: We bring together our attention by praying together to our merciful and loving God:
God you are all-powerful and Almighty. You showed Your power in healing a man who could not hear. We pray for those who have to deal with sickness and are weak, so we ask that you will grant them mercy and heal them according to Your will. We are not in control of this world, but we know that You are. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our Prayer

Reader: Life in this world can include negative thoughts or make us feel horrible leading us to feel that we are not good enough. We pray for anyone who feels down, sad, or unwelcomed. Zacceus felt distant from you O Lord, but you got him down off of a tree and ate with him in his home. Jesus, you similarly help us by relating to and being near to us. Lord, let everyone know that they are always welcome with you. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our Prayer

Reader: Heavenly Father, you sent your own Son to suffer and die for all of us by sending Jesus to the cross. Like when Adam and Eve sinned against You, You know the feeling of loss and betrayal. We pray for those who have to deal with the loss of any kind, like the loss of a loved one whether that is because of death, divorce, or other things. Lord, help these people find resources to help. You, Lord, will get them out of their tough times. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our Prayer

Reader: Proverbs says, "Trust in the Lord your God with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding but in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight." Lord, help anyone who is leaning on their own ways and are overwhelmed with work, school, or any other matters in life. Give them the strength to complete their work to the best of their abilities. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our Prayer

Reader: Finally, we pray for those who are suffering from physical injuries. God, You are the Great Healer, as shown when you made a crippled man walk and put back a man's ear that was cut off. Lord, heal us who are hurt and prevent other injuries to occur in people's lives. You have healed us spiritually by saving us from sin by the work of Jesus. You, Lord, have also given us the gift of Baptism which saves us and the gift of Communion which sustains us. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our Prayer

Please be seated.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

CONFIRMATION OF ZEKE CROUCHER *See insert.*

Please stand as you are able.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

pew hymnal page 160-166

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ♪And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: ♪We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: ♪It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have called us together to receive Your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Grant that we are strengthened thereby to live each day in true faith and then to rejoice in eternity with You, Your Son, and the Holy Spirit in the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end. To You be all glory, now and forever.

People: ♪ Amen

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

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

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: ♪ Amen

AGNUS DEI

♪ Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

♪ **Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: ♪ **A-men**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: ♪ **A-men**

HYMN “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

1 O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my Guide.

2 Oh, let me feel Thee near me;
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

3 O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;
And Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Oh, give me grace to follow,
My Master and my Friend.

POSTLUDE

THE MESSENGER

May 25, 2025

WELCOME! Dear guest, we pray that your worship with us is as spiritually enriching for you as your presence is encouraging to us. We invite you to sign our guest book in the foyer and "Like" us on Facebook or follow us on Instagram. Please leave your email address if you would like periodic updates from Immanuel. Most importantly, come back and worship with us again next Sunday.

SERVING US TODAY: Rev. Mark Croucher
Linda Rayburn, Organist

IN OUR PRAYERS: Liz Kraft, Myron Kimber, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, Pastor Cliff Koenig and Deborah Carter

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 16

THE LUTHERAN HOUR theme for next Sunday, June 1st is "**God's Gumbo**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler The Church is like a pot of Louisiana gumbo, a diverse stew bound together by the power of Jesus' love. (John 17:20-21) (John 9:1-11) Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.