

# Immanuel Lutheran Church



P.O. Box 5326  
Kansas City, MO 64131  
[www.immanuelcms.com](http://www.immanuelcms.com)  
[ImmanuelLCMS42@gmail.com](mailto:ImmanuelLCMS42@gmail.com)



## **Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 21, 2025**



### **The Time Is Ripe**

#### **As We Gather**

The Divine Service is unlike our other activities during the week—in the marketplace, our place of employment, or our school—where we struggle to be “the people of God” amid the temptations and confusing details of living in a world still disfigured by sin, tragedy, selfishness, and death. By our own fault, we daily fall short of our calling as Christians. We are reminded today of the judgment of God’s Law by the prophet Amos against our worry over money and our own needs that distract us from the often-greater needs of others and even our own true need of faith and reliance on God above all. Each day of the week, the demands of the Ten Commandments of God call us back to our need for forgiveness and God’s mercy, grace, help, and love. So, we gather here for Divine Service, that is, God attending to our real needs. We come to repent of our sin and failure, and to receive forgiveness and new life and hope. That forgiveness and hope comes solely from the God who “loved the world” so much “that He gave His only Son” to die for you (John 3:16). We do not have to wait and wonder until the Day of Judgment. By your Baptism into Christ, by His mighty and reliable Word of forgiveness spoken over and into you, and by your connection with the body and blood of your crucified and risen Lord Jesus, you are being delivered from all evil, redeemed, restored, and forgiven for everlasting life in the kingdom of God already here and now.

## PRELUDE

### WELCOME & BIRTHDAY BLESSING 9/22 Marsha Reese

♪ Thanks for our friends who celebrate  
And God's rich blessings contemplate.  
Praise for another year on earth.  
Praise to the Lord who gives us birth.      **Amen.**

### HYMN      "Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace"      #844

*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.**

## OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalms 43:4; 113:7*

Pastor:      I will go to the altar of God,

**People:      to God my exceeding joy.**

Pastor:      The Lord raises the poor from the dust

**People:      and lifts the needy from the ash heap.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*pew hymnal page 184-202*

Pastor:      Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**People:      ♪ who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor:      I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**People:      ♪ and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Pastor:      O almighty God, merciful Father,

**People:      I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Pastor:      Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office as an ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:**    ♪ A---men.

**✕ WORD ✕**

**INTROIT**

♪ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen

**KYRIE**

♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us, Lord  
have mercy upon us.

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

♪ Glory be to God on high; and on earth peace good will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we  
glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly King. God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou  
that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou  
that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy  
upon us.

For Thou only are holy; Thou only art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the  
glory of God the Father. A-men.

**SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**Pastor:**    The Lord be with you.

**People:**    ♪ And with thy spirit.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Pastor:**    Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your church in Your perpetual mercy; and  
because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all  
things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our  
salvation; 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.

*Please be seated.*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Amos 8:4-7

*(The coming day of bitter mourning.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** 1 Timothy 2:1-15 *(Pray for all people.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**ALLELUIA**

♪ Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 16:1-15

*(The parable of the dishonest manager.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**People: ♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

*The Gospel is read.*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

**People: ♪ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

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

*Please be seated.*

**HYMN** "Seek Where You May to Find a Way" #557

**SERMON** Pr. Mark Croucher

*Please stand as you are able.*

**OFFERTORY**

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. A-men.

*Please be seated.*

## OFFERING

*"Where Charity and Love Prevail," arranged by Benjamin M. Culli*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, "The sum of Your word is truth, and every one of Your just and righteous decrees endures forever." With hearts renewed by Your gift of true repentance in the light of our sins and true faith in the redemption given through the sacrifice of Your own beloved Son for the life of the world, we give You thanks for Your Word and work of Law and Gospel. Help us to keep Your Word and bring forth its fruit in our daily lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray You so to rule and guide Your whole church, blessing all pastors with the spirit of unity in faith and confession. Grant Your blessing also of all here present whose faith is known to You, accepting their prayers and praises as from thankful hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for the health and good will of all who serve in the authority of government in our nation that they may serve according to Your will that we may live in quietness and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Comfort and attend to all who are in trouble; those suffering sickness, injury, or fear of death; and especially Liz, Myron, Betty, Karla, Dan and Ian. Grant them patience and healing of both mind and body. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Remembering Your holy ones of old, the patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, as well as our loved ones of most recent memory, we ask You to include us in their company not on account of any merit on our part but solely because of Your great mercy. Grant all who have died in faith a place of peace and rest. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

*pew hymnal age 194*

### **PREFACE**      *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People:**    ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People:**    ♪ **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

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

**People:**    ♪ **It is meet and right so to do.**

### **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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore 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 Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: 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.

**People:**    ♪ **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **PAX DOMINI**

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

**People:**    ♪ **A---men.**

## **AGNUS DEI**

♪ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us, O Christ Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A---men.

*Please be seated.*

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

♪ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou has prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.

**People:** ♪ **And His mercy endureth forever.**

Pastor: With renewed hearts, gracious Lord, we give thanks that You have not forgotten us but have cleansed us and established us to be the people of Your own possession by the pledge of Your own Son's sacred body and blood, now strengthening our hope, our love, and our desire to reflect Your grace to all; 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.**

## **SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People:** ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

Pastor: Bless we the Lord.

**People:** ♪ **Thanks be to God.**

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: 🎵 **Amen, amen, a--men.**

**HYMN** "May God Bestow on Us His Grace" #824

## **POSTLUDE**

**Acknowledgments:** Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 4. Copyright © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

---

## **THE MESSENGER** September 21, 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 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, Dan and Ian Henggeler

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** theme for next Sunday, "**On the Way, Already Home**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler God made us to move--toward Him in faith and toward our neighbor in love. (Numbers 9:18) Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.