

Immanuel Lutheran Church



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Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost August 31, 2025



As We Gather

Know Your Place

Finding one's right place in each setting can be a challenge of life in any society. In Bible times, it was important not only that people had seats in the right location; it was equally important that they sat down in the right sequence. The social guideline was this: at a session of study, precedence is to be given to wisdom; in reclining at a feast, to age. Jesus was a close observer of the earthly society in which He lived, including observing who sat where at a banquet table. He saw firsthand how limiting and restrictive some tables were when people were excluded from the feast. Contrasting those earthly tables, His description of the heavenly banquet was inclusive and expansive. He said to His followers, "Many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 8:11). By faith, we look forward to that wonderful banquet. But anywhere that we can be at the Lord's Table is the right place to be for us—including here and now!

PRELUDE

HYMN “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus” #660

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 *Psalm 149:1-4*

Pastor: Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,

People: **His praise in the assembly of the godly!**

Pastor: Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

People: **let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!**

Pastor: Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre!

People: **For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on confession in Luther’s catechism instructs us with these words: “Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.” Humble yourselves, then, before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

People: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all of my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.**

Pastor: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant 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.

Remember us, O Lord, not for what we deserve, but because You have begun Your good work in us. As You have called us to follow Your example of humble service, make us worthy of our calling; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives

and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: ♪ **Amen**

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Proverbs 25:2-10
(Guidelines for a blessed life.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE Hebrews 13:1-17 *(Living in God-pleasing ways.)*

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 Luke 14:1-14 *(Jesus teaches about humble living.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 14th chapter.

People: ♪ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read)

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 “Jesus Comes Today with Healing” #620

SERMON *Pastor Mark Croucher*

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: God, our Savior, wants all people to come to know the truth. Let us pray for ourselves and for the church everywhere, that we may persevere in grace, and for all people, that we may share with them the joy we have in the unity of Christ.

For the church, the gathering of God's people; for the clergy of the church that the Holy Spirit confirm them in their apostolic mission; for all Christians, that persevering in grace, we may proclaim the kingdom of heaven in our lives, let us pray:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all public servants, that they zealously promote justice and the common good; for industrial workers, that their productivity provide blessing for all; for favorable weather, that we may give thanks for a good harvest, let us pray:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the homeless and the hungry; for the physically and mentally ill and the aged and infirm, that we cherish Christ in them and surround them with our care, especially Liz, Myron, Betty, Karla, Dan and Ian, and that each of us would be graced with holy humility that we may find our joy in humble service in Jesus' name in every situation, let us pray:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of our missionaries, missionary teachers, medical personnel, and all Christian aid workers, that their work be unhindered and be a continuing source of blessings in Jesus' name, let us pray:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: With thanks for the faithful examples set by those whose earthly journeys are complete and whose witness to Christ still inspires us, and also for this holy assembly here and now, that sealed with the promised Spirit, we may witness to the fullness of God's love, let us pray:

People: Be merciful, Lord God, and hear our prayers; grant Your Holy Spirit to plead for us and guide Your church into all truth and holiness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

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 proper that we should give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You continually strengthen us with Your abiding presence and promise to receive our prayers and petitions. Continue to bless Your people in Your holy church that we may know the truth that is found in Christ alone and find joy in humble service in His name. Unite our praises with those of all the faithful and join them with the unending praise of the angels and archangels and all the company of heaven.

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, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, for You graciously invite us to call upon You with all boldness and confidence. Gathered at Your Table, may we receive Your body and blood, fully trusting in Your promises that are fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Strengthen us for service through this Holy Sacrament and graciously grant us a foretaste of the feast to come.

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.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for having fed us with Your life-giving food. Grant that we ever follow our Lord Jesus Christ, expressing the thanks of our lives as we take places in which we can bring glory to You and bring blessed service to those around us as the Spirit works daily in our hearts and lives. When our earthly journey is completed, grant us a portion with the saints in light eternal. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior and Redeemer.

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 "Great is Thy Faithfulness" #809

POSTLUDE

THE MESSENGER

August 31, 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: Pr. Mark Croucher
Linda Dunn, Organist

IN OUR PRAYERS: Liz Kraft, Myron Kimber, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, Dan and Ian Henggeler

LAST SUNDAY ATTENDANCE: 32 total, 5 guests



The **Lutheran Urban Mission Agency Auxiliary** will meet on Wednesday, September 17 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 310 Johnston Parkway, Raymore, MO. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. with the opening service at 9:30 a.m. The program speaker will be Isabelle Miller from Kanbes Market in Kansas City, MO. The Mission of the Month collection is family-sized hygiene products and cleaning supplies. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP by September 14 to Shari Keilig, 816-550-7987. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend and all donations for the Mission of the

Month collection are appreciated. Thank you!

THE LUTHERAN HOUR theme for next Sunday, September 7th is "**Dying, We Live**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler God's love finds His people in the wilderness, the place where God gives bread from heaven, water from a rock, and streams in the desert. (Numbers 14:19-20) Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.