

# Immanuel Lutheran Church



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## Second Sunday of Easter April 12, 2026



### AS WE GATHER

#### Easter Light – Glorious Light

“Seeking dedicated worker. Suffering not optional.” If we were to read that simple line in a job posting, it certainly would give us pause. People generally want to avoid suffering at any cost. Scripture reminds us that there may be a dynamic of discomfort to faith-filled living that follows the call of the risen Savior. In his hymn text “Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake” from the 1600s, Johann Scheffler concludes, “Then let us follow Christ, our Lord, and take the cross appointed and, firmly clinging to His Word, in suffering be undaunted. For those who bear the battle’s strain the crown of heav’nly life obtain” (*LSB* 688:5). The challenges of the twenty-first century may differ from those of the seventeenth, but they are just as real. Our Lord promises that He is always with us on our life’s journey. With Easter joy, we travel onward together toward His glorious heavenly kingdom!

## PRELUDE

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**HYMN**      “Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won”      #490

*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**      *Romans 6:9; John 20:29b; Psalm 145:1, 5, 6b*

**Pastor:**      Alleluia! We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

**People:**      **Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Pastor:**      I will extol You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever.

**People:**      **On the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate, and I will declare Your greatness.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**      *Micah 6:6–8*

**Pastor:**      Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking forgiveness and amendment of our lives as we follow the Lord.

**People:**      **“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?**

*Women:*      “Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

*Men:*      “Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

**People:**      **“Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”**

Pastor: He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

**People: Almighty God, we confess that we are indeed sinful. By our very nature we are sinful. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Savior. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may live out our lives on earth faithfully until that time when we, by His grace, join the company of heaven forever.**

Pastor: God has promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him for grace. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and at His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. May our gracious God, lead you to greater faith and obedience, and bring you to live with Him eternally in His glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## **ANTIPHON**

Pastor: Oh, come, let us worship the Lord.

**People: ♪ For He is our maker.**

**VENITE** *hymnal page 220-221*

**♪ O come, let us sing unto the Lord,  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving,  
and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.**

**For the LORD is a great God  
and a great king above all gods.  
In His hand are the deep places of the earth;  
the strength of the hills is His also.**

**The sea is His, and He made it,  
and His hands form-ed the dry land.  
O come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the LORD, our maker.  
For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture  
and the sheep of His hand.**

**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.**

## **SALUTATION**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.  
Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the  
Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life  
and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the  
same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with  
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING** Acts 5:29-42  
*(The apostles proclaim the Good News about Jesus, the Christ.)*

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE** 1 Peter 1:3-9  
*(We are born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Christ.)*

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**VERSE**     *Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

**People:**    **Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 20:19-31  
*(Jesus appears to His disciples gathered behind locked doors.)*

**Pastor:**     The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 20<sup>th</sup> 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 APOSTLE’S CREED** *Found on the last page of your pew hymnal.*

*Please be seated.*

**HYMN**        “O Sons and Daughters of the King”     #471

**SERMON**     Pr. Mark Croucher

**OFFERING AND OFFERTORY**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN**        “**We Give Thee But Thine Own**”     #781 v1-2

**We give Thee but Thine own,  
What e’er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee,**

**May we Thy bounties thus,  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our first-fruits give!**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: In peace let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For the whole Christian Church, that the peace of God dwell within it and that the Spirit of God work through it, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, grant our petition.**

Pastor: For the nations of the world and for the leaders entrusted with their designated responsibilities, that true and lasting tranquility be known around the globe, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, grant our petition.**

Pastor: For this present assembly of God's people, that all gathered here dwell together in peace and unity, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, grant our petition.**

Pastor: For those who actively keep the peace and bring about security both locally and around the world, including the armed forces of our nation and our local police, firefighters and first responders, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, grant our petition.**

Pastor: For those whose lives are in need of a special measure of peace and comfort—the sick and the hospitalized, including Liz, Betty, Karla, Dan, Ian and Luetta; those who are experiencing changes and challenges, including the unemployed; those who are relocating to new places and situations and the elderly, as they face each new day as it comes to them; and for our youth—that they be surrounded by our support and our love, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, grant our petition.**

Pastor: For all the saints now in the glory of light eternal, Lord, we give You thanks. Bless us by the heritage of faith that they have left to us in our time and build on the legacy they have given us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer and bless us with Your peace. Amen.**

## **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

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

## **BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Let us bless 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.**

**HYMN** “ ‘Come, Follow Me’, the Savior Spake” #548

## **POSTLUDE**

## **THE MESSENGER**

April 12, 2026

**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. 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  
Dan Henggeler, Organist

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Liz Kraft, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, Dan and Ian Henggeler, and Luetta Buchholz

**LAST SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE: 42 total: 17 guests**

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** theme for next Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> is "**Not in Vain**" Guest Speaker: Pastor Ryan Tinetti Because Jesus lives, your future is certain. You can also be confident that your present life has meaning and worth. In the Lord, your labor is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.