

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

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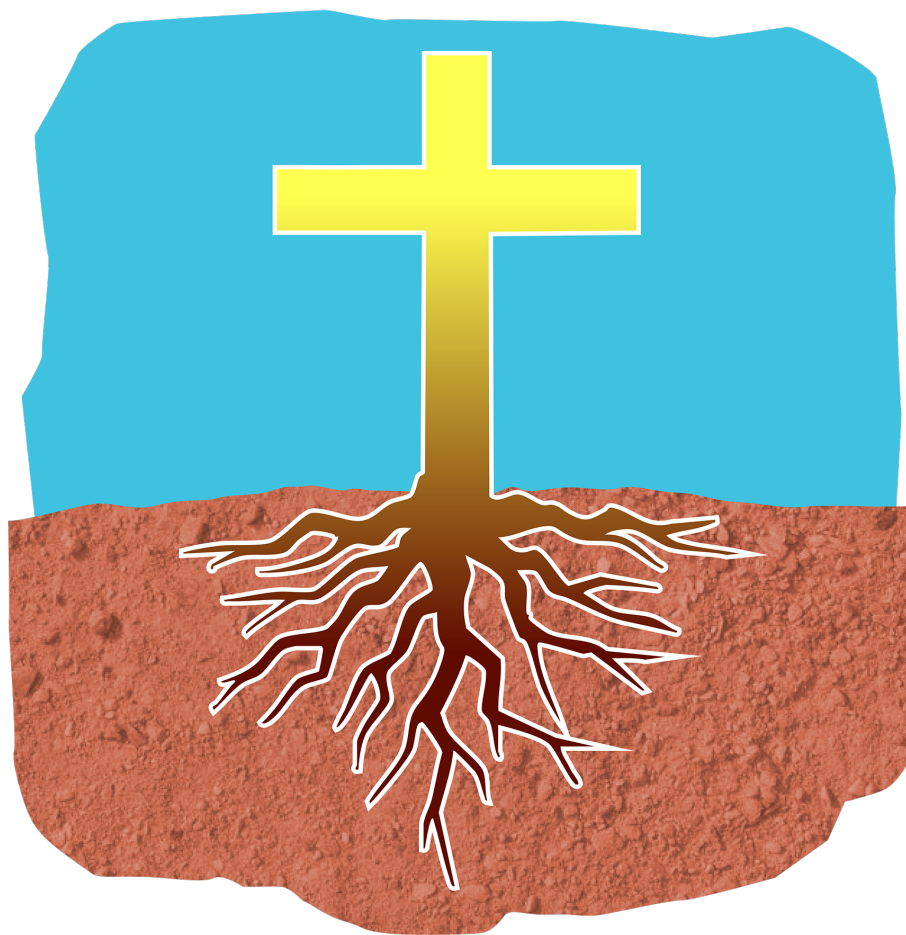
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**Sixth Sunday After Pentecost  
July 20, 2025**



**As We Gather**

## **Always Better**

We try to exercise our freedom and planning, but God's way is always better. It was better for Abraham and Sarah in the Old Testament Reading and gets Mary's attention in the Gospel. It was still taking some time for the new believers of Colossae to fathom that God had done so much for them in Christ. And when their friends found the treasure of the Gospel, they, too, must have laughed that God had such gracious plans for them, plans that are always better than they imagined.

## PRELUDE

**HYMN**      “When Morning Gilds the Skies”      #807

*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      *Colossians 1:21–22; Psalm 27:14*

**Pastor:**      And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,

**People:**      **Christ has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death,**

**Pastor:**      in order to present you holy and blameless

**People:**      **and above reproach before Him.**

**Pastor:**      Wait for the Lord; be strong,

**People:**      **and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:**      Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People:**      **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**Pastor:**      Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

O Lord, grant us the Spirit to hear Your Word and know the one  
thing needful that by Your Word and Spirit we may live  
according to Your will; through 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 READING** Genesis 18:1-10a (10b-14)

*(Sarah laughs when she hears that she shall have a son.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** Colossians 1:21-29

*(The mystery – that the Gentiles are included in God's promises – is cause for rejoicing among the Colossian Christians.)*

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 10:38-42

*(Martha learns that her sister Mary has chosen to listen to Jesus; she has chosen well.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 10<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 NICENE CREED** *(found on the last page of the pew hymnal)*

*Please be seated.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “How Wide the Love of Christ” #535

**SERMON** *Pastor Mark Croucher*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us join together and go to our gracious God in prayer for all people.

For all who, like Abraham, provide for the needs of strangers and travelers, those who tend flocks, who raise crops, who distribute food, clothing, and shelter, who make the bounty of this earth available to one and all, that God would give them good weather and opportunities to serve the people around them, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** For all who do not know the guidance of the Lord, our light and salvation, or who have not heard the Gospel, as well as all who doubt in the face of oppression and injustice, who languish alone, who deal with long-term ills, or crises, especially Liz, Myron, Betty, Karla, Dan, Ian, Debbie and Rosalyn, who need to hear again the joyful news, that God would visit, relieve, console, and re-awaken faith within them, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** For all who joyfully carry the news of Christ, those who travel to distant lands, who speak to their friends and neighbors, who gather others around them for worship and instruction, that God would strengthen them in their joyful task, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** For all who, like Mary, have chosen the good portion, joining their brothers and sisters around the world to listen to our Lord, that our gracious God would enliven their faith and uplift their spirits with His sure, joyful promises, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercies for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

**People:** 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 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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 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:** We have come together rejoicing, Lord of heaven and earth, for Your eternal love knows no bounds. We give thanks that Your Son is present, giving us His body and blood to eat and drink. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, 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.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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** “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” #922

## **POSTLUDE**

## **THE MESSENGER**

July 20, 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 Rayburn, Organist

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Liz Kraft, Myron Kimber, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, Dan Henggeler, Ian Henggeler, Deborah Carter and Rosalyn Hepting

**LAST SUNDAY ATTENDANCE:** 25 total, 2 guests

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** theme for next Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> is **"Getting the Talk Started"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler God's Law-talk prepares us for God's Gospel-talk. Author Tim Carter (The Executioner's Redemption) is featured. (Luke 11:1) Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.