

Immanuel Lutheran Church



P.O. Box 5326
Kansas City, Missouri 64131
www.immanuelcmskcmo.org
ImmanuelLCMS42@gmail.com



Seventh Sunday After Pentecost July 12, 2026



AS WE GATHER

Free, Faithful, Flourishing

Any gardener will admit they have seen certain plants flourish while others fail. The plants don't get a choice in the matter. A plant cannot affect the amount of sunlight, moisture, or attention it receives. It simply grows the way it was designed to. You have been planted by the Lord in His garden. You have seen the light of His Gospel, been watered in Baptism, and been nourished by heaven's food. You have been designed to flourish! A pear tree doesn't grow pumpkins, and neither do the redeemed fall back into fear or slavery. You are the harvest of the Lord. We grow to His glory.

PRELUDE *"In the Garden," arranged by Fred Bock*

WELCOME

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN "Word of God, Come Down on Earth" #545

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 *Isaiah 60:21; Psalm 92:13; Jeremiah 32:41*

Pastor: Your people shall all be righteous; they shall possess the land forever,

People: **the branch of My planting, the work of My hands, that I might be glorified.**

Pastor: They are planted in the house of the Lord;

People: **they flourish in the courts of our God.**

Pastor: I will rejoice in doing them good,

People: **and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness

People: **and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.**

Pastor: Almighty God and Father,

People: we confess, as Your people, our need for Your merciful kindness. We are prisoners of our own wants, our own fears, and our own inborn sinfulness. Our actions and interactions often fail as reflections of Your kingdom. Our thoughts, desires, and actions are often borne out of love for ourselves, rather than our love for others or for You. Forgive us and free us, Lord, to love what You love and go where You lead, all by the grace of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus, to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word 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.

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.
Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures
to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear
them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we
may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of
everlasting life; 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 Isaiah 55:10–13
(The Lord's powerful Word sets His people free in joy and singing.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Romans 8:12-17
*(Set free by the Spirit, believers are challenged to recognize their
adoption into the family of God.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

VERSE *Isaiah 40:8*

Pastor: Alleluia. The grass withers, the flower fades,

People: **but the word of our God will stand forever. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

(Jesus shares and interprets His story of the lavish sower and the harvest He seeks.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th 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 "May God Bestow on Us His Grace" #824

SERMON Pr. Mark Croucher

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY *"Prayer," by Robert Lau*

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: With one voice, the church cries out,

People: “Abba! Father!”

Pastor: Heavenly, holy Father, we praise You for Your unending mercies, shown in Your loving faithfulness. Give us grateful hearts that seek to praise You for Your fatherly goodness.

People: Abba, Father, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Kind, compassionate Father, You made a place for us within Your family through the sending of Your Son. May our hearts, likewise, resemble Yours, mercifully caring for one another in our fellowship.

People: Abba, Father, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Sending, seeking Father, who received us through the Spirit of adoption, we pray with urgency for those who have yet to hear the Gospel, and for those who have ignored or rejected Your Word, that souls would be saved and the harvest might increase.

People: Abba, Father, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lavish, loving Father, for those given to share Your Word, we give You thanks. Bless all pastors and all those who faithfully teach Your truth, and grant that the garden of Your church produce abundant workers who will join You in Your mission.

People: Abba, Father, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Powerful, purposeful Father, Your Word accomplishes its goal and brings peace and joy to Your people, even as they suffer from illness or grief, especially Liz, Betty, Karla, Ian, Dan and Luetta. Bring them healing and defend them in faith.

People: Abba, Father, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Forever faithful Father, secure us in hope and faithfulness, that we might flourish in the places You have planted us, until the harvest that comes with the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 "Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast" #577

POSTLUDE "March in G," by John S. Dixon

THE MESSENGER

July 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
Linda Rayburn, Organist

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

THE LUTHERAN HOUR theme for next Sunday, July 19th is "**Knight, Death, and the Devil**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Jesus has triumphed over all the powers of death and hell, and He has pledged Himself to be your protector and the armor that you wear.
(Ephesians 6:12) Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.