



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the North American Lutheran Church

920 Fillmore Street – Whitewood, SD 57793 – 605-269-2104

immanuellutheranwhitewoodsd.com

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Immanuel means “God With Us”

18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

LBW Page 77

☞ In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

☛ Amen.

☞ Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☛ Amen.

☞ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins,
God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

☐ Most merciful God,

☑ We confess that we are in bondage to sin
and cannot free ourselves.

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.
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.

☐ Almighty God, in his mercy,
has given his Son to die for us
and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ,
and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

John 20:21-23

☑ Amen.



Go into my vineyard

***HYMN, “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” LBW Hymn 328**

1. All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name!

Green Book

Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem

And crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem

And crown him Lord of all.

2. Crown him, you martyrs of our God,

Who from his altar call;

Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod

And crown him Lord of all.

Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod

And crown him Lord of all.

3. O seed of Israel’s chosen race,

Now ransomed from the fall,

Hail him who saves you by his grace

And crown him Lord of all.

Hail him who saves you by his grace

And crown him Lord of all.

4. Hail him, you heirs of David’s line,

Whom David Lord did call,

The God Incarnate, man divine,

And crown him Lord of all.

The God Incarnate, man divine,

And crown him Lord of all.

5. Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget

The wormwood and the gall,

Go, spread your trophies at his feet

And crown him Lord of all.

Go, spread your trophies at his feet

And crown him Lord of all.

Edward Perronet (1721-1792)

P Holy is the Lord, the Almighty.

C He was, he is, and he is to come.

Revelation 4:8

P He is worthy of glory and honor and power.

C He created all things.

By his will they came to be.

Revelation 4:11

P Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain;

C Worthy to take the scroll and break its seals.

P By his blood he purchased for God

C People of every race and tongue,
of every folk and nation.

P Christ made of them a kingdom

C And priests to serve our God.

P And they shall reign on earth forever.

Revelation 5:9-11

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Revelation 22:20

***HYMN, “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” LBW Hymn 328**

6. Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe

On this terrestrial ball

To him all majesty ascribe

And crown him Lord of all.

To him all majesty ascribe

And crown him Lord of all.

7. Oh, that with yonder sacred throng

We at his feet may fall!

We’ll join the everlasting song

And crown him Lord of all.

We’ll join the everlasting song

And crown him Lord of all.

Edward Perronet (1721-1792)

*GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☛ **And also with you.**

2 Corinthians 13:14

☞ Let us pray together . . .

☛ **God of love,**

you know our frailties and failings.

Give us your grace to overcome them;

keep us from those things that harm us;

and guide us in the way of salvation;

through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,

**who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CHILDREN'S SONG, "*Jesus Loves Me*"

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong: They are weak, but he is strong.

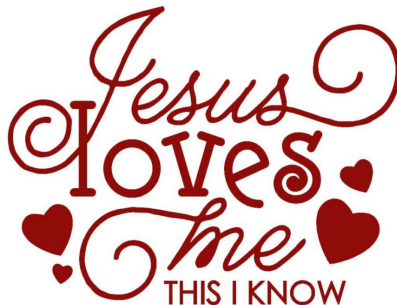
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died heaven's gates to open wide.

He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in.

Anna Bartlett Warner (1824-1915)



FIRST READING, Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

(NRSV)

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.



PSALM 25:1-10

- ℣ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- ☞ **O my God, in you I trust;**
- ℣ Do not let me be put to shame;
- ☞ **Do not let my enemies exult over me.**
- ℣ Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
- ☞ **Let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**
- ℣ Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
- ☞ **Teach me your paths.**
- ℣ Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
- ☞ **For you are the God of my salvation;**
- for you I wait all day long.**
- ℣ Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD,
and of your steadfast love,
- ☞ **For they have been from of old.**
- ℣ Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
- ☞ **According to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O LORD!**
- ℣ Good and upright is the LORD;
- ☞ **Therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**
- ℣ He leads the humble in what is right,
- ☞ **And teaches the humble his way.**
- ℣ All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
- ☞ **For those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

(NRSV)

SECOND READING, Philippians 2:1-18

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death —
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you — and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me. (NRSV)

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

***HYMN, “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” Hymn 230**

1. Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from your Son
And bring to nought all he has done.

Martin Luther (1483-1546)

***GOSPEL, Matthew 21:23-32**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

(NRSV)

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN, “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

Hymn 230

2. Lord Jesus Christ, your pow’r make known,
For you are Lord of lords alone;
Defend your holy Church, that we
May sing your praise triumphantly.

3. O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

Martin Luther (1483-1546)

SERMON

Pastor David James Baer

***HYMN, “O Master, Let Me Walk With You”**

LBW Hymn 492

1. O Master, let me walk with you
In lowly paths of service true;
Tell me your secret; help me bear
The strain of toil, the fret of care.

Green Book

2. Help me the slow of heart to move
By some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,
And guide them in the homeward way.

3. Teach me your patience; share with me
A closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
In trust that triumphs over wrong.

4. In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future’s broad’ning way.
In peace that only you can give;
With you, O Master, let me live.

Washington Gladden (1836-1918)

**☑ I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.**

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Eighth Century Creed based on
Rules of Faith and Baptism Creeds
dating back to the Second Century*



OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

THE PRAYERS

LBW Page 97

Response: **☐** Lord, in your mercy,
 ☑ Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

LBW Page 97

☑ 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.
For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13

BLESSING

LBW Page 97

☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
 and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
 and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son,
 and of the Holy Spirit.
☑ Amen.

Numbers 6:24-26

Matthew 28:19



1. Lord, help us walk your servant way
Wherever love may lead
And, bending low, forgetting self,
Each serve the other's need.

2. You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord,
But pow'r you laid aside.
You lived your years in servanthood;
In lowliness you died.

3. No golden scepter but a towel
You place within the hands
Of those who seek to follow you
And live by your commands.

4. You bid us bend our human pride
Nor count ourselves above
The lowest place, the meanest task
That waits the gift of love.

5. Lord, help us walk your servant way
Wherever love may lead
And, bending low, forgetting self,
Each serve the other's need.

Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr. (1923-2007)

POSTLUDE

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK:

Alex and family	Mark Baumann
Patricia Bridgeman	Lenae Ebel
Kirsten Flagstad	Gail Hemeyer
Dick Horak	Charles Jackson
Felicity Kramer	Allison Lester
Cleo Miller	Kristin & Lester Nies
Connie Ross	Kathy Rost
Rita Shewmake	Guyla Baer Sturgeon
Carletta and Steve Vasknetz	Anne Vossler

David Wanhannen
Cherry Bieber (friend of Jon and Shelley Iverson)
Jody Blevins (daughter of Claire and Maxine Ripley)
Curtis Clark (friend of Patricia Bridgeman)
Marla Ebel (sister of Rita Shewmake)
Kris Eide (sister of Ardith Petersen and Lois Rath)
Melanie Erickson (sister of Brenda Rath)
Wayne Fiechtner (brother of Ardith Petersen and Lois Rath)
Ronnie Fischer (brother of Judy Haiwick)
Addie Graves (sister-in-law of Brandon and Alyssa Loll)
Sherry Grismer (sister of Pastor David Baer)
Ernie Griner (11-year-old friend of Meta Halverson)
Martina Ham (mother of Diane Kunz)
Doug Hewitt (brother-in-law of Diane Kunz)
David Hoaas (brother-in-law of Lynelle Follum)
Donovan Hunt (son of Carol Vercoe)
Coleen Iverson-Routh (sister of Jon Iverson)
Steve Kampfe (son of Garland and Kathy Kampfe)
JoAnn Knutson (mother of Todd Knutson)
Kathryn Koch (mother of Mike Koch)
LeRoy Koch (father of Mike Koch)
Roger Kurtenbach (friend of Jean Zambon)
Callie Kvanvig (great niece of Ray Follum)
Michael & Jan Meyer (brother & sister-in-law of Midge Hemeyer)
Caren Miller (sister of Maxine Ripley)
Mitch Palmer (friend of Paul Swisher)
Roy Riley (grandson of Carol Vercoe)
Tim Ripley (friend of Paul Swisher)
Jess Teigen (friend of Amelia Knutson)
Xayne Vroman (great grandson of Cindy and Harold Davis)
Traci Westberg (daughter-in-law of Tony and Alona Westberg)
Sandra Wittrock (sister of Darrell Pulscher)
Kay Zuhr (sister of Chris Burleson)
Zhuang People (unreached people group in China)
For rain and relief from our drought

WE ARE UPDATING OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY. If you have a new address or phone number or if there are other changes you'd like on your page in our church directory, please get those changes to Linda Beulke or Pastor David. If you'd like a new photo, you can get that to them too. If you worship at Immanuel, we'd like you to be in our directory. Remember that our directory is loose leaf so that we can update it regularly.

A NEW HEARING ASSISTANCE SYSTEM is being considered for Immanuel. It would allow people to listen to the service from their own Auracast Bluetooth compatible receiving device such as hearing aids, cochlear implants, headphones, or smart phones. Talk to Pastor David or a Church Council member if you have questions or would be interested in using such a device if we install it.

ACTIVE MINDS ACADEMY is meeting at Immanuel Tuesdays through Thursdays. Active Minds Academy describes itself as “a K-6 microschool where curiosity leads the way. Through individualized learning, hands-on projects, and mixed-age collaboration, students build knowledge, confidence, and a love of learning.” It is a South Dakota non-profit corporation and currently has 19 students. Active Minds Academy is not affiliated with Immanuel, but it is using our facility with the permission of the Church Council. Jennifer Porterfield and Ginger Smith are the teachers for the school and are members of Immanuel. You can learn more online at their Facebook site. Copies of the use agreement between Immanuel and Active Minds Academy are available on the table in the library social room.

OUR MISSION OF THE MONTH is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the Northern Hills. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a worldwide organization of lay Roman Catholics, following Christ's call to serve the poor, the suffering, and the deprived. Society members establish relationships with our neighbors in need, not only providing material assistance such as rent, utilities, food, or clothing, but also offering friendship, understanding, and love. You can learn more at ssvpusa.org or societyofstvincentdepaulblackhillssd.com. We support the work of the society serving Sturgis, Whitewood and Newell. Mission of the Month highlights one of the ministries supported through your regular giving to Immanuel.

A FALL CRAFT FAIR and silent auction will be held Oct. 24-25 at Immanuel. The Immanuel Lutheran Church Women are hosting the craft fair and silent auction. Everyone is welcome to donate items for the fair or silent auction. Funds raised will benefit the Artemis House women's shelter of the Victims of Violence Intervention Program in Spearfish. Fair hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, and 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon on Sunday, Oct. 25. Talk to Alona Westberg for more information.

ORGAN UPDATE: We have ordered a new organ to be built by Arnold Organs. A loaner organ to be used until our console is built and the new organ speakers will be installed soon. The organ builder had to delay the installation due to a medical issue. He expects to do the installation this week. We thank all those who have supported our organ fund.

SERVICE TEAM #2 is looking for volunteers to help with serving during October. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the library social room.

GREETING CARDS, napkins and cookbooks are for sale by the Immanuel Church Women. They are available on the bookshelf in the fellowship hall near the kitchen.

ONLINE WORSHIP: We stream our Sunday worship service on the internet for those who are unable to join us in person. You can join the service live at 9 a.m. on Sunday or watch the recording of the service at a later time. Links to the service are on our website, www.immanuellutheranwhitewoodsd.com. The bulletin is posted to the website prior to the live broadcast.

A PRAYER LIST is printed in the bulletin each week. If you have any additions to the list or corrections, please let Pastor David know.

THOSE OVER AGE 70½ have the opportunity to take tax-free distributions from their IRAs for direct gifts to churches and other non-profit organizations. This is a significant tax benefit. Talk to your tax advisor, IRA custodian, or Pastor David for more information about Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD).

THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL:

Today	9:00 a.m. — Worship 10:15 a.m. — Coffee Fellowship 10:25 a.m. — Adult Sunday School
Monday	7:00 a.m. — Men's Group
Tuesday	5:00 p.m. — Light Supper 5:30 p.m. — Bible Study
Wednesday	4:00 p.m. — Kids Club 6:30 p.m. — Choir
Next Sunday	9:00 a.m. — Worship 10:15 a.m. — Coffee Fellowship 10:25 a.m. — Adult Sunday School

A BIBLE STUDY meets at 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday. We are doing a Bible study this fall on the bound human will called “Not My Will But Yours.” A light supper is served prior to each study at 5 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to join us for this opportunity to grow in faith. Talk to Pastor David for more information.

A MEN'S GROUP meets at 7 a.m. on Mondays at the church. All men are welcome. Talk to Jon Iverson for more information.

WHITEWOOD KIDS CLUB — our Wednesday night children's ministry — meets from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. each week. Kids Club is designed for children Age 4 through Grade 5. For more information about Kids Club or to volunteer to help with Kids Club, talk to Brit Porterfield or Pastor David.

CHOIR REHEARSALS are at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. If you are interested in singing in our choir, please come.

CHECK OUT THE PHOTOS of some of the ministries that our congregation supports. They are on display in the hallway between the library social room and the fellowship hall. Thank you to Tony and Alona Westberg for installing the shelving for the photos.

WELCOME TO ALL who are worshipping with us today. We especially welcome our visitors. If you are unfamiliar with our worship, one of our members will gladly assist you. Visitors, please be sure to sign the guest register in the narthex. We hope that you will worship with us again soon.

ALL ARE INVITED to stay for a time of fellowship following worship. Baked goods, donuts, coffee, and juice are available. An offering is received to cover expenses.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL meets at 10:25 a.m. on Sundays in the library social room. This week our video study will focus on the question of how St. Augustine and Martin Luther would vote. These are episodes of an interview podcast series from 1517 featuring Kelsi Klembara. She interviews scholars and authors about various topics. Guests on this topic are Adam Francisco and Bruce Hillman. We will watch each episode over two weeks to allow time for discussion. Please join us for this opportunity to grow in faith.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Teresa Kleven and family on the death of her mother, Grace Janikowski. Funeral services were on Saturday in Bowman, N.D. May God comfort all who mourn with the hope of the Resurrection.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of Agnes (Sogge) Baumann. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, at Immanuel. May God comfort all who mourn with the hope of the Resurrection.

A NEW CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBER is needed. We have a vacancy on the Church Council and would like to fill that position until the next annual meeting when a new Church Council member can be elected. If you are willing to serve on Church Council, please talk to Pastor David.

WE ARE REVIEWING our mission giving in preparation for our 2027 budget. If you have any suggestions for ministries that should be included in our giving or any suggested changes in our current giving, please talk to a Church Council member or Pastor David.