



Blessing of the Pets
18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 12th, 2025

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Norwood, PA ~ Phone: 610.586.5860

www.immanuelnorwood.org

The People of Immanuel are Ministers of the Church

The Rev Scott R. Lee, Pastor

Kathleen Schneider, Director of Music

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen

P 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.

All Amen

P 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.

P Most merciful God,

All 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

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

All Amen

HYMN

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



- 1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev-'ry voice in earth and
 2 Sing, broth-er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
 3 Sing, broth-er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
 4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain or sor-row



- sky: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Sing, broth-er sun, in splen-dor
 grain: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear sis-ter wa-ter, use-ful,
 throng: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear moth-er earth, so rich in
 grieve: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



- bright; sing, sis-ter moon and stars of night:
 clear, make mu-sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-
 care, praise God in col-ors bright and rare:
 fears; still make your song a-mid the tears:



- lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

- 5 And you, most gentle sister death,
 waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
 fair is the night that leads us home.
 Alleluia.

- 6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
 and worship God with humble heart:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
 Alleluia.

L: Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely
 bestowed upon us.... for the beauty and wonder of your creation,
 in earth and sky and sea;

All We thank you, Lord.

L: For the richness of the mountains, plains and rivers;

All We thank you, Lord.

L: For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women;

All We thank you, Lord.

L: For all creatures that breathe, and move, and have life;

All We thank you, Lord.

L: For the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers and trees;

All We thank you, Lord.

L: For the trust you have shown in giving into our care these, our pets;

All We thank you, Lord.

L: That each pet here may be treasured with care;

All We pray to you, Lord.

L: That we may love and honour all your works, O God;

All We pray to you, Lord.

L: That we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation;

All To the honour and glory of your name, now and forever, we pray to you, Lord.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Bless the Lord, all you his creatures,

All And forget not all his benefits.

L: Let us pray. Almighty Lord, grant your people grace to renounce the vanities of this world; so that, for love of you we may delight in your whole creation with joy. O God, you have made us and all living things. You are even more wonderful than what you have made. We thank you for giving us these pets who bring us joy. As you take care of us, so also we ask your help that we might take care of those who trust us to look after them. By doing this, we share in your own love for all creation. We ask this in Jesus' name.

All Amen.

FIRST LESSON**GENESIS 1:24-31 (NRSV)**

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

This is The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

PSALM 104:10-25 NRSV *(Read Responsively)*

You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, giving drink to every wild animal; the wild asses quench their thirst.

By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the earth,

and wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen the human heart.

The trees of the LORD are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

In them the birds build their nests; the stork has its home in the fir trees.

The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the coney.

You have made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting.

You make darkness, and it is night, when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.

The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God.

When the sun rises, they withdraw and lie down in their dens.

People go out to their work and to their labour until the evening.

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

This is The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON**MATTHEW 6:25-33 NRSV)**

Jesus said, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you--you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

This is the gospel of our Lord

All Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Scott Lee

HYMN *(To be sung as people and pets come forward for the blessing.)*

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,
all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tains, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Refrain

God made their glow - ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - 'ry one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, alt.

Music: ROYAL OAK, English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875–1958

THE BLESSING OF EACH PET *(Individually)*

"N. *(name of animal)* may you be
blessed in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit. May you and N. *(the name of the "owner")* enjoy
life together and find joy with the God who created you."

THE BLESSING PRAYER

Most high, almighty God, our Creator, yours are the praise, the glory, the honour and all blessings! To you alone belong all things. We praise you for giving us the animals, birds and fish which fill your world. We praise you for giving us our pets to love and play with and for the happiness they give. Help us to take care of them so that they will be happy and healthy also. O God, your world is wonderful. Lead us all into your new creation where we shall live and love and see even more wonderful things. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

PEACE *(As you feel comfortable.)*

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

**C 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**

BENEDICTION

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
keep you in his light and truth and love now and forever.

C Amen

HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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ReconcilingWorks
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION



As a **Reconciling in Christ** congregation, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Norwood, commits to celebrating the love of God with ALL people as we are all made in God's image. We are committed to racial equity in our congregation, community, and country. Whatever your abilities, gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship status, race, culture, faith tradition or economic circumstance; whatever your past or present – you are welcome to share in God's love and our community.

Welcome Visitors! We are extremely glad you are with us today! It is a privilege to have you share our worship service. Please take a moment to fill out the Visitor Guest Book located at the top of the steps at our Chester Pike entrance. If you have any questions, please ask any of the members, we will be happy to help. Check out www.immanuelnorwood.org or our Facebook page.



Supporting IMMANUEL's Mission with Our Generosity. We have three easy & virtual ways for people to donate to IMMANUEL. You will see on our Website and on our Facebook page "links" which you can click and make a secure donation. And here is a **QR code** which you can scan with your smart phone. Thank You for your continued generous support!



We have a monthly **Healing Service** **September through May**. The service is the **third Saturday of each month** and is a laying on-of-hands healing service. It is from **1pm-2pm**. The actual service itself will take about 30 minutes followed with some quiet time if people want to stay and pray

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Weekly Activities do not reflect building use by outside groups.

SUNDAY	Education Hour	10:00 AM
	Worship	11:00AM
	Outreach Meeting	12:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	Bible Study at St. Matt's	9:00AM
	Bible Study (<i>Zoom</i>)	7:00 PM

Date	Lector	Worship Assistant	Greeters	Acolytes
Oct 12	K. Dukes	K. McClellan	J. Morrison	
Oct 19	D. McClellan	M. Horne- Onimus	K. McClellan	E. Enriquez
Oct 26		J. Kintsche	J. Crane	



September Income - \$8,080
September Expenses \$10,559

Acme/ShopRite Gift Cards! They are used like cash at any of the area stores. There is no extra charge for the certificates. **Our church receives 5% of the coupons. Help us help our church!** See Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus for details.

ACME

Half Century Fellowship Lunch Group ~ Pack a lunch and join us Thursday, **October 16th** at noon downstairs at church for good company, conversation and fellowship.



Heating Oil Season continues! Our Mascot for our Heating Oil campaign really, really appreciates all those who do their best to contribute monthly a little extra using *the OIL envelopes you will find at the BRIGHT YELLOW Heating Oil Campaign poster* board located in the Hospitality area.



October is Minister Appreciation Month

We all forget to say “Thank You” to folks who serve us as part of their work responsibilities. Pastors have a special relationship to their jobs...both they and their congregations pray for guidance as they consider whether God is calling the candidate to support their congregation. Pastor Lee has been serving Immanuel for about eight years. It would be lovely if each member could thank Pastor this month – a few words as you shake hands or a card or note would be appreciated.



Boscov's shopping event! 25% off lowest sale price on Wednesday October 22, 2025 shopping hours 8AM – 11PM in store AND online. Immanuel receives \$5.00 for each pass used! Please contact Mary Lyn at (610)888-2579 for details.



RAISE RIGHT

Ready to start your Christmas shopping? Maybe stock up on restaurants for a night out? Immanuel is selling gift cards for just about every store you may want. Our church will get a percentage back from sales. Forms are available on the table in the hospitality area. Fill out form, make your check payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church and hand in to Jeanne Warner or the office. Dates that orders will be sent in for purchase will be ***Oct 26, Nov 14, and Dec 7***. Gift cards usually arrive within a week of ordering. Don't see a store you need? You may search online at: www.raiseright.com and add it to your list or ask Jeanne W. and she will check if it will be available.

Little Free Pantry



Did you notice that we now distribute pet food? The pet food is placed in the plastic bin under the red Free Pantry. The same guidelines are used as for human food – please provide nonperishable foods. Since we are Blessing your animal friends this month, you may want to share some pet food with the pantry. However, we did get good supply of pet food from the Vacation Bible School campaign – so human food is needed now! Thanks for your continued contributions.

REFORMATION SUNDAY – Oct 26th Service will be held downstairs including a breakfast. There is a sign-up sheet on the back table for what is needed for the breakfast. Thank you for signing up. *Don't forget to wear your red!*



CARS, COFFEE & CHRIST

HOSTS: Immanuel, Norwood and St. Matthew, Woodlyn
Lutheran Churches in St. Matthew's Parking Lot



SATURDAY from 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
November 22, 2025

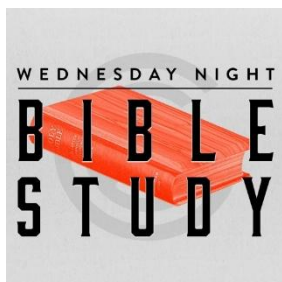
BRING SOMETHING TO SHOW, OR JUST COME FOR THE COFFEE!

GPS: 160 Fairview Road, Woodlyn, Pa. 19094

For more information - Karl McClellan
krmcfamily@aol.com
610-761-4804



www.immanuelnorwood.org
www.stmatthewlutheranwoodlyn.org



Weekly Virtual Bible Study is back on!

Join us via zoom for Bible study on Wednesdays; 7:00 to 8:00 PM for a series on Luke: How Do You Respond to Jesus? All you need is your Bible and we'll provide the discussion questions when we connect. Study Guides are available in the mailboxes in the coat room- in the left-hand lower corner you'll find "Zoom Bible" with copies for that week in a folder. Karl McClellan and Fred Warner lead sessions.

You may join at any time! Just go to our website:

www.immanuelnorwood.org and click on the *Church Calendar* tab, then scroll to the **ZOOM LINK FOR WEEKNIGHT BIBLE STUDY**. You can use your phone to connect. dial one of the numbers below at the start of the event. Use the numbers below when you are prompted.

Dial In Numbers: +1 646 931 3860 or +1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 897 7827 9740 Passcode: 952485

We hope you will join us!! Any questions please see our leaders, Karl McClellan or Fred Warner



ENVELOPES!!!

If you did not get a box of envelopes in 2025, and would like one for 2026, please see Jeanne Warner to obtain one.

Wednesday Mornings at St. Matthew in person with Pastor Lee at 9:00AM -9:45.



What does God teach us about himself through the wonders of creation? How do the lives of the people he fashioned glorify him and further his eternal purposes? This six-session series offers a big-picture view of the foundational book of Genesis, exploring the splendor of creation and the significance of God's work in the lives of flawed yet faithful men and women. And while it tells of fascinating people experiencing transformational events, Genesis continually points us back to their God and ours, the Creator.

pampered|chef.

It's time to start thinking about getting holiday gifts and this is a great way to get something for everyone and support Immanual. The sale officially starts **November 3rd**, but you can shop earlier using the below link. More information to come closer to the sale start date in November but if you prefer to look and get done the sales will count for our fundraiser. Any questions please talk to Colleen Kelly

<https://www.pamperedchef.com/go/givethanks1125>