

24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026

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 *(Prayerful time for reflection.)*

^MISSION STATEMENT:
C: We of Immanuel are claimed, gathered, and sent by God to live Christ's example through worship, education, and service.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
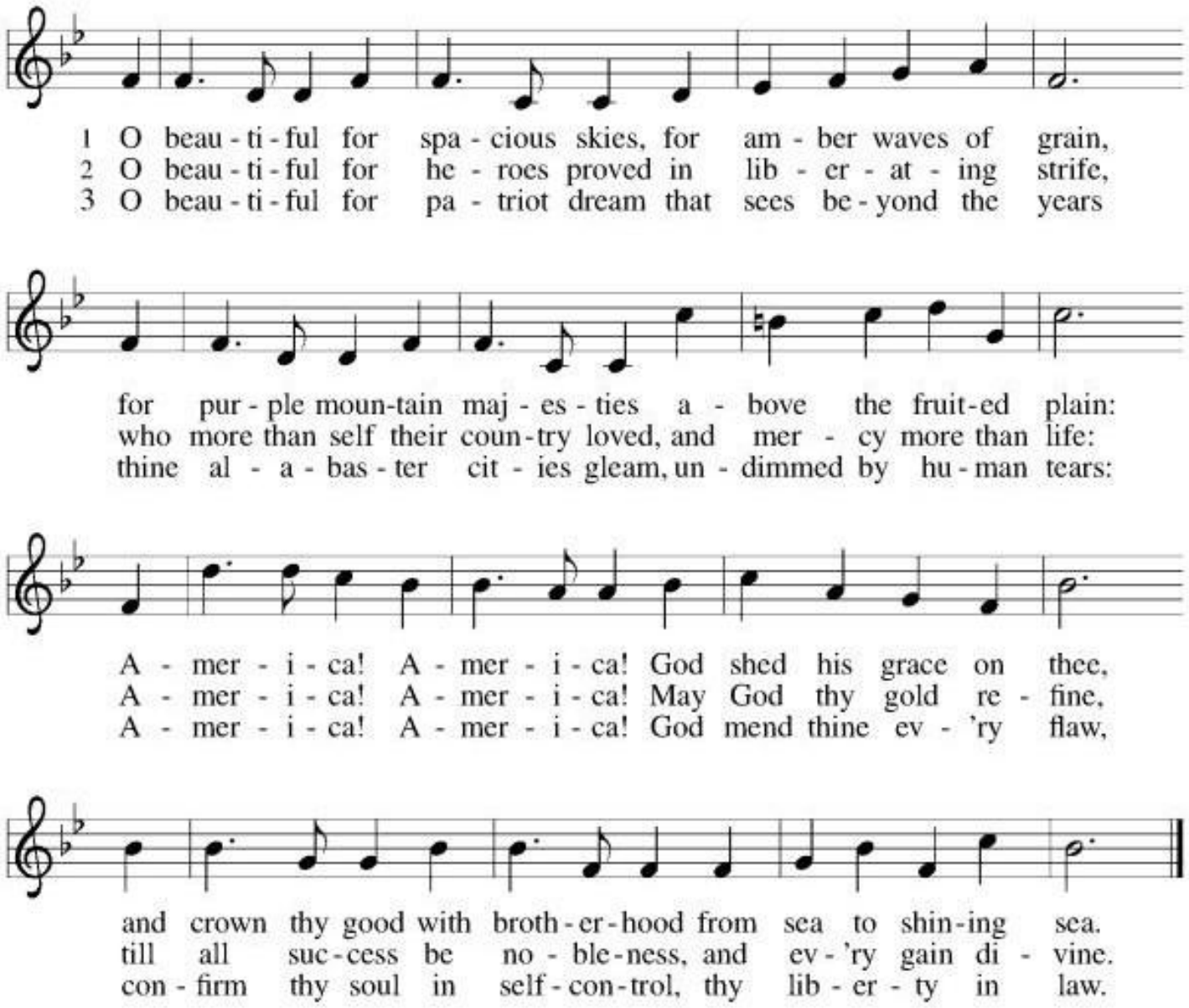
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, **we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.**

Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.
Amen.

^OPENING HYMN

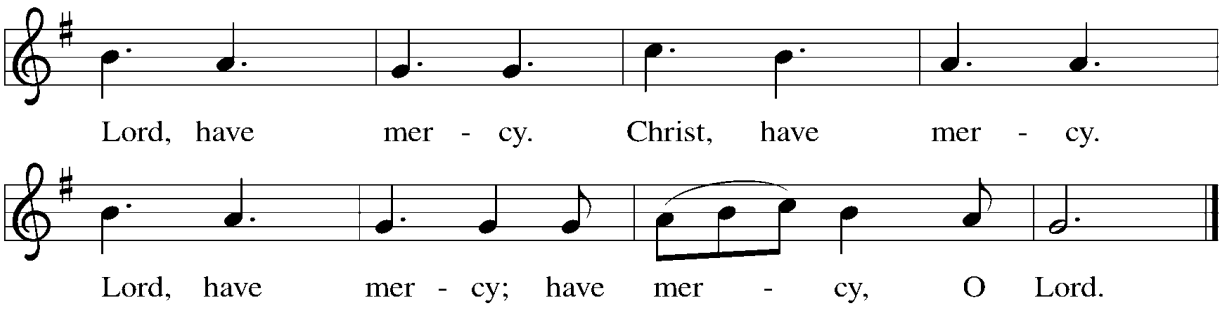
O Beautiful for Spacious Skies



P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
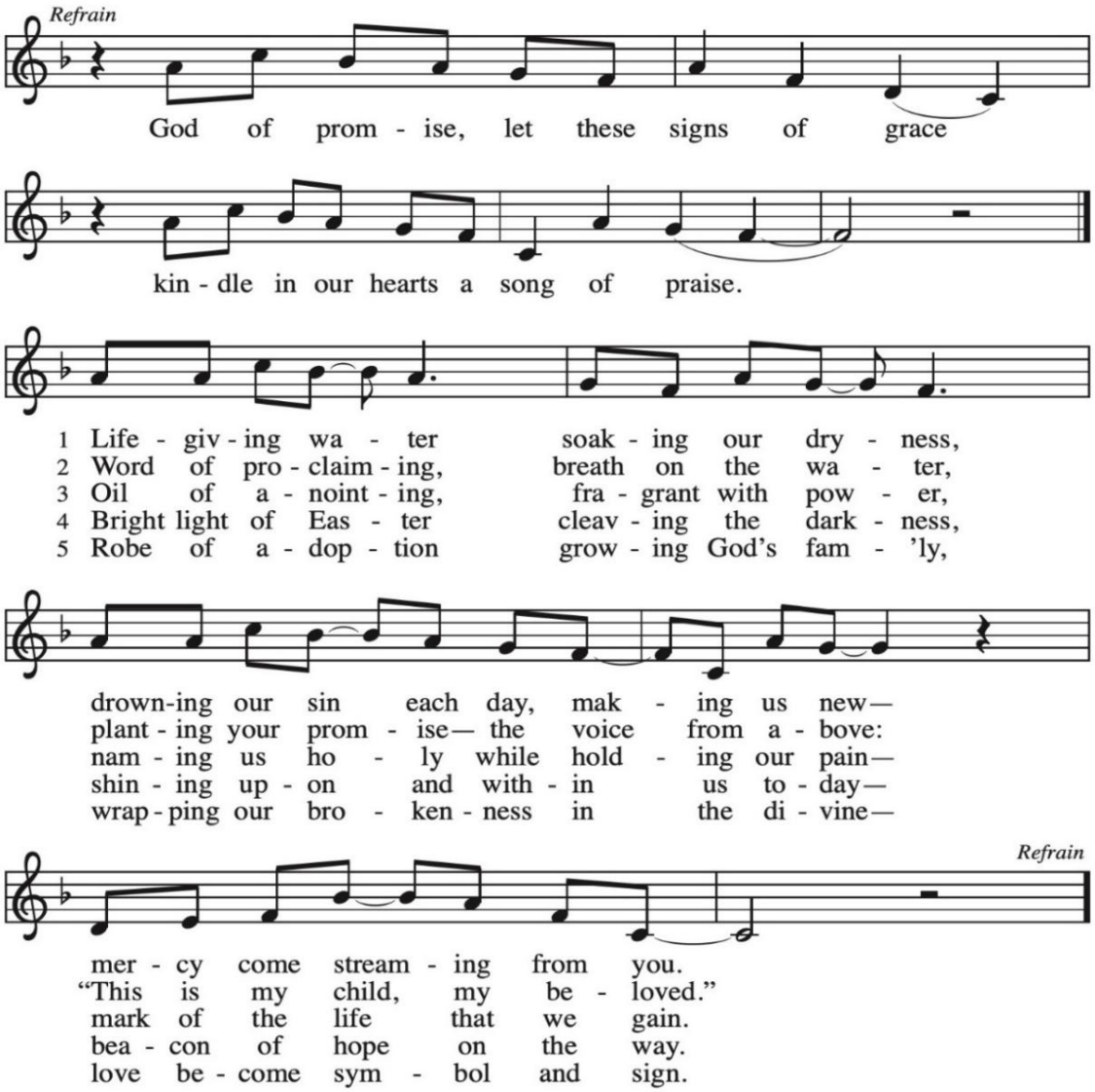
C: And also with you.

^KYRIE



^HYMN OF PRAISE *(Verses 1&2)*

God of Promise, Let These Signs of Grace



P: The Lord be with you
C: **And also with you.**
P: Let us pray

^PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING **Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16**

Wisdom is part of the structure of the universe and is easily accessible to those who want to find her. Wisdom actually seeks people out. People who are wise are free from care.

12 Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those
who love her and is found by those who seek her.13 She hastens to make
herself known to those who desire her. 14 One who rises early to seek her
will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. 15 To fix
one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on
her account will soon be free from care, 16 because she goes about seeking
those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths
and meets them in every thought.

Word of God, word of life: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM **Psalm 70**

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me**.**
2 Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame**.**
4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love

your salvation say forever, "Great is the Lord!"
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry.
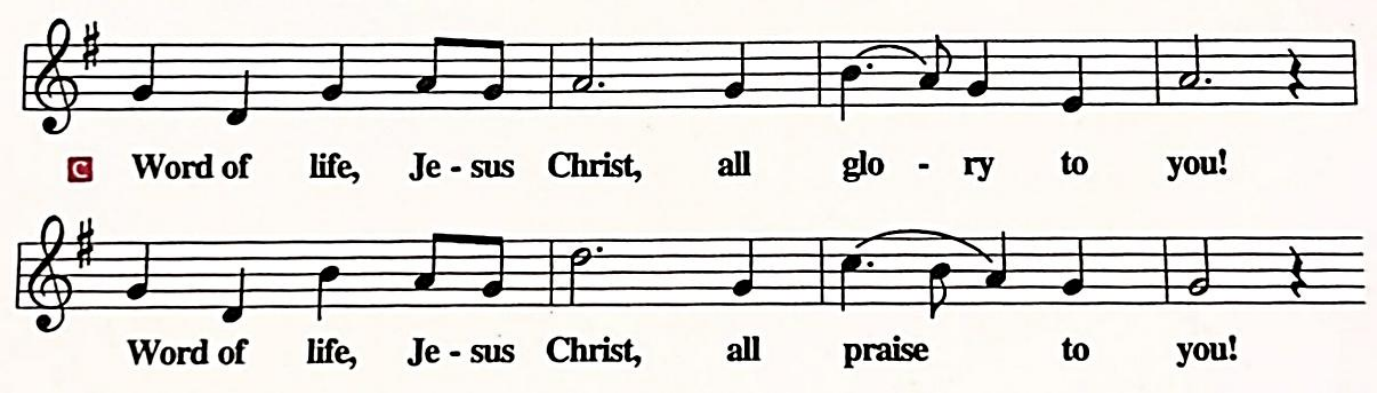
SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.
14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.
16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Word of God, word of life: **Thanks be to God**

^GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



^HOLY GOSPEL
P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th Chapter
C: Glory to you O Lord

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like
this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took
their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil
with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became
drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young women got up
and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of
your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there
will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and
buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the
bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the
wedding banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later the other young women
came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell
you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither
the day nor the hour."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON Pastor Lee

^HYMN

God Bless America, land that I love,
Stand beside her, and guide her,
Thru' the night, with a light from above
From the mountains to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam,
God Bless America, --- my home, sweet, home
God Bless America, --- my home, sweet, home.

^APOSTLES' CREED

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Kneeling as able.)*

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Response: God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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^PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
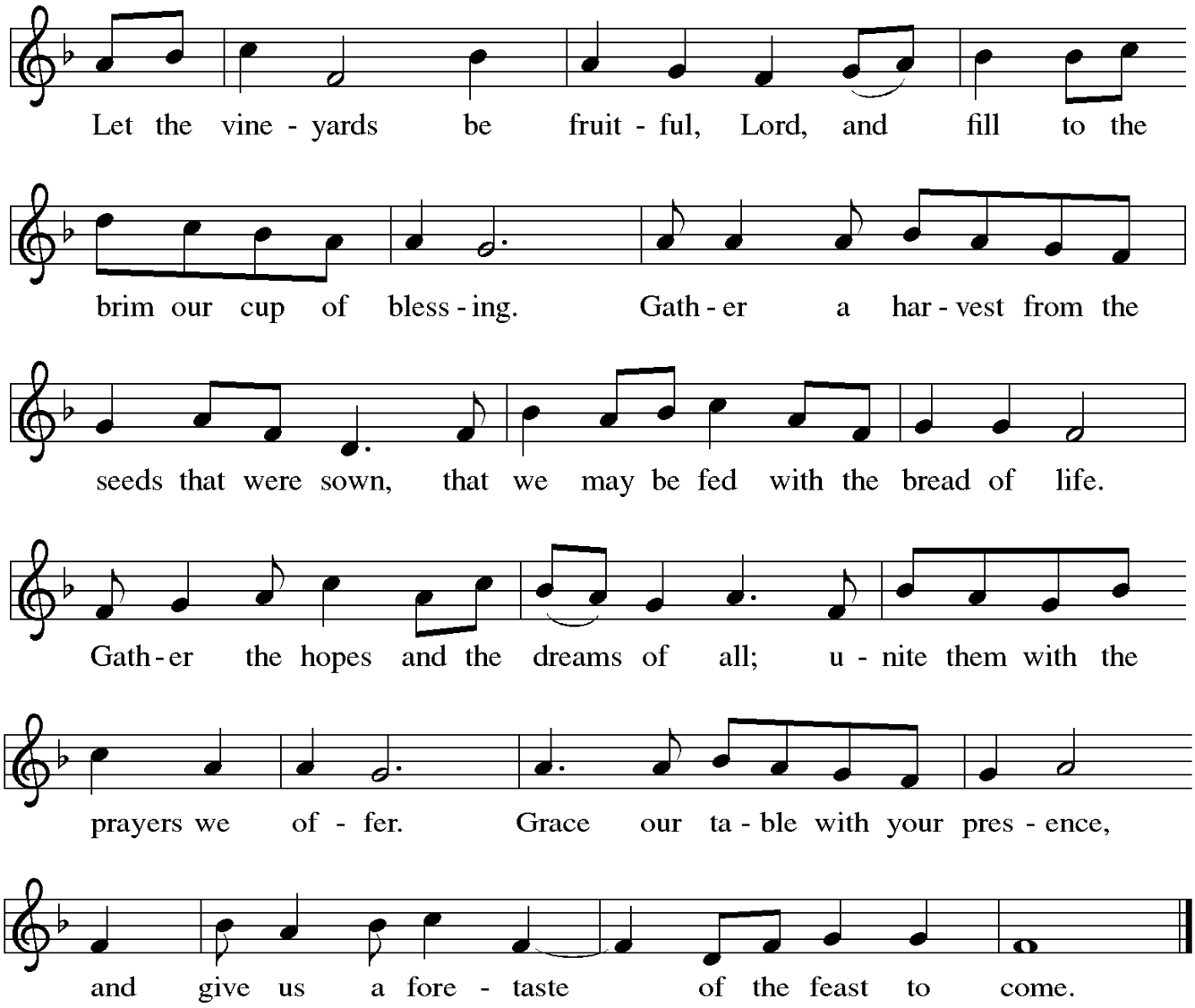
C: And also with you.

P: Let us share a sign of peace with one another, as you feel comfortable.

OFFERING

We join other Christians in joyfully responding to God's goodness, through your personal giving. The ushers will pass the offering plates during this time. For those who don't feel comfortable passing the plates, we ask that you place your offering in the plates located at the front of the nave prior to the service, or after the service, in the plate on the table as you exit into the Hospitality area. Many people give electronically and we thank all growing disciples in advance for their supportive giving.

^OFFERTORY HYMN



OFFERING PRAYER

Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+HOLY COMMUNION+

^GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them up to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give thanks and praise.
P: It is indeed right and salutary…….we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

COMMUNION LITURGY (*sung)*

Tune of Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah
Words by Rev. Brad Bella

Holy and Almighty Lord, You alone are to be adored,
For you have given your life to free us.
You came at just the perfect time, to save us all from death and dying,
So with the choirs we proclaim our Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

On the night he was betrayed, Our savior Jesus, bowed and prayed,
With his disciples, he is speaking to us.
He took the bread and made a plea; this is my body, remember me, I transform death into a Hallelujah.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
After the meal, the cup he raised, the father's name again he praised, This is my blood poured out for your forgiveness.
A promise given and fulfilled, Though I am taken away and killed,
Remember me, I am with you, Hallelujah.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

So gathered as His body here, Refusing to give in to fears,
And all the powers of death that seek to lead us,
We stretch our hands; we cry, we sing, and tell the world He is our King,
We cannot help but claim this Hallelujah.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *In the night he was betrayed……*

^LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The table is ready, come and eat.
C: Amen

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION *(By Intinction)*

*All baptized Christians are welcome to share the bread and wine of **Holy Communion**. After it is placed in your hand, dip your wafer in the wine (silver chalice) or grape juice (ceramic chalice). Sign a communion card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(sung)*

Tune of Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah
Words by Rev. Suzanne Stierwalt

For all your children in this place,
You've loved us all and shown us grace
Our sins set free, saved from despair, God, we thank you.
You've fed us with the bread and cup,
Our hearts, our lives, you've filled them up
We cannot help but praise you, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
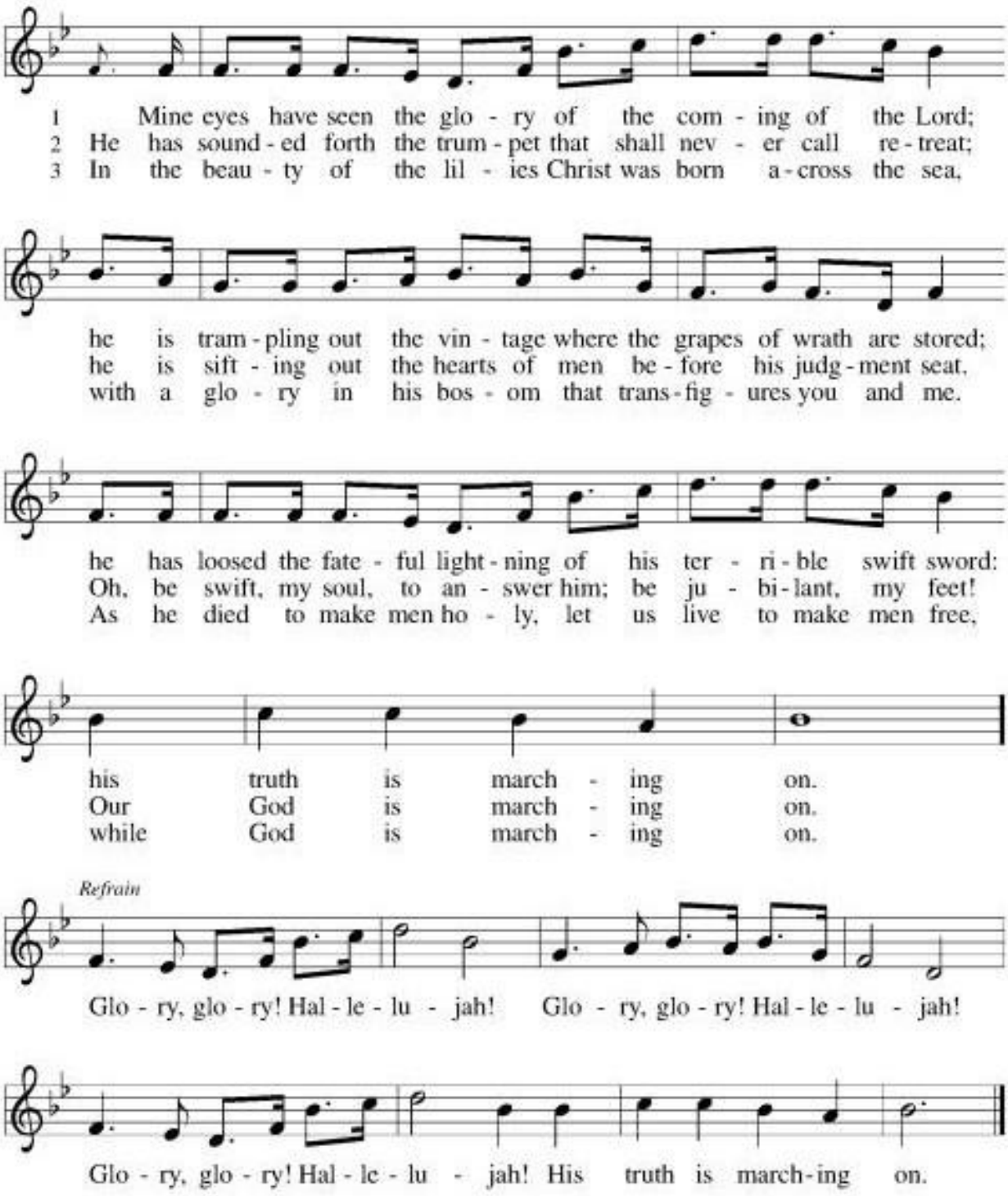
ANNOUNCEMENTS

^BENEDICTION/BLESSING

The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.
Amen

^HYMN

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory



^DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.

Thanks be to God.

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 very 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. We would appreciate having a record of your communion with us today. Please sign a communion card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. If you have any questions please ask any of the members, we'll be happy to help. Check out www.immanuelnorwood.org or our Facebook page. **Thanks for being with us!**

Supporting IMMANUEL's Mission with Our Generosity. We have three easy and 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!

Finance Update

September Income - $10,077
September Expenses - $10,995

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Weekly Activities do not reflect building use by outside groups.

SUNDAY	Education Hour	10:00AM
	Worship	11:00AM
	Outreach Meeting	12:00PM
TUESDAY	Stromboli Making	6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	In Person Bible Study @ St. Matt's	9:30AM
	Zoom Bible Study	7:00PM

	Lector	Worship Assistant	Greeters	Acolytes
Nov 8	V. Slotterback	ML Horne-Onimus	J. Morrison	M. Stewart
Nov 15		ML Horne-Onimus	K. McClellan	E. Enriquez

Diakon **(a social service of our local SEPA Synod) assists families (referred by Children and Youth Services)** in providing adequate care for their children. They also facilitate the reunification of families when children return from foster care. The Outreach Committee has provided a bin in the hospitality area for donations to their work. Donations of new or very gently used baby and children's clothing and baby supplies (but not diapers, they have a source for that) would be gratefully accepted.

HVAC Phase #2 Loan Approved!



Thanks to all who voted at the special Congregational Meeting on 9/13/26. The motion was unanimously approved to apply for a loan from ELCA's Credit Union of up to $60,000 in order to begin phase #2, replacing our boilers and converting to gas. Please see the display in the hospitality area for more information and how you can help. Continued contributions for our project are greatly appreciated! See Karl McClellan or Fred Warner for even more details. Thank you for your continued support!

Stewardship Week #2 <u>Fulfilling God's Purpose!</u>

This week's theme is "Witnessing for Jesus." As witnesses for Jesus, we have the opportunity to tell others of the greatest miracle that has ever occurred. The Son of God condescended to come to earth to live as one of us, to be humiliated for the sake of those he loves, and then to rise victoriously, the *"first fruits of those who have fallen asleep"* (1 Corinthians 15:20). Through Jesus' resurrection, we can live as forgiven redeemed people who will spend eternity with him. This resurrection miracle is one to be shouted from the housetops, for it is meant not just for you and me, but for all humankind.



We will be ordering **Poinsettia Plants** to adorn our Altar area at Christmas. If you would like to place a plant(s) in the Sanctuary, please see one of the Altar Guild members following Sunday service beginning Sunday **November 8th through Sunday, November 29th.** The cost per Poinsettia plant is **$8.00** each. Please use the envelope provided by the Altar Guild members for the completion of your order.



Christmas is coming! <u>*Our Christmas Bazaar will be held on Dec. 5!*</u> Mark your calendars now. To prepare for the event, Social Ministry is looking for helpers. It's a wonderful opportunity to socialize with your fellow members. ***<u>When you come for the evening activities, the Chester Pike door will be unlocked</u>***

Strombolis: Tuesdays at 6:00 pm in the kitchen. Our experienced cooks will walk you through the steps!





CALLING ALL SINGERS AND YOU WHO JUST LIKE TO SING! Choir practice for the Christmas season will begin on **Sunday, November 15th at 9:15 AM in the choir room.** This year will the "Special Choral Christmas" rather than a cantata. Rehearsals are easy going and light hearted, give us a try!



SHARE CHRISTMAS LOVE WITH FAIR ACRES RESIDENTS

Beth Funk, of the Outreach Committee, is coordinating our participation in the ***Giving Tree program at Fair Acres***. She has received some resident gift requests, **valued at $25 or less**. If you would like to provide a gift, see her on Sunday morning or call her at 610-521-3051.

RaiseRight™ 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. Immanuel 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 on which orders will be sent in for purchase will be* ***Nov 15,*** *and* ***Dec 6****.* Gift cards usually come in within a week of ordering. Don't see a store you need, you can go online at www.raiseright.com and see if it is available and add it to your list or ask Jeanne W. and she will check.



We are looking to put together a list of members who are willing and maybe even excited to help provide items for occasional coffee hours and events. You don't have to be a baker, store bought is fine, as are fruit trays, and drinks. If you are interested in helping serve Immanuel in the **Feeding the Spirit** group, please let Collen Kelly know. The more the merry and the more folks involved the less times you will be asked to help out.



It's that time of the year **Pampered Chef** fundraiser will be happening November ninth to the twenty-third. It's a great way to knock some items off your holiday shopping list as well as support the church. Please see Colleen Kelly with any questions.
https://www.pamperedchef.com/party/givethanksfundraiser

Our Nativity scene, first displayed in 1951, marks her ***75th birthday***! What are some ways we might celebrate this milestone? Maybe we do some Christmas Caroling outside at the manger followed by hot chocolate and goodies? Other ideas? Please put on your thinking caps and let me know what ideas you may have! As we prepare to display it there are a few things we could do from a maintenance standpoint to keep it going for years to come. I'm taking on the restoring the figure of Mary as a fall project. **SET UP DAY** will be **NOVEMBER 28th starting at 9AM**. If you're interested in helping, please let me know. Thanks to all those who have helped with our Manger scene for 75 years. Early Christmas Blessings to All! Sincerely, Karl McClellan



Pulpit Swap! *Sunday, November 22nd*! Pastor Drummond from Holy Spirit will preach the 9:00AM service at St. Matthews, and the 11:00AM service here, at Immanuel Lutheran and Pastor Lee will preach at the 10:15AM service at Holy Spirit Lutheran in Secane.


GUITAR BUILDING
WORKSHOP
Build. Modify, Make It Yours.
Whether you're a beginner or an experienced player, this hands-on workshop is a great chance to get creative, learn new skills, and work on your own guitar project!
OR
Bring a kit to build
Bring a guitar to modify
SATURDAY, NOV. 21ST
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
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Phone: 610-586-5860