



12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 31st, 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 (*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

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

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✝ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

^GATHERING HYMN

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth,
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name,
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

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

God of Promise, Let These Signs of Grace

Refrain

God of prom - ise, let these signs of grace

kin - dle in our hearts a song of praise.

1 Life - giv - ing wa - ter	soak - ing our dry - ness,
2 Word of pro - claim - ing,	breath on the wa - ter,
3 Oil of a - noint - ing,	fra - grant with pow - er,
4 Bright light of Eas - ter	cleav - ing the dark - ness,
5 Robe of a - dop - tion	grow - ing God's fam - 'ly,

drown - ing our sin each day, mak - ing us new—
 plant - ing your prom - ise— the voice from a - bove:
 nam - ing us ho - ly while hold - ing our pain—
 shin - ing up - on and with - in us to - day—
 wrap - ping our bro - ken - ness in the di - vine—

Refrain

mer - cy come stream - ing from you.
 "This is my child, my be - loved."
 mark of the life that we gain.
 bea - con of hope on the way.
 love be - come sym - bol and sign.

P: The Lord be with you

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray

^PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord
Amen.

First Reading:

Sirach 10:12-18

The book of Sirach, like the book of Proverbs, is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. In today's reading, the writer warns against the sin of pride, proclaiming that God will utterly overthrow the proud.

¹² The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker. ¹³ For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations. Therefore the Lord brought upon them unheard-of calamities and destroyed them completely.

¹⁴ The Lord overthrew the thrones of rulers and enthroned the lowly in their place. ¹⁵ The Lord plucked up the roots of the nations and planted the humble in their place. ¹⁶ The Lord laid waste the lands of the nations and destroyed them to the foundations of the earth. ¹⁷ He removed some of them and destroyed them and erased the memory of them from the earth.

¹⁸ Pride was not created for human beings or violent anger for those born of women.

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

Psalm:**Psalm 112**

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!

² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³ Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶ **For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire up-on their enemies.**

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING**Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16**

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with

them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

^GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's Holy Name, alleluia!
Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's Holy Name, alleluia!
Praise God's Holy Name, alleluia! Praise God's Holy Name, alleluia!
Praise God's Holy Name, alleluia! Praise God's Holy Name, alleluia!

^HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 12th Chapter

C: Glory to you O Lord

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. ⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be

exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor. Scott Lee

^HYMN

Let My Spirit Always Sing

1 Let my spir - it al - ways sing, though my heart be
 2 Though my bod - y be con - fined, let your word en -
 3 Let your wis - dom grace my years, choose my words and
 4 Let my spir - it al - ways sing, to your Spir - it

win - ter - ing, though the sea - son of de - spair
 gage my mind, let the in - ner eye dis - cern
 chase my fears, give me wit to wel - come change,
 an - swer - ing, through the si - lence, through the pain

give no sign that you are there, God to whom my
 how much more there is to learn, see a world be -
 to ac - cept, and not es - trange, let my joy be
 know my hope is not in vain, like a feath - er

days be - long, let there al - ways be a song.
 com - ing whole through the win - dow of the soul.
 full and deep in the knowl - edge that I keep.
 on your breath trust your love, through life and death.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, 1931–2020

Music: SPIRITSONG, Jane Marshall, 1924–2019

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^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.)*

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

.

^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



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the

brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the

seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the

prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,

and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Santo, santo, santo*



San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,

. . . lle-nos es-tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.
your glo - ry fills all heav-en and earth. . . . You are ho - ly, God.

Ben - di - to el que vie-ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . . .
. . . Bless - ed be the Sav-ior, the one who comes in your name.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to e-res, oh Dios.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

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

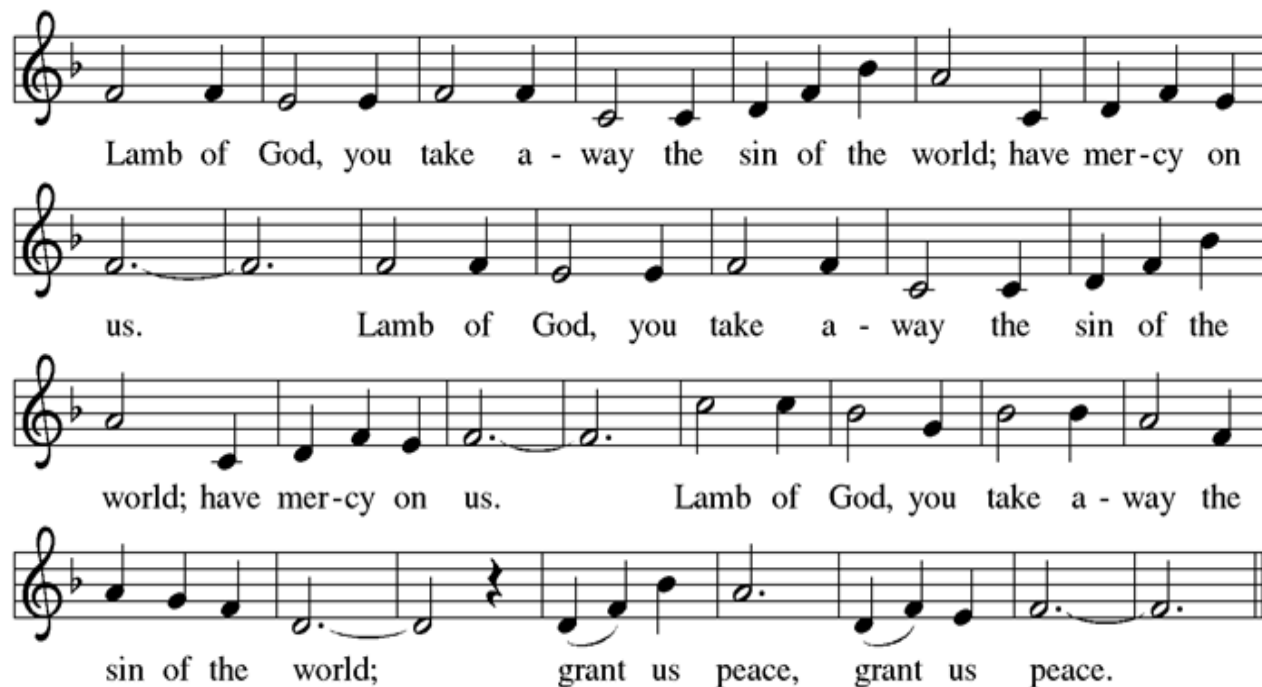
^LORD'S PRAYER

**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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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).*

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

C: Amen

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Refrain

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name **Amen**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

^BENEDICTION/BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

^HYMN

OUR GOD

By Chris Tomlin

Water You turned into wine, opened the eyes of the blind.

There's no one like You, none like You

.

Into the darkness You shine, out of the ashes we rise.

There's no one like You, none like You.

Our God is greater, our God is stronger.

God, You are higher than any other.

Our God is Healer, awesome in power, our God, our God. (2 Times)

And if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us?

And if our God is with us, then what could stand against?

And if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us?

And if our God is with us, then what could stand against? (2 Times)

Our God is greater, our God is stronger.

God, You are higher than any other.

Our God is Healer, awesome in power, our God, our God.

^DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**



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 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. Here is a **QR code** which you can scan with your smart phone. Thank You for your continued generous support!



ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Weekly Activities do not reflect building use by outside groups.

SUNDAY

Worship .

11:00 AM

	Lector	Worship Assistant	Acolyte	Greeters
Aug 31		K. McClellan		B. Funk
Sep 7	K Dukes	J. Kintsche	E. Enriquez	K .McClellan
Sep 14		K. McClellan		J. Morrison



July Income - \$9,207

July Expenses \$9,300

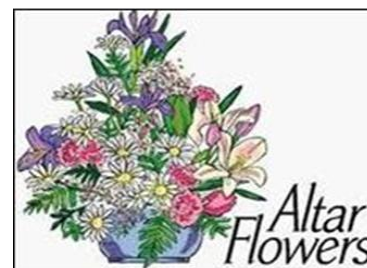
Acme/ShopRite Gift Cards! They are used like cash at any of the area stores. There is no extra charge for the certificates. **Our church receives 5% of the coupons. Help us help our church!** See Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus for details.

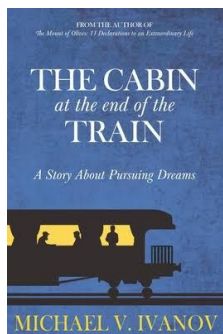
ACME



Heating Oil Season is over! However, the fall will be here soon enough! Our mascot for our Heating Oil campaign, **Scout the Puppy** is asking that our members do their best to contribute monthly a little extra using **the OIL envelopes you'll find at the BRIGHT YELLOW Heating Oil campaign poster board** located in the Hospitality area.

Sponsor Altar Flowers! Call Fran Fisher at 610.586.3095 with the details of when you would like to sponsor the altar flowers, and the wording of dedication you would like to appear in the Sunday bulletin for that day. Spruce up the Altar!! Flowers are \$30.





Summer Reading

Looking for a good book to read on your long summer days at the beach? Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study will be reading **The Cabin at the End of the Train** by Michael V. Ivanov. It's a story about Pursuing Dreams. We will be discussing this book when Bible Study resumes in September. Let us know what you think of the book. Happy reading!

Plan now to attend Sunday, September 7, when we're planning fun (and food) for everyone! From 10:00 – 10:45 am adults will join the children – getting to know each other as we participate in activities together. 11:00 am – informal worship NOON Our annual picnic in the social hall. The sign up sheet to bring food donations with you to the picnic is in the hospitality area.



Property continues to ask your support with the purchase/donation of paper products and cleaning supplies (paper towels, toilet tissue, Kleenex, toilet bowl cleaner, counter cleaner, trash bags 13gal and 33gal size) to keep our cabinets stocked. Items can be placed on the table in the cloak room. Please prayerfully consider what you might be able to do to help. If you'd like more details about what is involved, and how you might be able to help, please see Fred Warner, Chairperson for the Property Committee.



The Little Food Pantry

Thanks for your continued contributions to the Pantry. Let's keep up the good work. Our neighbors are grateful! If you have **nonperishable food** to add to our inventory, come to the church (call first please, - 610-586-5860) during office hours, M-F 9:00 – 1:00, ring the doorbell, tell Patty you have a food donation and when she buzzes you in, leave your donation inside the door to the left. OR if there is room in the pantry, just put your donation there.



VBS August Pet Food Drive ! LAST DAY!

The mission effort for the Vacation Bible School is collecting pet food for our Little Pantry out front. In order to maximize their efforts, the entire month of August you may help their efforts by making donations of any unopened nonperishable pet food

until **TODAY!!!** Please see Jeanne Warner with questions or concerns. Thank you for helping!

We will be kicking off the new year of **Christian Education** offerings with an Intergenerational Event on ***September 7th before the Church Picnic at 10am.*** The event will be followed by the church service and then the picnic. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will be working on silly Mad Lib Bible stories and creating posters to go with them. We hope you can come and join in the fun with members of all ages in the church.



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.



Cars, Coffee & Christ September 6th, 2025!!

Car enthusiasts in Delaware County are invited to join us for a morning of Cars, Coffee and Christ (CCC) hosted by Immanuel (Norwood) and St. Matthew (Woodlyn) Lutheran churches; on **September 6th in St Matthew's parking lot located at 160 Fairview Road, Woodlyn, Pa. from 8:30 to 10:30 am (weather permitting – if necessary, cancellation will be posted on Immanuelnorwood.org)**. It is a free event open to all makes and models and denominations. You don't even have to bring a car! The fellowship provides a chance to enjoy some coffee and snacks, chat about cars, and share experiences. There will be a "mailbox" with a prayer form if you'd like to add someone or something to our prayer lists. Please contact Karl McClellan (krmcfamily@aol.com) if you'd like more

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
September 6, 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