

Ninth Sunday
after
Pentecost



August 7, 2022

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

Please pick up your communion card and Fellowship cup on the way into the Sanctuary for Holy Communion.

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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

Silence for reflection and self-examination. (Kneeling as able.)

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever. **Amen.**

^OPENING HYMN

Blessed Assurance



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di - vine!
- 2 Per - fect sub-mis - sion, per-fect de-light, vi - sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per - fect sub-mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav - ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal - va - tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 an - gels de-scend-ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

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. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

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

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

^WE WORSHIP YOU (*Call & Response*)

We Worship You
 Almighty God
 In You Alone
 Is Our Delight
 We Worship You
 Oh Holy God
 And Lift Our Voice
 To Sing Your Praise
 Alleluia
 Alleluia

We Worship You
Almighty God
In You Alone
Is Our Delight
We Worship You
Oh Holy God
And Lift Our Voice
To Sing Your Praise
Alleluia
Alleluia

P: The Lord be with you

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray

^PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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

PSALM 33:12-22 (*Read responsively*)

Let your lovingkindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you. (Ps. 33:22)

¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

¹³**The LORD looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**

¹⁴God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.

**¹⁵God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**

¹⁶A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

**¹⁷The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**

¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

**¹⁹to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

²⁰Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD,
our helper and our shield.

**²¹Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.**

²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had

promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

^GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The musical score consists of two systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line is written in a soprano or alto clef, and the piano accompaniment is in a bass clef. The lyrics are: "Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The music features a simple, rhythmic melody with a steady accompaniment of chords and eighth notes.

^HOLY GOSPEL

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

C: **Glory to you O Lord**

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

[Jesus said:] ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Deacon Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus

^SPECIAL MUSIC

^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.*)

Response: “Receive our prayer.”

^PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share the peace.

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 during Covid, 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 Vineyards Be Fruitful

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

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

^BENEDICTION/BLESSING

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

^HYMN

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
 last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

^DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

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. 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.



The **Flowers on the Altar** are given to the Glory of God in memory of Caroline Harlan with love by her sister Eleanor and family.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Weekly Activities do not reflect building use by outside groups.

SUNDAY	Christian Ed Mtg.	12:00 PM
	Worship & Music Mtg.	12:00 PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY	VBS	9:00AM-11:30 AM

Supporting IMMANUEL's Mission with Our Generosity.

We have 3 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!



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 value of the coupons that you use. Help us help our church!** See Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus for details.



Immanuel's Heating Oil Special Giving Campaign - Do you remember from your childhood, or raising children or spending time with Grandchildren the stories of Aesop's Fable? There was one about the "Ant and the Grasshopper" which applies to Immanuel! The Ants worked to store up for the winter while the Grasshopper just played. When winter came the Grasshopper did not have food to eat. Would the Grasshopper survive? **The moral of the story:**



PREPARE TODAY FOR THE NEEDS THAT YOU WILL HAVE TOMORROW.

Inflation is hitting us all. One BIG hit for Immanuel is the drastic increase in the cost of heating oil. Our budget has gone from 11 months of the year at approximately \$1300 per month to the new budget of over \$1700 per month. **We must do something now to meet this challenging cost increase.**

Please see the BRIGHT GREEN display in the Hospitality area highlighting our "Oil Campaign". There are envelopes there marked "OIL" which you can take and jot your envelope number on. We need you to prayerfully consider what ***extra*** can you give to help us with this? If you give virtually, you can also use the QR code in the bulletin and newsletter to give using the "General Fund" option. Please help your church with this. We do not want to be "the grasshopper"!

Thank you from your Resource Committee and your Church Council



Shop online with Amazon. Enter through Amazon Smile and select Immanuel Lutheran Church Norwood as your charity and half of 1% will go to Immanuel. Thanks for supporting Immanuel.



Sunday
September 4, 2022
 11:00 Worship Service
Hymn Sing

Plan to join us for worship and a picnic lunch in Norwood Lower Park. The exact Sunday in September is pending at this time. Look for details in the bulletin and/or the September newsletter. Immanuel will provide the fried chicken and the rest of us will bring dishes to share. Please sign up on the sheet in the Hospitality Room so we can plan enough food. Property committee will need assistance to transport tables, chairs and other equipment. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll meet in the church basement.



Norwood Community Day, Saturday, September 17th

Immanuel will participate in the Community Day from 10:00 – 2:00. The



Outreach Committee is **looking for volunteers** to assist us in interacting with the families that attend, including engaging children in some fun games and providing

prizes. We will have shade for our table – either tree or canopy! It's fun, come join us! Contact Joyce Morrison if you would like to help (jemorrison28@gmail.com OR 610-506-5387.)