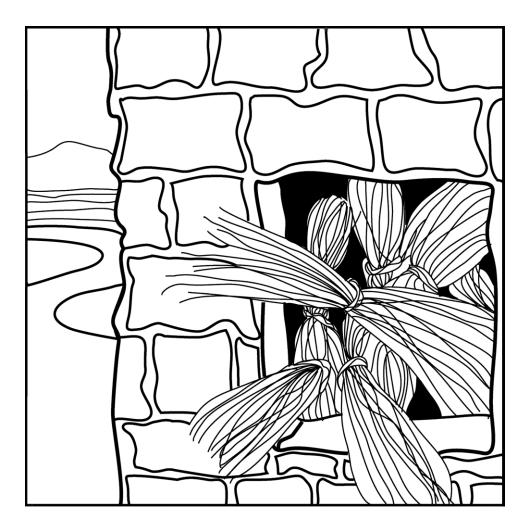
## Eighth Sunday *after* Pentecost



July 31, 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 <u>on the way</u> <u>into the Sanctuary</u> 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.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.** 

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

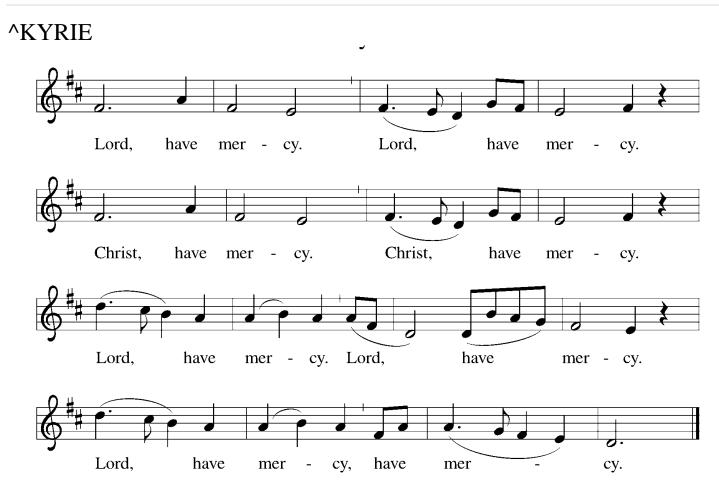
## Amen.

#### **^OPENING HYMN**



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Music: AUSTRIA, Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732–1809

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.



## ^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

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a "vanity of vanities." Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one's work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

<sup>2</sup>Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

<sup>12</sup>I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, <sup>13</sup>applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. <sup>14</sup>I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

<sup>2:18</sup>I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me <sup>19</sup>—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup>So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup>because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup>What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? <sup>23</sup>For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

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

PSALM 49:1-12 (*Read responsively*)

My mouth shall speak of wisdom. (Ps. 49:3)

<sup>1</sup>Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world, <sup>2</sup>you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.

<sup>3</sup>My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

## <sup>4</sup>I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.

<sup>5</sup>Why should I be afraid in evil days,

when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

## <sup>6</sup>the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?

<sup>7</sup>One can never redeem another,

or give to God the ransom for another's life;

## <sup>8</sup>for the ransom of a life is so great

## that there would never be enough to pay it,

<sup>9</sup>in order to live forever and ever

and never see the grave.

## <sup>10</sup>For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish

## and leave their wealth to those who come after them.

<sup>11</sup>Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation,

though they had named lands after themselves.

## <sup>12</sup>Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.

## SECOND READING

Colossians 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so

Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

<sup>1</sup>So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup>On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup>These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup>But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup>In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

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



#### **^GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

## **^HOLY GOSPEL**

## P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 12th Chapter C: Glory to you O Lord

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." <sup>16</sup>Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup>And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup>Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup>So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pr. Scott Lee

**^**HYMN



## ^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

#### **^VBS STAFF DEDICATION**

<u>LEADER</u>: Today we dedicate ourselves to the exploration and celebration of sharing the good news of God's love. We are God's children, surrounded by people of faith who are willing to share God's love with everyone.

## ALL: We praise you, Lord, as the trees in the forests do!

LEADER: We give you thanks today for [*names of all VBS leaders & helpers*]. They have accepted the call to serve as our leaders and teach the kids of our community about Jesus' love for us, and how we can grow as caretakers of God's creation and share the good news with others. Will you, as leaders, seek to help kids learn Bible stories and examples that teach us how to live each day as we care for what God has given us?

<u>STAFF:</u> We will encourage kids to explore how God wants us to share, give, grow, love, and praise. We will teach the importance of sharing God's love and stories of Jesus with others. We will help kids grow in their relationship with God and help them learn how to live each day as stewards of what God has given us.

<u>LEADER:</u> (*to congregation*) Will you support the work of these VBS staff members and pray for God's guidance in their work?

**CONGREGATION:** We joyfully support them through prayer and encouragement.

<u>LEADER</u>: On behalf of our congregation, I thank you, our leaders, helpers, and all VBS volunteers for saying yes to using your spiritual gifts to help kids and adults explore God's amazing love. May God guide you in your teaching and learning, inspiring in you a richer understanding of community and commitment to share God's love with others. Let us join together in prayer.

ALL: We praise you, God, creator of all things, for you have trusted us to take care of your creation. Thank you for the generosity of these VBS volunteers who are freely giving their time to share your love with the kids of this community. Help us to grow in faith as we teach others about your wonderful love. Amen.

LEADER: Go in peace to praise and serve the Lord.

## ALL: Thanks be to God!

## 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**



#### OFFERING PRAYER

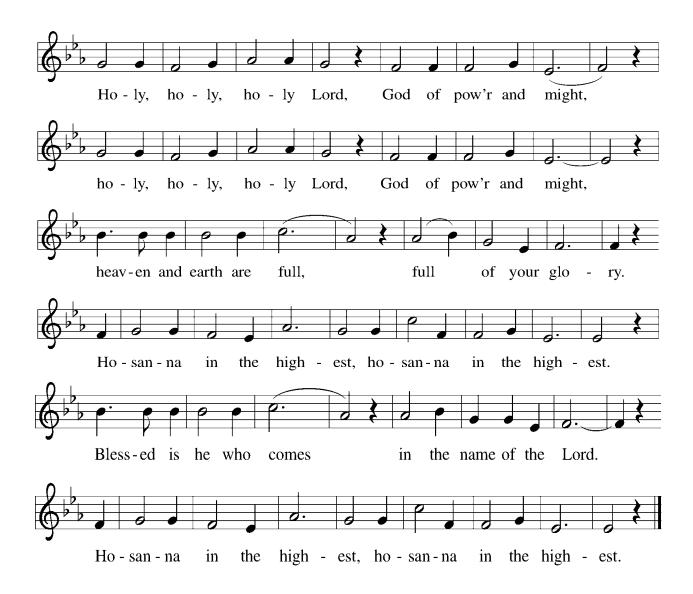
God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.** 

#### +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:



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

#### ^LORD'S PRAYER (Spoken)

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.

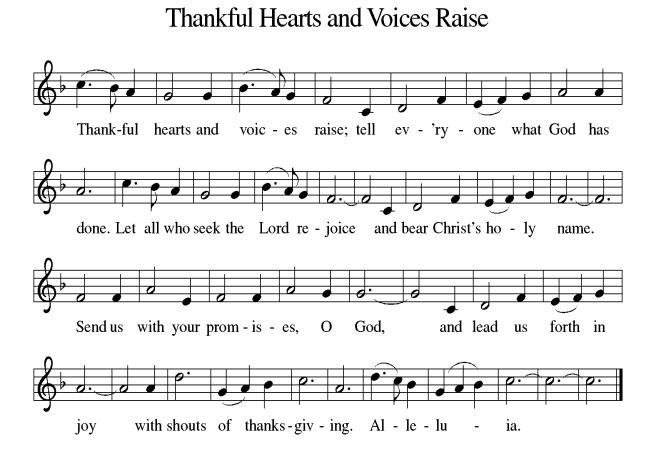
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P:** In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet. **C: Amen** 

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to share the bread and wine of **Holy Communion**. Please pick up your communion card and "Fellowship Cup", an all-in-one wafer and juice set (the bread and wine) <u>when</u> <u>entering the sanctuary</u>. The pastor says "The Body of Christ given for you." and the assistant minister says, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." Open the top protective film to uncover the "body" (an unleavened wafer), place in your mouth then open the  $2^{nd}$  protective film to uncover the "blood" (100% grape juice) and drink. Please dispose of your cup in the receptacle provided when leaving the sanctuary. Sign the communion card 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

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.** 

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **^BENEDICTION/BLESSING**

The God of peace, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. **Amen.** 

**^**HYMN



Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

## ^DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor. Thanks be to God.

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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** were Given to the Glory of God by Fran Fisher in loving memory of her husband Bill Fisher, and son Billy.

## **ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK**

Weekly Activities do not reflect building use by outside groups. Pastor Lee will be on vacation – Aug 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>.

SUNDAY	<b>Education Hour</b>	10:00 AM
SATURDAY	VBS Clean-up Day	9:00 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!



Please come out and get Immanuel ready for "Discovery on Adventure Island"! Help clean the church for VBS on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00AM.

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. <u>We must do something now to meet this challenging cost</u> <u>increase</u>.

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 <u>*extra*</u> 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

LAST CALL! Outreach Committee Backpack & Essential School Supplies Drive! Outreach Committee is again sponsoring a school supply collection. Please drop off any new school supplies at the designated box in the hospitality area. Please place your donations there by the end of July so that we may give them to groups that are preparing backpacks to



give away. Remember that school children range from Kindergarten to 12th grade! Watch for sales! Thank you for being generous.



**Immanuel Marches in Norwood's July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade 2022** ~ On Monday July 4<sup>th</sup> members of Immanuel marched in the Norwood July 4<sup>th</sup> parade helping to get the word out about our church and especially our upcoming Vacation Bible School. A sincere Thanks to everyone who participated in the parade, helped make the banners, hand out information, and staffed our table at the church.

Our table set up at the church on Winona Avenue provided information about our church and distributed bottled water, which was greatly appreciated by those marching and spectators along the parade route. Those who helped with the table were: Pi & Bill Fagan, Jean Crane, Don Watts and Fred Warner.

Those who marched pictured from left to right: Julia, Pastor & Keira Lee, Vicki Slotterback, Marion Tomosky, Amy Graham, Jeanne Warner, Ben and Matt Graham, Alejandro Enriquez, Colleen Kelly, Kim Enriquez and Karl McClellan.