

24th Sunday
after
Pentecost



November 15, 2020

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
SERVICE OF THE SPOKEN WORD

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.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ✝ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

Amen.

^OPENING HYMN (*Solo Kathleen Schneider*)

Come, You Thankful People, Come



1 Come, you thank-ful peo-ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield.
 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home;
 4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to your fi-nal har-vest home.



All is safe-ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be-gin.
 Wheat and tares to-gether sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown.
 from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way,
 Gath-er all your peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our mak-er, does pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear.
 give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there, for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in your gar-ner to a-bide.



Come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
 Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.
 Come, with all your an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen**

^HYMN OF PRAISE (*Solo Kathleen Schneider*)

This Is the Feast



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -



lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es,



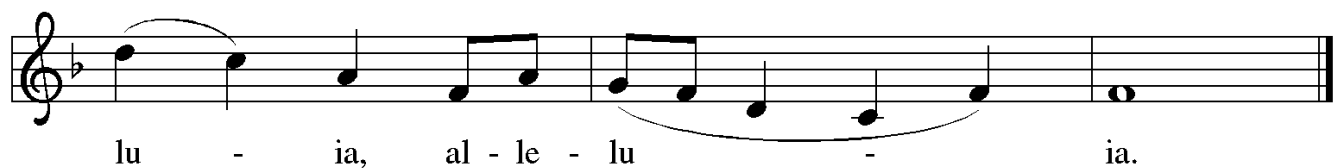
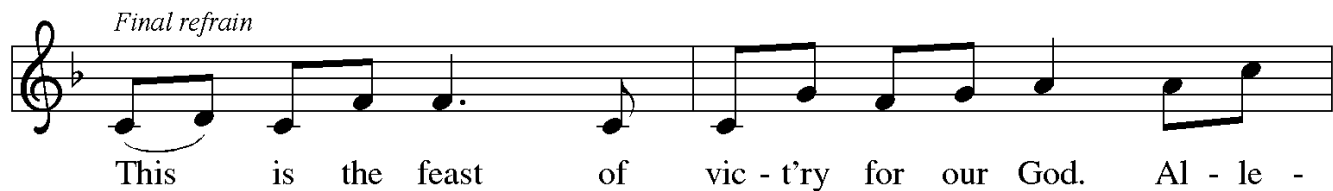
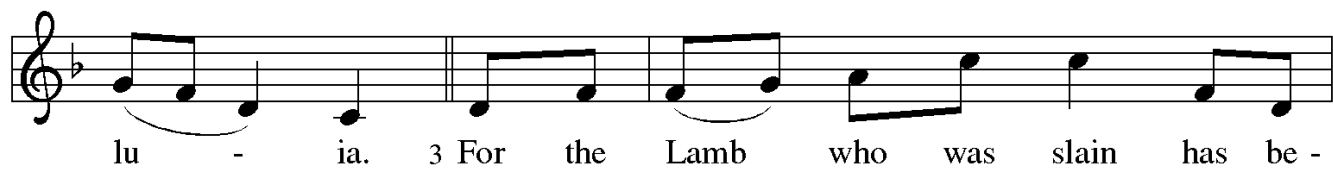
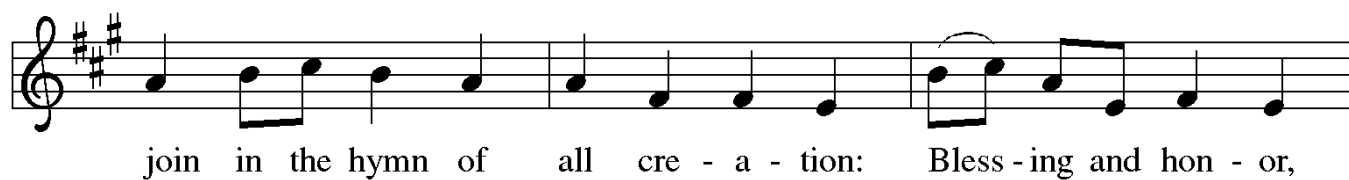
wis - dom, and strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -



lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

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P: The Lord be with you

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray

^PRAYER OF THE DAY

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
“The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm.”

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath,

a day of distress and anguish,
 a day of ruin and devastation,
 a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness,
¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
 against the fortified cities
 and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people
 that they shall walk like the blind;
 because they have sinned against the LORD,
 their blood shall be poured out like dust,
 and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold
 will be able to save them
 on the day of the LORD's wrath;
 in the fire of his passion
 the whole earth shall be consumed;
 for a full, a terrible end
 he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

PSALM 90:1-8 [9-11] 12 (*Read responsively*)

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12)

¹Lord, you have been our refuge
 from one generation to another.

²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
 from age to age you are God.**

³You turn us back to the dust and say,
 "Turn back, O children of earth."

⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past

and like a watch in the night;

⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

**⁶in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

**⁸Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;

yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?

**¹²So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day;

we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

^GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Spoken*)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

^HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th Chapter

C: Glory to you O Lord

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you

handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’²¹ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’²³ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed;²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’²⁶ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?’²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Scott Lee

^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

Response: “Your mercy is great.”

^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. Many people give electronically and we thank all growing disciples in advance for their supportive giving.

^OFFERTORY HYMN (*Solo Kathleen Schneider*)



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 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 all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. **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:

(Spoken)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might.
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Let us pray using the words as our Lord taught us:

^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: There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

C: Amen

(Solo Kathleen Schneider)

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

*All baptized Christians are welcome to share the bread and wine of **Holy Communion**. Please come forward and pick up your “Fellowship Cup”, an all-in-one wafer and juice set (the bread and wine) from the center table. The pastor says “The Body of Christ given for you.” and the assistant minister says, “The Blood of Christ shed for you.” **You may then move to the table on either side of the front aisle while maintaining social distancing.** (Hint: you may want to rest your “Fellowship Cup” on the side table to steady it). Remove your mask, open the top protective film to uncover the “body” (an unleavened wafer), place in your mouth then open the 2nd protective film to uncover the “blood” (100% grape juice) and drink. Please dispose of your cup in the receptacle provided, replace your mask and return to your seat.*

^MUSIC VOLUNTARY

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

C: Amen

(Solo Kathleen Schneider)

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry - one what God has



done. Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and lead us forth in



joy with shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

^BENEDICTION/BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

^HYMN (*Solo Kathleen Schneider*)

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

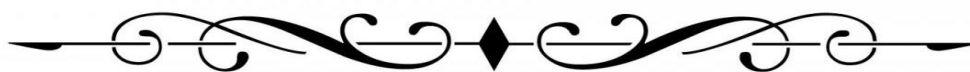
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^DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

(Please contact Fred or Vi for use of Bldg by Outside Groups)

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|----------|
| SUNDAY | Council Mtg. | 12:00 PM |
| MONDAY | Bereavement Group | 6:30 PM |
| TUESDAY | Bishop's Convocation | |
| WEDNESDAY | Bishop's Convocation | |
| THURSDAY | Bishop's Convocation | |

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. 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 **Cornucopia** will be up for the month of November to accept non-perishable food items.

Acme/Giant and 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 Alex Narcavage for details.



New Florist! We now work with a new florist, Alfred of Philadelphia located in Glenolden. The new cost for altar flowers is now \$30.00! 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!!



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.

Christmas Poinsettias! Please see one of the Altar Guild members following Sunday service beginning November 15th through Sunday, December 6th. The cost per Poinsettia plant is \$8.00 each.