

Sixteenth Sunday  
*after*  
Pentecost



September 12, 2021

**IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*

Norwood, PA ~ Phone: 610.586.5860

[www.immanuelnorwood.org](http://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.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

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

**God our comforter: like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**Amen.**

## ^OPENING HYMN

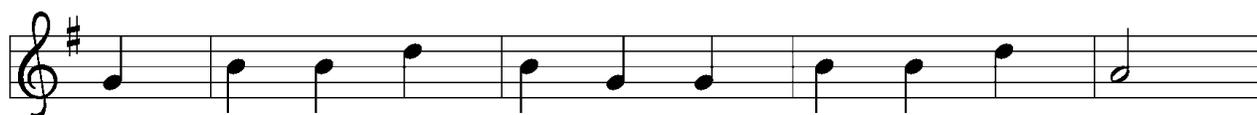
## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.  
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

**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.

## ^HYMN OF PRAISE

## This Is the Feast

*Refrain*

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

lu - ia. | 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



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or,



glo - ry and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A-men.



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



lu - ia. 3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



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



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Lord be with you

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray

## ^PRAYER OF THE DAY

**O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

*The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;

who will declare me guilty?

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

PSALM 116:1-9 (*Read responsively*)

*I will walk in the presence of the LORD. (Ps. 116:9)*

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,

and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;

I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup>**Then I called upon the name of the LORD:**

**“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

<sup>5</sup>Gracious is the LORD and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD watches over the innocent;**

**I was brought low, and God saved me.**

<sup>7</sup>Turn again to your rest, O my soul.

for the LORD has dealt well with you.

<sup>8</sup>**For you have rescued my life from death,**

**my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**

<sup>9</sup>I will walk in the presence of the LORD

in the land of the living.

## SECOND READING

James 3:1-12

*This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

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

^GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## ^HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 8th Chapter

**C: Glory to you O Lord**

*This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.*

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"

<sup>28</sup>And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." <sup>29</sup>He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

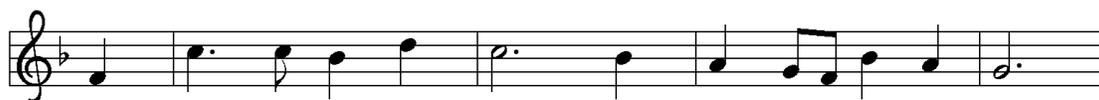
C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Scott Lee

^HYMN

### Oh, Praise the Gracious Power



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear  
 2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds  
 3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,  
 4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,  
 5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:  
 and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:  
 ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:  
 a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:  
 with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:

*Refrain*



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,  
 the love, the word, the tide.  
 Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,  
 praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*

7 Oh, praise the living Christ  
 with faith's bright songful voice!  
 Announce the gospel to the world  
 and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

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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.*)

**Response: "Hear 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. Many people give electronically and we thank all growing disciples in advance for their supportive giving.*

## ^OFFERTORY HYMN

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

### *Offering Song*

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.

## BLESSING OF THE TEACHERS/INSTALLATION CHRISTIAN ED

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## +HOLY COMMUNION+

## ^GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

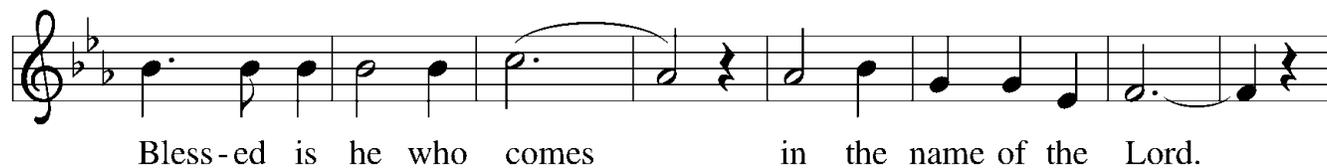
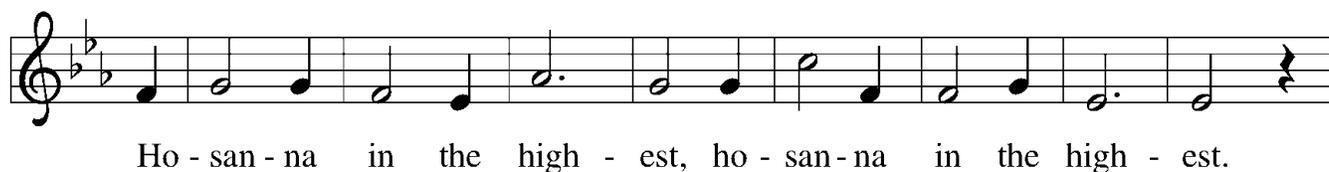
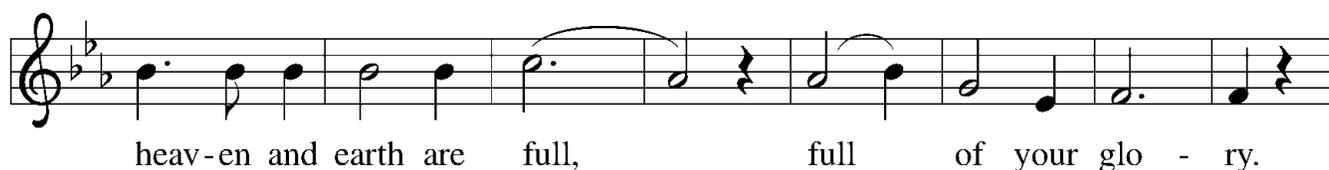
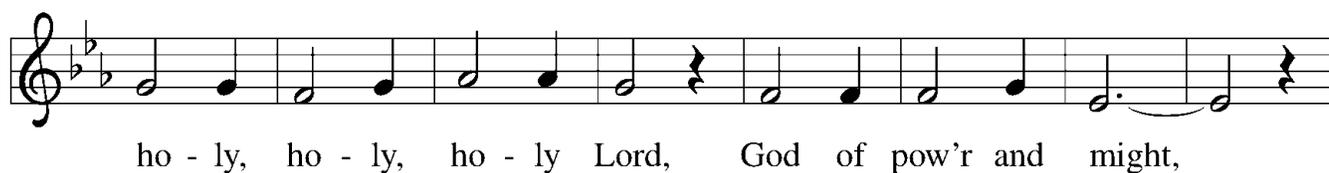
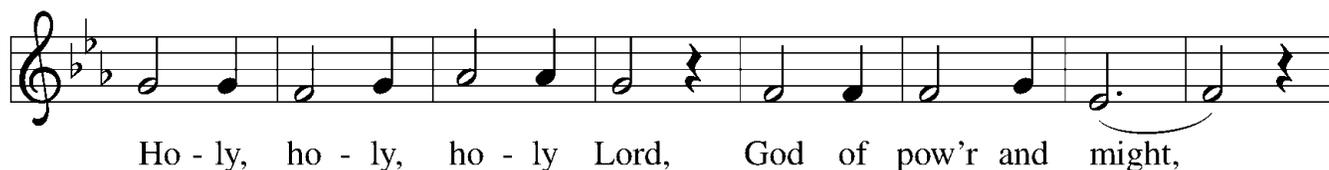
**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**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:



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:** All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

**C:** Amen

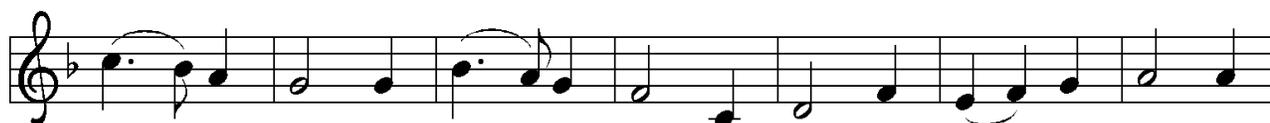
DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians are welcome to share the bread and wine of **Holy Communion**. Please pick up your communion card "Fellowship Cup", an all-in-one wafer and juice set (the bread and wine) when entering the sanctuary. The pastor says "The Body of Christ given for you." and the assistant minister says, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." (Hint: you may want to rest your "Fellowship Cup" on the pew to steady it). Open the top protective film to uncover the "body" (an unleavened wafer), place in your mouth then open the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

## Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voices 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 of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ^BENEDICTION/BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ✚ one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## ^HYMN

## Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word



- 1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.
- 2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race
- 3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,
- 4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;



Send forth our Cre - a - tor's call, heav - en's gifts ex - tend to all.  
 and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.  
 strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.  
 let the gath - 'ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.

Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.

Music: GOTT SEI DANK, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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## ^DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**Thanks be to God.**



## ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

**Weekly Activities do not reflect building use by outside groups.**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	Education Hour	10:00 AM
	W&M Mtg.	12:00 PM
	Outreach Mtg.	12:00 PM
<b>MONDAY</b>	Bereavement Group	6:30 PM

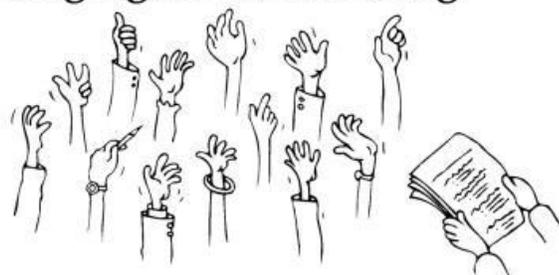
As of Sunday August 15th 2021 it is required that everyone (vaccinated and non-vaccinated) to wear a mask when entering the building for Sunday service. This includes the time while gathered in the Hospitality Area for fellowship prior to service and while seated in the sanctuary for church service.”



### **A Special Congregational Meeting to Vote on Our PPP Loan**

On **September 26th** Immanuel will hold a brief Special Congregational meeting **immediately following the 11:00 AM service**. This is required by our Constitution to vote to approve entering into a loan in excess of \$10,000.00. We have to repay the balance of \$13,136.00 plus accumulated interest. This was the amount we received from PNC which was not forgiven. There will also a “ZOOM” option for those who must attend virtually (you’ll find information for that on our website). Please plan to attend. **Thank you for your support of Immanuel! Your Resource Committee and Church Council**

### **Special Congregational Meeting**



**STOCK UP our Pantry and More!** As we begin the new school year, please remember those who may be hungry. Please bring canned goods to the church for our Pantry. We would like to collect some hearty non-perishables like canned chili, beefaroni, ravioli, peanut butter, Spam, Tuna, and soups. We will give the food to needy folks who stop by the church, maintain a supply and restock the Little Free Pantry in front of the church as well. Please provide filling and nutritious items - proteins are always appreciated. You may place items directly in the pantry box OR bring them inside to the hospitality area when you come to worship. Thanks for your support!



**American Red Cross Blood Donation Drive** has been scheduled for Monday, **October 11, 2021** from 2:00PM – 7:00 PM. The event will be held in the Social Room. All volunteers will be provided by the Red Cross. Please register online at: [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). Sponsor Code: Immanuel Lutheran or call them at 1-800-RED-CROS. A signup sheet will also be posted at the church. There is always a desperate need for blood, so sign up early to get the best time for you! ~ Contact Colleen Kelly with any questions.



**ACME** **Acme 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!** Contact Alex Narcavage for details.

The **“Borough of Norwood Community Day”** is planned to be held on Sat. **October 16th** in Norwood Lower Park. It will be a borough celebration devoted to live entertainment, fun, food, activities for the kids and celebrating Civic pride.

## Immanuel's weekly "Virtual" Bible Study to Resume in September!

After a summer break we are going to resume our virtual Bible study so that people can stay safe at home during the current Delta variant spike of the pandemic but also gather (remotely) once a week to learn more about the Bible. We are using another "Life Guide" bible study (as of this writing we are still deciding which one). All you need is your Bible and we'll provide the discussion questions when we "connect". Sessions will be led by Karl McClellan and Fred Warner. Please join us if you can!!!

Details:

**WHAT:** Weekly Bible Study

**WHEN:** Thursday nights starting **September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 from 7 to 8 pm**

**WHERE:** Zoom Meeting (Instructions on Immanuel website and on separate printout available at the church.)

**Property Needs Your Help!** At the present time Immanuel is running short on housekeeping supplies. When you do your grocery shopping



please consider picking up an item or two. Items may be placed on the card table located in the Hospitality Area. We are always in need of building/maintenance supplies and very appreciative to the congregation for your donations. Here is a

list of the items that we most often need to keep our supply cabinet full:

Paper Towels	Liquid Dishwashing Detergent
Window Cleaner	Liquid Hand Soap
Hand Moisturizer	Facial Tissue (Kleenex)
Furniture Polish	Bleach
Pine-Sol	Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Trash Bags (33 to 45 gallon and 13 to 15 gallon size)	



**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.

**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.

**HELP SUPPORT  
IMMANUEL!**

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