

Fifteenth Sunday  
*after*  
Pentecost



September 13, 2020

**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  
**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, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

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

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

## ^OPENING HYMN (*Solo Kathleen Schneider*)

### Just As I Am, without One Plea



- 1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,  
 2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not to rid my soul of one dark blot,  
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y\_a con - flict, man - y\_a doubt,  
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es, heal - ing of the mind,



and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
 to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
 fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 yea, all I need in thee to find,

- 5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
 wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
 because thy promise I believe,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; thy love unknown  
 has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
 now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

**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

*Refrain*

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.

*Refrain*

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.

*Refrain*



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.

*Final refrain*



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

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

**O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

*After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.*

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

PSALM 103:[1-7] 8-13 (*Read responsively*)

*LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)*

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

<sup>2</sup>**Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all God's benefits**

<sup>3</sup>who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases;

<sup>4</sup>**who redeems your life from the grave  
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

<sup>5</sup>who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

**<sup>6</sup>O LORD, you provide vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup>You made known your ways to Moses  
and your works to the children of Israel.

**<sup>8</sup>LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

<sup>9</sup>you will not always accuse us,  
nor will you keep your anger forever.

**<sup>10</sup>You have not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

<sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

**<sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west,  
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

<sup>13</sup>As a father has compassion for his children,  
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

## SECOND READING

Romans 14:1-12

*This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat,

eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." <sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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 18<sup>th</sup> Chapter

**C: Glory to you O Lord**

*When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.*

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"

<sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the



reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

Pastor Scott Lee

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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

**Response: "Hear our prayer."**

## ^PEACE

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

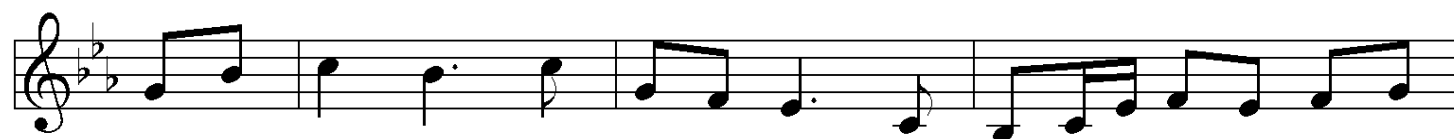
**C:** And also with you.

**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 (*Solo Kathleen Schneider*)



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. 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

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, 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:

*(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 the 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:** Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

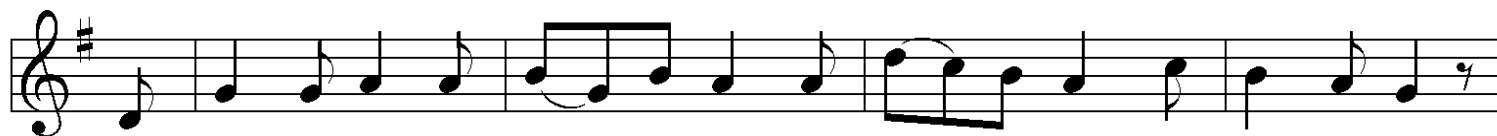
**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C:** Amen

*(Solo Kathleen Schneider)*



**☪ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.**



**Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.**



**He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy**



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

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ^BENEDICTION/BLESSING

Mothering God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

^HYMN (*Solo Kathleen Schneider*)

## O Christ, Our Hope



1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's might - y  
 2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den of our  
 3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som has been  
 4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us of our



Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by  
 sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to  
 paid; you now as - cend the Fa - ther's throne in  
 pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by



ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:  
 make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.  
 robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.  
 mer - cy pur - i - fied, by mer - cy pur - i - fied.

5 Christ Jesus, be our present joy,  
 our future great reward;  
 our only glory, may it be  
 to glory in the Lord!

6 All praise to you, ascended Lord;  
 all glory ever be  
 to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
 through all eternity!

## ^DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

**(NA Bldg Use – Sat/Sun/Wed. – 7 PM)**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	Baptism	12:30 PM
<b>MONDAY</b>	Bereavement Group	6:30 PM

**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.

**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.





**American Red Cross Blood Donation Drive** has been scheduled for **Monday, October 12, 2020** from 2:00PM – 7:00 PM. The event will be



held in the Social Room. It's not too early to mark your calendar and get your appointment. Please register online at: [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). Sponsor Code: Immanuel Lutheran or call them at **1-800-733-2767**. If you need help please see Colleen

Kelly. It takes about an hour from beginning to end and it is so important. Sign yourself up and encouraged friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers to do the same.

**PRAISE HIM WITH STRINGED INSTRUMENTS AND FLUTES!  
PRAISE HIM WITH LOUD CYMBALS!  
LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BREATH PRAISE THE LORD!**

*Psalm 150*

Immanuel Lutheran's Praise Group is in its infancy and could use more musicians. We would like to expand to include you if you have been thinking about getting back to that instrument that is sitting in the closet. Or maybe you have been thinking of learning to play. Now is the perfect time to begin!



Beginners are welcome too! Or spend the next few months practicing until our church can resume full capacity worship. We could use tambourine and maraca players too. Music makers of all ages are welcome and encouraged.

Please email me with your questions and concerns. I can help you get started!

Kathleen Schneider, Music Director ~ [kathleenmusic88@verizon.net](mailto:kathleenmusic88@verizon.net)



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# REOPENING INFORMATION

## BEFORE worship Details

- To add to the prayer list, call the church office. The secretary will compile the list and leave it for use on Sunday.
- To add written announcements to the bulletin, contact the church office by end of day Monday for the following Sunday.
- Announcements will be made only by the Pastor. Provide your announcement (with full wording) to the church office. The secretary will provide a document with all announcements to the Pastor.

## 11:00 am LIVE and on-site WORSHIP DETAILS - INFO for attendance at the CHURCH

- **You MUST wear a mask. Please do not remove them while in the building.** There will be supplies at church if you do not have one to bring.
- We may be testing temperatures on the way into the church.
- We will be taking attendance as you enter, so that contact tracing can be done if anyone gets sick.
- We will be asking you to sign a waiver acknowledging your risk of exposure to COVID 19.
- We will not have any cards, envelopes, pencils, papers, cushions or tissue boxes in the pews.
  - We will not use communion cards for the immediate future. If you are concerned about being on record for communion, call the church office during the week and Vi will record your communion.
  - Any cushions that are currently on a pew will be relocated to the shelf above the coat rack. Collect your cushion to use during worship and return it at the close of worship.

- Tissue boxes will also be placed on the coat rack shelf. Collect yours as necessary.
- We will have volunteers at the Chester Pike entrance to screen and take attendance. We will not be leaving the handicapped entry unlocked...but if you need to enter there, please have someone in your party let the greeters know at the Chester Pike entry. They will meet you to admit you at the Winona entrance.
- **Please bring hand sanitizer with you.**
- After the service everyone will be expected to leave immediately. Any socialization will need to take place out of doors, maintaining physical distancing.

### INFO for attendance via Phone or Internet

- Please go to Facebook or our Immanuel website at [www.immanuelnorwood.org](http://www.immanuelnorwood.org) for the most up to date information on how to view our weekly Worship Service virtually.

### SUPPORT IMMANUEL BY SHOPPING AT BOSCOV'S!



The graphic features a red background. On the left is the Boscov's logo with a yellow heart shape and the text "Boscov's really FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS" and "better than ever!". To the right is a photo of two smiling women. Below the photo is a black box with "2 BIG DAYS" in yellow. At the bottom, it says "OCTOBER 14TH AND 15TH, 2020 - 9AM TO 9PM -".

Friends Helping Friends Days is back and expanded to 2 Days to avoid crowds and allow social distancing to keep you safe and comfortable!

**How it works:** Shop Boscov's **in-store or**

**online October 14th & 15th 9am-9pm.** Shoppers get 20% off our lowest sale prices. \*10% discount items and exclusions apply. Boscov's Donates 5% back to a non-profit of your choice! **Select Immanuel Lutheran Church from the list of pre-registered organizations at the register in-store or during checkout online.**