



Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 6, 2025

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

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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One, **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

As We Gather at Your Table



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
 3 Gra-cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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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 (*Repeated*)

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

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

P: The Lord be with you

C:And also with you.

P: Let us pray

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶ Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

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

Psalm**Psalm 126**

¹ When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.”**

³ The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

⁴ **Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

⁵ Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

SECOND READING**Philippians 3:4b-14**

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his

sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus..

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



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

^HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John 12th chapter

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Scott Lee

HYMN OF THE DAY^

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



- 1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness;
- 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un - chang - ing grace;
- 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
- 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



no mer - it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 in ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 when all sup - ports are washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 clothed in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain

On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.

Music: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

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.)*

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Installation of 2025 Council Members

^PEACE

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


C: And also with you.

P: Let us share a sign of peace with one another, as you feel comfortable.

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, 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 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

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **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:


Holy, Holy, Holy
Santo, santo, santo



San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,



. . . lle-nos es-tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.
your glo - ry fills all heav-en and earth. . . You are ho - ly, God.



Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . .
. . . Bless - ed be the Sav - ior, the one who comes in your name.



Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to - e - res, oh Dios.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

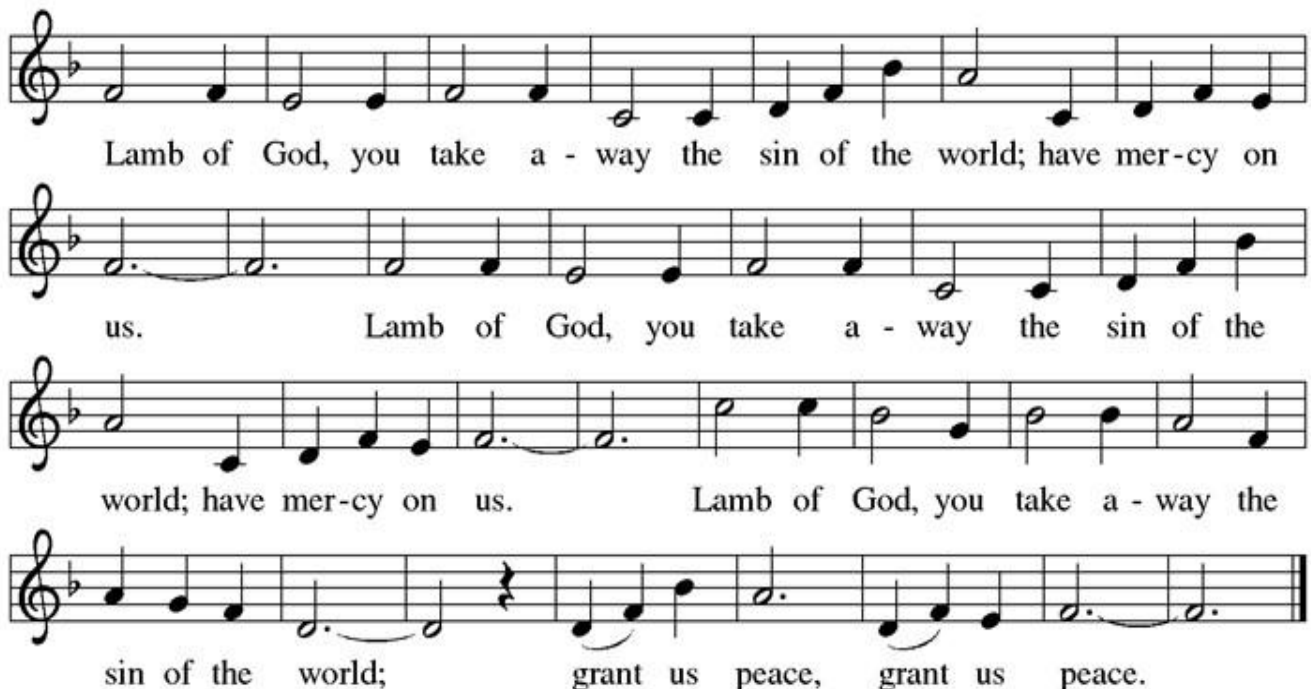
WORDS OF INSTITUTION *In the night he was betrayed...*

LORD'S PRAYER

**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:. The table is ready come and eat **C:** Amen



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 *(By Intinction)*

*All baptized Christians are welcome to share the bread and wine of **Holy Communion**. After it is placed in your hand, dip your wafer in the wine (silver chalice) or grape juice (ceramic chalice). Sign a communion card from the pew rack 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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy



hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

^BENEDICTION/BLESSING

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN

As the Sun with Longer Journey



1 As the sun with long - er jour - ney melts the win - ter's snow and ice,
2 Through the days of wait - ing, watch - ing, in the des - ert of our sin,
3 Praise be giv - en to the mak - er of the sea - sons' year - ly round:



with its slow - ly grow - ing ra - diancance warms the seed be - neath the earth,
search - ing on the far ho - ri - zon for a sign of cloud or wind,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it—Source, Sus - tain - er, Lord of life,



may the sun of Christ's up - ris - ing gent - ly bring our hearts to life.
we a - wait the heal - ing wa - ters of our Sav - ior's vic - to - ry.
as the ev - er turn - ing a - ges roll to their e - ter - nal rest.

Text: John Patrick Earls, OSB, b. 1935

Music: NAGEL, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**



As a Reconciling in Christ Congregation, Immanuel Lutheran Church commits to celebrating the love of God with ALL

people as we are all made in God's image. We are committed to racial equity in our congregation, community, and country. 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.

Welcome Visitors! We are very glad you are with us today! It is a privilege to have you share our worship service. Please take a moment to fill out the Visitor Guest Book located at the top of the steps at our Chester Pike entrance. If you have any questions please ask any of the members, we'll be happy to help. Check out www.immanuelnorwood.org or our Facebook page. **Thanks for being with us!**



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!



NO HEALING SERVICE HELD IN APRIL.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Weekly Activities do not reflect building use by outside groups.

SUNDAY	Choir Practice	9:15AM
SUNDAY	Worship	11:00 PM
SUNDAY	Worship and Music Committee Meeting	12:00PM
MONDAY	Bible Study (In person at St. Matthew)	9:00 AM
	Bible Study (<i>Zoom</i>)	7:00 PM
TUESDAY	Resource Council Meeting	2:00PM
TUESDAY	Candy Making	6:00PM
WEDNESDAY	Lenten Dinner Church	5:30 pm
SATURDAY	Clean Up Day	9:00AM

Date	Lector	Worship Assistant	Acolyte	Ushers
Apr 6	K. Duke	M.Horne-Onimus	E. Enriquez	E. Enriquez D. McClellan
Apr 13	D. McClellan	K. McClellan	M. Stewart	
Apr 20	J. Morrison	J. Kintsche		
Apr 27	K. Dukes	K..McClellan		



February Income	\$8780
February Expenses	\$7975

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 coupons. Help us help our church!** See Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus for details.

Half Century Fellowship Lunch Group ~ Pack lunch and join us the third Thursday of each month at noon downstairs in the hospitality basement, at church for good company, conversation and fellowship. Please use the Chester Pike entrance.



Lenten Services

Lenten Dinner Church Wednesday Evenings at 5:30 pm We share worship with other Delaware County Lutheran Churches. All are welcome to any or all these joint worship services. We will experience Dinner Church. The service will incorporate our evening meal including communion. Dinner will be a simple one dish meal, with the menu varying from church to church. The combined meal/worship will take about one hour, beginning at 5:30pm. This year's theme is *Bread of Life*, and our offerings will be given to the *Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry*.

Date	Location	Speaker
4/9	St. John, 1500 Glen Ave, Folcroft	Pr. McNamara

Virtual Bible Study. Bible study is held from 7:00 – 8:00 pm on Monday nights in Lent. All you need is your Bible, and we'll provide the discussion questions when we "connect." Sessions are led by Karl McClellan and Fred Warner. Please join us if you can, by computer or by audio on your phone. The details about how to join are on our website and in the monthly newsletter.



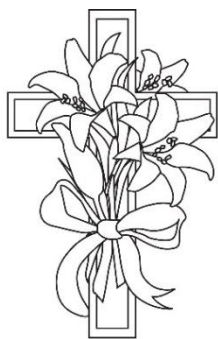
Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting

Sunday April 13th at 12:00 We need your input and help! See/contact Jeanne Warner for further details.

Tree in front of the Church is Gone!

We had our yew tree (on the parking lot side of the front door) fall during the March windstorms. A big thank you to our Property Committee for working with Jakes Tree Service to remove it. This unexpected cost was \$1000. If you would like to help with this just place your donation in an envelope and mark it “For the Tree”. **Thanks again for all you do!**

New Heating Oil Season is here! Our mascot for our Heating Oil campaign, **Lu the Firefly** from Vacation Bible School taught us about communication. Lu is asking that our members do their best to contribute monthly a little extra using **the OIL envelopes you’ll find at the BRIGHT YELLOW Heating Oil Campaign poster board** located in the Hospitality area.



Easter Plants Today is the last day to order plants. Flowers will be hyacinths and tulips for \$8.00 each. There are envelopes in which you may place your order in the hospitality area. Please place your orders in the offering plate or give them directly to Jean Crane.

Easter Candy Making/Sale

It's that time again! Come and join for the delicious smell. and stay to help make the candy that all love! Each Tuesday until Palm Sunday in the kitchen at 6pm.

Forms for orders are due by April 6. Candy will be available on April 13.



PRE EASTER-CLEAN UP DAY

Clean up day at Church will be held on Saturday, April 12th from 9AM – 12:00PM. Avoiding your own spring cleaning? Come help at Immanuel with others and accomplish some for your community! Contact Fred Warner for details.



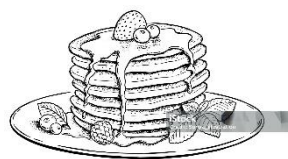
Easter Egg Hunt

This year's Easter Egg Hunt will take place on April 19th at 11:00AM on the front lawn. Please bring your little ones for a truly memorable time!



Easter Morning Breakfast Sunday April 20, 2025 at 9:30 AM

Bring your family and have breakfast with your Immanuel family!



Scrambled Eggs
Linked Sausage
Pancakes
Fellowship

Bring a dessert!! See sign-up sheet in hospitality area. Please contact Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus with any questions.



Work Breakfast!

Join us , Saturday, May 17th from 8:30 – 10:30 AM in the hospitality basement for a meal and fellowship followed by a time work on various projects around the church. All ages are welcome! Please contact Pastor Lee for further questions.