

7th Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us (local waters may be named).

Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

GATHERING HYMN

Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness




call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,




stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.




then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing;
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.

Refrain

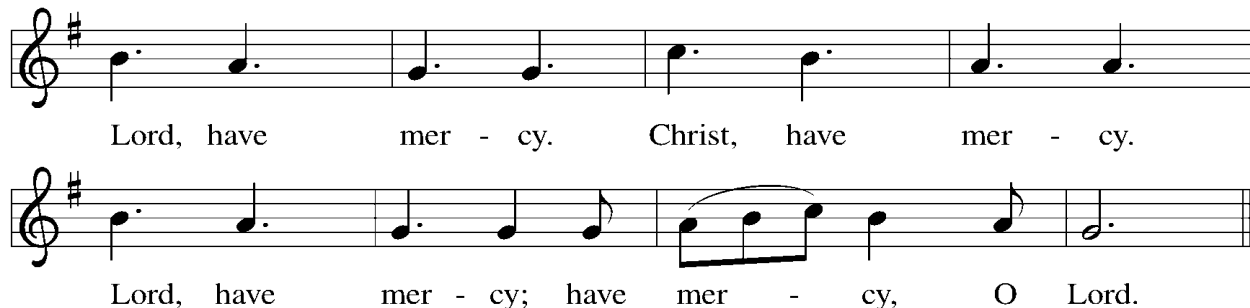


"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes,
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

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. Christ, have mer - cy.

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

^HYMN OF PRAISE (*Verses 1&2*)

God of Promise, Let These Signs of Grace

Refrain



God of prom - ise, let these signs of grace
kin - dle in our hearts a song of praise.

1	Life - giv - ing wa - ter	soak - ing our dry - ness,
2	Word of pro - claim - ing,	breath on the wa - ter,
3	Oil of a - noint - ing,	fra - grant with pow - er,
4	Bright light of Eas - ter	cleav - ing the dark - ness,
5	Robe of a - dop - tion	grow - ing God's fam - 'ly,

drown - ing our sin each day, mak - ing us new—
plant - ing your prom - ise— the voice from a - bove:
nam - ing us ho - ly while hold - ing our pain—
shin - ing up - on and with - in us to - day—
wrap - ping our bro - ken - ness in the di - vine—

Refrain

mer - cy come stream - ing from you.
"This is my child, my be - loved."
mark of the life that we gain.
bea - con of hope on the way.
love be - come sym - bol and sign.

P: The Lord be with you

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray

^PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs

where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

Psalm

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

2 As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

4 Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I Am is that name, rejoice before God!

5 In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

6 you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.

7 O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

8 the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

9 You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

10 Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

32 Sing to God, O kingdoms | of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

33 You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.

34 Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

35 How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel, giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!

SECOND READING

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

^GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!

^HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John , the 17th Chapter

C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father,

protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Lee

^HYMN

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day - to - day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast,
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

^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.)*
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

^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 do not 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

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. 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 Him 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.

(first verse only)

Lamb of God
Your Only Son

336



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The table is ready, come and eat.

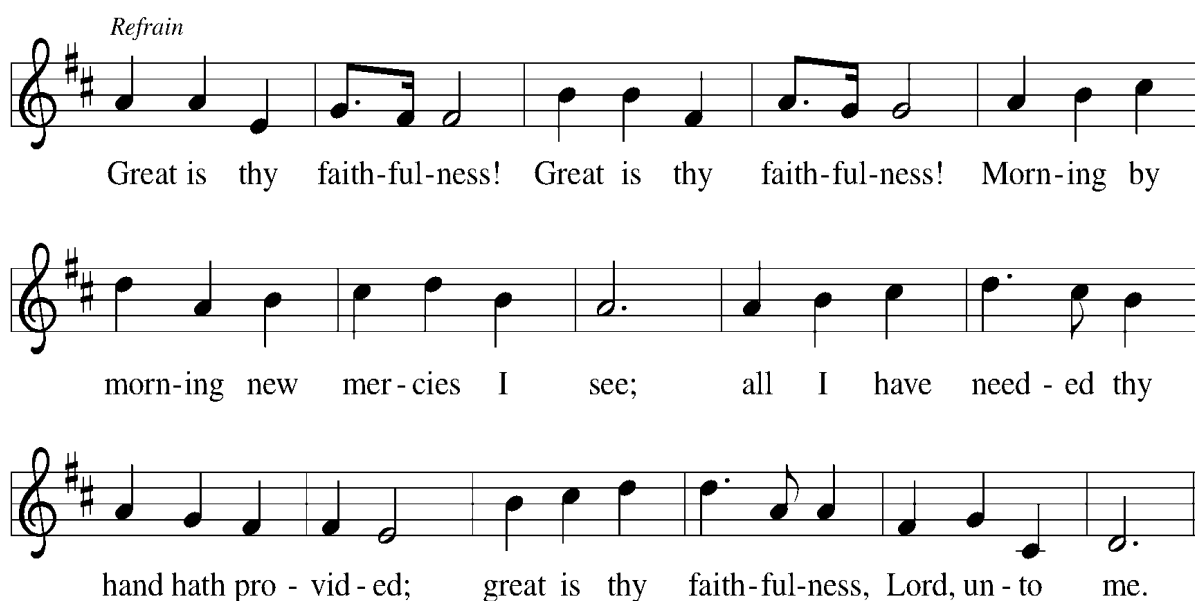
C: Amen

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.*

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

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

^BENEDICTION/BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen**

^HYMN

Thine the Amen



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be
 3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest
 4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread
 thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee
 thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be
 thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways
 thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



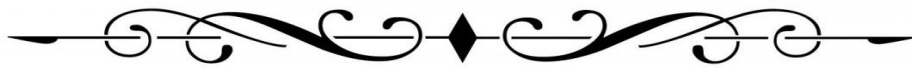
thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

^DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**



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. 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 extremely 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 will be happy to help. Check out www.immanuelnorwood.org or our Facebook page.



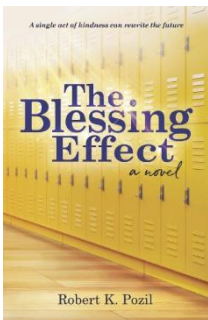
Supporting IMMANUEL's Mission with Our Generosity.

We have three 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!



SUMMER READING

Are you looking for a summer reading book? Sunday morning Bible Study group is recommending The Blessing Effect: A Single Act of Kindness Can Rewrite the Future by Robert K. Pozil.. Please join us in September when we will discuss the book. Have a great summer! For more info see Jeanne Warner.



ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Weekly Activities do not reflect building use by outside groups.

SUNDAY	Education Hour	10:00 AM
	Worship	11:00AM
	Council Meeting	12:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	Bible Study (<i>Zoom</i>)	7:00 PM

Date	Lector	Worship Assistant	Greeters	Acolytes
May 17	K. Dukes	J. Kintsche		
May 24		J. Kintsche	J.Crane	
May 31		K. McClellan	B. Funk	M. Stewart



April Income - \$11,622
April Expenses - \$11,186

***Diakon** (a social service of our local SEPA Synod) assists families (referred by Children and Youth Services) in providing adequate care for their children. They also facilitate the reunification of families when children return from foster care. The Outreach Committee has provided a bin in the hospitality area for donations to their work. Donations of new or very gently used baby and children's clothing and baby supplies (but not diapers, they have a source for that) would be gratefully accepted.

Half Century Lunch will be held on Thursday May 21st at 12:00PM. Come and join for fellowship and good conversation- BYOL! **This is our last meeting till September!**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be here before we know it!! Aug 10th -14th, 9:00AM-11:30AM. You can be a part of the excitement. We do need more helpers to make this year a success. This year's program is *Snowball Mountain Challenge*. **Ollie** will lead us through the week. If you're able to help out this year, please see Jeanne Warner.



AC for sanctuary and HVAC project has started!

Our HVAC Project to upgrade the AC and investigate the replacement of our boilers has started! We used some of our investment funds and took a loan from ELCA's Mission Investment Fund for \$10,000. to pay for Phase #1: the AC. Please see the display in the Hospitality area for more information and how you can help. See Karl McClellan or Fred Warner for even more details. **Thank you for support!**



TEE SHIRTS! It's time to order new tee shirts for us to share our loyalty to our congregation and to identify us as members for public events! The tee shirts will be available in unisex sizes from **extra small to Triple X Large**. They will be bright red (like the typical doors of a Lutheran Church) with white lettering and the Reconciling in Christ full color logo on the left sleeve. Cost will be **\$18 per shirt**, and orders will be due **no later than May 31**. We expect to have the new shirts in time for the Norwood 4th of July Parade. There are forms on the hospitality table to place your orders. **Payment will be collected upon delivery in June.**



LGBTQ PARADE



Immanuel will be supporting the **Media LGBTQI+ Pride Parade: June 6 from 12 – 2** in two ways. For those who would like to march: Reformation Lutheran will include us in their marching group. Contact **Joyce (610-506-5387)** for details of when and where to meet. Details are pending at this time.

For those who choose not to walk in the parade, we will try to establish a watching location at the SE corner of Olive and State Sts. in front of La Belle Epoque. This is two blocks from the parking garage at Baltimore Ave and Olive St. Plan to meet there no later than 11:00 am. Let Joyce know that you plan to be there so we can attempt to save enough space. We will have the church banner at this location if we have at least four “watchers.” If we cannot make ourselves fit right there, we’ll try to be as close as possible. Call Joyce at 610-506-5387 if you cannot find us.