

Celebration Sunday



IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Manitowoc, Wisconsin

May 9-12, 2024

Welcome

Thanks for being here! We truly pray that today you find the warmth of our Christian hospitality, the powerful truth of God's Word and the peace-giving assurance of his promises. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. We hope you worship with us again!

If Immanuel Is New to You:

Relax. At Immanuel, our worship is designed to praise God and enrich faith. We aim to make the service clear and appropriately reverent. For your convenience, the service is printed for you here as well as displayed on our screens.

Bring the kids. Our congregation really loves and encourages the worshiping family – there is no better way for them to learn how to listen and pray than by bringing them to church! So, if your children are acting up, please know it's never a bother to our worship service. However, if you're concerned your fellow worshipers are being distracted and you'd like a place to calm a restless little one, our lobby area with screens and audio might allow you to continue your worship with us.

Restrooms are located in the lobby, just to the right of the elevator.

Make yourself at home. You don't have to rush off after the service today. Light refreshments are typically provided in our lobby after the 8:00 am service. If you are comfortable, feel free to follow up with one of our Pastors - we'd be honored if you would take the time to introduce yourself!

Don't feel obligated. Our members give financial offerings to the Lord as an expression of thanks and praise for his amazing love. Please know that you are our guests and we're simply happy you've come to hear about Jesus and his Word today. You're not expected to give an offering; it's your choice.

Cell phones. To remove as many distractions as possible from worshipping God today, we kindly ask that you silence your phone before the service.

Questions? If you'd like to know more about our church or our beliefs, or have questions about our PreK thru 8th grade school, feel free to contact our pastors or principal at any time (*contact info included on the announcement insert*). You may also browse the information counter in our lobby for magazines, brochures and devotional resources.



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN

Celebrating God's Faithfulness

Silent Prayer Before Worship

Gracious God, as I come to your house on this special day, open my ears to hear your Word, open my heart to love you and all people, and open my lips to praise and worship your holy name. Gives me eyes to see the tremendous gifts you give to your Church through your blessing of Word and Sacraments, and move me to respond with a life of thankful love. Bless our worship today, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Our Opening – from Isaiah 12

(refrain from CW 810)

PASTOR: We begin our worship without fear and with every confidence in the name of the God who saves –

CONG: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Surely God is our salvation;

We will trust and not be afraid!

(sung) **Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior...**

The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song;

he has become my salvation.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. In that day you will say: "Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done..."

...and proclaim that HIS name is exalted.

Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things;

let this be known to all the world.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,

for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

(sung) **Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior...**

(we pray) Surely, O God, we have no power to defend ourselves. It is only to you that we turn for protection from all physical and spiritual danger – from the things that *may* hurt our bodies, but more importantly, those that *will* hurt our souls. And it's our very own sin that most hurts our souls. So we confess the depth of our depravity to you...

Merciful Father, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

Fellow believers, your heavenly Father has FORGIVEN all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of Jesus, your Savior, he has removed your guilt forever. That ensures you are his own dear children. May God give you the strength to live according to his will.

It is God alone who has saved us! Amen!

(sung) **Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior!**

God's Word – 1 John 5:1-6

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. ² This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³ In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ⁴ for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. ⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

Our Profession of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Message from God’s Word – John 17:11-19

¹¹ Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. ¹³ “I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴ I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵ My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

Things I’d like to remember this week...

Jesus Prays FOUR Things for You

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Our Confidence – “Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense”

(CW 446:1,3)



ilutheran.org/give

Offerings of Thanks

If you are visiting today, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. Our church family joyfully gives these gifts as one of the many ways we can say “thank you” to Jesus. You are here as our guest



ilutheran.org/imhere

God Deserves Our Praise – “Praise to the Lord”

(CW 624:1,2)

Celebrating God's Generosity

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people. (Luke 1:68)

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests. (Luke 2:14)

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. (Luke 1:51-53)

Our eyes have seen his salvation, which he prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to his people Israel. (Lk 2:30-32)

[Jesus], being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! (Php. 2:6-8)

Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb. (Rv. 7:10)

God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under



the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *(Php. 2:9-11)*

Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise! *(Rev. 5:12)*

On this special day of celebration, we also thank you for the gift of our mothers. Even for those whose mom is missing today or to those you simply blessed with a woman who took on the role of mom in place of a poor one, you knew we would need her, planned for us to be blessed by her, and have given us splendid human examples of selflessness and unconditional love. Which only leads us to praise you all the more. So great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the ages. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed. *(Rev. 15:3-4)*

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! To him be the glory forever! *(Romans 11:33)*

Our Grateful Praise – “Praise to the Lord”

(CW 624:3,4)

The Ascension of Jesus Christ – Luke 24:44-53

PASTOR: ⁴⁴ He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you:

CONG: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

⁴⁶ He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

⁴⁸ **You are witnesses of these things.**



⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” ⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them.

⁵¹ **While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven.**

⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

⁵³ **And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.**

God’s Blessing

Our Closing Praise - “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

(CW 472:1,5)

Silent Prayer – *feel free to use this silent prayer of thanks*

Lord Jesus, King of glory, you ascended far above the heavens, and at God’s right hand you rule the nations. We pray that you would always stay with us and continue to rule our hearts and lives by your powerful Word. Continue to watch over us and intercede for us at the throne of your Father. And grant us the Spirit of truth, so that at your command, and by your power, we may be your witnesses in all the world. We pray this in your name, dear Jesus. Amen.



Musician: Ann Wilson

Worship Leader: Pastor Matt Zimpelmann