

A Kingdom Living in the World



Welcome to Immanuel!

“Leading our neighbors to the joy of salvation in Jesus Christ and building up one another in faith through Word and Sacrament.”

A Note to Visitors

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church! We are glad you are worshipping with us today. We invite you to register your attendance using the cards located in the pews and to place them in the offering plate as it is passed. If you would like more information about Immanuel, please stop by the welcome table in the lobby.

Immanuel Lutheran Church serves the greater Bell County area with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are celebrating 100 years of faithful commitment to Christian worship, education, mission, and service.

We hope you join us for worship again soon!

Connect with Us!

Want more info about Immanuel? Scan this QR code and provide your contact information so we can connect with you!



A Note to Parents

We believe children are God’s children too, which means they are as much a part of the church as everyone else. Therefore, children of all ages are always welcome in the worship service.

However, we completely understand that kids can get restless during the service, and we understand the challenges of getting children accustomed to being in the service the whole time. We want to assist you in helping your children learn to participate in a meaningful way. We offer these opportunities for children to participate in service, and for them to take breaks when needed:

Children’s Message | Children are invited to come forward for a brief message of teaching and prayer. Parents are welcome to accompany small children as needed. *(Offered every other Sunday)*

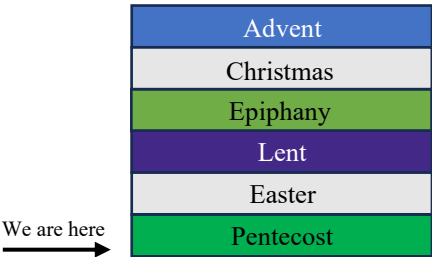
Nursery | When parents need a place for their children during worship, a children’s room is available down the main hallway on the left.

Nursing Mom’s Corner | Available inside the nursery.

About the Liturgical Season of Pentecost

The Season of Pentecost begins with the Day (or Feast) of Pentecost, marking the end of the 50-day season of Easter. On Pentecost, we remember the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Christ’s apostles, bestowing them with power and strength and enabling them to proclaim the Gospel in a variety of languages. Red adorns our sanctuary for the Day of Pentecost as a reminder of the power of this day. The rest of the season is marked by green, a neutral color that encourages us to maintain our faith during this, our longest church season.

The Church Year



Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2026 | 10:30am

During the service,
congregation reads
the **bold** font.

The sign of the cross
may be made by all
in remembrance of
their Baptism.

Please share your
attendance with us
by filling out the
attendance card
and placing it in the
offering plate. Any
prayer requests or
feedback may be
written on the back.

Family Worship

♪ Come Now is the Time to Worship

Chorus:

Come, now is the time to worship.

Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come, just as you are to worship.

Come, just as you are, before your God. Come.

1. One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God.

One day ev'ry knee will bow.

Still, the greatest treasure remains for those

Who gladly choose You now. *Chorus*

2. Willingly we choose to surrender our lives.

Willingly our knees will bow.

With all our heart, soul, mind, and strength

We gladly choose You now. *Chorus*

Welcome and Invocation

We have come to worship the one true God,

In the Name of the Father, **Who created us.**

In the Name of Jesus Christ, **Who redeemed us.**

In the Name of the Holy Spirit, **Who sanctifies us.**

Glory be to You, O God, **the Savior of all, forever and ever. Amen.**

When we speak the creed, we declare together the basics of our faith, as a summary of Biblical teaching about the Triune God, the Church, our resurrection, and life eternal.

The Prayers of the Day are ancient, some more than 1500 years old. In these carefully crafted prayers, we lift up our voices together, making our appeal to our heavenly Father, carrying our most basic needs before the heavenly throne.

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

Prayer of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

♪ Speak O Lord

**3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your Church is built,
And the earth is filled with Your glory.**

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:

²“I will go before you
and level the exalted places,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and the hoards in secret places,
that you may know that it is I, the Lord,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I name you, though you do not know me.

⁵I am the Lord, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not know me,

⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me;
I am the Lord, and there is no other.

⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make well-being and create calamity,
I am the Lord, who does all these things.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading – 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about

anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

♪ What Can I Give Him

What can I give Him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wiseman I would do my part;

Yet what can I give Him? Give Him my heart.

Today's Message

A Kingdom Living in the World

Confessing our Sins and Receiving God's Forgiveness

Holy and righteous God, merciful Father, we confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved You above all things nor our neighbor as ourselves, and we are worthy, therefore, to be cast away from Your presence, if You were to judge us according to our sins. But You have promised, O heavenly Father, to receive with tender mercy all sinners who

*See the back of the
bulletin for space for
sermon notes*

Everything we have is a gift from God. In thanksgiving for His grace in Christ Jesus, we joyfully give from what He has entrusted to us. Together, our offerings support the ministry of Immanuel, share the Gospel with our neighbors, and care for those in need. Thank you for your faithful giving in support of this ministry.

Online offerings may be given by following the QR code found below and on the giving card in the pew. The card may then be placed in the offering plate



turn to You and, with living faith, seek refuge in Your Fatherly compassion and in the merits of the Savior Jesus Christ. Their transgressions You will not take into account, nor will You hold their sins against them.

Relying upon Your promise, we confidently pray that You would be merciful and gracious to us and forgive us all our sins, to the praise and glory of Your holy Name.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake, God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, Who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Announcements

Offerings of Thanksgiving

♪ You're Worthy of My Praise

**1. I will worship, with all of my heart,
I will praise You, with all of my strength.
I will seek You, all of my days,
I will follow, I will follow Your ways.**

Chorus:

***I will give You all my worship,
I will give you all my praise.
You alone I long to worship,
You alone are worthy of my praise.***

We stand for prayer.

**2. I will bow down, hail You as King,
I will serve You, give You ev'rything,
I will lift up my eyes to Your throne,
I will trust You, trust You alone. Chorus 2X**

Prayer and Petitions

After each petition:

...Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, thank You for Your Church, redeemed by the blood of Jesus. Through Baptism, You have made us members of His body and given us new life. Keep our hearts from trusting in anything above You. When our faith is questioned or ridiculed, strengthen us to trust Your promises and look forward to Jesus' return, knowing that HE rescues us from the judgment to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our salvation, You work through Your Word in power and in the Holy Spirit. Strengthen leaders of the Church for the work that you have set before them. Deepen the faith of all who hear, and help us serve others in love and remain firm in the hope You give. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Faithful Father, You make Your salvation known throughout the world. Bless parents as they teach their children Your Word and show them what it means to follow Jesus. Help families grow in faith together, trusting in You alone and rejoicing in Your faithful care. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, as we render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto You what is Yours, help us to acknowledge that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given by You. Grant wisdom to our leaders, vigilance to our protectors and compassion to those who care for us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, You made heaven and earth, and You are our help in every trouble. Care for [_____ and] all who are sick,

suffering or facing difficult days. Protect them, provide the care they need, and strengthen them with the assurance of Your presence and love. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of life, comfort all who mourn the death of loved ones. Turn their hearts to Jesus and His victory over death. Assure them that those who die in Christ will rise to eternal life on the Last Day. Help us live each day trusting in Your promises, so that we may face death with confidence and hope. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

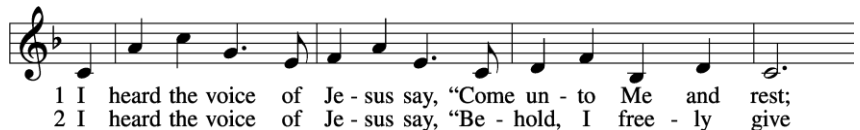
Heavenly Father, keep us firm in faith until the day of Christ's return. When we grow weary, strengthen us. When we are afraid, remind us of Your promises. Bring us, together with all who have died in Christ, into the joy of Your eternal presence, where we will praise You forever; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

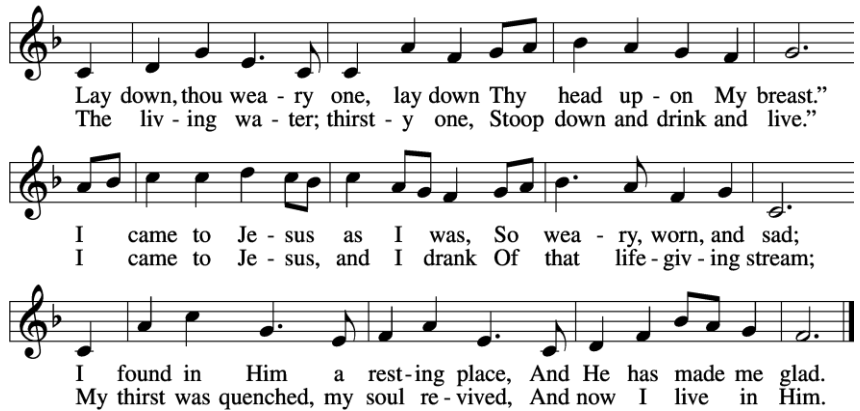
Lord's Prayer

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 the evil one. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

♪ I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

LSB 699





Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up - on My breast.”
The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down and drink and live.”

I came to Je - sus as I was, So wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of that life - giv - ing stream;

I found in Him a rest - ing place, And He has made me glad.
My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in Him.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only begotten Son to die for us, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Help us now, we pray, according to Your steadfast Word, to examine our lives honestly, finding that sinners like us need a Savior, so that we do not eat the body or drink the blood in an unworthy manner nor sin against the body and blood of the Lord.

Grant also we pray, by the power of Your Spirit, a heart and mind to discern the body of Christ in this Supper, that we may not eat or drink judgment on ourselves, but instead, find in Jesus the promised Savior Who offers the forgiveness of sins and invites us to, *“Taste and see that the Lord is good.” Amen.*

The Words of Jesus

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My $\times$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

These “Words of Institution” tell us what the gift is and what its benefits are: His true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. The pastor speaks, but the Words are Christ’s.

If this is not your confession or if you are an unconfirmed child, we ask you cross your arms and receive a blessing.

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

The Peace of the Lord

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. Amen.

Confessional Affirmation

I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sin and ask God's forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, satan, and death.

I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament and, under the form of the bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life.

I resolve to dedicate my life to the service of my Lord in His Body, the Church, by regular group worship, cheerful giving, thankful living, and sharing the Gospel with others. Amen.

As you prepare to receive the Holy Supper, please read Notes about Holy Communion on page 17.

The pastor, and those who assist him, distribute to those who come to receive, saying:

*“Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**”*

*“Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins. **Amen.**”*

Distribution

♪ There is a Redeemer

**1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s Own Son;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.**

Chorus:

***Thank you, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit ‘til the work on earth is done.***

**2. Jesus, my Redeemer, Name above all names;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain. *Chorus***

**3. When I stand in glory, I will see His face;
There I’ll serve my King forever in that holy place. *Chorus***

♪ I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

LSB 699 (Instrumental)

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto Me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down thy head upon My breast.”
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in Him a resting place, and He has made me glad.*

♪ You Are My King

**I’m forgiven because You were forsaken.
I’m accepted; You were condemned.
I’m alive and well, Your Spirit is within me,
Because You died and rose again.**

Chorus:

***Amazing love, how can it be,
That You, my King, would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it’s true;
It’s my joy to honor You.
In all I do I honor You. Repeat all***

YOU ARE MY KING, YOU ARE MY KING.

JESUS, YOU ARE MY KING. JESUS, YOU ARE MY KING. *Chorus*

Thank You Jesus

1. Thank You, Jesus, for finding me.

**Like a good shepherd, Your mercy leads,
Back to Your arms where I'm meant to be,
So I thank You Jesus for finding me.**

2. Thank, You Jesus, for saving me.

**You took my place on that cursed tree.
Died for sinners but rose as a King,
So I thank You Jesus for saving me.**

Chorus:

***Oh, it's only because of all You've done,
That I can be called a friend of God.***

***Oh, beautiful Savior, what else can I do,
But lift up my voice and say thank You.***

3. Thank You, Jesus, for loving me.

**Shame lost its hold when You set me free.
Ev'ry fear has to bow at Your feet,
So I thank You Jesus for loving me.** *Chorus*

I ENTER THE GATES OF THE LORD WITH THANKSGIVING.

I ENTER THE COURTS OF THE LORD WITH PRAISE.

I ENTER THE GATES OF THE LORD WITH THANKSGIVING.

I ENTER THE COURTS OF THE LORD WITH PRAISE. *Chorus 2X*

Post-Communion Blessing

In the Post-Communion Prayer, we give thanks for the Sacrament, the gift that brings salvation. We are reminded from receiving the Sacrament of such favor and grace that our faith and love are stimulated, renewed, and strengthened.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, Who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
Amen.

♪ Rise Up O Church of God

Chorus:

Rise up, the Lord is calling!
Rise up, this is the day;
Rise up, and seize the moment,
Rise up, O church of faith!

1. Rise up, O Church of God!
Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and soul and mind and strength
To serve the King of kings.

3. Rise up, O Church of God!
The church for you doth wait,
Her strength unequal to her task,
Rise up, and make her great! *Chorus 2X*

RISE UP, O CHURCH OF FAITH!

RISE UP! RISE UP! RISE UP!

RISE UP! RISE UP! RISE UP!

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Notes About Holy Communion

What is Communion?

As Christians, we confess that we receive the true body and blood of Christ--in, with, and under the bread and wine--in our hands and in our mouths. This is a profound wonder and unexplainable mystery.

We take the words "This is my body" and "This is my blood" at face value because God's Word clearly teaches that in the sacrament, the bread and wine are a communion, or participation, in the body and blood of Christ.

In the Sacrament, we receive forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

How Do I Receive Communion?

Receiving the body and blood of Christ is a sacred moment. You will be directed by the ushers to come forward. You may choose to come to the rail or commune by continuous flow. Those coming to the rail may immediately kneel and be served. Once served, you may return to your seat. Those choosing continuous flow will be served while standing as the line moves. Everyone will receive the wafer in an open hand, one on top of the other. Individual cups and a common cup are offered. Take an individual cup from the tray. If you prefer to take the common cup, it is acceptable to touch the base of the cup to control the tilt so that you receive an appropriate amount. Take empty cups with you and place in the receptacles on your way down the steps. Gluten-free wafers are available. The center ring of the communion trays contains low-alcohol wine.

For those who cannot approach the rail, we are happy to provide distribution in the pews. You may inform the elder in advance of the service that you will need communion in the pews, or, raise your hand when the elder comes by.

Who May Commune?

The Lord's Supper is a testimony to our unity in the faith. This Sacrament is given for those who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and desire to follow Him. We ask that those who are baptized, who believe that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine, and who have confirmed their faith, come forward to receive the Sacrament. Those who hold a different confession of faith are welcome to come forward for a blessing. To indicate this, please cross your arms over your chest.

Scripture calls us to receive this sacred meal with reverence and self-examination. As written in 1 Corinthians 11:28–29: *"Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself."*

It is our desire that you join us at the Lord's Table. Please speak with a pastor or elder if you would like more information.

Children of all ages are welcome to accompany you at the rail or the walk with you through the line for continuous flow. In doing so, they learn the importance of Holy Communion even as they receive a prayer of blessing.

Prayer Before Communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation we come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let us find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of our souls and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Preparation for Communion

For more resources, see Luther's Small Catechism on pages 326-327 in the hymnal.

Church Officers & Staff

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Immanuel Lutheran Church's Elders Team is a group of men who assist the pastoral staff in bringing care to our congregation.

Assisting with Today's Worship

Preacher: **Vicar Matt Johnson**

Liturgist: **Pastor Grayson Albers**

Elder of the Day: **Eric Seeliger**

Greeter: **Jamie Chapman**

Praise Leader: **Robin Smith**

Musicians: **Joe White, Ben Smith,**

Karen Smith, Loyd Folz,

Diane Edwards

Ushers: **Joe, Gabriel, & Michael Aguilar**

Reader: **Kristi Burnett**

Audio/Visual Technician: **Lance Folz**

Acolytes: **Joey Chapman & Zachary Heupel**

Children's Message: **Calvin Cowan**

Sermon Notes

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