Faith That Goes to Work – SERVE



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Temple, TX

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 worshiping 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!

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.

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.

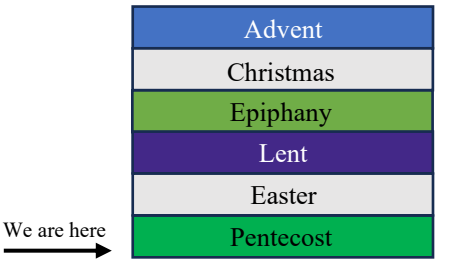
However, we completely understand that kids can get restless during the service, and we understand the challenges of getting children accustomed to being in the service the whole time. We want to assist you in helping your children learn to participate in a meaningful way. We offer these opportunities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

The Church Year



Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

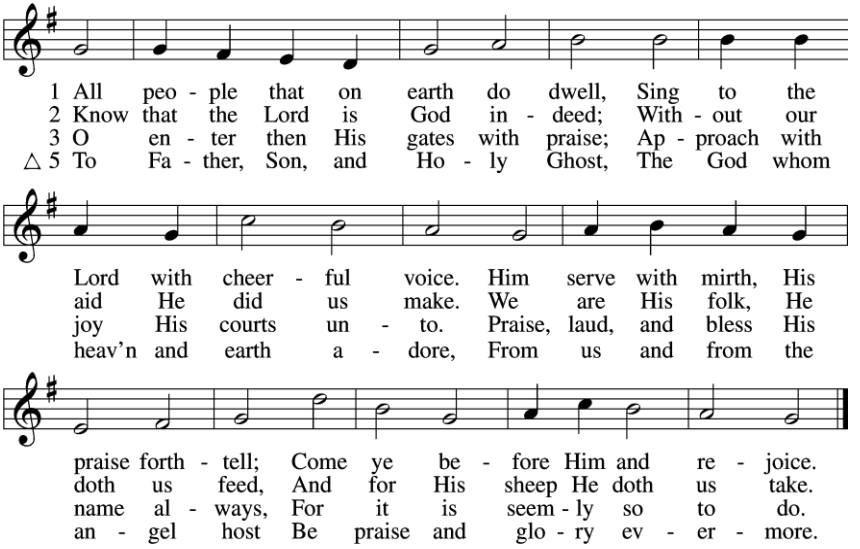
November 15, 2026 | 8:00am

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

Service of the Word

Hymn of Invocation

LSB 791 All People That on Earth Do Dwell



Text: 1561 | Tune: 1551

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

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

In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

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.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

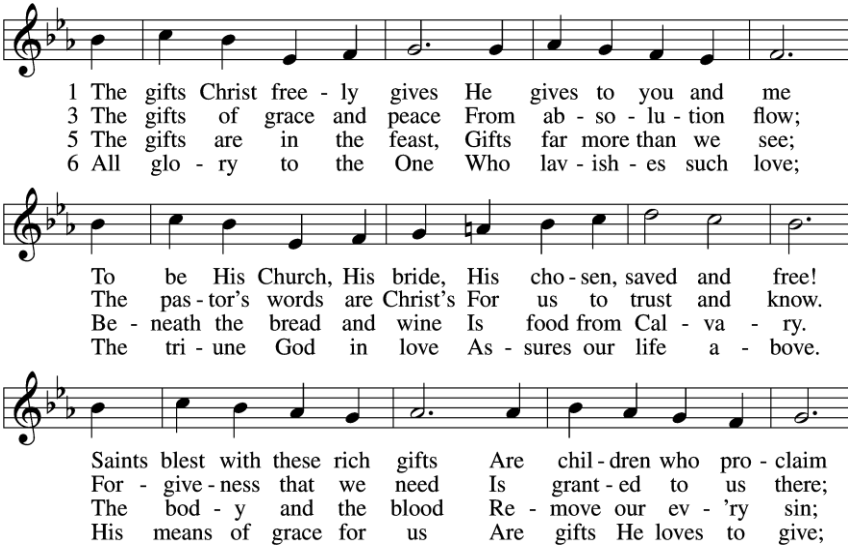
Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

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.**

Hymn of Praise

LSB 602 The Gifts Christ Freely Gives





Text: 2001 | Tune: 1904

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.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading – Zephaniah 1:7-16

7 Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is near;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
8 And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.
9 On that day I will punish
everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.
10 "On that day," declares the Lord,
"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.
11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the men
who are complacent,
those who say in their hearts,
'The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do ill.'
13 Their goods shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them."
14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud there.
15 A day of wrath is that day,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

[4]But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. [5]For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. [6]So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. [7]For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. [8]But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9]For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10]who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. [11]Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 25:14-30

Please stand out of reverence for the Gospel of our Lord.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.
Glory to You, O Lord.

[14][Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. [15]To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. [16]He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. [17]So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. [18]But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. [19]Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. [20]And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' [21]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' [22]And he also who had the two talents

came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ [23]His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ [24]He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, [25]so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ [26]But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? [27]Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. [28]So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. [29]For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. [30]And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

O For a Faith That Will Not Shrink;
Sung to LSB 528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1. O for a faith that will not shrink,
Though pressed by many a foe;
That will not tremble on the brink
Of poverty or woe;

2. That will not murmur nor complain
Beneath the chastening rod,
But in the hour of grief or pain
Can lean upon its God.

3. A faith that shines more bright and clear
When tempests rage without;
That, when in danger, knows no fear,
In darkness, feels no doubt.

5. Lord, give us such a faith as this,
And then, whate'er may come,
We'll taste, e'en here, the hallowed bliss
Of an eternal home.

Text: 1831 | Tune: 1828

See the back of the bulletin for space for sermon notes

Sermon – Faith That Goes to Work – SERVE

Apostle's Creed

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.

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.

Prayers of the Church

After each petition:
…Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, strengthen all Your baptized people to live holy lives as we eagerly await Your Son's return. Keep us steadfast in Christ, trusting in His mercy and ready to welcome Him with joy. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, we do not know the day or hour of Your Son's return. Keep us watchful as we continue to lean on your word. Keep us ever mindful of the relationship you have given to us through the waters of Baptism as our Identity rests in Christ. Raise up harvest workers to carry our word and sacrament to those who do not yet know you. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father in heaven, You have made us children of the light. Bless our homes and families, and give parents wisdom and patience as they teach their children Your Word. Clothe us with faith and love, and guard our hearts with the sure hope of salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

King of kings, guide all who serve in positions of authority. Guard them against corruption, dishonesty and the misuse of power. Give them courage, integrity and wisdom to uphold justice, protect those entrusted to their care and preserve peace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, hear our prayers for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, especially [_____]. Grant them healing according to Your will, comfort them in their distress and strengthen their faith through every trial. Surround them with Your care and sustain them with Your promises. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all life, we give You thanks for those who have died in the faith and now rest in Christ. Comfort all who mourn with the promise of the resurrection. Keep us faithful until the day when we join all Your saints in the joy of life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

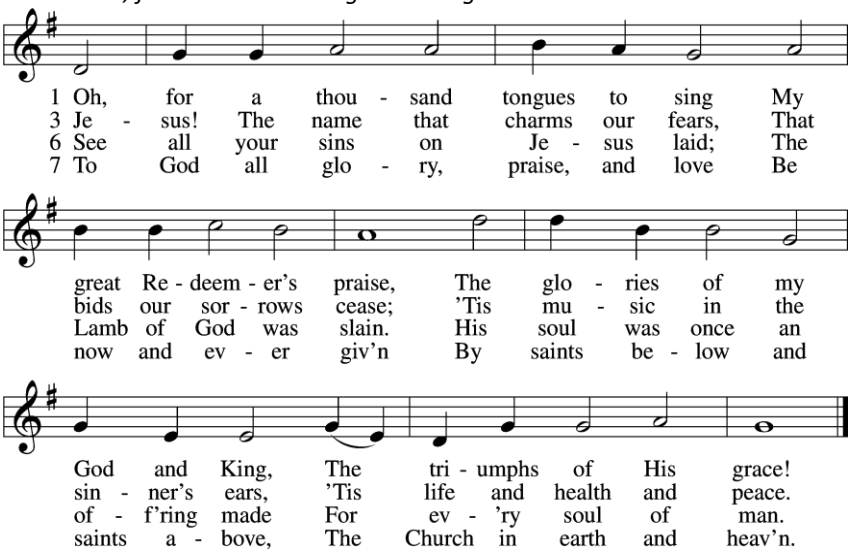
Gracious Father, receive our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Deliver us from evil, preserve us in the faith and bring us safely into Your eternal kingdom; for to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, belong all glory, honor and worship, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

Offering

Offertory

LSB 528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



Text: 1739 | Tune: 1828

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

Preface means "introduction." The pastor and people get ready to celebrate the Holy Meal by greeting each other and with an exhortation as to how to celebrate the meal.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

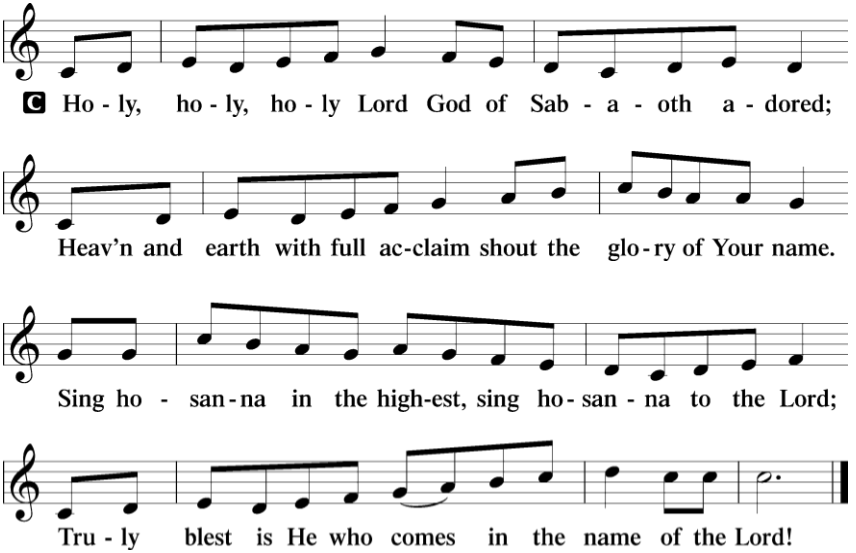
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

Sanctus is a Latin word meaning "Holy." As a triumphant welcome hymn of the crucified, risen and reigning Christ, the Sanctus is sung with strength. Hosanna!

LSB 208



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.

The Words of Our Lord

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 ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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."

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.

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.

Lord's Prayer

So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
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

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

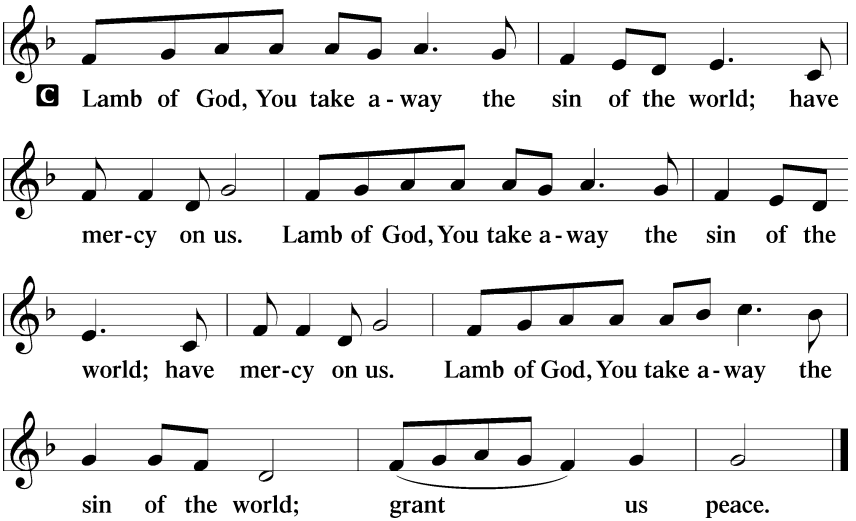
us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Distribution

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

Agnus Dei is a Latin phrase meaning "Lamb of God." As Christ comes to us in the Holy Supper, we recognize Him as the Lamb of God sacrificed for us to free us from the bondage of sin and death. (John 1:29, Is. 53:7)



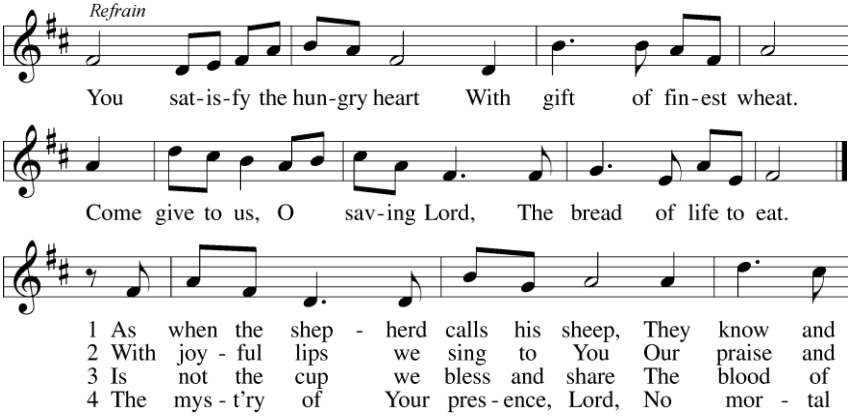
The pastor, and those who assist him, distribute to those who come to receive, saying:

"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 Hymn

LSB 641 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

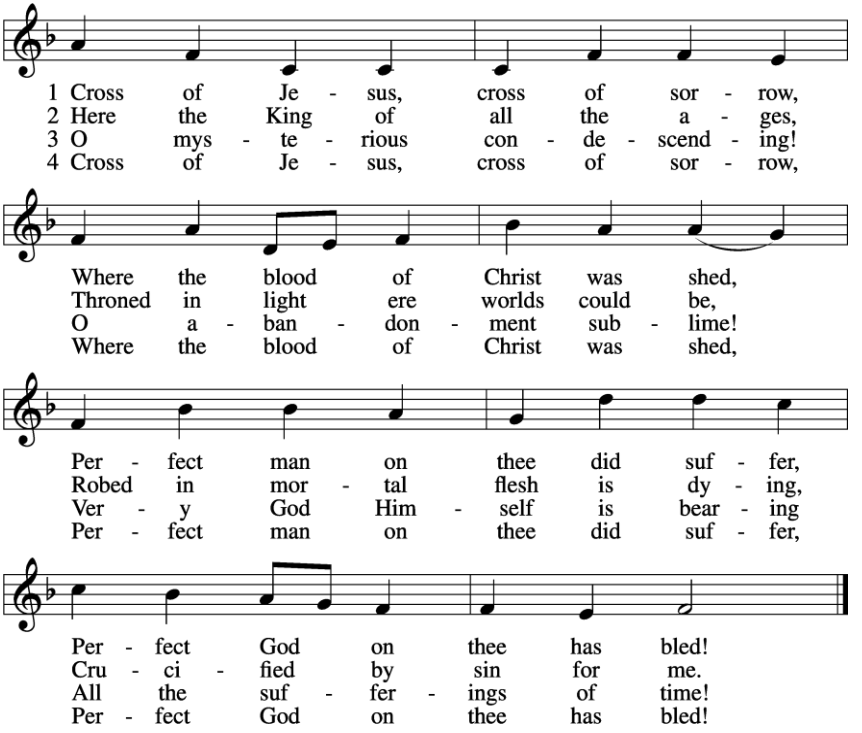




Text: 1977 | Tune: 1977

Distribution Hymn

LSB 428 Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow



Text: 1887 | Tune: 1887

Distribution Hymn

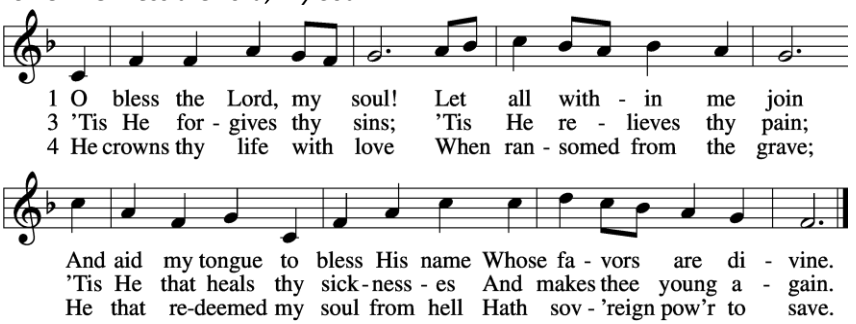
LSB 425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



Text: 1707 | Tune: 1824

Distribution Hymn

LSB 814 O Bless the Lord, My Soul



Text: 1719 | Tune: 1762

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ,

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.

Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

LSB 829 Christ the Eternal Lord



Text: 1999 | Tune: 1868

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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 the communion rail. As a sign of reverence, you may bow and then, if able, kneel. 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 as the tray passes. If you 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. When all are served, the pastor or elder will speak a dismissal. Then rise and, if you wish, bow as you depart the rail. 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.

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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

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Liturgist: **Pastor Grayson Albers**
Elder of the Day: **Nick Flippin**
Worship Accompanist: **Elaine Jones**
Reader: **Ronnie Schmidt**
Acolytes: **Grant Flippin & Cooper Green**

Sermon Notes

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Temple, TX

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD