

17th Sunday after Pentecost
October 5, 2025



Immanuel Lutheran Church

a Reconciling in Christ congregation

346 Shrewsbury Street

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*our purpose is to gather people, nurture faith,
grow in God's love, and serve God's world*

Welcome to Immanuel!

We're thankful you're with us this morning! Throughout worship we'll use the red hymnal located on the back of the pew in front of you. Page numbers can be found towards the front of the hymnal at the bottom of the page, with hymns towards the back, beginning with the Psalms. Hearing assist devices are also available – just ask an usher for help.

We believe that the Gospel – the Good News that we are loved, forgiven, and free in Christ – is a gift offered to every person, and that God's grace has no limits or conditions. Through Christ, we are made a community that shares God's mission to proclaim grace and peace to all the world.

Prelude

Gathering

The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day of the week, the day of Christ's resurrection.

stand

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

Amen.

sit

Celebration Song *Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah* Traditional

Children's Chat Pastor Sarah Barnes
(young worshipers through grade 5 are invited to Children's Word)

stand

Hymn of Praise *God Is Here!* Hymn 526

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

sit

Word

God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung and preached.

First Reading Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

¹The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? ³Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous; therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1}I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me and what he will answer concerning my complaint. ²Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. ⁴Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

stand

Gospel Acclamation

p. 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading

Luke 17:5-10

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

Sermon

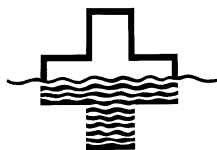
Pastor Sarah Barnes

stand

Hymn of the Day

O Spirit of Life

Hymn 405



Holy Baptism

This morning we receive Josephine Pearl Leotsakos into membership in Christ's church through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Josephine is being presented for baptism by her parents, Emmie and Chris Leotsakos. Her sponsors are Luke Lindholm and Sammi Lor.

Presentation

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors present the candidate.

Today, we present Josephine for baptism.

Emmie and Chris, called by the Holy Spirit and trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Josephine baptized into Christ?

We do.

As you bring Josephine to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that she may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help Josephine grow in the Christian faith and life?

We do.

Luke and Sammi, do you promise to nurture Josephine in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Josephine and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

We do.

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

The congregation joins in the following responses:

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, who bids all who thirst to come and drink freely of the water of life; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Baptism

Josephine Pearl, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The congregation responds:

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

Laying on of Hands and Sealing with the Cross

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Josephine with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Josephine Pearl, child of God,
you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit
and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

Welcome

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Baptismal Hymn *Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters* ELW 445

During this hymn, you are invited to help pass the light as we remember our own baptisms and our call to share in God's mission of love and peace. After the hymn, you can extinguish your candle, and then return it to the basket at the back of the sanctuary when the service is over.

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright & sparkling; compass them with love & light
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.

Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share.
Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative
and redeeming word to all the world.**

Let us give thanks to God through acclamation and applause together!

Prayers of Intercession

Gracious God, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

sit

Offertory Music

Lead Me, Lord

S. S. Wesley

assisted by The ILC Bell Quartet

stand

Offertory Cantic

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

Hymn 681

We thank you, our creator, for all things bright and good,

The seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.

No gifts have we to offer for all your love imparts,

but what you most would treasure—our humble, thankful hearts.

All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above.

We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

Offering Prayer

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Teach us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

The 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

Jesus welcomes us all. Come to this meal of love.

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Sit

All people are invited to receive communion today by coming forward to the front of the sanctuary. First, you'll receive bread, which is the body of Christ given for you. Then move to the next station, where you will find glass cups full of grape juice (lighter-colored) and wine (purple-colored), which is the blood of Christ shed for you. At the last station, return your empty cup to the tray. Gluten-free wafers are also available; to indicate you'd like to receive one, please simply raise your pointer finger when it's your turn to receive.

Lamb of God

p. 146

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Hymn 759

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Hymn 810

Prayer after Communion

O God, we are your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

stand

Blessing

May God, who gives justice to the oppressed, food to the hungry, and sets the prisoners free, ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Hymn 545

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be formed by love.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Nursery School Directors – Amy Drzik, Kristine Whittemore

Sexton – Don Roberts

Online Ministry Coordinator – Jennifer Greene

Nursery Care – Sam Bardon

We're thankful for these servants in worship today:

Livestream – Molly McArthur, Elin Eisenlord

Assisting Minister – Sarah Foster

Ushers – Craig Landquist, Jim Anderson

Acolyte – Molly Ellis

Greeter – Dawn Carbone

Children's Word – Greta Gridley, Heidi Lahey

Coffee Hour – Lauren Demerjian

Altar Guild – Mary Jane & Bill Rasku, Heidi & Bill Lahey

Counting Team – Linn & Bob Watt

Worship, Service, and Fellowship in the week ahead:

Today	8:00 am	Simple Church (indoor Chapel/Choir Room)
	9:00 am	Indoor & Livestream Worship (in sanctuary)
	10:15 am	Coffee Hour (in gym)
	10:30 am	Young Families Gathering & Adult Forum
	5:30 pm	Confirmation Dinner (Room 5)
Monday	9:00 am	Lectio Divina (on Zoom)
	6:30 pm	Monday Night Bible Study (Room 6)
Tuesday		Parking lot paving (second coat)
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	7:00 pm	CLNS Board Meeting (sanctuary)
Thursday	10:30 am	Thursday Morning Bible Study (on Zoom)
Saturday	7:00 am	Men's Ministry
	10:00 am	Women's Prayer & Share (Choir Room)

Sunday Generosity Sunday!

8:00 am Simple Church (indoor Chapel/Choir Room)
9:00 am Indoor & Livestream Worship (in sanctuary)
10:15 am Coffee Hour (in gym)
10:30 am Learning Hour & Adult Confirmation

Daily Bible Readings for the Coming Week:

Monday: Psalm 62, Amos 6:8-14, Revelation 3:14-22
Tuesday: Psalm 62, Hosea 10:9-15, James 5:1-6
Wednesday: Psalm 62, Hosea 12:2-14, Matthew 19:16-22
Thursday: Psalm 37:1-9, 2 Kings 18:1-36
Friday: Psalm 37:1-9, 2 Kings 19:8-37
Saturday: Psalm 37:1-9, Isaiah 7:1-9, Revelation 2:12-29
Sunday: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c, Ps. 111, 2 Tim. 2:8-15, Luke 17:11-19

Welcome to Immanuel

Thanks for joining us in worship today! Wherever you are, we're glad to have you with us. Remember you can reach out to the church office anytime if you need help, prayer, or someone to talk to.

Altar flowers – The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Anja, Peter, and Suzanne Kasparson in celebration of the life of Norman Kasparson.

Rose – The rose on the altar today celebrates the birth of Hudson Steven Daley on October 1. Proud dads are Christopher Vetter Daley and Skye Daley. Super proud grandparents are Elaine and Mark Vetter.

Children's Word – After the children's chat, our young friends are invited to go with our volunteers to the gym to worship in their own way. Kids will return in time for communion.

Thank you – We thank our ILC ringers today (Bonnie Colon, Anne Ekberg, Mary Donev, and Kaylie Harrington) for their gifts of music today.

Nursery Care – Nursery care is now available during our 9:00am worship services (8:30a-10:30a). Simply go down the stairs at the back of the sanctuary. The toddler room is on the left, where you can sign-in!

Heart Rocks – We’re collecting Heart Rocks as a reminder that we are formed by God’s love. If you find a heart rock, bring it in and place it one of the heart-shaped baskets (located in the sanctuary and Lawson Hall)!

Generosity Sunday – Join us for Generosity Sunday on October 12! During worship we’ll be talking about the way that we sow seeds of hope in the world, praying that they will one day grow. As part of our service, you’ll be invited to return an ‘Estimate of Giving’ card, which we recently mailed out to every household. These cards indicate how you plan to give financially to Immanuel in the year ahead, an essential tool we use to create a budget. More importantly, they’re part of how we plant seeds of hope through the work God is doing at and through Immanuel.

Young Families Gathering – Young families are invited to stay after worship this morning. Erin Ellis will lead us in packing school kits, and then the kids are invited to enjoy a scavenger hunt created by Jen Greene. (Godly Play and Faith Quest will return next week!)

Adult Forum – Join us this morning in room 6 around 10:30am or when the bell rings. Using *The Six Conversations* by Heather Holleman as a resource, we’ll learn how to have more meaningful and uplifting conversations. We’ll continue this topic on October 19.

Adult Confirmation – Our next gathering is October 12. To access materials, visit <https://tinyurl.com/3hmjv4jc>. All are welcome for any/all classes!

CROP Walk – This year’s Holden CROP Walk will be on Sunday, October 19! Help us raise money as we combat hunger together. To learn more, sign-up, or donate, visit our website (<https://tinyurl.com/26ttbj6n>) or talk to volunteers in Lawson Hall!

Parking Lot Paving – The lower parking lot is schedule to have the second coat of paving done on Tuesday, October 7. The lower parking lot will be unavailable for the next few days depending on the weather.

Lectio Divina – Join us on Monday mornings from 9:00–9:30am on Zoom. Lectio Divina is the practice of reading scripture as a form of prayer. (Meeting ID: 814 8663 8380, Passcode: scripture)

Monday Night Bible Study – You're invited to join our Monday Night Bible study (with pizza) on the first and third Monday each month. We're discussing the Gospel of John, eating good food, and learning together. Our next gathering will be Monday, October 6 at 6:30pm in Room 6.

Thursday Morning Bible Study – Join us every Thursday at 10:30am on Zoom! We're discussing the book of Daniel together and would love to have you with us! The link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84825798597>.

Senior Luncheon – New Date – Due to the parking lot paving, the new date for the Senior Lunch is Thursday, October 23. Join us at noon that day and bring a friend! Cost will be \$10 a person. Please sign up in Lawson Hall or you can call the church office. See Mary Jane Rasku with questions.

Women's Prayer & Share – We'll gather again on Saturday, October 11 at 10:00a in the Choir Room. Please bring your bible. Elaine MacNutt will lead a class on sunsets. Join us!

Spirituality for the Home Stretch – Join our senior spirituality group on Tuesday, October 14 at 1:00pm in the choir room. We'll discuss chapters 8 and 9 of Richard Rohr's *Falling Upward*. New members welcome!

Confirmation News – For new and returning students, confirmation classes return on Wednesday, October 15! We will meet in Room 6 from 7-8:30pm.

Book Club – For October, we're reading and discussing *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. Join us for discussion on Thursday, October 23 at 6:00p in Room 6.

Collecting Greeting Cards – We're continuing to collect new greeting cards of all kinds for distribution through the UU Church of Worcester's Food Pantry. Cards can go in the collection basket in Lawson Hall.

Collecting Period Products – We continue to collect unscented pads and tampons of all sizes and brands (collection bin is located in Lawson Hall).

Stephen Ministry – Stephen Ministers are trained to provide one-to-one, confidential care to those experiencing a difficult time. Please let one of the pastors know if you'd like to connect with one.

Communion Kits – Personal kits are available in the locker outside Lawson Hall. Each kit contains a pre-packaged wafer and grape juice.

Music Together – Classes begin this fall at Immanuel! Come sing and dance with children ages birth through 6 years (in room 4 upstairs). Email Mr. Dave at Dagarden@gmail.com for more information.

Florence House gift bags – We are collecting items for Halloween gift bags (10 bags total--items may include but are not limited to: bags of candy, books for the children, cosmetics, etc. (no candles please). Items are due back to the church office by 10/26. See Linda Friedman to help.

Vacation – Pastor Sarah will be on vacation this upcoming week and will return to the office on Tuesday, October 14.

In Your Prayers this Week

This week, please lift up to God those who have requested our prayers:

Adrienne Altobelli, David Alward, Bruce & Janet Axelson, Isaac Barron, Mary Beams, Jane Bedard, Bob, Heidi Besse, Grace Bialecki, Lucy & Tom Brennan, Ken Cameron, Betty Chviruk, Colleen Davison, Alvina Debois, Kevin Duguay, Jaeger Dziama, Jim Eisenlord, Alan Farmer, Tim Fournier, Leah Frances-Woods, Ann Marie Grambo, Dave, Dolores Hadady, Erika, Rich Hopkins, Robin Johns, Carol Jorgensen, Mackenzie Keogh, Carole Laino, Bev Landquist, Jean Lane, Ayuen Leet, Jim Legere, Lizzie, Jed Lindholm, Meghan MacDonald, Joe Martire, James Mellor, Joanne Neal, Francis Parretti, Don Phaneuf, Shirley, Kay Porter, Diana Provencher, Jeff, Wylla Rabeler, Rich Reynolds, Ray Rossetti, Shirley Rotti, Donald Shefer, Wendy, Shirley Smith, Will, Elaine Vetter, Donna Vilian, Liz Wilson, and Jill Zitzewitz.