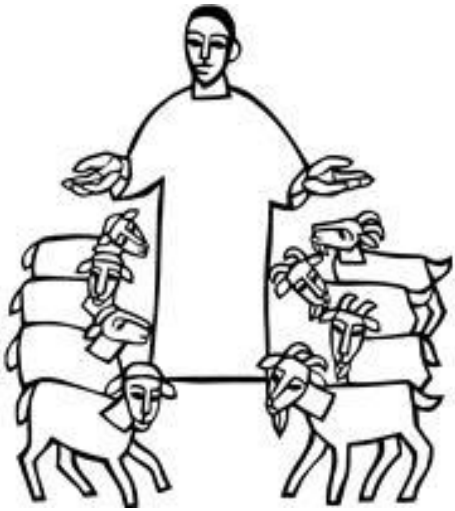
Christ the King Sunday
November 22, 2026



Immanuel Lutheran Church

a Reconciling in Christ congregation

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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 dwelling place
for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy.
Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace. Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.
Amen.

sit

Celebration Song *Do, Lord, Remember Me* Traditional
Kaylie Harrington, song leader

Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me, (repeat 2x more),
Look away beyond the blue.
I took Jesus as my Savior; you take Him too (repeat 2x).
Look away beyond the blue.

Children's Chat Pastor Josh Ferris

stand

Hymn of Praise *Crown Him with Many Crowns* Hymn 855

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.

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

sit

Word

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

First Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort
them out. 12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among
scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all
the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and
thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather
them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will
feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all
the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture,
and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they
shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture
on the mountains of Israel.

15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie
down, says the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the
strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but
the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.
20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge
between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with
flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns
until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they
shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.
23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall
feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I
the LORD will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among
them; I the LORD have spoken.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading Ephesians 1:15-23
15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all
the saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I
remember you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as
you come to know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart
enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called
you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the
saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us
who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20 God put this
power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated
him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and
authority and power and dominion and above every name that is
named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has
put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things
for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.
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 Matthew 25:31-46

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory
and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his
glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate
people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the
goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the
left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who
are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from
the foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I
was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and
you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick
and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the
righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry
and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And
when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked
and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in
prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell
you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of
mine, you did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You
who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the
devil and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was
thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did
not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in
prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord,
when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or
sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' 45 Then he will answer
them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of
these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal
punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

Sermon Pastor Josh Ferris

stand

Hymn of the Day *Lord of Glory, You Have Brought Us* Hymn 707

Apostles' Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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.

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 Intercession
United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.
God, in your mercy,
hear 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 *A Canon of Praise* N. Sleeth
Osman Bilsel, piano

stand
Offertory Canticle *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
Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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:

Sanctus p. 144
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
In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.
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 Hymns	*O Savior, Precious Savior*	Hymn 820
	The Head That Once Was Crowned	Hymn 432

Prayer after Communion
Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending

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

Announcements

stand
Blessing
The holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* Hymn 634

Dismissal
Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Nursery School Directors – Amy Drzik, Kristine Whittemore
Gym Coordinator – Walter Shanahan | gym@immanuelholden.org
Sexton – Don Roberts

We're thankful for these servants in worship today:

Livestream – Elin Eisenlord, Molly McArthur
Assisting Minister – Fred Borchelt
Ushers – Craig Landquist, Ron Rosenlund
Greeter – Brenda & Raegan Eisenlord
Acolyte – Avery Drzik
Children's Word – Kristin & Frank Carnevale
Coffee Hour Host – Linda & Bruce Kiefer
Altar Service – Mary Jane Rasku, Heidi Lahey
Counting Team – Josh Greene, Barry Dellecese

Worship, Service, and Fellowship in the week ahead:

Today	8:00 am	Simple Church (Choir Room)
	9:00 am	Indoor & Livestream worship (Sanctuary)
	10:15 am	Coffee Hour (Gym)
	10:30 am	Learning Hour + Kenya Presentation (Gym)
Monday	8:00 am	Lectio Divina
	7:00 pm	Nominating Committee (Room 6)
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Thanksgiving Eve Service
Thursday		*Office Closed for Thanksgiving Break*
Friday	1:00 pm	John Street Packing (Kitchen)
Saturday	8:00 am	John Street Distribution
Sunday	8:00 am	Simple Church (Choir Room)
	9:00 am	Indoor & Livestream worship (Sanctuary)
	10:15 am	Coffee Hour (Gym)
	10:30 am	Ornament Making
	5:00 pm	Youth Group (Room 4)

Daily Bible Readings for the Coming Week:

Monday:	Psalm 28, Numbers 27:15-23, Timorthy 2:8-13
Tuesday:	Psalm 28, Zechariah 11:4-7, Revelation 19:1-9
Wednesday:	Psalm 28, Jeremiah 31:10-14, John 5:19-40
Thursday:	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, Zechariah 13:1-9, Revelation 14:6-13
Friday:	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, Zechariah 14:1-9, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18
Saturday:	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, Micah 2:1-13, Matthew 24:15-31
Sunday:	Isaiah 64:1-9. Psalm 80:1-7,17-19, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

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.

Coffee Hour – All are welcome to coffee hour in the gym following today's worship. We thank Linda & Bruce Kiefer for hosting today!

Altar flowers – The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the glory of God by Duncan Gowdy & Elizabeth Siler in memory of Jane & Doug Gowdy, Duncan's parents. *NOTE: If you would like to sign up for Sunday flowers, see the flower chart in Lawson Hall.*

Thanks – to Kaylie Harrington and Osman Bilsel for sharing their gifts of music this morning!

Godly Play & Faith Quest – Kids of all ages are invited to gather in Room 2 after worship today, when Mrs. Claire will lead music for the first ten minutes of learning hour. Then we'll split into Godly Play and Faith Quest groups. Listen for the bell!

Beverly School of Kenya Presentation – Today after worship, Sue Swanberg, Kathy Mills, and Gabe Ellis will share stories and pictures from their trip this past summer to the Beverly School of Kenya during the learning hour in the gym.

Making Ornaments – On Sunday, November 29, in lieu of our regularly scheduled learning hour, there will be simple Christmas ornament crafts during coffee hour. If you would like to help with one of the crafts, please reach out to Pastor Sarah.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship – On Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00pm, we'll gather in worship to give thanks and praise to God. For the Thanksgiving Eve offering, you're invited to bring food for the Wachusett Food Pantry or items for Homeless Kits.

Advent Evening Prayer – To help mark the season of Advent, you're invited to join us for evening prayer each Wednesday of the season, beginning on December 2. We'll gather at 7:00pm in the sanctuary, and the service will last about half an hour.

Help Us Bless Others! – Immanuel's Mission Endowment Fund will be giving away $14,000 in the year ahead to various non-profits, ministries, and charitable organizations. You can put your suggestions into the box at the front of the sanctuary, or simply email them to the church. Please submit them by TODAY! These suggestions will be passed onto council and voted on at our annual congregational meeting in January.

Estimate of Giving Cards – Thank you to everyone who has returned their "Estimate of Giving" card. So far we've received 118 cards and are hoping to receive about 10 more. If you haven't done so yet, please fill out a card and return it to the office to help us budget for the year ahead. Grab one from the usher's table or use this QR code.

Servant Connect Forms – Have you filled out a Servant Connect yet? We're using these simple forms to help us connect people with ministry and mission opportunities that match their gifts and passions. Every member of our church is asked to fill one out! You can get one from the usher table in the back or use this QR code.

Receiving New Members – Our congregation has been blessed with some new visitors and friends in the past months. While we don't yet have a date picked out, if you're interested in becoming a member of our church, please talk to a pastor.

Giving Tree – The Giving Tree will soon go up in Lawson Hall! All are invited to take tags and buy gifts for the ministries we support (Florence House, Kids Express, and Dismas Farm). Gifts are due back on Sunday, December 13. This allows time to get the gifts to everyone.

Lectio Divina – Lectio Divina is now at 8:00am every Monday! Start your day grounded in scripture and prayer. Here is the **new link** to join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89251738731

Youth Group – Immanuel's Youth Group will meet next Sunday, November 29 at 5:00pm! All youth and friends are invited!

Chili Needed! – Do you make great chili? Help provide some for our Youth Group on November 29! We're hoping to get 6-8 varieties, which our Youth will eat (and rate and then provide ridiculous awards!). If you're willing to provide chili, please reach out to Pastor Josh.

Confirmation – We'll meet on Wednesday, December 2 at 7:30pm in room 6 after Advent Evening Prayer.

Thursday Morning Bible Study – We will not meet the morning of Thanksgiving, but join us when we return on Thursday, December 3!

Monday Night Bible Study – The Monday Night Bible Study group will gather tomorrow, Monday, December 7 at 6:30pm in Room 6. All are welcome!

Senior Luncheon - Save the date! Join us on Tuesday, December 15 at noon for a holiday senior luncheon! Cost is $10 per person. The sign-up sheet will soon be posted in Lawson Hall. Hope to see you there!

Book Club – For December, we're reading and discussing *Ordinary Blessings for the Christmas Season* by Meta Herrick Carlson. Join us for discussion this Thursday, December 17 at 6:00pm in Room 6.

Positivity Pouches – Have you shared some positivity with our Youth Group recently? Drop a note of encouragement or some kind words in their pouches in Lawson Hall! Cards and small gifts encouraged!

Homeless Kits – You can grab a homeless kit – and small bags of period products – from Lawson Hall for you to hand out to someone in need.

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

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.

Women's Circle – We will meet again in January for the annual Yankee Swap!

We are currently collecting:

Homeless Kits – We are collecting items to make homeless kits. These items are packaged in Ziplock bags so that we can carry them in our cars to hand out to those in need. The items that we are collecting are:

- warm socks
- granola or cereal bars – chewy bars only
- crackers with peanut butter or cheese
- small package of Kleenex
- ChapStick
- Bottled water – 8 oz

These items can be placed in the hamper in Lawson Hall Lobby or in a box in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you

Period Products – Unscented pads and tampons, individually wrapped, of all sizes and brands, handed out at Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry.

Bras – Bras in good condition of any size, color, or style, which will be given to veterans in need. Contact Mary Donev (mary@donev.com).

Wachusett Food Pantry – Non-perishable, unexpired food items for the Wachusett Food Pantry (serving all Wachusett Towns).

Little Library – book donations for any age welcome!

In Your Prayers this Week

Adrienne Altobelli, David Alward, Bruce & Janet Axelson, Isaac Barron, David Beams, Mary Beams, Bob, Ron Bertel, Heidi Besse, Tina Bodnar, Lucy & Tom Brennan, Bonnie Colon, Dale, Colleen Davison, Lauren Demerjian, Christina Deyo, Kim, Kevin Duguay, Tom Durant, Jim Eisenlord, Alan Farmer, Tim Fournier, Linda Friedman, Sonja Githmark, Ann Marie Grambo, Victoria Graves, Dolores Hadady, Bill Higgins, Erika, Rich Hopkins, Robin Johns, Dick Johnson, Jan Johnson, Carol Jorgensen, Ray Langevin, Jean Lane, Cristie Marsh, Family of Alwin Masselink, James Mellor, Darin Narum, Joanne Neal, Mark Novak, Don Phaneuf, Shirley, Kay Porter, Jeff, Wylla Rabeler, Rich Reynolds, Ray Rossetti, Shirley Rotti, Arthur Savage, Anita Slater, Marshall Smith, Maria Taylor, Tony, Elaine Vetter, George Vogel, Scott, Liz Wilson, Jim & Nancy Zelesky, and Jill Zitzewitz.