

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 5, 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

Early American Music for Organ

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, source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary, glory and peace to the ends of the earth. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,

we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation. Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us. We lament the evil that holds us captive. We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit's power strengthen you in doing what is good. **Amen.**

sit

Celebration Song

I'm Gonna Sing

Traditional

stand

Hymn of Praise

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

Hymn 777

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.

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

sit

Word

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

First Reading

Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability.

¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

stand

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Lord and Savior

p. 205

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶ “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ ¹⁸ “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁰ Then he began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of power had been done because they did not repent. ²¹ “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²² But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ²³ And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? No, you will be brought down to Hades. “For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. ²⁴ But I tell you that on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

Sermon

Pastor Josh Ferris

stand

Hymn of the Day

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Hymn 611

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

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

God of grace,

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

Amazing Grace
ILC Village Singers

Traditional

stand

Offertory

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Hymn 674

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in this land. Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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. 207

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

Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

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

Citizens of the commonwealth of heaven:

Taste and know that God is good to all.

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. 208

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

Music Selection *Lift Every Voice and Sing* J.R. Johnson

Communion Hymn *Day by Day* Hymn 790
What a Friend We Have in Jesus Hymn 742

Prayer after Communion

We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending

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

Announcements

stand

Blessing

The Author of life, the Word of salvation, the Breath of new birth, one God, bless you and equip you for living and serving, today and every day. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *Lord of All Hopefulness* Hymn 765

Dismissal

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

America
ILC Village Singers

Traditional

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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 – Ray Donadt, Lori Rabeler

Assisting Minister – Karen White

Ushers – Craig Landquist, Jim Anderson

Greeter – Joyce Kujala

Coffee Hour Host – Heidi & Bill Lahey

Altar Service – Mary Jane Rasku, Heidi Lahey

Counting Team – Greta & Scott Gridley

Worship, Service, and Fellowship in the week ahead:

Today	8:00 am	Simple Church (Outdoor Chapel/Choir Room)
	9:00 am	Indoor & Livestream worship (Sanctuary)
	10:15 am	Coffee Hour (Gym)
Monday	9:00 am	Lectio Divina (Zoom)
Thursday	12:00 pm	Senior Luncheon (Outside/Gym)
Friday	9:00 am	Facilities Management Meeting (Room 6)
Sunday	8:00 am	Simple Church (Outdoor Chapel/Choir Room)
	9:00 am	Indoor & Livestream worship (Sanctuary)
	10:15 am	Coffee Hour (Gym)

Daily Bible Readings for the Coming Week:

Monday:	Psalm 6, Micah 7:1-7, Revelation 2:1-7
Tuesday:	Psalm 6, Micah 26:1-12, Revelation 2:8-11
Wednesday:	Psalm 6, Jeremiah 38:1-13, Matthew 10:5-23
Thursday:	Psalm 89, Jeremiah 25:1-7, Galatians 5:2-6
Friday:	Psalm 89, Jeremiah 25:8-14, Galatians 5:7-12
Saturday:	Psalm 89, Jeremiah 28:1-4, Luke 17:1-4
Sunday:	Isaiah 55:10-13, Psalm 65:[1-8], 9-13, Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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 Heidi & Bill Lahey for hosting today!

Thanks – To the ILC Village Singers, Mary Ann Wood, Lori Rabeler, Walter Shanahan, and Bill Rasku for blessing us with their musical gifts today!

Altar flowers – The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the glory of God. *NOTE: If you would like to sign up for Sunday flowers, see the flower chart in Lawson Hall.*

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)

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.

We are currently collecting:

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

Greeting Cards – New greeting cards of all kinds (except Christmas), which are given to 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).

In Your Prayers this Week

Adrienne Altobelli, David Alward, Bruce & Janet Axelson, Isaac Barron, David Beams, Mary Beams, Bob, Heidi Besse, Grace Bialecki, Tina Bodnar, Lucy & Tom Brennan, Ken Cameron, Kaylee Caramanica, Bonnie Colon, Colleen Davison, Alvina Debois, Lauren Demerjian, Christina Deyo, Lina Dickey, Kim, Kevin Duguay, Tom Durant, Jaeger Dziama, Jim Eisenlord, Gabriella Falk, Alan Farmer, Tim Fournier, Leah Frances-Woods, Linda Friedman, Sonja Githmark, Ann Marie Grambo, Dave, Dolores Hadady, Bill Higgins, Erika, Rich Hopkins, Robin Johns, Dick Johnson, Jan Johnson, Carol Jorgensen, Mackenzie Keogh, Ray Langevin, Carole Laino, Jean Lane, Joan Lane, Noah Lane, Ayuen Leet, Meghan MacDonald, Cristie Marsh, James Mellor, George Mioglionico, Darin Narum, Joanne Neal, Karen Papachristou, Francis Parretti, Don Phaneuf, Shirley, Kay Porter, Jeff, Wylla Rabeler, Rich Reynolds, Ray Rossetti, Shirley Rotti, Donald Shefer, Anita Slater, Marshall Smith, Wendy, Steven, Shirley Smith, Maria Taylor, Elaine Vetter, George Vogel, Scott, Becki Welch, Liz Wilson, Jim Zelesky, Nancy Zelesky, and Jill Zitzewitz.