

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Manitowoc, Wisconsin



Thriving in the Vine

Fifth Sunday of Easter | April 26 & 29, 2018

WELCOME

In the name of our Lord Jesus, welcome to one and all! We pray that here at Immanuel you will find the warmth of Christian hospitality, the abiding truth of God's Word and the quiet assurance of peace in Christ. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. Come worship with us again!

TODAY'S FOCUS: Through faith in Christ's sacrifice for us, we are connected to the risen Savior as a branch is connected to a grape vine. The result of being connected to Jesus is that we will now bear fruit. The fruit of a Christian is a life of love. Out of thanks for God's love, we now seek to love others in many ways, including telling them the good news of Christ. As believers we seek to show love not only in what we say, but also in what we do.

FOR VISITORS

- **Friendship Register:** Please fill out the Friendship Register located at the end of each pew.
- **Cell Phones:** Out of respect for our Lord and your fellow worshiper, please silence your cell phone.
- **Restrooms:** The main restrooms are located in the Gathering Room near the coatrack.
- **Offering:** Please do not feel obligated to contribute when the offering plates are passed. We understand that you may want to know more about Immanuel's ministry before you support it with your gifts. However, if you are moved to give, you are welcome to do so.
- **Information:** The media counter is located in the Gathering Room. Here you will find magazines, brochures, devotional booklets and children's bulletins (printed on yellow paper).
- **Contact:** Our pastor and principal are always happy to serve you. Please feel free to contact them (contact info on back of announcement page).
- **Communion:** We practice *Closed Communion* at Immanuel, meaning we only commune those who are members of our congregation. Members of WELS or ELS churches in our fellowship who wish to commune are asked to speak to the pastor before the service.

DIVINE SERVICE II

WELCOME

HYMN 283 (*red hymnal*)

Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening

STAND

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ***(spoken)* Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14

(Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. "Glory to God in the Highest" has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century.)

1. **All glory be to God on high!
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
We praise you for your peace and grace,
Your favor toward our fallen race.**

2. **Our grateful thanks to you we bring,
For your great glory, heav'nly King,
For all, O Father, you have done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.**

3. **O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
You take all sin and guilt away.
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;
From God's right hand, your mercy share.**

4. **You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;
The Father's glory you made known.
We by your Spirit sing again:
"All glory be to God!" Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: *(spoken)* And also with you.

M: O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* Amen.

BE SEATED

SONG BY GRADES 3-4 (*8am*)

This is the Day



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Acts 4:32-37 | NIV

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴ that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵ and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need. ³⁶ Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), ³⁷ sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

SECOND LESSON

1 John 3:18-24 | NIV

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. ¹⁹ This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰ If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²² and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴ The one who keeps God’s commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

VERSE OF THE DAY

John 14:6 | NIV

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. “I am the way, the truth, and the life,” says the Lord. Alleluia.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the

mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ. Al - le -

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8 | NIV

M: The Gospel according to John chapter 15.

C: **Glory be to you, O Lord.**

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

BE SEATED

HYMN 168 (*red hymnal*)

With High Delight Let Us Unite

SERMON

John 15:1-8

Stay Connected to the Vine

I. Planted

II. Pruned

III. Productive

STAND

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

GUESTS: *From Biblical teaching we understand participation in Communion to be, among other things, a statement of agreement with our church's teachings. If you are not a WELS/ELS member, please refrain from communing until we have had opportunity to study together. If you would like to know more our pastor is ready to speak to you. Thank you for respecting our practice.*

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS / GRAPE JUICE: *We offer gluten-free Communion wafers to those who need them – but you must make your need known to the pastor ahead of time. The purple-colored individual cups in the center of the Communion tray contain grape juice for those unable to drink wine.*



THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who rose from the dead in glorious triumph to bring forgiveness to the world and everlasting life to all who believe. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Sanctus

(Sanctus means "holy." Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.)

1. **O holy, holy, holy
Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven
In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us,
Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy
Receive our fervent cry.**

2. **Hosanna in the highest!
How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming
To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation
And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage—
Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

BE SEATED

HYMN 385 (*red hymnal*)

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

HYMN 314 (*red hymnal*)

O Living Bread from Heaven

STAND

SONG OF SIMEON

Luke 2:29-32

Nunc Dimittis

(The Nunc Dimittis [“Now dismiss”] is also known as the “Song of Simeon.” Through God’s Word and Sacrament, we have seen Jesus Christ, and like Simeon we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.)

1. **O Lord, now let your servant
Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised
incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory
Of those in Israel!**

2. **All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever three in one;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God’s triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: **(spoken) Amen.**

BE SEATED

HYMN 241:4 (*red hymnal*)

Alleluia! Let Praises Ring

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Presiding Minister: Pastor Daniel Sims

Organist: Ardis Haag (Thu); Jason Muench (Sun)

Refreshments: Jason & Amy Muench, David & Julie Sachse and Liane Cornils

Greeters: 8:00 AM – Robert & Shirley Blattler

10:30 AM – Karen Kehl