

FIRST READING: Isaiah 44:6-8

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

or Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19 [not printed]

Psalm 86:11-17

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25

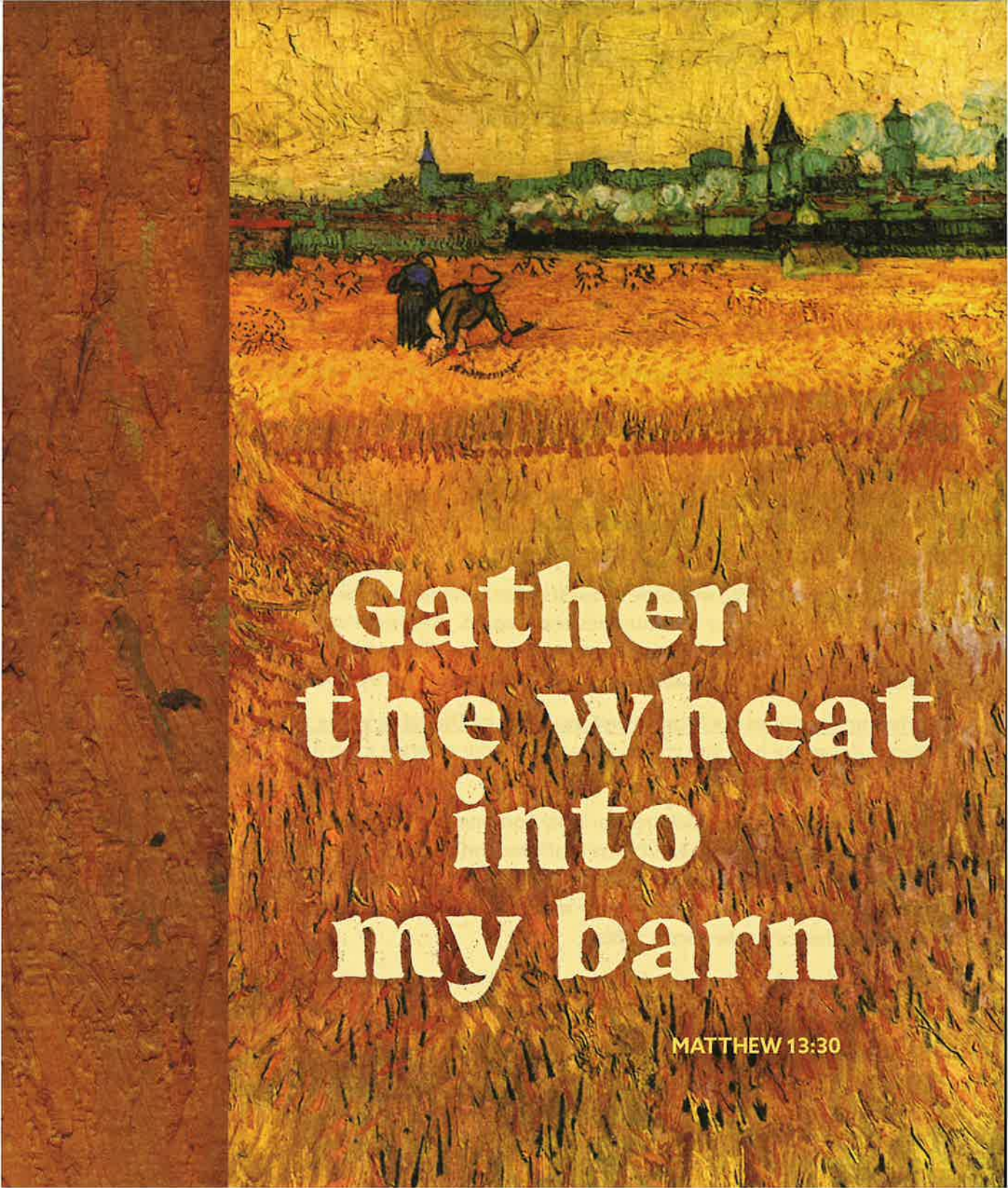
So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.
I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor,

and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”



Gather
the wheat
into
my barn

MATTHEW 13:30

Immanuel Lutheran Church

PO Box 415 34606 E. 2450 N. Rd. Colfax, IL 61728
(309)723-5091 immanuelcolfax@hotmail.com

Pastor Michael Jones 309-357-3864 mikechris1@gmail.com
Council President: Eli Petersen 815-848-2155 ejpetersen4@gmail.com
Church Secretary: Cindy Wilson 309-825-4099 ckwilson1983@gmail.com

Our mission is to invite people to know Jesus Christ so that we may all share God's love.

Welcome to Worship at Immanuel - Greetings and welcome to all! Families and friends, visitors from far and near are all welcomed in the name of Christ. Let us join with hearts and hands, bodies and spirits in worshiping the Creator of us all - with rejoicing!

Prayer before Worship: Heavenly Father, help us to remember that we belong to you. Touch us, heal us, bless us. Walk with us daily that we may have the courage and faith to meet all life's challenges. Amen.

Prayer Requests: We welcome requests of prayers for our members, friends and families throughout our communities and beyond. Anyone is welcome to leave a note on the desk in the office or contact the pastor. **There is also a prayer box with cards to use on the table under the mailboxes for prayer requests.**

Offering envelopes are located and available on the table in the entry.
Please designate how you would like to have your offering used if for anything other than general funds.

The Lord's Supper, the Eucharist, or Holy Communion is a means of God's grace whereby the real presence of Christ is offered (on the 1st Sunday of the month).
If you would rather receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, please come forward and cross your arms to your shoulders as indication of wanting a blessing.
All are welcome at the Lord's table.

We have Children's Bulletins for those who wish to enhance the worship experience for the kids. They can be found each week on the table with the regular Sunday Bulletins.

Newsletter, bulletin, and member information or changes may be sent to
ckwilson1983@gmail.com or immanuelcolfax@hotmail.com

This Week at Immanuel 9:00 am - Worship 10:00 am - Fellowship

Sunday, July 19, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL JONES

Lay Reader: Ty Harms

Greeters: Eli & Katelyn Petersen

Ushers/Acolytes: Harlan Brucker, Dan Harms

Communion: na

Organist: Kimberly Petersen

Sunday, July 26, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL JONES

Lay Reader: Erin Ifft

Greeters: Terry & Kay Bose

Ushers/Acolytes: Elton & Spring Mau

Communion: na

Organist: Cindy Wilson

Please include the following people in our prayers:

Lois Barker, Cheryl Poppe, Jeannie Weber, Bob & Nancy Lasser, Cindy Harris,
Rebecca Casson, Kris Barnett, Florence Schultz (Cindy Wilson's mom)

Announcements

Thank You to everyone who made food, organized the meal, participated in the service, set up, cleaned up, and assisted in any other way to make the Installation Service memorable and beautiful. We are so very blessed to have many volunteers willing to lend a hand for special events and occasions worth celebrating.

Clothing Drive- please see the additional flyer . . . Due to an early school registration day,
donations for the Ridgeview clothing and school supplies need to be available at the church by 10 am this Tuesday morning, July 21st.

LWR Quilting - We will be knotting quilts on Tuesday, July 21st and 28th from 1:00-3:30 p.m.
Newcomers are welcome to enjoy some conversation and help others in need at the same time! Questions, see Dee Winterland.

Sunday, August 9 – Please join us for worship at the Pavilion in downtown Colfax for Community Worship at 10:00 am. A Potluck lunch will follow after the service.
We will not have a service at Immanuel on that day. More details will be announced soon.

Saturday, August 8 – 10:00 am Colfax Parade on Main Street. Immanuel will be participating in the Good Ole' Days parade. We will be looking for adults and children to walk or ride with us again.

Outreach Committee Student Clothing Drive

- Coats: new or gently used (hats & gloves, too)
- Clothing: new or very gently used
- Shoes and Socks: children through adult sizes
- Little kids elastic pants/shorts for kids who have accidents, to keep in the office and provide to students when needed.
- Backpacks: full size for boys and girls
- Headphones/Earbuds

During the open registration day at Ridgeview Elementary School on July 22, 2026, we can offer tables of clothing/shoes, similar to a free garage sale to allow families to "shop" for clothing when they pick up their free school supplies. We may not be able to offer every size that is needed, but we can share from our abundance for those who struggle to provide the basic items when preparing for school.

Boxes for drop-offs will be available at the back of the church through July 21st.



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2026

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gathering ~ The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Please stand as you are able*

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the worship leader begins -

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

The congregation may be seated

GATHERING SONG

This Is My Father's World

ELW 824

GREETING *Please stand as you are able*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen. *The congregation may be seated*

Word ~ God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

READING

Isaiah 44:6-8

back of bulletin

There are no other gods besides God: the word of the Lord does not fail to come to pass. We can trust in God, through whom Israel—and we—are redeemed.

After the reading . . . L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 86:11-17

Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.

For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.

But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.

Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame;

Because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

READING

Romans 8:12-25

back of bulletin

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

After the reading . . . L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW, page 142



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

back of bulletin

The Gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew ...

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Michael Jones

HYMN OF DAY

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

ELW 694

Please stand as you are able

*APOSTLE'S CREED

ELW page 104

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and was born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

The congregation may be seated

WE GATHER OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERING SONG *Please stand as you are able*

ELW 186

***Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.***

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray... **Loving God,**

C: we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

After each petition: P: God of Grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

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

BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **C: Amen.**

HYMN

For the Fruit of All Creation

ELW 679

DISMISSAL

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE