

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21
O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.
¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
²⁰And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.
²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Psalms 26:1-8

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21
Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection;

outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.
¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28
From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”
²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?
²⁷“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

THOSE WHO LOSE
THEIR LIFE
FOR MY SAKE
WILL FIND IT

MATTHEW 16:25

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Welcome to Worship at Immanuel - With warm hearts and hands, we welcome all who have come to worship the Lord. May this be a time of encouragement and inspiration for us all.

Prayer before Worship: Lord, quiet the distractions within us and around us as we gather in Your presence. Open our hearts to Your Word, fill our minds with Your truth and lead us to worship You with sincerity and joy. In Jesus' name we pray. 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, August 30, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL JONES
Lay Reader: Tiffany Myers
Greeters: Dan & Tracy Harms
Ushers/Acolytes: Ty Harms, Rylee Kukuck
Communion: na
Organist: Kimberly Petersen

Sunday, September 6, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL JONES
Lay Reader: Mike Petersen
Greeters: Ron & Deb Jaskowiak
Ushers/Acolytes: Eli & Katelyn Petersen
Communion: Angie Kratochvil, Rebecca Casson
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

Announcements

Are you looking for a way to be more active in the life of our congregation?

Volunteer sign-up sheets for Lay Readers, Greeters, Usher/Acolytes, and Communion Assistants can be found on the small lectern at the back of the church. Please add your name if you are able to assist with our worship services or remove your name if you are no longer available. More Ushers and Acolytes would be especially appreciated at this time.

Sunday School starts September 13. Please watch for more details coming soon.

LWR Quilting - We will be knotting quilts on Tuesday, September 8th and 22nd from 1-3:30 p.m.

For those who are anticipating special projects for God's Work, Our Hands Day in September, we will instead turn our attention to a few community projects to take place later in the year. We have been doing a great job of sharing our generosity and talents throughout the year. We are not limited to doing God's Work just one day a year. Thank you to everyone who participates and donates time and resources for God's Work with Your Hands whenever we are called to do so.

**IMPORTANT EVENT INVITATION FOR ALL WOMEN
to the
Fall Gathering of the Northeast Conference WELCA**

Saturday, October 3, 2026

9:00 to 9:30 Registration

at

**Zion Lutheran Church of Clifton
100 N. Maple Avenue, Clifton, IL 60927**

**Please join us for a morning of blessings, not limited to breakfast and
a brief business meeting! Cost is \$10 payable that day at registration.**

**The theme of the gathering will focus on "HEALING"
with a Bible reflection by Pastor Joel Brown, and a program by
Gary Paruszkewicz, who is a developer of Tai Chi.**

**The monetary offering will be divided between
C/S IL Synod WELCA & The ELCA Disaster Response Fund.
Physical offering items can be brought for the local Food Pantry.**

Questions and/or registrations can be directed to:

Sue Gullquist (815) 530-5478

**If possible, provide an approximate number planning
to attend by Sept. 30th.**

SEE YOU THERE!!!

14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2026

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

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

For the Beauty of the Earth

ELW 879

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. O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through 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 Jeremiah 15:15-21 back of bulletin

Jeremiah’s delight in the word of the Lord is contradicted by the heaviness of God’s hand upon him and God’s seeming unfaithfulness. God’s tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, “I am with you.”

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

PSALM Psalm 26:1-8

Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

Test me, O Lord, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.

For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.

I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

**I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, that I may go
in procession round your altar,**

Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**Lord, I love the house in which you dwell and the place
where your glory abides.**

READING Romans 12:9-21 back of bulletin

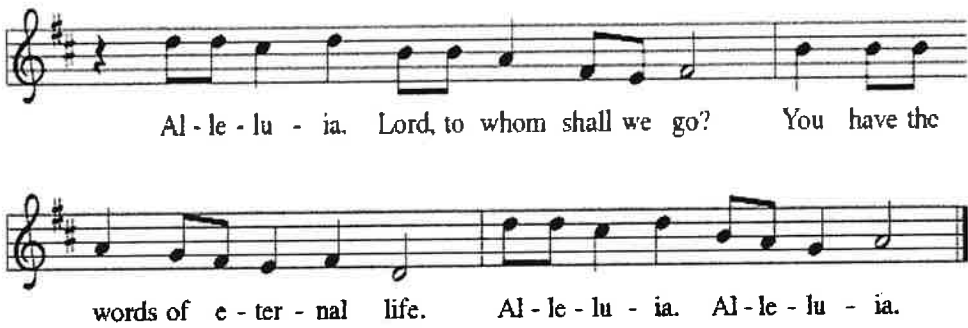
Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

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



GOSPEL READING Matthew 16:21-28 back of bulletin

The Gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew ... C: Glory to you, O Lord.

After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”

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 **Blest Be the Tie That Binds** ELW 656

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: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

After each petition: P: Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

P: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

Lift High the Cross

ELW 660

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE