

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is
not bread,

and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run
to you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One
of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷Let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have
mercy on them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Psalm 63:1-8**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,
that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all
passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into
Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the

same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual
drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that fol-
lowed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless,
God was not pleased with most of them, and they
were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us,
so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not
become idolaters as some of them did; as it is writ-
ten, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and
they rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual
immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three
thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ
to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed
by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them
did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These
things happened to them to serve as an example,
and they were written down to instruct us, on whom
the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you
are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No
testing has overtaken you that is not common to ev-
eryone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be
tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he
will also provide the way out so that you may be able
to endure it.

GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told
him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had
mingled with their sacrifices. ²[Jesus] asked them,
"Do you think that because these Galileans suffered
in this way they were worse sinners than all other
Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you
will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who
were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—
do you think that they were worse offenders than all
the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but
unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree
planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for
fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gar-
dener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking
for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut
it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He re-
plied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig
around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next
year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Next Sunday's Readings: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.

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ITEM013710 ELCAR

I have come looking for fruit

LUKE 13:7



Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Interim Pastor – Pastor Nathan Feig
217-637-9606 feig777@yahoo.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 - May God's grace nurture and strengthen you each day as we journey through our lives, seeking to grow in faith, hope and love.

Prayer before Worship: Lord, prepare our hearts for worship. Still our souls. Ground us in your grace. 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.

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, (offered on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month) the Eucharist, or Holy Communion is a means of God's grace whereby the real presence of Christ is offered. *If you would rather receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, please come forward and cross your arms to your shoulders as indication of needing a blessing today. 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

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This Week at Immanuel 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship

Sunday, March 23, 2025

WORSHIP LEADERS: PASTOR NATHAN FEIG
Lay Reader: Elton Mau
Greeters: Norman & Karen Harms
Ushers/Acolytes: Dan & Ty Harms
Organist: Kimberly Petersen

Sunday, March 30, 2025

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR NATHAN FEIG
Lay Reader: Tiffany Myers
Greeters: Dan & Tracy Harms
Ushers/Acolytes: Eli & Katelyn Petersen
Communion:
Organist: Cindy Wilson

Please include the following people in our prayers:

Lois Barker, Gary Kessinger, Lucy McKinley, Cheryl Poppe, Robert Ruff, Jeannie Weber, Tim Dawson, Bob & Nancy Lasser, Bob & Judy Logan, Kevin and Chad Allen (family members of Von Becker), and Daviney Steidinger-Reynolds (a student at Ridgeview)

Announcements

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

What is it? What happens there? Why do Lutherans Practice this in Worship? How do we take Holy Communion? All are great questions. Let's get together and talk about this. If you are new to being a Lutheran or Immanuel or are a seasoned attender and would like a little refresher on this topic, come join me in a three session faith building, discussion, and learning class. If you are interested, we will meet on Sunday March 23, March 30, and April 6, 2025. Topics will include What is a Sacrament? What is the Passover? What is Holy Communion? We will meet right after worship and allow up to 1 hour per session, unless you have more questions. Let's learn together!
~ Pastor Nathan Feig

Join us Wednesdays in Lent for a discussion of Five strategic priorities and goals.

Soup Suppers will be shared at 6 pm each Wednesday, followed by the Service at 7pm. Thank you to those who have provided the wonderful soups and sides so far.

Sharing the duties of our services – Those who are assigned as Ushers are also asked to come forward to assist in the distribution of Holy Communion. We would also ask for a few more volunteers to be included as Communion Assistants and Ushers/Acolytes. There is a sheet on the counter at the kitchen for those who would be willing to help those already on the list. Thank you.

LWR Quilts - We will knot quilts on Tuesdays, April 1st and 22nd from 1:00-3:30 p.m. (note time change). If you are planning to attend, please let Dee Winterland know so if we need to cancel for whatever reason, you can be contacted. We would love to see some new faces!

Lent 2025

Please join in worship and learning during the season of Lent.

For the Season of Lent we will look at

Mission, Vision, and Purpose as we Practice being Communities of Disciples

Join us each week for a discussion of several topics:

Five strategic priorities and goals:

March 12 - **CULTIVATING**

(cultivating healthy leadership, both rostered and lay)

March 19 - **CONNECTING**

(building and advancing relationship and connections)

Congregations/conferences/clusters/synod

March 26 - **CROSSING**

(renewed engagement of youth and young adults through cross-generational faith formation)

April 2 – **COMMUNICATING**

(strengthen communication)

April 9 – **CELEBRATING**

(celebrating our shared service and mission)

Please invite your friends and neighbors to join you.

Come for some supper and stay for some great discussion.

May God bless you faith journey this Lent Season!

Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

PRELUDE / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gathering

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

**Congregation may remain seated or stand as you are able*

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate One,

C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

ELW 756

*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.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. *Congregation may be seated.*

READING Isaiah 55:1-9 back of bulletin

To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.

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

PSALM Psalm 63:1-8

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you,
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might
behold your power and your glory.**

For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.

My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you
with joyful lips,

**When I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you
in the night watches.**

For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

READING 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 back of bulletin

Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW page 142

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

*GOSPEL READING Luke 13:1-9 back of bulletin

The Gospel is announced:

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

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

After the reading: P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Congregation may be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

MESSAGE

Pastor Nathan Feig

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

ELW 623

*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.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need. *Each petition will conclude with:*

P: God in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **C: Amen.**

*LORD'S PRAYER *(Sung from the insert found inside the front or back cover of the hymnals)*

WE GATHER OUR OFFERING

*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... Gracious Provider,

C: you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sending

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

BLESSING

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, † bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*HYMN

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

ELW 658

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE