

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Psalm 23**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25**

It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."
²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not

threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

[Jesus said:] "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

*I came that they may
have life and have it
abundantly*

JOHN 10:10

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 - Sunday School

Sunday, April 26, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL JONES
Lay Reader: Briana Ray
Greeters: Eli & Katelyn Petersen
Ushers/Acolytes: Jerry & Suzie Kukuck
Communion: na
Organist: Cindy Wilson

Sunday, May 3, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL JONES
Lay Reader: Dee Winterland
Greeters: Terry & Kay Bose
Ushers/Acolytes: Phil & Acer Kratochvil
Communion: Dennis Griepentrog, Jerry Kukuck
Organist: Kimberly Petersen

Please include the following people in our prayers:

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

Announcements

Please join us in welcoming Pastor Michael Jones to Immanuel.

We are more than delighted to have him and his wife, Christina joining us to lead our flock, especially as we observe Good Shepherd Sunday. We pray that their time with us will be as much as blessing for them as they are sure to be a blessing for Immanuel.

During the month of April we have been focusing on collecting items for Lutheran World Relief Health Kits. Each week we asked for only 1 item:

April 5 – One adult-size toothbrush in original package.

April 12 – One large, sturdy comb

April 19 – Bath-size bars of soap (2-3)

April 26 – One fingernail clipper

Please place your items in the collection basket in the fellowship hall. Many of the kits, quilts, and items gathered for LWR now stay in the United States to bring much needed care to those in areas facing floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, wildfires, and other natural disasters. **We all Thank You** for the donations that you are able to provide to help others in time of need.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM *Please stand as you are able*

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

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

P: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The congregation may be seated

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.**

THE KYRIE

ELW page 138

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 our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The congregation may be seated

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

READING

Acts 2:42-47

back of bulletin

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

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

PSALM

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;

For you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

READING

1 Peter 2:19-25

back of bulletin

Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.

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

John 10:1-10

back of bulletin

The Gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to John ...

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

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The congregation may be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON / NOISY OFFERING

SERMON

Pastor Michael Jones

HYMN OF DAY

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

ELW 789

CREED *Please stand as you are able*

P: We confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed,

**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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

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

P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: 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... **Merciful God,**

C: accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, 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: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

ELW 774

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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