## FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for
my sheep and will sort them out. 12As shepherds
sort out their flocks when they are among scat-
tered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will res-
cue them from all the places to which they have
been scattered on a day of clouds and thick dark-
ness. 13I will bring them out from the peoples
and gather them from the countries and bring
them into their own land, and I will feed them
on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses,
and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14I will
feed them with good pasture, and the mountain
heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they
shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall
feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.
15I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and
I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16I
will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays,
and I will bind up the injured, and I will strength-
en the weak, but the fat and the strong I will de-
stroy. I will feed them with justice.

20Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them:
I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the
lean sheep. 21Because you pushed with flank and
shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with
your horns until you scattered them far and wide,
22I will save my flock, and they shall no longer
be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and
sheep.

23I will set up over them one shepherd, my ser-
vant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed
them and be their shepherd. 24And I the LORD
will be their God, and my servant David shall be
prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.

## Psalm 95:1-7a

## SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

[not printed]

## GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "When the Son of
Man comes in his glory and all the angels with
him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.
32All the nations will be gathered before him,
and he will separate people one from another as
a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,
33and he will put the sheep at his right hand and
the goats at the left. 34Then the king will say
to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are
blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom pre-
pared for you from the foundation of the world,
35for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was
thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was
a stranger and you welcomed me, 36I was naked
and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took
care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'
37Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord,
when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you
food or thirsty and gave you something to drink?
38And when was it that we saw you a stranger and
welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing?
39And when was it that we saw you sick or in pris-
on and visited you?' 40And the king will answer
them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one
of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine,
you did it to me.' 41Then he will say to those at his
left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me
into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and
his angels, 42for I was hungry and you gave me no
food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to
drink, 43I was a stranger and you did not welcome
me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick
and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44Then
they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we
saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked
or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?'
45Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just
as you did not do it to one of the least of these,
you did not do it to me.' 46And these will go away
into eternal punishment but the righteous into
eternal life."

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37.

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Tracks 1 and 2

ITEM015003 ELCA-R



# All the nations will be gathered before the throne

MATTHEW 25:32

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

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(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 -** 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 1st and 3rd Sundays 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 10:15 am - Sunday School

**Sunday, November 22, 2026**

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL JONES
Lay Reader: Angie Kratochvil
Greeters: Ron & Deb Jaskowiak
Ushers/Acolytes: Phil & Angie Kratochvil
Communion: na
Organist: Kimberly Petersen

**Sunday, November 29, 2026**

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL JONES
Lay Reader: Erin Ifft
Greeters: Phil & Angie Kratochvil
Ushers/Acolytes: Kasen Casson, Dan Harms
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, Shelby Hall, Rick Vance, Jeri Vance Crawley, Larry Poppe

## *Announcements*

**Adopt-a-family requests are on the poster in the fellowship hall.** Please consider helping community families with a gift or two in this season of giving. If you have any questions, please see Sarah Kukuck. Gift wrapping supplies are also requested with all items returned to the church by Sunday, December 13 for wrapping and tagging.

**The December Newsletter deadline is Monday, November 23rd. Please submit any reports or information to Cindy at ckwilson1983@gmail.com. Thank you.**

**Cindy will be updating** member contact information before the end of the year. Please let her know if you have changes in your family status that should be addressed. Thank you.

**Please mark your calendars for these upcoming service dates and times:**
The Children's Christmas program will be December 20th during the worship service.
The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be December 24th at 4:30 pm.
The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be Sunday, February 7, 2027.

**Larry Poppe is currently in a rehabilitation facility.** Cards may be sent to Larry with the following address: Room 205, 1001 E. Pells St., Paxton, IL 60957

# *Christ the King*

November 22, 2026

*On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.*

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, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy God,

**C: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.**

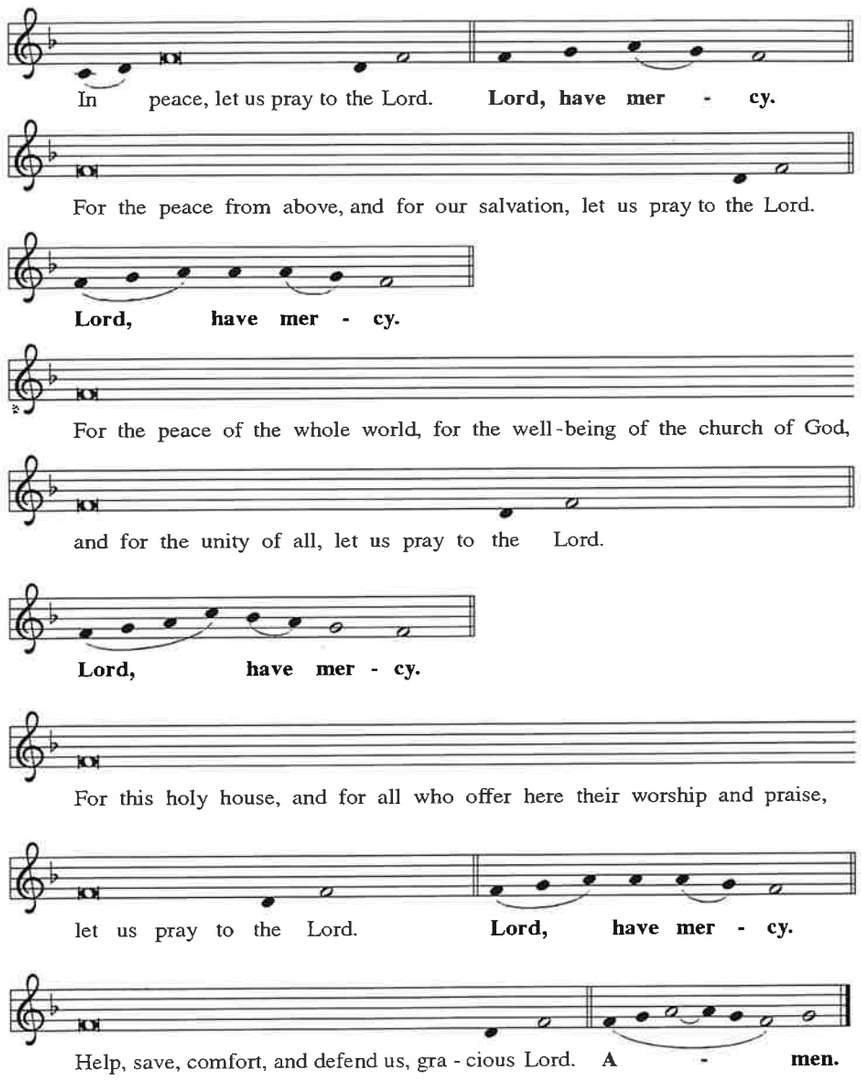
P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. **C: Amen.**

*The congregation may be seated*

GATHERING SONG ***Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*** ELW **693**

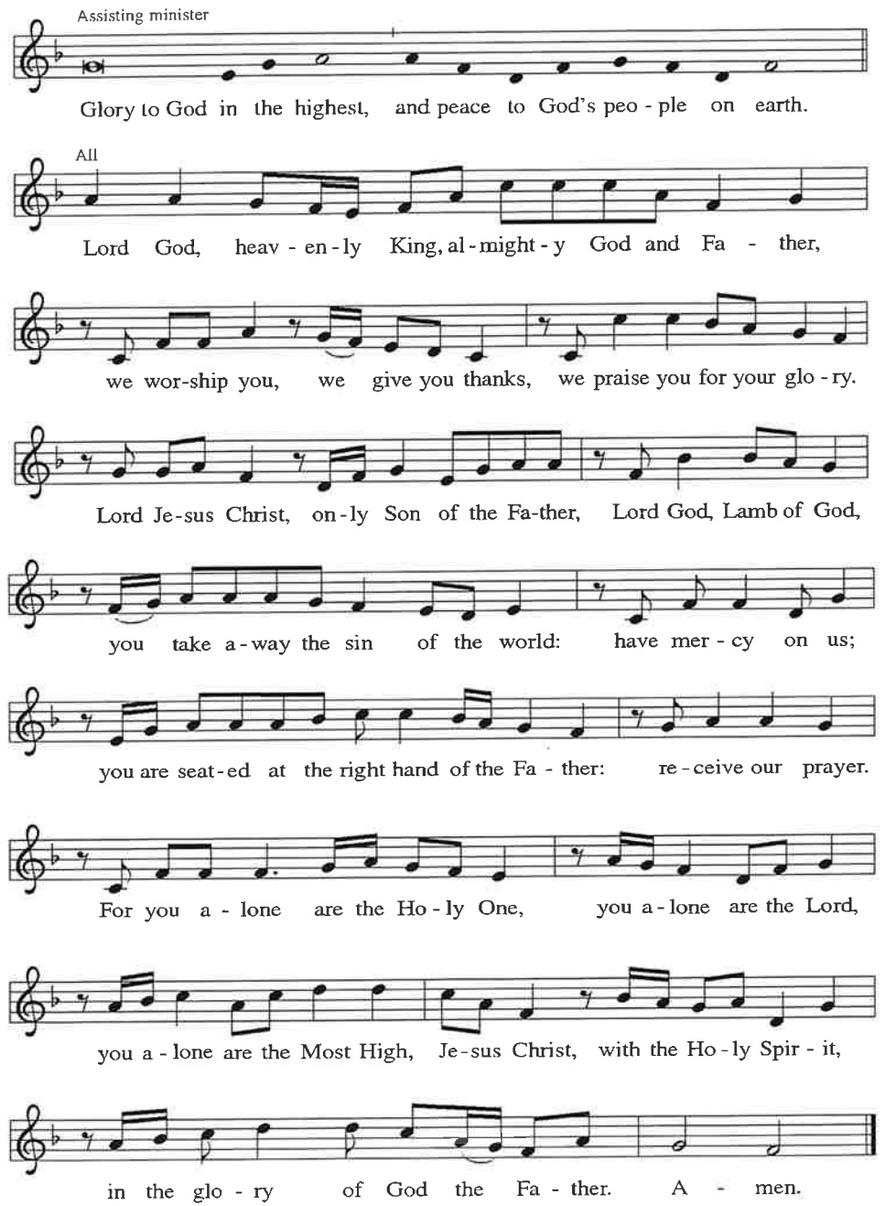
GREETING *Please stand as you are able*

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 of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, 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 Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 back of bulletin

*Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.*

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

PSALM Psalm 95:1-7a

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**
For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.
**In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**
The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.
**Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker.**
For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.



READING Ephesians 1:15-23 printed on page 6

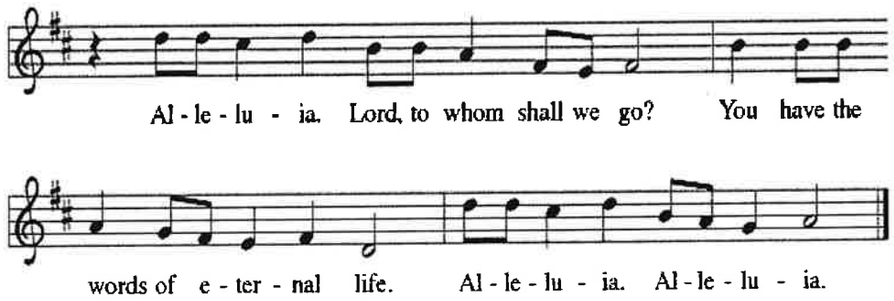
*In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.*

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the
saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I
remember you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the
Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to
know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may
perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his
glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable
greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his
great power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from
the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above
all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is
named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has put all
things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church,
23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*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 25:31-46 back of bulletin

*The Gospel is announced:*

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

*Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.*

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 ***We Praise You, O God*** ELW **870**

APOSTLES' CREED *please stand as you are able*

**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.**

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... Eternal God,

**C: our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*After each petition:* P: God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **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: The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

**C: Amen.**

HYMN ***All Creatures, Worship God Most High*** ELW **835**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE