



IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Manitowoc, Wisconsin

April 4-7, 2024

Welcome

Thanks for being here! We truly pray that today you find the warmth of our Christian hospitality, the powerful truth of God's Word and the peace-giving assurance of his promises. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. We hope you worship with us again!

If Immanuel Is New to You:

Relax. At Immanuel, our worship is designed to praise God and enrich faith. We aim to make the service clear and appropriately reverent. For your convenience, the service is printed for you here as well as displayed on our screens.

Bring the kids. Our congregation really loves and encourages the worshiping family – there is no better way for them to learn how to listen and pray than by bringing them to church! So, if your children are acting up, please know it's never a bother to our worship service. However, if you're concerned your fellow worshipers are being distracted and you'd like a place to calm a restless little one, our lobby area with screens and audio might allow you to continue your worship with us.

Restrooms are located in the lobby, just to the right of the elevator.

Make yourself at home. You don't have to rush off after the service today. Light refreshments are typically provided in our lobby after the 8:00 am service. If you are comfortable, feel free to follow up with one of our Pastors - we'd be honored if you would take the time to introduce yourself!

Don't feel obligated. Our members give financial offerings to the Lord as an expression of thanks and praise for his amazing love. Please know that you are our guests and we're simply happy you've come to hear about Jesus and his Word today. You're not expected to give an offering; it's your choice.

Cell phones. To remove as many distractions as possible from worshipping God today, we kindly ask that you silence your phone before the service.

Questions? If you'd like to know more about our church or our beliefs, or have questions about our PreK thru 8th grade school, feel free to contact our pastors or principal at any time (*contact info included on the announcement insert*). You may also browse the information counter in our lobby for magazines, brochures and devotional resources.



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN

We Worship Our Living Savior

Our Easter Confidence – Psalm 16

PASTOR: We worship in the name of the Father and of the Son

CONG: and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

Keep me safe, my God,

for in you I take refuge.

I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord;

apart from you I have no good thing.”

I keep my eyes always on the LORD.

With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

my body also will rest secure,

because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,

nor will you let your faithful one see decay.

You make known to me the path of life;

you will fill me with joy in your presence.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Our Confession & Absolution – “I Know that My Redeemer Lives” (CW 441)

(sung) I know that my Redeemer lives;

What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

He lives, he lives, who once was dead;

He lives my ever-living Head!

It is good and appropriate for us to come before the Living God with humility and in honesty. Let’s acknowledge our sinfulness before God and seek his forgiveness in Jesus.

Lord God, you are holy and loving, and I confess that I am a sinful person. My thoughts, words, and actions have offended you and earned your punishment. I am sorry for my sins. I come at your invitation to lay them all before you and to find your mercy for Jesus' sake.

(sung) **He lives to bless me with his love;
He lives to plead for me above.
He lives, my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.**

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. By God's grace, you are forgiven and saved in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

(sung) **He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears.
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.**

Because Christ lives, we have peace with God. Because he lives, eternal life is ours. Because he lives, we too will overcome the grave and see our Savior with our own eyes. Jesus lives! And because he lives, we join to sing:

(sung) **He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death.
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.**

Risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by your Word and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence;

for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Easter Praise – “O Sons and Daughters of the King”

(CW 456:1,8)

Message from God's Word – Acts 26:19-29

¹⁹ “So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. ²⁰ First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and then to the Gentiles, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and demonstrate their repentance by their deeds. ²¹ That is why some Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me. ²² But God has helped me to this very day; so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen— ²³ that the Messiah would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would bring the message of light to his own people and to the Gentiles.”

²⁴ At this point Festus interrupted Paul's defense. “You are out of your mind, Paul!” he shouted. “Your great learning is driving you insane.”

²⁵ “I am not insane, most excellent Festus,” Paul replied. “What I am saying is true and reasonable. ²⁶ The king is familiar with these things, and I can speak freely to him. I am convinced that none of this has escaped his notice, because it was not done in a corner. ²⁷ King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you do.”

²⁸ Then Agrippa said to Paul, “Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?”

²⁹ Paul replied, “Short time or long—I pray to God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains.”

Things I'd like to remember this week...

We Can Testify with Easter Confidence



ilutheran.org/give

Offerings of Thanks

If you are visiting today, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. Our church family joyfully gives these gifts as one of the many ways we can say *“thank you”* to Jesus. You are here as our guest



ilutheran.org/imhere

Our Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Following Our Prayer we join to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Supper

God's Word speaks of the spiritual blessings of this Sacrament (Mt. 26:28) and warns against the spiritual danger of being unprepared for this holy meal (1 Cor. 11:27-29). Because we deeply care about you and don't want to see anyone's faith harmed, we ask that if you have not studied or spoken with our pastors first, that you refrain from joining in the Sacrament today. We are not judging your love for Jesus but rather displaying loving caution for all involved. Please feel free to ask our pastors if you have questions. We are eager to listen and share over an open Bible.

PASTOR: *(we pray)* Heavenly Father, we are so thankful to you for sending your Son to save us, your people. By grace, you have given us an eternal pledge of forgiveness and You have come to reassure us of that love again in Your Word and Sacrament. Thank you for continuing to make these promises to us – help us to trust them again today...

Jesus' Words Instituting His Supper

Words of Institution: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." – Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." The peace of the Lord be with you always...

The Distribution – *as communion is shared, the congregation is invited to sing:*

"I Am Content! My Jesus Lives Again"

(CW 464)

"This Joyful Eastertide"

(CW 449)

God's Grace Keeps on Giving – (Week 1) *Grace Gives Eternal Treasures*

What's the NATURE of GRACE?

Ephesians 2:8-9—*It is **by grace you have been saved**, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus to do good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

- God's Graces gives _____
- God's Graces gives _____
- God's Graces gives _____

Worth Quoting –

“He is no fool who _____ what he cannot _____
to _____ what he cannot _____.”

Smart or Foolish?

Matthew 13:44—*"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then **in his joy** went and sold all he had and bought that field."*

- Evaluate this statement about the man in Jesus' parable: “His discovery _____ him everything.”

The Wisdom of Giving

Matthew 6:19-21—*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But **store up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

- It is not wise to store earthly treasure because...

- God wants/enables us to act out of _____

What are the Eternal Treasures?

- _____ heaven. (Luke 16)
- Heavenly _____

Worth Quoting –

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep and holds onto what he cannot lose.”

- What can't he keep? _____
- What will he never lose? _____

GRACE TRUTH #1

- You can't _____, but you can _____.
- We live with _____!

God's Blessing

Closing Song – “By Grace I’m Saved”

(CW 575:1,5)

Silent Prayer – *feel free to use this silent prayer of thanks*

Dear Jesus, thank you for your grace to me. Help me to treasure your eternal gifts and to be eager to share them with others. Thank you for your earthly blessings too! Amen.



Musician: Joel Putz

Worship Leader: Pastor Matt Zimpelmann

Flowers: Thank you to all who donated Easter Lilies.