

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3184 Church Street · PO Box 739 · Manchester, MD 21102

Our mission as disciples of Jesus, is to commit ourselves to making Christ known through worship, service, outreach, learning, and loving one another



9am Sunday, in the Sanctuary

September 5, 2021

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Lector: Susan Burnette

Here are our current COVID protocols:

- Due to the rising rate of infection:
we ask all worshipers -*regardless of vaccination status*- to wear a mask, except to receive communion.
- Please maintain distancing of at least three feet except for those of the same household.
- Seating will be in every other pew to maintain distancing,
and in distanced chairs in the overflow area (Sunday School Auditorium) if needed.
- We will continue to use downloadable bulletins to keep worship as contact-free as possible.
Printed bulletins are available at the welcome table for those who need them.
- To prevent virus spread, please keep congregational responses and singing at very low volume.
- For Communion, worshipers will proceed down the center aisle, *maintaining distancing*,
to receive communion from the pastor, who will place the wafer in the open palm to avoid
physical contact. After consuming the wafer, please move to either side and take a pre-filled cup
(avoid touching other cups), drink the juice and place the empty cup in the basket by the side aisle
before returning to your seat.
- Please maintain distancing when leaving the sanctuary row by row, from back to front.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Worship Services at Immanuel:**
 - **Zoom service Saturday 5pm** livestreamed on Facebook
 - **Sunday Sanctuary Service 9am**—livestreamed on Facebook
 - **We welcome our Guest Preacher:** the Rev. Phil Huber,
who will lead worship while Pastor Charlie is on vacation.
- **Upcoming Events**
 - **Food Distribution:** Tues & Sat, 10-11:30am. Egg cartons and milk money needed!
 - **Church Picnic: Sunday, Sept. 12** at Christmas Tree Park following the 9am service.
 - This will also be our farewell dinner for Pastor Charlie.
 - Hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill and plenty of other food.
 - Games and activities for all ages.
 - Sign up at church or RSVP to Rhonda Kiler *by TODAY, September 5.*
- **Stephen Ministry News** Leader: Connie Dattilio
 - Immanuel is a Stephen Ministry congregation with trained volunteers providing spiritual care and support for those who are struggling.
 - Let us know if you would like to learn about becoming a Stephen Minister or to recommend someone in need of a Stephen Minister.

• **September Mission Offering: Youth Gathering**

- The special offering will be collected for the *group going to the ELCA Youth Gathering*.
- Every three years, 30,000+ high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation.
- Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged/inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. The Gathering (postponed from 2021) is in Minneapolis, MN July 24-28, 2022.
- Minneapolis will be our 3rd gathering: *2015 in Detroit · 2018 in Houston*
- We currently have a group of 12 youth and three adults planning to attend in 2022.
- Approx cost per person is \$1,000, which includes: all transportation, lodging, registration, and food. Our goal is that the only out of pocket for attendees is the registration deposit.

We THANK ALL who have supported our efforts!

Monthly Mission Offering Procedures

- Donations are collected for the entire month - checks payable to Immanuel Church.
 - Use purple Special Offering envelopes or clearly note the designation.
 - When giving online, select Mission Offering from the drop-down list.

• **New Church Directory Photography Dates** (Coordinator: Debbie Mace):

- Monday, Sept 20 & Tuesday, Sept 21, from 2 – 8:30pm at Immanuel.
 - You will have a 15-minute professional photography session, schedule a ZOOM meeting to see your proofs, and receive a free 8x10 portrait and free directory.
The directory WON'T BE COMPLETE WITHOUT YOU!
 - Make your appointment now – on our website, at church or call Debbie Mace at 443-244-0358. Or scan this QR code with your smartphone.
 - You may also schedule a multi-family photo session.



- **Community Yard & Craft Sale:** Rain or Shine Saturday, October 2: 8am – 2pm
 - Vendors wanted: \$20 / space
 - Kids Activities, Food & Drink. Following COVID guidelines
 - For more information, contact: Audrey Shaffer 443-508-4358 / audreyshaffer@hotmail.com

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Ruth Ridgely
Julia Hott
Sameer Amini & family
Heidi Hess
Max Yingling
Adrian Lund
Rosemary Whitehead
John Calhoun
Ray Lewis
Eric Kelsoe
Pam Miller
Stephanie Hull
Pastor Charlene Barnes
Scotty, Brittany & Joey Pomaes
Pastor Eileen Kelly-Warner
Fred & Arlene Linker

Brenda Murray
Angela Keefer
Pat Walton
John Adcock
Esther Miller
Kathy Hintz
Shawn Utz
Dana Kline
Courtney Coppa
Ardice Holbrook
Nelson Dorsey
Milford Batters
Rosalie Bailey
Bri Murphy
Bruce Klinedinst
Steve Yelton

Ron & Ryan Whitehead
Donna Marshall
Jeff Dell
Gary Eppley
Tony Haines
David & Darlene Barnhart
Craig Schenning
Mike Day
Bill & Delores Whitehead
Frank Sentous
Pam Mullins
Jeremy Birnie
Dolly Ruby
Cheryl Myers

PRELUDE

Jerry Hoffman, Organist

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**
Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider, **help us.**
It is hard to believe there is enough to share.
We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live.
We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.
We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn?
Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW #532 vs 1,2

Gather Us In

Jerry Hoffman, Organist

¹ **Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

² **We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.**

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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and
make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world,
through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 35:4-7A

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

PSALM 146:5-10

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;
who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the captive free.

**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

**The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING

JAMES 2:1-10,14-17

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

MARK 7:24-37

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MESSAGE

Rev. Phil Huber

SERMON

Rev. Phil Huber

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #617 vs 1,2

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

Jerry Hoffman, Organist

**¹ We come to you for healing, Lord,
of body, mind, and soul,
and pray that by your Spirit's touch
we may again be whole.**

**² As once you walked through ancient streets
and reached toward those in pain,
come, risen Christ, among us still
with pow'r to heal again.**

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APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy One, you bring your people together in worship.

Enliven your church.

Guide all evangelists, preachers, prophets, and missionaries
who seek to share your love through word and deed.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You provide water for thirsty ground and sunshine to feed hungry plants.

Bless all who advocate for healthy forests, unpolluted air, and clean waterways.

Inspire all people to show care for the world you have made.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You show no partiality.

Increase justice in all nations.

Encourage leaders and governments to work with one another for the good of our common world.

Especially as we celebrate Labor Day, unite us in seeking the health, safety, and dignity of all.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You accompany those who are most in need.

Shelter all fleeing violence or persecution, protect any who are in danger,
and sustain them through uncertain and unstable times.

We pray especially for the people of Afghanistan,

for all on our prayer list and for those we name before you now...

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You support the work of your disciples.

Continue to nurture the leadership and ministries of this congregation
especially during this time of transition.

Raise up new leaders for the coming year and keep us open to your call.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You embrace all who have died in the faith and brought them into your glorious presence.

We thank you for their example and rejoice in their lives.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

We deeply appreciate your faithful and generous support during this time of crisis. You may place your offering in the appropriate basket on the welcome table as you enter or leave. Or you may mail your offering to the church office or give online through our church website www.immanuelutheranccmd.org or the Tithe.ly app at <https://tithe.ly/give>. Thank you for helping us pursue God's mission together!



OFFERING SONG ELW #184

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Jerry Hoffman, Organist

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

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OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, **you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.**
**Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection
opened to us the way of everlasting life.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Proceed down the center aisle (remember to maintain social distancing). The pastor will place the wafer in the open palm to avoid physical contact. After consuming the wafer, move to either side and take a pre-filled cup (avoid touching other cups). Drink the juice and place the empty cup in the basket by the side aisle. Return to your seat.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW #712 vs 1,4
Lord Whose Love in Humble Service

Jerry Hoffman, Organist

**1 Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift which you impart.**

**4 Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know and live.**

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SENDING

We are God's family on a journey of love with Jesus, rich in history and tradition yet open to the Spirit,
•welcoming all in worship and learning,
•growing in faith as the Spirit leads us,
•reaching out with our neighbors to serve those in need,
•sharing with others God's all-embracing love.

We invite you to walk with us on this journey.

**Let us go in peace and make Christ known
through worship, service, outreach,
learning, and loving one another. Amen! Thanks be to God!**



POSTLUDE

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Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

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