



**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
AVILLA, INDIANA  
GOD WITH US**

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**Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

**ORGAN PRELUDE**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING ONE – PAGE 151**

**HYMN No. 908 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear**

1 Lord, open now my heart to hear,  
And through Your Word to me draw near;  
Let me Your Word e'er pure retain;  
Let me Your child and heir remain.

2 Your Word inspires my heart within;  
Your Word grants healing from my sin;  
Your Word has pow'r to guide and bless;  
Your Word brings peace and happiness.

△3 To God the Father, God the Son,  
And God the Spirit, Three in One,  
Shall glory, praise, and honor be  
Now and throughout eternity.

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## INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

**INTROIT – Psalm 143:2, 5–6, 10–11; antiphon: v. 1**

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy

**C: In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!**

P: Enter not into judgment with your servant,

**C: for no one living is righteous before you.**

P: I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done;

**C: I ponder the work of your hands.**

P: I stretch out my hands to you;

**C: my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**

P: Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!

**C: Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**

P: For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life!

**C: In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!**

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

**C: and to the Holy Spirit;**

P: as it was in the beginning,

**C: is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

**C: In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!**

# KYRIE

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

P: 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.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE - This Is the Feast



**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb — who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray

**C:** Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## First Reading – Zephaniah 1:7–16

<sup>7</sup>*Be silent before the Lord GOD!  
For the day of the LORD is near;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice  
and consecrated his guests.*

<sup>8</sup>*And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—  
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons  
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.*

<sup>9</sup>*On that day I will punish  
everyone who leaps over the threshold,  
and those who fill their master's house  
with violence and fraud.*

<sup>10</sup>“On that day,” declares the LORD,  
“a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,  
a wail from the Second Quarter,  
a loud crash from the hills.  
<sup>11</sup>Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!  
For all the traders are no more;  
all who weigh out silver are cut off.  
<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the men  
who are complacent,  
those who say in their hearts,  
‘The LORD will not do good,  
nor will he do ill.’  
<sup>13</sup>Their goods shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.  
Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.”  
<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;  
the mighty man cries aloud there.  
<sup>15</sup>A day of wrath is that day,  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
<sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



## Epistle – 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup>For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA



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.

## Holy Gospel – Matthew 25:14-30

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



<sup>14</sup>[Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. <sup>17</sup>So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. <sup>18</sup>But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup>And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>24</sup>He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup>But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take

*the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



## **HYMN No. 508 – The Day is Surely Drawing Near**

- 1 The day is surely drawing near  
When Jesus, God’s anointed,  
In all His power shall appear  
As judge whom God appointed.  
Then fright shall banish idle mirth,  
And flames on flames shall ravage earth  
As Scripture long has warned us.**
  
- 2 The final trumpet then shall sound  
And all the earth be shaken,  
And all who rest beneath the ground  
Shall from their sleep awaken.  
But all who live will in that hour,  
By God’s almighty, boundless pow’r,  
Be changed at His commanding.**

**3 The books are opened then to all,  
A record truly telling  
What each has done, both great and small,  
When he on earth was dwelling,  
And ev'ry heart be clearly seen,  
And all be known as they have been  
In thoughts and words and actions.**

**4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord  
And sought but carnal pleasures,  
Who here despised His precious Word  
And loved their earthly treasures!  
With shame and trembling they will stand  
And at the judge's stern command  
To Satan be delivered.**

**5 My Savior paid the debt I owe  
And for my sin was smitten;  
Within the Book of Life I know  
My name has now been written.  
I will not doubt, for I am free,  
And Satan cannot threaten me;  
There is no condemnation!**

Text: Public domain

## **SERMON**

**Text: Zephaniah 1:7-16  
Theme: The Day of the Lord is Near**

## APOSTLES' CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*(there is a time for silent prayer)*

*After each petition*

P: Lord, in Your mercy

**C: hear our prayer**

*At the conclusion of the prayer:*

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## 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.**

## COLLECT FOR THE WORD

P: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.



**HYMN No. 818 – In Thee is Gladness**

**1 In Thee is gladness**  
Amid all sadness,  
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.  
By Thee are given  
The gifts of heaven,  
Thou the true Redeemer art.  
Our souls Thou wakest,  
Our bonds Thou breakest;  
Who trusts Thee surely  
Has built securely;  
He stands forever: Alleluia!  
Our hearts are pining  
To see Thy shining,  
Dying or living  
To Thee are cleaving;  
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!

**2 Since He is ours,**  
We fear no powers,  
Not of earth nor sin nor death.  
He sees and blesses  
In worst distresses;  
He can change them with a breath.  
Wherefore the story  
Tell of His glory  
With hearts and voices;  
All heav'n rejoices  
In Him forever: Alleluia!  
We shout for gladness,  
Triumph o'er sadness,  
Love Him and praise Him  
And still shall raise Him  
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!



Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book  
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**WELCOME** - We welcome all worshippers to our services at Immanuel this week. As God comes to us in Word and in Sacrament may we experience His love and His power in the singing of praise and the living of our lives to His glory.

**VISITORS** - Welcome all visitors this week. Be sure to pick up a visitor packet from an usher or from our Information Rack in the east entrance.

**RECORD OF FELLOWSHIP PADS** -ALL members and visitors are asked to record their attendance at church and communion. Please return the record to the center aisle.

**SERVICE ENLARGEMENTS, LARGE PRINT HYMNS & ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES** - are now available for the service each week. It will include the service, hymns, and the insert of readings. They will be available at both entrances next to the bulletins. Please return them after the service.

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY TOTES** - are available at both entrances for children age kindergarten and younger. Please return them after the service.

**NURSERY** - Exit the southeast door, the nursery is the third door at the bottom of the stairs. The first door is the lounge where you may listen to the service on the speaker.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** is at 8:30AM in the west Sunday school room. They are looking deeper into the Lessons of the Day for that Sunday Service.

**CHURCH OFFICE** - If you need to meet, speak, or make an appointment with the Church Secretary the office is open on Tuesdays. If you need to meet or speak to Pastor Kuhlman you can always reach him on his cell and at his home. **Please note that the church will be locked at all times unless two people are present.**

**AVILLA FOOD PANTRY** - Please do not forget the needy people in our community. You may place your food donations in the box in the east entrance.

**FLOWERS** – The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by the Heller family in memory of husband and father, Martin Heller.

**MEETINGS AND EVENTS COMING UP:**

- **Wednesday** – Thanksgiving Eve Service 7PM

**PRAYER LIST- Prayer for the sick & recovering:** Joyce Bell, Tim Bishop, John Seidel, Steve Ferguson, Angie Hardiek, Melanie Fortman, young relative of a church member who is suffering mentally and parents who need wisdom and comfort.

**DONUTS / MUFFINS / COOKIES** – If you would like to provide donuts, muffins, cookies, etc. for Sunday morning there is a sign-up sheet on the table at the east entrance.

**THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE** – will be Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm with Holy Communion. All can and offering donations will be given to the Avilla Food Pantry.

**2024 ALTAR FLOWERS CHART** - The 2024 Altar Flower Chart is up! The price for 2024 will remain at \$30 for 2 vases. If the flowers are donated in memory of someone or in honor of a special occasion, please make a note of that. Make checks payable to Immanuel Chancel Society and place it in their drawer in the east entrance.

**POINSETTA SIGN UP** – As we have done in past years, we will be placing poinsettias around the altar for our Christmas service. This year you may order a single red poinsettia for \$14.00 each or bring your own plant to the church no later than Monday, Dec. 18th. If you are interested in ordering a plant, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the east entrance. **The last day to place your order is Sunday, December 10th.** Make checks payable to the Immanuel Chancel Society and place it in an envelope marked with your name and note it is for poinsettia flowers. Place it in the drawer in the east entrance. If you order a poinsettia, we will place a slip of paper inside the plant with your name on it. If you bring your own plant be sure to write your name on a slip of paper and place it in the flower pot. Plants may be taken home following the Christmas Eve Candlelight service or at your earliest convenience.

**WEDDING GIFT** – One of our seminary students, David Grascch is getting married December 30th. David's wedding will be in December. If you would like to honor David and Maddie with a gift for their wedding, put it in an envelope, clearly marked with their name, and place it in the offering plate.

**PORTALS OF PRAYER** - Portals of Prayer devotional books for October-December are available at the back of the church and at the side entrance.

**INFORMATION RACK**- last week's bulletin; extra newsletters; Visitors Packet; Portals of Prayer; Lutheran Witness; Cross Connection; Thrivent Dollars information; Lutherans for Life.

**LOOK UP** - Looking Up is your first step to seeing past your struggles. Mental and behavioral health issues can be a silent battle. But there's always hope on the horizon. You can start by looking here for resources, information, and providers.

- <https://lookupindiana.org>
- Call 877-257-0208 - Available 24 hours every day
- Text LookUp to 494949 - Available 24 hours every day

**WEEKLY SERVICE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** are now on our website. The service can be found under Family Altar. The announcements in the bulletin each week can be seen on our website **under Blog and then correct month.**

**LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS:**

Worship Attendance:

- Sunday: 60 + Jesus

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

Be uplifted by the blessings in your life today. A heart full of Jesus cannot be crushed.

## ANXIETY / DEPRESSION SUPPORT GROUPS

- Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana  
<https://mhanortheastindiana.org>  
260-422-6441; [info@mhanortheastindiana.org](mailto:info@mhanortheastindiana.org)

Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana offers a free anxiety and depression support group on Wednesdays at 6 P.M. No formal diagnosis is required. The group is currently meeting via Zoom. Email Lacey Holt to sign up at: [lholt@mhanortheastindiana.org](mailto:lholt@mhanortheastindiana.org)

- Mental Health Grace Alliance  
<https://mentalhealthgracealliance.org/your-personal-journey>

Mental Health Grace Alliance offers Bible study books that combine relevant Bible studies, neuroscience, and practical tools to help those experiencing a mental health difficulty to manage stressors, increase calm through rest and joy, reframe negative thoughts and nurture healthy relationships. These books are best used in small groups. *Living Grace* is a 16-week study for adults, and *Redefine Grace* is a 10-week study for high school and college age students. Materials are available online.

- NAMI Fort Wayne  
<https://www.namifortwayne.org>  
260-447-8990; [faithnet@namifortwayne.org](mailto:faithnet@namifortwayne.org)

NAMI Ft. Wayne provides free support groups for those living with mental illness and also for adult family and friends of people living with mental illness. Call the NAMI Ft. Wayne office to find out their current meeting schedule.