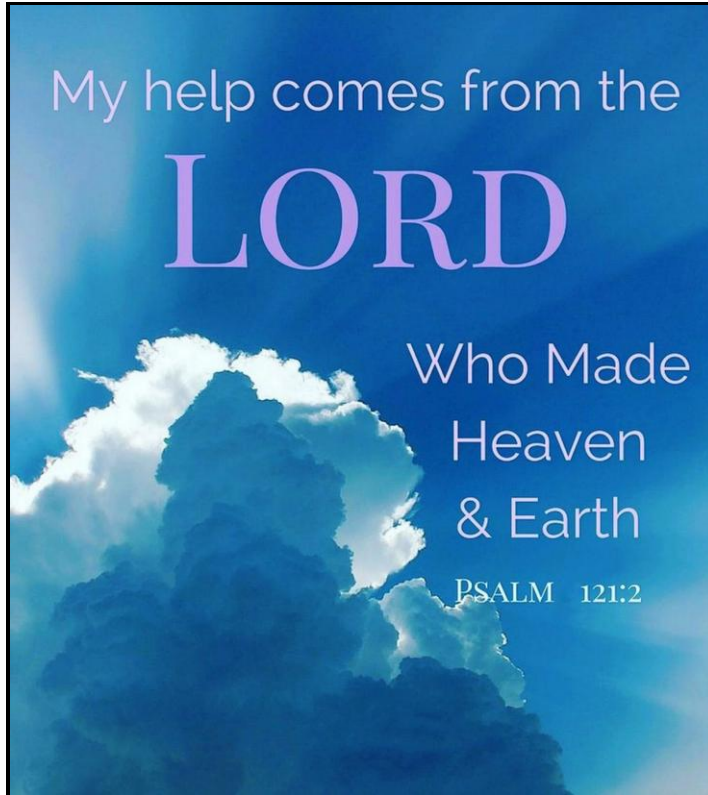


Immanuel Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



The Divine Service III

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2026
10:00am

3000 West Main Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49006

AS WE GATHER

God's richest blessings on your worship here with us! Over a century before Cyrus the Great was made King of Persia, God named him as the one who would defeat Babylon. God did this using Cyrus's name in Isaiah 45, well before Cyrus was even born. This shows how great and amazing our God is! But it also raises the question- what does it mean that God has a plan? This is especially hard for us to understand when so much evil and bad happens. It is hard for us to realize that even though God does not cause evil, he has a plan for it and even can use it for his greater glory. So today we will reflect on God's plan of salvation, and how he even used evil men to bring it about through the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

PRELUDE

LINDA RICHTER, PIANIST

*The congregation will stand for sections beginning with an asterisk.**

WELCOME TO IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH!

*ENTRANCE HYMN

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

WOV 651

*INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong: Amen.

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Cong: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

Cong: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for self-reflection

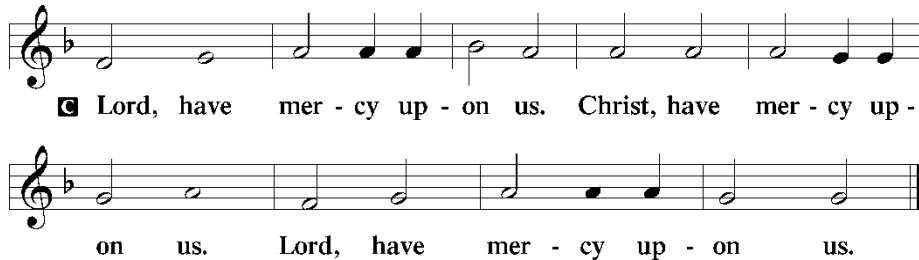
Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

Cong: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong: Amen.

***KYRIE**

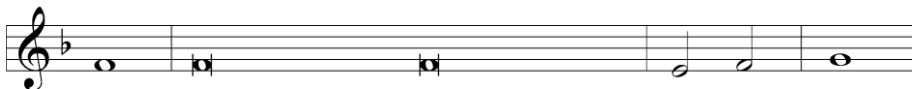


Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

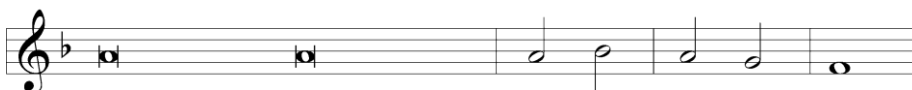
*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



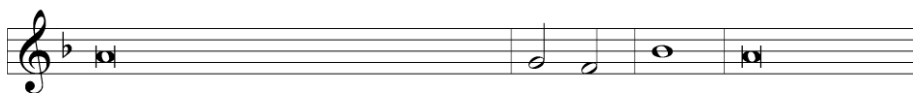
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



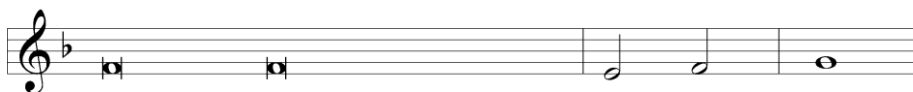
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

***SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Cong: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Cong: Amen.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 45:1-7 (ESV)

Lector: Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:
“I will go before you
and level the exalted places,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
I will give you the treasures of darkness
and the hoards in secret places,
that you may know that it is I, the Lord,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I name you, though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not know me,
that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me;
I am the Lord, and there is no other.
I form light and create darkness;
I make well-being and create calamity;
I am the Lord, who does all these things.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

PSALM 96:1-9 (ESV)

Lector: Oh sing to the Lord a new song;

Cong: sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Lector: Sing to the Lord, bless his name;

Cong: tell of his salvation from day to day.

Lector: Declare his glory among the nations,

Cong: his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Lector: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

Cong: he is to be feared above all gods.

Lector: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,

Cong: but the Lord made the heavens.

Lector: Splendor and majesty are before him;

Cong: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Lector: Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,

Cong: ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!

Lector: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;

Cong: bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Lector: Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness;

Cong: tremble before him, all the earth!

**Cong: 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.**

SECOND READING

1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10 (ESV)

Lector: Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

*ALLELUIA



*HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 22:15-22 (ESV)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.



Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

*HYMN OF THE DAY

HERE I AM LORD

WOV 752

SERMON

PASTOR JOSHUA GROTELUESCHEN

Pastor: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Cong: Amen.

***NICENE CREED**

**Cong: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified, who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

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

Almighty God, we give You thanks for the gift of Your Church, purchased by Jesus' blood. We praise You for joining us to the Body of Christ through Baptism and granting us new life in Him. As You have turned us from idols to serve You, grant us grace amid the scoffing and unbelief of the world to await Jesus' return, when He will deliver us from the wrath to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

Cong: hear our prayer.

Lector: God of our salvation, You deliver Your Son's work through Your Word in power and in the Holy Spirit. Strengthen the Church's pastors to proclaim Your truth. Increase the faith of all who hear, that they may respond in love, steadfast in their hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

Cong: hear our prayer.

Lector: God of all truth, from the rising of the sun to its setting, You make known Your salvation in Christ. Bless fathers and mothers as they teach their children Your Word and Your ways. Let them know that there is no God besides You and rejoice in Your faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

Cong: hear our prayer.

Lector: Heavenly Father, as we render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto You what is Yours, help us to acknowledge that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given by You. Grant wisdom to our leaders, vigilance to our protectors and compassion to those who care for us. Lord, in Your mercy,

Cong: hear our prayer.

Lector: O Lord, our help comes from You, who made heaven and earth. You preserve our life. Have mercy upon all who are afflicted, especially those on our prayer list and those held closely in our hearts. Keep them from all evil, and shade them from all harm. Lord, in Your mercy,

Cong: hear our prayer.

Lector: O God, You spread before us a foretaste of the feast to come on Your altar. Let us rejoice in the forgiveness of sins and strengthening of faith that it bestows and proclaim Jesus' death until He comes again. Lord, in Your mercy,

Cong: hear our prayer.

Lector: Lord of life, comfort all who mourn the death of loved ones. By the proclamation of Christ's victory over death, assure them that all who die in Christ will surely rise to eternal life on the Last Day. Help us all to live each day so that we may face our final hour in confidence and hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

Cong: hear our prayer.

Lector: O Lord, grant that we may remain steadfast and immovable in faith, and that we may endure to the day of Christ's coming. Reunite us with those who have gone before us and now rest from their labors, and grant that we may live in Your eternal presence and sing Your praise without end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Cong: Amen.

***PEACE**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Cong: And also with you.

Please greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: Peace be with you.

OFFERING

There are plates offered in the back of the church. If you would like to donate via ACH from your checking or savings account (through the Vanco Mobile App or the Vanco Website) or by Credit/Debit Card (through the Clover website), please scan the appropriate QR code below. A credit card reader is available upon request. Please ask an usher for assistance.

ACH Donations
(Mobile App)



ACH Donations
(Website)



Credit or Debit Card
Donations



OFFERTORY

I BELONG TO THE LORD
IMMANUEL CHILDREN'S CHOIR
ELLIE BECK & MADDIE HERNANDEZ, SOLOISTS



*We ask our guests to review our understanding and practice of communion
on the back page of this worship folder.*

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

*PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

***SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
 ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
 bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Cong: 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.

***THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

***PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Cong: Amen.

*AGNUS DEI ~ LAMB OF GOD

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION

{Intentional time of quiet meditation}

COMMUNION HYMNS

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

WOV 710

EAT THIS BREAD

WOV 709

(Sing twice)

GOODNESS OF GOD

BY FELDING, B. JOHNSON, CASH, INGRAM & J. JOHNSON

STEVE BRELJE, ERIC RICHTER, JUDIE ECKERT, SOLOISTS

*I love You, Lord
Oh, Your mercy never fails me
And all my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

*All my life, You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

*I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a friend*

*Oh, I have lived in the goodness of God
Oh, and all my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

*Yeah, yeah, yeah
So good*

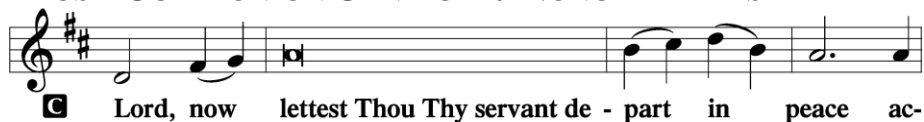
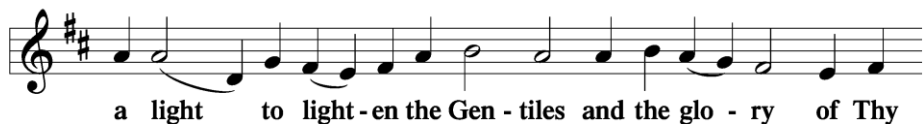
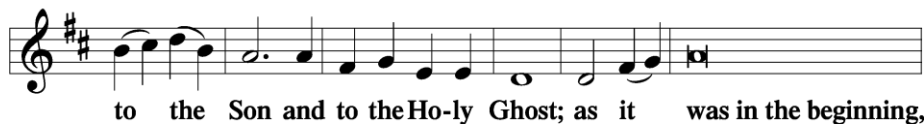
*Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
'Cause Your goodness is running after, it's running after me*

*Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
'Cause Your goodness is running, it keeps running after me*

*All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God
Yeah, yeah, yeah*

*You lead me and guide me, God
Faithful Father floods my soul
Oh, and You are my anchor in the wind and the waves
You are my provider, oh, yes
And You lead me and guide me by Your spirit
And You work, I have never worked alone
My joy, my joy every day
Oh, shepherd of my soul, oh
What a joy to know You
Oh, the joy of knowing You, God
You're everything to me
So wonderful in all Your ways
Hey, hey, all Your ways
Amen*

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: NUNC DIMITTIS**



***THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

Cong: and His mercy endureth forever.

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Cong: Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Cong: And with thy spirit.

***BENEDICAMUS**

Pastor: Bless we the Lord.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

Cong: Amen, amen, amen.

CLOSING HYMN *AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)

BY NEWTON, TOMLIN, AND GIGLIO

ERIC RICHTER, KEYBOARD

STEVE BRELJE, GUITAR

JUDIE ECKERT & ERIC RICHTER, VOCALS

(Congregation sings)

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see*

[Verse 2]

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed*

[Chorus]

*My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace*

[Verse 3]

*The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures*

[Chorus]

*My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace
My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace*

[Verse 4]

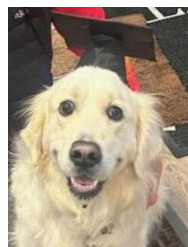
*The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALL SAINTS DAY IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST: At this time, we have no one on our list of persons (saints) in the church who died between Nov. 1, 2025 and today. If you know of someone you'd like us to list in our worship folder and ring a bell for on All Saints Day, please notify Ailene in the church office by calling **(269) 345-8090** or emailing @ ilckalamazoo@gmail.com. Please let her know the name of your loved one, the relationship to you or to ILC members, and the date of death.



JOINING JESUS ON HIS MISSION: Jesus commanded the Church to make Disciples of all Nations. This can seem like a daunting task! Who am I to make disciples of all nations? However, by giving this command Jesus is also telling us to make disciples right here in Kalamazoo among your friends, neighbors and family. If you have been wanting to be a better evangelist, if you are curious how to share God's Word with people in your life, or if you just want a good breakfast please join us October 24th at 9 am in the Church Fellowship Hall as we learn about *Joining Jesus on his Mission*. This is a book that was written by Greg Finke, and it has several wonderful insights for us in how to share the Gospel in our every day lives. No need to read ahead, just bring yourself and a willing spirit to learn!



Prayer and Comfort. We have a God who is present not just in the good times, but also in the rough times. We can go to him both for strength, but also for comfort since we call him Father.

On October 22nd from 6-7 p.m. Immanuel Lutheran Church will be open if you need to come and have some time in prayer with **Pastor Josh and Rosie the Comfort Dog**. Maryalice Reck has graciously offered up Rosie's services to anyone who can use the extra comfort and love that God has to offer during this time. If you know you can make it, please reach out to Pastor Josh so we can look forward to your coming!



ILLNESS/SPECIAL NEED:

GRIEF:

THANKSGIVING:

HOMEBOUND: Marian Brugh, Ellen Plano, John Curtiss, Dotty Smith, Jerome Dirst, and Linda Swinehart

IMMANUEL PRAYER LIST

LONG TERM CONCERNS

Rose Maxum , requested by Chuck and Amber Townsend	Susan & Gregory Fritz , Stephanie Beck's parents
Jeff Baker , requested by Esther Cleason	Mary Ann Massey , friend of Dotty Smith
Bob Perri , brother of Phil Perri	Craig Rennhack , requested by Bob & Maryalice Reck
John Blasko , requested by Elizabeth Blasko	Mindy Mitchell , sister of Shelly Reynolds
Kyle Reinbold Family , requested by Kyle's sister, Sonya DeVary	James Leo Brown , requested by Shelly and Dave Reynolds
Karen McDougall , requested by Sue Steuer	Jim Sabo , friend of Susan Steuer
Lynne Partridge , friend of Christa Perri	Lucille Fritz , requested by Jonathan Fritz
Bill Brink , Christie Sidwell's brother	Gus Reck , grandson of Bob & Maryalice Reck
Joanne Cleason , Esther Cleason's daughter	Melissa , friend of Dotty Smith and daughter Laura
Judy & Fred Lorenz , brother & sister-in-law of Esther Cleason and Nancy Barksdale , Esther's niece.	Amy Stillwell , sister of Dave Reynolds and daughter of Mary Reynolds
Richard Frank , brother-in-law of Gail Stewart, and his wife, Gail's sister, Gloria	Jerry and Sandi McKenzie , friends of Dotty Smith
Ware Washam , requested by Brian Long	Sandy Hale , requested by Stephen Presdorf
Rita Presdorf , Stephen Presdorf's mother	Lisa and David Wentzel , Sue Steuer's cousins
Loren Gerber , Sue Anderson's father	Marian Brugh and son Brian
Laura Mattson Hugill , former ILC member	Charlie Miller , Marian Brugh's brother
Deb , friend of Sue Steuer	Jason , son-in-law of Sue & Craig Anderson
Sophie Rose Verile , Brindley's grandniece	Karen Petersen , daughter of Cathy & Tom Mollet
Linda & Scott Spurlock , req. by Esther C.	Justin Beck , requested by Stephanie Beck
Merry Linn , Sally Crawford's sister	Marilyn Borgeson , Annie Hecht's grandmother
Otto , Pastor Quardokus' grandson	Vicki Dilley , requested by Christa & Phil Perri
Thomas Nault , Sue Wagner's cousin	Mae Westphal , Vivian's & Wayne's grandchild
Nicholas Jackson	Theo Yoakam , Cheryl Schreiber's great grandson
Melanie Baumgart's friend, Jim	Jeri Noneman
Kim N., Emilie H., & Sydney B. , all friends of Kim Sharp; and River Lint	
All Crossroads Prison Ministry students from all congregations around the country	
Immanuel members: Gail Stewart, Dolly Bryan, Shelly Reynolds, Tina Lauer, Jerome Dirst, John Miller, Dotty Smith, Helen Roekle, Gene Jennings, Beth Mitchell, & Linda Swinehart	

CONGREGATION: PLEASE LET AILENE KNOW IF SHE NEEDS TO ADD OR SUBTRACT ANYONE.

Worship Assistants/Serving Schedule

	Acolyte	Altar	Usher	Lector	Worship Assistant	Coffee Hour
Sunday 10/18/2026	Cailyn & Kyrie Hecht	Sally Crawford	Ron Swinehart	John Quardokus	John Quardokus & Ron Swinehart	Shelly Reynolds
Sunday 10/25/2026	Linus & Ezra Mandrick	Patti Wills	John Hecht	Dave Mandrick	Mark Miller & Denny Patzer	MaryAlice Reck
Sunday 11/1/2026	Eliora & Caviion Beck	Amber Townsend	Kim Sharp	John Hecht	Larry Baumgart & Craig Anderson	Dave Reynolds
Sunday 11/8/2026	Genevieve Miller & Rory Beck	Kim Sharp	Randy Horneber	John Krueger	John Quardokus & Ron Swinehart	Amber & Chuck Townsend
Sunday 11/15/2026	Maddie & Ellie Hernandez	Patti Wills	Ron Swinehart	Mark Miller	Mark Miller & Denny Patzer	Michaela H-H & Daughters
Sunday 11/22/2026	Cailyn & Kyrie Hecht	Rita Clarke	John Hecht	Ninah Miller	Larry Baumgart & Craig Anderson	Rita Clarke
Thanksgiving Eve Service Wednesday 11/25/2026	NA	Vivian Westphal	NA	NA	NA	NA

CHURCH CALENDAR

October's MISSION: Westwood Free Store

November's MISSION: Kalamazoo Valley Gleaners

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
18 8:30 CHOIR PRACTICE 9:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM COMMUNION SERVICE 11:30 CHILDREN'S CHOIR 11:30AM BIBLE STUDY w/PASTOR	19	20 10AM WILLS' BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM BIBLE STUDY--@ ILC	21 5PM CONFIRMATION CLASS	22	23	24 9:00AM BRUNCH TO START NEW STUDY: "JOINING JESUS ON HIS MISSION."
25 8:30 CHOIR PRACTICE 9:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM COMMUNION SERVICE 11:30 CHILDREN'S CHOIR 11:30AM SIP AND SHOP 11:45AM BIBLE STUDY w/PASTOR	26	27 10AM WILLS' BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM BIBLE STUDY--@ ILC	28 5PM CONFIRMATION CLASS	29	30	31  5-7PM TRUNK OR TREAT
Nov. 1 8:30 CHOIR PRACTICE 9:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM COMMUNION SERVICE 11:30 CHILDREN'S CHOIR 11:30AM BIBLE STUDY w/PASTOR	2 PASTOR...	3 5:30PM MARY/MARTHA 10AM WILLS' BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM BIBLE STUDY--@ ILC ...ON VACATION..	4 ...Nov. 2-8, 2026	5	6	7
8 8:30 CHOIR PRACTICE 9:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM COMMUNION SERVICE 11:30 CHILDREN'S CHOIR 11:30AM BIBLE STUDY w/PASTOR	9	10 6:30AM MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST 10AM WILLS' BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM BIBLE STUDY--@ ILC	11 5PM CONFIRMATION CLASS	12 7PM CHURCH COUNCIL	13	14 10-3PM M/M CRAFT DAY 
15 8:30 CHOIR PRACTICE 9:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM COMMUNION SERVICE 11:30 CHILDREN'S CHOIR 11:30AM BIBLE STUDY w/PASTOR	16	17 10AM WILLS' BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM BIBLE STUDY--@ ILC	18 5PM CONFIRMATION CLASS	19	20	21 9:00AM ADULT CATECHISM CLASS

The Mary and Martha Guild
will be hosting the annual Sip and
Shop soon! Save the Date!

Sunday, October 25, 2026

(after the worship service)



*We'll have cider, etc.
while we shop!!*



The funds raised will be used to take care of our church
family; whether it is a meal, a prayer shawl, or items needed
in crises.



In Preparation:

*Share your talents & donate items so we have lots of things to
sell!!!*

**Can you sew? Can you grow? Can you make? Can you bake?
Can you brew? Can you stew? All Talents... WE NEED YOU!!**



**Below are examples of
donated items to consider:**

- Hand-made crafts, wooden puzzles/toys
- Ornaments, Christmas stockings, bows
- Home-made baked goods, candies, nuts, jellies, frozen pizzas, soups, stews
- Home-crafted beers and wines
- Flower arrangements
- Oven mitts, Scarves, mittens, and hats



**The Outreach Committee will be hosting a Trunk or Treat
Halloween walk through the church on:**

**Saturday,
October 31st
5-7pm**

We are asking the congregation to sign up to sponsor a table for the event. That means to decorate one-half of a long table with Halloween decorations, dress in costume if you want to (kids love it if you do), and provide candy to hand out to the trick or treaters. We will create a maze of tables downstairs to accommodate as many people as possible. If people can't participate in this way, they can donate bags of candy for the group to give out once their own candy supply is depleted. An event like this can bring in hundreds of children. We will also need greeters and helpers at the doors and in the parking lot. There is a donation tub in the narthex for candy donations.

If you have questions, please contact any member of the Outreach Committee, including:

Pastor Grotelueschen @ (608) 290-9837 or pastor.ilckalamazoo@gmail.com

Beth Mitchell @ (269) 626-5241 or barmitch55@gmail.com

Pam Brelje @ (269) 760- 6923 or pbrelje@gmail.com

Linda Richter @ (269) 598-2195 or lindamrichter@yahoo.com

Sunday, November 22: Mark Your Calendars!!



**Join Us to Make an
Advent Wreath!
Starts at 3:00pm:**

Come join us in the Fellowship Hall
and make a **Family Advent Wreath**

ALSO

**Men's Chili Cook-Off
Starts at 4:30pm**

(after the Advent Wreath-Making)



- **Everyone** is welcome to come to both events...get the kids involved! Never had an Advent Wreath or Wreath Banner? This is the place to make your first one!! Invite your friends and family...and **please** sign up!
- There is a **sign-up poster in the Narthex** for both wreath/banner-making and chili-making. You can also sign up for bringing other foods, such as corn bread, crackers, corn chips and desserts. (Beverages will be provided.)
- We have candles and wreaths for **5 wreaths**; there will be a nominal fee required for each.
- **One wreath per family please.**
- We will provide the four Advent candles (3 purple, 1 rose), a wreath form and some decorations...keeping to the theme of white, gold, and silver. You can bring any decorations you prefer as well.

Sunday, November 22: Mark Your Calendars!!



St. Michael Lutheran Church & School

7211 Oakland Drive, Portage, MI 49024

NOTICE OF VACANCY

Posting Date: October 1, 2026

Reports To: Senior Pastor

Position: Business and Finance Manager

Salary: Salary Range: \$55,000 - \$60,000

Commensurate with experience and education.

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church

Deadline: October 31, 2026

Application process: For full consideration, please send your resume and three reference letters to Rev. Dr. Paul R. Naumann, Senior Pastor or email to naumann@mightymessengers.org
269-327-7832 • www.mightymessengers.org • stmikeschool.org

General Description of Duties: This position involves oversight of the financial and confidential business matters of the church. It includes hands-on processing of journal entries, paying invoices, maintaining the general ledger, and creating reports to share with the other managers. It requires regular contact within and outside the church, supplying and seeking information tactfully and with discretion, and monitoring of compliance with administrative policies and procedures.

Under general supervision is responsible for the following:

Facilities Management

- Ensure all routine church office functions are accomplished in a timely and effective manner.
- Oversee maintenance and purchase of equipment and supplies.
- Manage and direct the work of the custodial staff with the assistance of the Board of Church Properties, and conduct annual performance reviews of these positions.
- Contact appropriate vendors for maintenance issues.
- Oversee the facility usage schedule, rental payments, and administer appropriate security measures for specific events.
- Participate in matters pertaining to the Board of Properties occurring during normal business hours.
- Oversee the use of church software systems, working with the IT Coordinator as appropriate, advising on upgrades, etc., as needed for the volume of data.

Accounting and Financial Management

- Oversee the storage and reporting of member contributions and financial records according to governmental requirements.
- Oversee the payroll process and ensure that related tax payments and reports are completed.
- Process payment of invoices, billing, and tuition with proper approvals and timeliness.
- Prepare, review, and analyze monthly Financial Statements, making sure all accounts are reconciled.
- Oversee the process of the Tellers to ensure accuracy.
- Participate in the annual financial audit/review.
- Manage and lead the annual budget process with the Stewardship Board, Parish Planning Council and Voter's Assembly.
- Process, review, and report on the billing and cash receipts for the school and childcare.
- Attend various meetings as assigned.
- Accept the financial oversight of the elected congregational Treasurer for accountability.
- Work with the Board of Stewardship in program development and budget preparation.

Human Resources

- Coordinate the presentation of employee benefits to all employees and to the Compensation Committee.
- Recommend and oversee and the implementation of staff policies developed by the Compensation Committee, including salary adjustments, and revise the manual accordingly.
- Assist in hiring and terminating non-called staff as needed.
- Stay abreast of government personnel regulations affecting the church.
- Revise the employee manual and other hiring forms as necessary.

Qualifications: (See pg. 37)

NOTICE OF VACANCY

Posting Date: October 1, 2026

Reports To: Senior Pastor

Position: Part-time Finance Manager

Salary: Ranging from \$25,000 - \$30,000
Commensurate with experience and education.

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church

Deadline: October 31, 2026

Application process: For full consideration, please send your resume and three reference letters to Rev. Dr. Paul R. Naumann, Senior Pastor or email to naumann@mightymessengers.org

General Description of Duties: This position involves oversight of the financial and confidential business matters of the church. It includes hands-on processing of journal entries, paying invoices, maintaining the general ledger, and creating reports to share with the other managers. It requires regular contact within and outside the church, supplying and seeking information tactfully and with discretion, and monitoring of compliance with administrative policies and procedures.

Under general supervision is responsible for the following:

Accounting and Financial Management

- Oversee the storage and reporting of member contributions and financial records according to governmental requirements.
- Oversee the payroll process and ensure that related tax payments and reports are completed.
- Process payment of invoices with proper approvals and timeliness.
- Prepare, review, and analyze monthly Financial Statements ensuring all accounts are reconciled.
- Oversee the process of the Tellers to ensure accuracy.
- Participate in the annual financial audit/review.
- Manage and lead the annual budget process with the Stewardship Board, Parish Planning Council and Voter's Assembly.
- Process, review, and report on the billing and cash receipts for the school and childcare.
- Attend various meetings as assigned.

Human Resources

- Coordinate the presentation of employee benefits to all workers and to the Compensation Committee.
- Recommend and oversee the implementation of staff policies developed by the Compensation Committee, including salary adjustments, and revise the manual accordingly.
- Assist in hiring and terminating non-called staff as needed.
- Stay abreast of government personnel regulations affecting the church and school/CFK.
- Revise the employee manual and other hiring forms as necessary.

Qualifications for both positions:

- One who believes the Bible to be the inspired, inerrant Word of God.
- A sincerely caring heart for people in the congregation and in the community.
- Skilled in organization, including the ability to train, coordinate, motivate, and supervise others.
- Ability to motivate volunteers and facilitate their effectiveness in ministry.
- Solid experience and strong skills in accounting, financial management, and administrative organization.
- Ability to work effectively and supportively with others in and outside the church family.



THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our Belief and Practice

Our congregation believes that Holy Communion is a gift of Christ to His Church. Out of loving concern for the communicants and our understanding of the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, we request that those who commune here:

1. Be Baptized Christians.
2. Are mature enough to examine themselves, recognizing their sin and their need for God's grace. (*1 Corinthians 11:28*)
3. Believe that in Holy Communion they receive Christ's body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine for the gracious remission of their sins. (*Matthew 26:26-28*)
3. Do so without giving offense to others. (i.e., Willing to forgive and be reconciled) (*Matthew 18:15-17*)

Guests of the congregation, who are instructed in Luther's Small Catechism, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. All others are asked to speak with the pastor regarding the sacrament. Non-communicating children may join their parents. Communicants may choose from the Common Cup or individual cups.

Serving Today at Immanuel Lutheran Church

Rev. Joshua Grotelueschen, Pastor

Cell Ph. (608) 290-9837

Email: Pastorg.ilckalamazoo@gmail.com

Ailene Buchtrup, Secretary, ilckalamazoo@gmail.com

Sara McGarvey, Music Director, music.ilckalamazoo@gmail.com

Nick Kogon, Violinist

AnnMarie Miller, Sound Technician

Church Phone: (269)345-8090

Church e-mail: ilckalamazoo@gmail.com

Church website: www.ilckalamazoo.org

Sunday worship services are available on Facebook Live and YouTube!