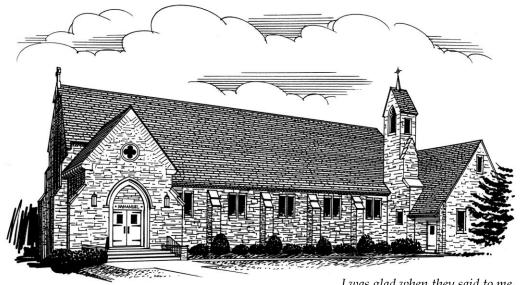
# Immanuel Lutheran Church

# LIGHT OF CHRIST CHINESE LUTHERAN MISSION

9733 Olive Boulevard - Olivette, MO 63132 - (314) 993-2394

# SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP



I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
Psalm 122:1



Pastor: Rory C. Karg

Vicars: Joshua Horst & Nan Tian

Deaconesses: Kan Hsu & Helen Zhang

Visit our Website or our Facebook Page for More Information

www.immanuelolivette.org

# Worship Notes Sanctity of Life Sunday – January 19, 2025

We welcome our members and guests who are worshiping with us today, and pray God's rich blessings upon you during this time of worship!

#### THEME

On this Life Sunday in 2025, our theme is based on John 1:4-5: "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." No one can doubt or deny that we dwell in darkness. Sinfulness has broken humankind and left the world wrecked around us. But the incarnate and crucified Son of God, our humble and gentle Lord, our risen and forgiving Savior radiates the light of life in the unlikeliest of places. The Almighty Father creates, redeems, and calls every human life special, precious, and priceless, no matter what age, appearance, or ability, from fertilization to forever. He delivers blessings of truth and love, joy and hope, community and purpose, grace and faith even in humanity's shortcomings. Thanks be to God!

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

Our *Hymn of the Day* this weekend, *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*, was written in 1986 by Lutheran Pastor Rusty Edwards. It actually started as a Bible study on the human life of Jesus, but when he realized a hymn was forming, Edwards set aside the Bible study and ended up composing this hymn. This hymn celebrates the marvelous works of the incarnate Jesus. The first line reflects Edwards' favorite image of Jesus—the Light who breaks into the darkness of this world. The text, filled with scriptural imagery, is structured around font and table, where God still incarnates Himself among His people today.

The tune is a 19<sup>th</sup> century American tune known as BEACH SPRING. Apparently it was named for the Beach Spring Baptist Church in Harris County, GA, where the assumed composer, B.F. White, lived. It is unknown whether White actually composed the tune or just this commonly used arrangement.

# What our Church Believes, Teaches and and Confesses regarding The Lord's Supper

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion<sup>1</sup>, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins<sup>2</sup>, strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal<sup>3</sup>. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and am I sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Those who are not members of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation and have not communed at Immanuel previously are asked to speak with a pastor prior to the service. Those who are of a different confession (i.e., church body)<sup>4</sup> or are unsure about communing, are invited to come forward during distribution with their hands folded in prayer, or held close to the chest and receive a blessing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

<sup>31</sup> Corinthians 11:28-32

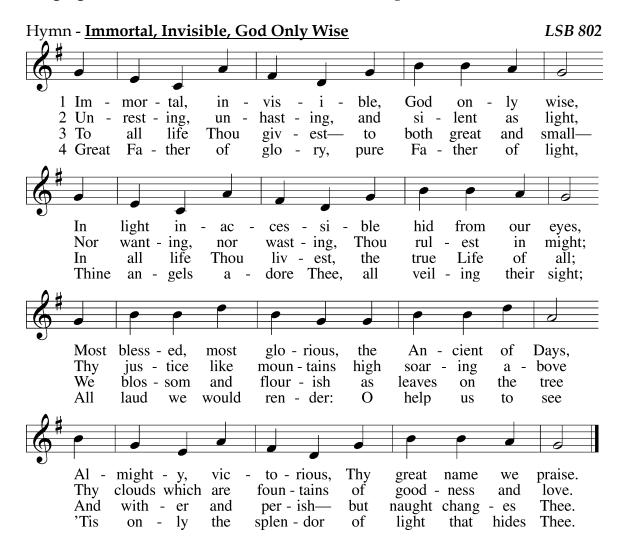
<sup>41</sup>Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

# Sanctity of Life Sunday

"Life Shines in Darkness"

## Prelude - Courante from Cello Suite No. 1 in G Major (J. S. Bach)

### Ringing of the Church Bells & Welcome to Worship



#### Stand

#### Invocation, Confession of Sins, and Absolution

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

  \*Romans 13:12\*
- **G** God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:5

- And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. *John 3:19*
- You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

  Psalm 90:8
- If your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

  Matthew 6:23
- I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against him, until he pleads my cause and executes judgment for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall look upon his vindication.

  Micah 7:9
- Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God.

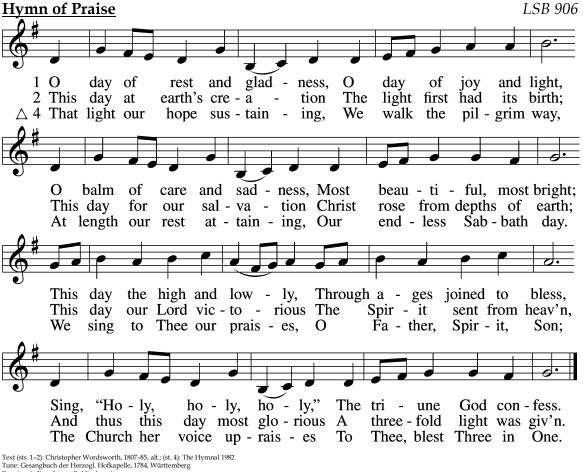
  \*\*Isaiah 50:10\*\*

  Our Savior Christ Jesus has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light.

  2 \*\*Timothy 1:10\*\*

  As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣\* Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Sit



Tune: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, 1784, Württemberg

Text (sts. 1-2) and tune: Public domain

Text (st. 4) and tune: © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003497

Tune: © 1982 Charles P. Price. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003497

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **L** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **L** Let us pray.

O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

Strengthen us in the confidence that because He lives, we shall live also, and that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come will be able to separate us from Your love, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C Amen.

Sit

### Duet - <u>No Longer Slaves</u> (Brian Johnson, Joel Case, Jonathan David Helser)

You unravel me with a melody; You surround me with a song Of deliverance from my enemies, 'till all my fears are gone.

I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God.

I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God.

From my Mother's womb You have chosen me.

Love has called my name; I've been born again into Your family.

Your blood flows through my veins.

I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God.

I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God.

You split the sea so I could walk right through it; my fears were drowned in perfect love.

You rescued me so I could stand and sing; I am a child of God.

I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God.

I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God.

Children of the heav'nly Father ...

Copyright © 2014 Bethel Music Publishing CCLI# 2698115

### **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 9:2-7

#### The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup>For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

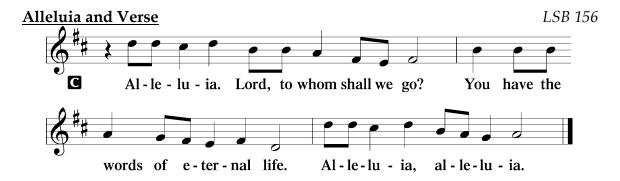
Epistle Ephesians 5:6-13

"At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord."

<sup>6</sup>Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup>Therefore do not associate with them; <sup>8</sup>for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), <sup>10</sup>and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible.

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand for the reading of the Holy Gospel



Holy Gospel John 1:1–14

**L** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

# Glory to You, O Lord.

#### The true light ... was coming into the world.

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

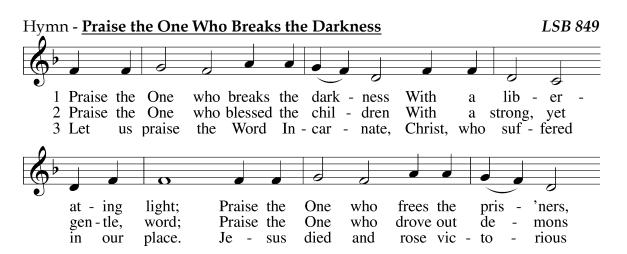
<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- **L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit





Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955 Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003497

Tune: Public domain

#### Sermon

Stand

#### Nicene Creed

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**

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

We offer our special petitions. After each, we respond:

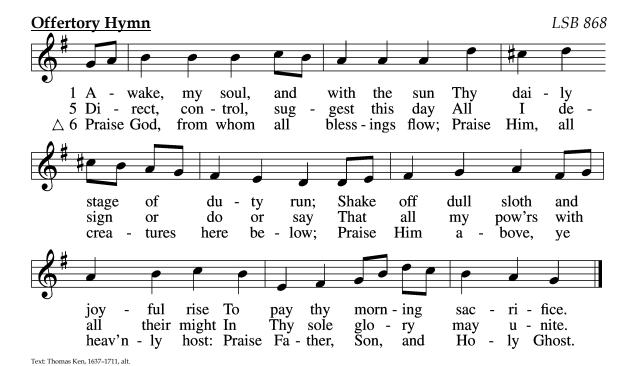
- **L** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

Our prayers conclude:

- L The fruit of Your Spirit is self-control. Move us to expose and expel all the works of darkness by beholding and belonging to Your Light, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Sit

Our offerings are placed on the altar as it is prepared for the Lord's Supper and the Offertory Hymn is sung



Stand

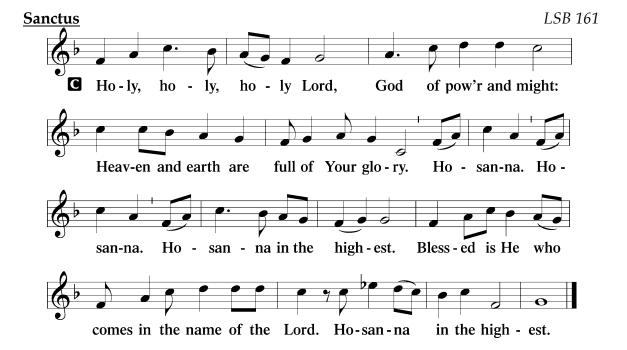
Preface LSB 160

- **L** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

Tune: François H. Barthélémon, 1741–1808 Text and tune: Public domain

- **L** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- L It is truly good, 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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son.

In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



#### Lord's Prayer

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

#### **Communion Confession**

P The Lord's Supper is God's gift for Christians who are properly instructed. In communing, we want people to receive Christ's body and blood for their good.

This means that as you come to the Lord's Table you affirm with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord; and with Lutheran Christians you confess:

I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sin and ask God's forgiveness.

I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan and death.

I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament and, under the form of the bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sins and the strengthening of my faith and life. (Augsburg Confession – Article X)

I resolve to dedicate my life to the service of my Lord in His Body, the Church, by regular group worship, sacrificial giving, thankful living and

#### Consecration - The Words of Our Lord

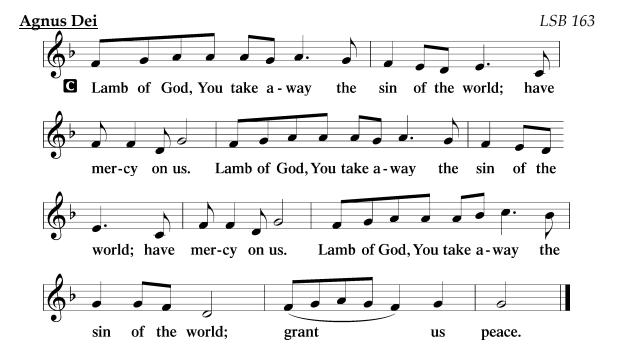
**sharing the Gospel with others.** (Romans 12:1)

- P 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 ⅓ 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 LSB 163

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



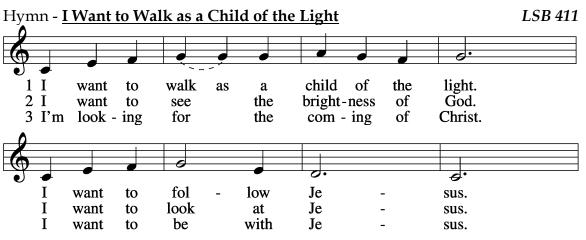


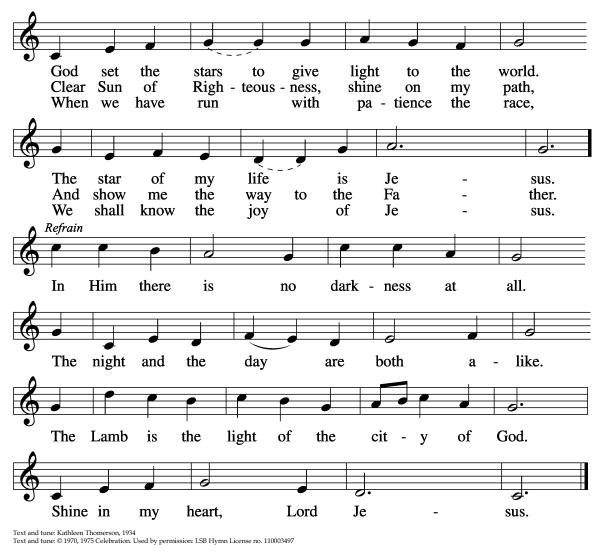
Sit

## Reception of the Lord's Supper

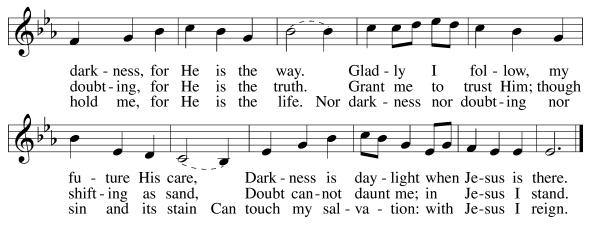
Alcohol-free white wine is available in the center of each tray. Gluten-free wafers available upon request.

## Voluntary - Sarabande from Suite No. 6 in D Major (J. S. Bach)







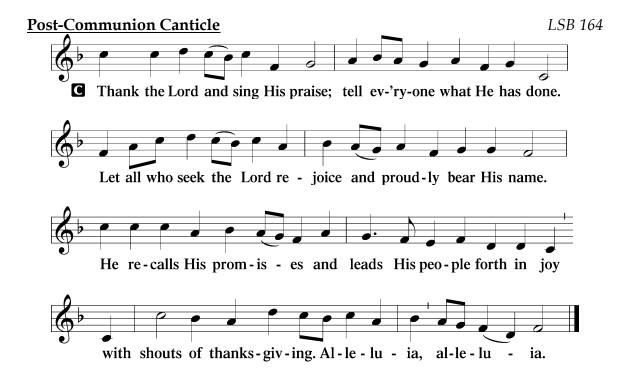


Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926-2024

Tune: Irish

Text: © 1964, renewed 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003497 Tune: Public domain

#### Stand



#### **Post-Communion Collect**

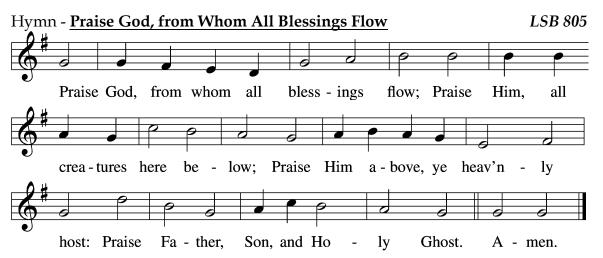
- **L** Let us pray.
- We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives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

#### Benediction

**L** The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor and 

→ give us peace.





Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

## Silent Prayer

Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

#### **Announcements**

We encourage you to remain seated quietly during the Postlude by our Cellist!

# Postlude – <u>Prelude & Sarabande from Cello Suite No. 1</u> (J. S. Bach)

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

All Immanuel members and our guests are asked to complete one of the worship attendance cards found in the pew racks. Please give your card to an usher as you leave worship. Guests are also asked to sign our guest book in the outer narthex. Thank you!

You may prepare for next weekend, the Festival of St. Titus - Pastor and Confessor, by reading:

#### Acts 20:28-35

"Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock."

#### Psalm 71:1-14

"For You, O LORD, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth."

#### Titus 1:1-9

*The attributes of a pastor* 

#### Luke 10:1-9

The Lord sends out the Seventy-Two.

Hymn – "Preach You the Word" (LSB 586)

**Serving This Morning:** 

Presiding Minister and Preacher: The Reverend Mark Hofferber

Liturgist: Vicar Joshua Horst

Lector: 8:00 – Seminarian Abram Egger 10:30 – Seminarian Steven Steingraber

Organist: Paul Snyder

Cellist: Gergö Szilagyi
Duet: Chris Meyr & Lori Steingraber

Duet: Chris Meyr & Lori Steingraber Elders: 8:00 – Todd Mirly 10:30 – Drew Hackmann

Acolytes: 8:00 – Avery Fitzgerald & Henry Greatens

10:30 - Carmen Farra & Angela Wang

Ushers: Team A

# Chancel Flowers

The flowers in the chancel this weekend are given to the praise and glory of God!

At Immanuel Lutheran Church, we are committed to living out our mission:



"Connected in Jesus | Compassion for All"