

Welcome

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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#### IMMANUEL STAFF

**Justin Fenger, Pastor**  
**Momoh Freeman, Organist**  
**Pat Remer, Accompanist**  
**Volunteers Church Custodian**  
**Mark Weslander, Administrative Assistant &  
Financial Recorder/Secretary**  
**Daryl Abrahamson, Cemetery Groundskeeper**  
**Jason & DeeDee Fredlund, Youth Directors**



#### IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

37515 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012

Pastor Justin Fenger

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023

*A welcoming community rooted in Christ, growing in faith and serving with joy!*

If you love Me, you will  
keep My commandments.

-John 14:15-



<p><b>Welcome to Immanuel!</b></p> <p>Thank you for joining us for our worship service. Whoever you are, whatever you’ve done, or where ever you are in life. You are loved by God which means, You are welcome here at Immanuel. God’s grace is given freely, not earned. So whatever journey you are on, God led you here today. We thank you for coming and hope to see you again soon.</p> <p><b>Visitors</b>, welcome to worship! If you are interested in knowing more about our congregation please speak to Pastor Justin or call the church office! Contact info is on the back of this bulletin.</p> <p><b>We Encourage all Children</b> who can read, to follow along in the bulletin during our worship service.</p>	<p><b>GATHERING</b></p> <p>Today’s Service is using <b>ELW</b>; Red Book</p> <p><b>PRELUDE:</b></p> <p><b>WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS:</b></p> <p><b>INTRODUCTION:</b> <i>The disciples feared for a day when Jesus might no longer walk with them. Never fear. Jesus promised an Advocate to remain with them forever.</i></p> <p><b>PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION:</b></p> <p>P: God our parent, Mother and Father of all, through Jesus we have become your children, no longer alone, unwanted or unloved.</p> <p><b>C: We are humbled by your adoption of us; we are delighted to belong, to be part of your wider world church family.</b></p> <p>P: Help us as we settle into our roles within this family; may we be tolerant of each other, mindful of our differences, willing to give and take to keep the peace.</p> <p><b>C: We are sorry for those times when we are selfish and unkind, for those times when we are rude and thoughtless, for those times when we cause disunity and strife within our families.</b></p> <p>P: Forgive us, O God, remind us that we are united by your son, Jesus, that we all belong in your family, and that it is up to each of us to play our part to maintain unity.</p> <p><b>C: Help us to learn to live together in harmony and unity.</b></p> <p>P: Help us to look to our advocate to guide and support us in our daily living.</p> <p><b>C: As you, our parent, redeemer and guide are one, may we be one with all our family and with you also, now and always. Amen.</b></p> <p><b>OPENING HYMN:</b> Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (v.v.1,2,5) #392 ELW</p> <p><b>PRAYER OF THE DAY:</b></p> <p>Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen</p> <p><b>SPECIAL MUSIC:</b> In The Morning When I Rise; Momoh Freeman</p> <p><b>CHILDREN’S SERMON:</b></p>	<p><b>FIRST READING:</b> Acts 17:22-31</p> <p><i>In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the "unknown god" whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.</i></p> <p><sup>22</sup>Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' <sup>29</sup>Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."</p> <p><b>PSALM:</b> Psalm 66:8-20</p> <p>R: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.</p> <p><b>C: Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.</b></p> <p>R: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.</p> <p><b>C: You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.</b></p> <p>R: You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.</p> <p><b>C: I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows</b></p> <p>R: those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.</p> <p><b>C: I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.</b></p> <p>R: Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.</p> <p><b>C: I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.</b></p>	<p>We invite you to follow the service and take part in a way that feels right to you.</p> <p>Hearing devices are available from an usher.</p> <p>P = Pastor L = Leader <b>C = Congregation</b> R = Reader</p> <p>Sections in <b>bold</b> are to be read by the congregation.</p> <p><b>Today’s Scripture</b></p> <table><tr><td>Acts</td><td>17:22-31</td></tr><tr><td>Psalm</td><td>66:8-20</td></tr><tr><td>1 Peter</td><td>3:13-22</td></tr><tr><td>John</td><td>14:15-21</td></tr></table> <p><b>Today’s Hymns</b></p> <table><tr><td>Hymn</td><td>#392 (ELW)</td></tr><tr><td>Hymn</td><td>#292 (ELW)</td></tr><tr><td>Hymn</td><td>#631 (ELW)</td></tr><tr><td>Hymn</td><td>#661 (ELW)</td></tr></table>	Acts	17:22-31	Psalm	66:8-20	1 Peter	3:13-22	John	14:15-21	Hymn	#392 (ELW)	Hymn	#292 (ELW)	Hymn	#631 (ELW)	Hymn	#661 (ELW)
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**Immanuel Church  
Calendar This Week**

**Sunday, May 14  
MOTHER’S DAY**  
9:30 Worship Service Live  
and Online.  
10:30 Coffee Servers:  
Youth Group  
11:00 Counters count offering

**Monday, May 15  
Newsletter Deadline**  
9-5 Office Hours  
5:00 Stewardship Meeting  
7:30 Zoom Bible Study

**Tuesday, May 16**  
9-5 Office Hours  
9:00 Worship Team meets  
9:30 Naomi Circle @ Linda  
Mielke’s  
6:00 Joyful Noise Rehearsal  
@ Trinity

**Wednesday, May 17**  
9-4:30 Office Hours  
12:00 Deadline for bulletin  
Info  
10:00 Parish Care Meets  
1:00 **Newsletter** is ready for  
proofreading in room B  
1:30 Prayer Shawl Meets  
2:00 Bulletins Printed

**Thursday, May 18**  
1:00 **Newsletter Assembly**  
In the Fireside room

**Friday, May 19**

**Saturday, May 20**  
11:00 ILC Connection meets  
@ Kaffe Stuga

**Sunday, May 21**  
9:30 Communion Worship  
Service Live and Online  
W/ Joyful Noise.  
Sunday School is after  
children’s sermon.

**Youth meet after church!**  
10:30 Coffee Servers:  
11:00 Counters count offering

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota** (LSS) invites you to join us at our Metro Benefit for Youth. Gather with us to support LSS Youth & Family Services in helping youth on their journey towards finding safety, stability, housing, opportunity and much more.

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

11:30 am Registration and Lunch\*  
12:15 pm Find Seats 12:30 pm Program 1:00 pm Checkout

Quincy Hall

1325 Quincy Street NE Minneapolis, Minnesota

\*Lunch will be self-serve at food stations and will remain open during checkout after the program concludes. Please stay and enjoy!

For questions or assistance, please contact LSS Events at 651.432.4731 or [events@lssmn.org](mailto:events@lssmn.org). We look forward to seeing you there, Friend! With gratitude, Your neighbors from LSS

**Naomi Circle** meets on Tuesday, May 16th at 9:30 at Linda Mielke’s.

**Parish Care Team** meets on Wednesday, May 17th at 10:00 am.  
**AND The ILC Connection** Meets @ Kaffe Stuga in Harris at 11:00 on Saturday, May 20th.

Sunday School:

The last day of Sunday school for this year is 5/21/23.

Memorial Day Dinner

Group A is in charge of the dinner this year. We are looking for more volunteers to help. We are also hopeful that the youth group will be available to help with clearing and clean up.

Look for the sign up board in the gathering area for food and money donations. Please check it and see where you can help.

Almelund Farmers Market Begins its 16th Season on Friday, May 26th at Rod's Country Corner!

Come Friday afternoons from 3-6pm and check out the local items... annuals, perennials and garden plants, asparagus, rhubarb, eggs, maple syrup, honey, breads, jams/jellies, craft items and other goodies! Products change with the season. New vendors are encouraged and welcomed to join this fun community get-together. If interested, contact Pat @ 651-583-2100.

The River Valley Christian Women’s Connection

Invites you to attend our Annual Tea Luncheon being held On Monday, May 15, 2023 at 11:30 am.

Chisago Lake Lutheran Church  
1 Summit Ave  
Center City, MN 55012

Come have a delicious lunch, enjoy a good program, and meet a new friend.

Cost \$15 for lunch and program.

Class of 2023 Baccalaureate Service

Wednesday, June 7, 7:00 p.m. North Branch Area High School Auditorium

All senior students, their families, and the public are invited and welcome to this non-denominational service. The service is not required but optional.

Baccalaureate is a time where the community and the area churches gather together to honor the graduating class.

This year's Baccalaureate will include music, scripture, speaker, prayer, and blessing for the Class of 2023.

Youth Group News

Heggies pizzas are coming in on May 17th!

Youth has just 2 more meetings left this year.

May 10th & **MAY 31st** @ 6:30pm

**MAY 21st** Final Mission Trip meeting, after the service.

**Next Christian Ed Meeting** May 22nd 6:30pm to be put on the monthly calendar.

COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED FOR

May 21st as well as June 11th, 18th & 25th; please sign up next to kitchen, Thank you

<b>May 7, 2023 Attendance: 70</b>	
<b>Weekly Giving Update: May 7, 2023</b>	
General	\$4,022.00
Benevolence	\$345.00
Building Fund	\$25.00
Loose	\$46.00
Sunday School	
Food Shelf	\$41.10
Online Serv. Fee	<u>\$9.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,488.10</b>

**The Zoom Bible Study.** The Chosen Season 2 Bible Study, Mondays 7:30pm on Zoom.  
If interested please contact Pastor Justin

**Tune in our Daily Texts,** Monday through Saturday on our Facebook  
Page [@immanuellutheranchurchofalmenlund](#)  
A daily devotional time based on an Old and New Testament bible verse based on a Moravian Church tradition and Ground Up Grace Publications.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**  
By end of day Monday, May 15th.  
Please have all reports, announcements, thank yous and corrections in by this time.

**PROOFREADING:**  
Of newsletter @ 1:00 Wednesday, May 17th. Your help will be greatly appreciated. All are welcome.

**NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY:**  
Will be Thursday, May 18th @ 1:00 in the Fireside Room.  
Volunteers can fill newsletters with offering envelopes and label for mailing. On Sunday morning service; May 21st, members can pickup their own newsletter in the gathering area.

**THANK YOU**

Dear Marty,  
Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl! What a kind, thoughtful gesture. I will use it daily in my devotions. You are a true blessing to know.  
Love, Mary



Come and support the many ministries of  
Luther Point Bible Camp!

If you have a donation for the auction please contact the  
camp office: 715-689-2347, [info@LutherPoint.org](mailto:info@LutherPoint.org)

**August 6, 2023**

Sunday, August 6, 2023

- 11:00 a.m.** Auction Preview Open
- 11:30 a.m.** Worship
- 12:00 p.m.** Lunch
- 1:00 p.m.** Live Auction

**May 14, 2023**  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Life with the Spirit**

What do we do when we feel abandoned by people we believed would always be there for us? When relationships end or coworkers betray us? When friends move or someone close to us dies? The impact of those losses can change our whole world. It can make us question our self-worth and make us wonder if we are really of any value. When this happens, it's easy to ask if what we do actually matters.

As Jesus prepares his disciples for what life will be like for them after he dies, he tells them to keep his commandments and assures them they will not be left orphaned. It's an important message for them to hear. They are about to experience the trauma of witnessing Jesus' betrayal and death, the fear of being wanted men hiding from the authorities, and the grief of feeling like they have lost their purpose in life. Their world is about to be thrown into chaos because the person who had led them, taught them, and taken care of them would now be gone.

Jesus' words are a promise that God's love is too great to leave them abandoned. "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever" (John 14:15-16). His words are also a promise that what they continue to do matters. Keeping his commandments isn't necessary for God to love them, but doing so will serve as a reminder of their love for Jesus and will open them up to experiencing the Advocate in their lives. Jesus' command to love God and our neighbor isn't a fee we have to pay for the Spirit to spend time with us. It is our response to the powerful good news that the Spirit is with us forever.

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Prayer for Others and Ourselves:  
Parent God, redeemer and sustainer; three in one and one in three, you invite us to be part of a wider family community, a family that is diverse and spread around the world.  
Hear us now as we bring before you our brothers and sisters, known and unknown to us who are in need of your help this day.  
We pray for children and adults who have faced the death of a parent or parents. We would ask that you would draw them near to you that you would comfort them and let them know that they are not alone.  
We pray for children and adults who live in abusive families, who long to be free of them but are afraid to be alone. We would ask that you would protect them and find a way to remove them from a place of harm.  
We pray for children and adults who have never known what a family is, who were or are in care homes never knowing the joy and commitment of a family. We would ask that at some time in their lives they would experience the joy of a family relationship.

PLEASE JOIN US  
SALAD LUNCHEON  
DATE: Wed., June 14, 1023  
TIME: 11:00 to 1:00  
First Lutheran Church  
1000 S. Jay Ave  
Rush City, MN  
(Free will Offering)  
Take-out Available



Come and support the many ministries of  
Luther Point Bible Camp!

Sunday, August 6, 2023

- 11:00 a.m. Auction Preview Open
- 11:30 a.m. Worship
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Live Auction

If you have a donation for the auction please contact the  
camp office: 715-689-2347, info@LutherPoint.org

August 6, 2023

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

John 14:15-21

B	G	U	H	Z	S	N	L	O	T	F	K	C	G	T	D	I	X
S	G	I	P	S	B	P	L	E	R	H	X	O	P	E	W	W	F
V	K	D	V	D	H	G	I	L	I	P	R	M	E	Y	E	D	P
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B	T	S	W	V	F	U	S	P	D	W	R	T	N	R	D	E	Q
S	L	I	V	E	K	E	E	P	B	M	B	S	L	O	V	E	R

Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

COMMANDMENTS	KEEP	ORPHANS
DWELLS	KNOW	RECEIVE
FATHER	LIVE	SPIRIT
FOREVER	LOVE	TRUTH
GIVE ANOTHER	MANIFEST	WORLD
HELPER	MYSELF	

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