



Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

212-289-8128

www.immanuelnyc.org

www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

Immanuel's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCixDAacoJS7umLndiBnugmw>

You may tune in at 11 AM.

The Sixth Sunday in Easter

May 9, 2021

Warm welcome, everyone, to Immanuel Lutheran Church. Thank you for joining us in this online way.

This is a spoken liturgy during these pandemic days. Still, these days are getting better because today's cantor, Michael Celentano, is with us here in church — not via recording, but live! We hope you will find strength for your souls in this spoken liturgy. Thank you for joining in the prayers of thanksgiving by way of the Lord's Supper.

Happy Mother's Day. I have prepared a Mother's Day sermon for this morning.

If you do not already have a church home, please consider joining us here at Immanuel. Just speak with Pastor Carol or send her a note (ceafryer@gmail.com).

In Christ,

Pastor Gregory P. Fryer
gp Fryer@gmail.com

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☐ In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Stand/kneel

☐ Most merciful God,

☑ **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

☐ Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Entrance Rite

HYMN LBW 144

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

GELOBT SEI GOTT

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day;
Bring flow'rs of song to strew his way;
Let all the world rejoice and say:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 Praise we in songs of victory
That love, that life, which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing today with one accord,
The life laid down, the life restored
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

EASTER SEASON GREETING

- ☐ Christ is risen! Alleluia.
- ☑ **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Let us pray. God, from whom all good things come: Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to think those things which are right, and by your goodness help us to do them; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Sit

The Liturgy of the Word of God

FIRST LESSONActs 10:44-48, RSV

While Saint Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

⁴⁴While Peter was still saying this, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word.

⁴⁵And the believers from among the circumcised who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.

⁴⁶For they heard them speaking in tongues

and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷"Can any one forbid water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 98, LBW

¹Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

²**With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.**

³The LORD has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

⁴**He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

⁵Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

⁶**Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.**

⁷With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

⁸**Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

⁹Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

¹⁰**In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.**

SECOND LESSON 1 John 5:1-6, NRSV

We believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping his commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is

the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Stand for the Verse and the Holy Gospel

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL..... John 15:9-17, NRSV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th Chapter

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command

you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

After the Gospel:

P The Gospel of the Lord!

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON (*Sit, after the invocation.*)

Hymn WOV 661

My Song Is Love Unknown

LOVE UNKNOWN

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 My song is love unknown,
my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh and die? | 2 He came from his blest throne
salvation to bestow;
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed,
who at my need his life did spend! |
| 3 Sometimes they strew his way
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their king.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
and for his death they thirst and cry. | the prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes
that he his foes from thence might free. |
| 4 Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
themselves displease and 'gainst him rise. | 6 In life no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home
but mine the tomb wherein he lay. |
| 5 They rise and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save, | 7 Here might I stay and sing--
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend! |

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

THE PRAYERS

The Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Let us offer a sign of peace to our neighbors: "Peace be with you."

THE OFFERING *You can give your tithes and offerings via our Q code. Just point the camera on your smart phone to the code:*



Or you can donate via this link: [Donate](#) Here are some other options for giving: [Ways to Give](#)

The Eucharistic Bread and Wine are moved from the credence table to the altar. The congregation remains in the pews until the Distribution of the Sacrament.

Offertory meditation

Sonata in G

Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757)

A Let us pray.

C **Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us — our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*spoken*)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Preface for Easter

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

☩ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer II

P You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all. We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the fathers, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain. In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

☩ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us. We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death. But chiefly on this day we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit. We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.

☩ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

☩ Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

☐ Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

☑ **Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

☑ **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

The Fraction (The Bread is broken)

Agnus Dei

☑ **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

✦ If you are home during this pandemic, worshiping online with us, here is a possible "Prayer for Spiritual Communion" lifted up in a recent *Forum Letter* (May 2020). *Forum Letter* is a respected Lutheran newsletter published by the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Communion Anthem

The Gift of Love

Hal Hopson (b. 1933)

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain,
As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
By this we worship, and are freed.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN LBW 158

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

HYFRYDOL

- 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
has redeemed us by his blood."

- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us;
faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise:
"I am with you evermore"?

- 3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

- 4 Alleluia! King eternal,
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.
As within the veil you entered,
robed in flesh, our great high priest,
here on earth both priest and victim
in the eucharistic feast.
- 5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
has redeemed us by his blood."

DISMISSAL

- ☩ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
☩ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Sonata in D

Domenico Scarlatti (c. 1685-1757)

Parish Announcements

- ✦ COPYRIGHTS: Parts of the liturgy and scripture introductions come from or are based on those from *Sundays and Seasons*, Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. Readings of Holy Scripture are downloaded from Bible Gateway — <https://www.biblegateway.com/>. Copyright information for the various translations is included on the Bible Gateway website.
- ✦ FAIRLY NEW TO PRAYER LIST: Jürgen Ramcke, Sieglinda O'Donnell (wife of our Jim O'Donnell, of blessed memory), Edna Szmodis, Britney Berhaman (friend of Diana Montesdeoca), Marion Nitsch (mother of David Kiehl's friend Carolina Nitsch), Raymond Chin (cousin of Priscilla O'Carroll), Marion Molno, Emma Kaefler
- ✦ IN CONTINUING NEED OF PRAYER: Melissa Alke (friend of Kathy Jolowicz), John Romano (brother-in-law to Richard and Maggie Schreiber), Robert Mallery (son-in-law of David Kiehl's sister), Wolfgang Hahn, Yoleidy Perez (Tamares's

brother), Obdulia Mundo (friend of Maggie Schreiber), Mary Ann Grant (Deirdre's mother)

- ✦ ALTAR FLOWERS given to the glory of God and in celebration of my wife, Jean Fischer's 75th Birthday, by her husband Stephen Fischer.
- ✦ ALTAR FLOWERS given to the glory of God and in loving memory of parents, Ann and Michael Chomko and grandparents, Anna and Paul Kralovenec and Anastasia and John Chomko, by Barbara Chomko.

Ministers

Director of Music/Organist	Dr. Gwendolyn Toth
Audio Production.....	Dongsok Shin
Cantor.....	Michael Celentano
Lector.....	David Goldman
Assisting Minister and Preacher	Rev. Gregory P. Fryer
Presiding Minister	Rev. Carol E.A. Fryer

Some Notes on Our Church Nave and Liturgy

- ✦ You might be interested to hear about our reredos — the wooden altarpiece at the front of our church. It was hand carved by artists in Germany's Black Forest. The left statue is Moses, with the Ten Commandments in his left arm and the two horn-like rays of light shining forth from his face after his encounter with the Lord on Mt. Sinai (Exodus 34:29-30). The right-hand statue is St. John the Evangelist, with a quill pen in his hand and an eagle at his feet. And the center statue is Jesus Christ, the personal unity and the most perfect meaning of the Law (Moses) and the Gospel (St. John).
- ✦ Our painting of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, above the reredos, pays tribute to the founding liturgy of our congregation, Transfiguration Sunday, February 11, 1863. Our painting shows Jesus, Moses, and Elijah elevated above the ground, so that at first glance you might think that it is a painting of the Ascension. But the saintly company with Jesus — Moses and Elijah on either side, with Peter, James, and John fallen down in awe at the sight — point to the Transfiguration. Heaven knows and gives credit to the anonymous painter of our painting, but we note that it is in the style of Raphael's painting of *The Transfiguration* (1517-1520). Raphael also placed Jesus, Moses, and Elijah elevated above the disciples.
- ✦ Our church windows were installed in 1973 and constitute a visual meditation on an ancient hymn of the Church, the *Te Deum*. Pamphlets are available in the rear of the church explaining the windows one by one.
- ✦ Our church bells, named *Glaube*, *Hoffnung*, and *Liebe* for Faith, Hope, and Love, were a gift from German Empress Augusta Viktoria.
- ✦ A hint about acoustics: you will be able to hear the choir and organ better if you sit toward the front half of the church. The overhanging choir balcony obscures some of the beauty of the music for those sitting under it.
- ✦ Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me," and we view the presence of children in worship, even when they are wiggly and noisy, as a gift to the Church and an encouragement that our congregation is growing! Parents at their own preference are also welcome to take advantage of free childcare which we offer in the Undercroft every Sunday for children age 3-6. Our childcare worker will bring these children up to the Communion rail to receive a Blessing. We encourage older children to attend the entire service, either sitting with their parents or up in the balcony where the teens tend to congregate.
- ✦ Our worship book is the green hymnal, the *Lutheran Book of Worship* ("LBW"). This book contains both liturgies and hymns, with liturgies in the first half and hymns in the second. Sometimes we include hymns from *With One Voice* ("WOV") or from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* ("ELW").
- ✦ If you have a cell phone, please silence it for the liturgy. And please finish coffee or other drinks out in the narthex rather than in the main nave.
- ✦ This congregation is a member of the NALC – the "North American Lutheran Church." The national bishop of the NALC is Rev. Daniel W. Selbo.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street ❖ New York, NY 10128 ❖ (212) 289-8128

www.immanuelnyc.org www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

HOLY COMMUNION	11 AM Sundays
MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION	6:30 PM Wednesdays
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Via Zoom these days
MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM Mondays, via Zoom these days
INTERIM OFFICE MANAGER	Melissa Phillips
SEXTON	Gerry Britton
PARISH BOOKKEEPER.....	Charles Derderian
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Dr. Gwendolyn Toth
PASTOR.....	Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer
SENIOR PASTOR.....	Rev. Gregory P. Fryer

Some Parish Ministry Opportunities:

CHOIR.....Director of Music Dr. Gwendolyn Toth (212) 289-8128

We extend to you a cordial welcome and hope that you will return. If you are a visitor, please fill out one of the cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor Carol Fryer. If you are interested in membership here at Immanuel, please contact the church office for an appointment with Pastor Carol. Or you can email her at ceafryer@gmail.com.

- ✦ HOLY COMMUNION is offered to all baptized Christians who have been instructed in the Church's faith, who confess it with us (as in the Creeds), and who may in good conscience receive the Sacrament in keeping with the understanding with which it is celebrated here: namely, that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and are distributed to and received by all who commune.
- ✦ HOLY BAPTISM is celebrated and MARRIAGES solemnized only after consultation with the pastor well in advance. If you or someone you know is ill, hospitalized, homebound, or otherwise in need of the ministry of the Church, let us know. Call the church office during the week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ✦ We mean for PRIVATE CONFESSION to be available as often as you need. Please call one of the Pastors (212-289-8128) or email them: gpfryer@gmail.com or ceafryer@gmail.com.
- ✦ LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING WITH OIL FOR THE SICK is available. Again, simply contact Pastor Fryer.
- ✦ FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: There is a long line of Christians, both rich and poor, who have disciplined themselves to budget a portion of their income, put it into an offering envelope first thing, and give it to the church. Pastors Carol and Gregory Fryer live by that tradition and commend it to you. Online giving is also available through our website, or by following this QR code with your phone camera:

