

Sermon: "Salt and Light: Nouns or Verbs?" Matthew 5:13-20

Saturday, February 7 and Sunday, February 8, 2026

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

Okawville, Illinois 62271

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

WELCOME TO IMMANUEL

We gather on the Lord's Day knowing that "Christ being raised from the dead will never die again" (Romans 6:9). Welcome, visitors who have joined us today. If we can help in any way, please call: Church 618-243-6216 or School 618-243-6142.

Pastor Eric Wood
Phone: 618-243-2846

Email: myhomeontherange@juno.com

Principal Kelli Borrenpohl
Phone: 618-243-6142

Email: principal@immanuelokawville.org

Immanuel Website: Immanuelokawville.org
Saturday: 10 Communed: 7 Sunday: 160 Communed: 94
Bible Class: 11 Sunday School: 12

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer concerns to be included in our public prayers may be shared with Pastor Wood and/or the church office. Prayers may be for particular individuals or concerning wider issues. Let us pray!

- All members of Immanuel including:
 - At home – Adeline Blumhorst, Bill Durham, Norbert Hasheider, Kellee Helbig, Janet Lange, Martha Schneider, Linda Schuetz, Jackie Schwankhaus, Stanley Schwankhaus, Crystal Strasburg, Mike Strasburg
 - At Brightly in Mascoutah – Leonard Hemminghaus
 - At Bethesda Gardens in Loveland, Colorado – Carol Wennemann
 - At Washington County Hospital - Nancy Weeke
- Non-members: Lisa Arbogast-Eilers, an ILS graduate; Crystal Hasheider, wife of Matt Hasheider; Tim Schnitker, son-in-law of Sharon Storck.
- That the Lord would continue to provide for his work in this place through generous giving, willing workers, and wise stewardship.
- The staff, faculty, and students of Immanuel Lutheran School
- The educational mission of Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School
- All who work or study in West Washington County Schools
- John Trinklein, second-year student at Concordia Seminary
- Reverend Rafael & Deaconess Jamielynn Flores, serving in Chile
- The mission work of the Southern Illinois District, including...
 - ...all congregations, schools, and district leaders
 - ...rural and small-town congregational support
 - ...urban ministry (neighborhood renewal and Unity school) in East St. Louis
 - ...campus ministry and international student outreach at SIU-C and SIU-E
 - ...prison and jail ministry in many locations
 - ...partnership with seminary in Dominican Republic
 - ...disaster response ministry (LERT)
 - ...Advocates for Life

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Order of Service - Prayer and Preaching

698 May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill (Sunday)

Stand

Opening Versicles

L This is the day which the Lord has made;

C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

L Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

L Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

C Teach me Your paths.

L Sanctify us in Your truth.

C Your Word is truth.

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

C 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.

Old Testament Canticle

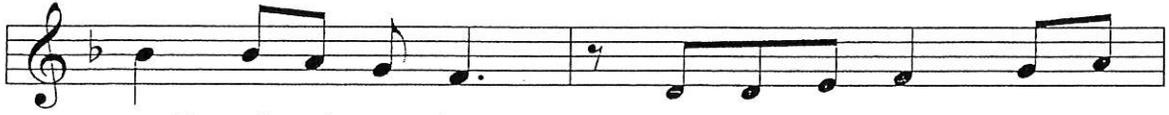


C The Lord God is my strength and my song, and





With joy will you draw wa - ter from the



wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that



day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,



make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -



claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

Refrain



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



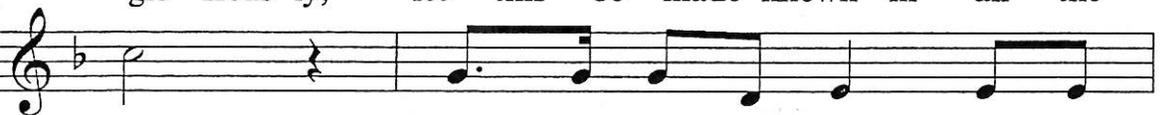
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done



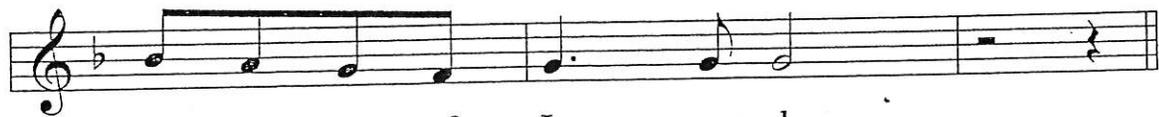
glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the



earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -



hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the



Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son



and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will



be for - ev - er. A - men.



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Sit

Readings From Holy Scripture

THE PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 112:1-9

Bless-ed is the man who fears the LORD, who de -
lights in His com - mand - ments!

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A: *antiphon*

C: **antiphon**

A: *His offspring will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
Wealth and riches are in his house,
and his righteousness endures forever.
Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.
It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;
who conducts his affairs with justice.*

C: **antiphon**

A: *For the righteous will never be moved;
he will be remembered forever.
He is not afraid of bad news;
his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.
His heart is steady; he will not be afraid,
until he looks in triumph on his foes.
He has given freely to the poor;
his horn is exalted in honor!*

C: **antiphon (repeated)**

Old Testament

Isaiah 58:3-9a

³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?”

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to hit with a wicked fist.
Fasting like yours this day
will not make your voice to be heard on high.
⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day for a person to humble himself?
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?
Will you call this a fast,
and a day acceptable to the LORD?
⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?
⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 5:13–20

¹³[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Sit

Children's Message (Sunday)

Sermon "Salt and Light: Nouns or Verbs?"

Matthew 5:13-20

578 Thy Strong Word

Offering

Dedication of Cremation Urn Pall (Sunday)

Installation of Newly Elected Officers & Board Members

Stand

Prayer

L In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind,
let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

L For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

L For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

L For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

L For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

L For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

L For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

L Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

G Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Collect of the Day

- L** O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Evening Prayer (Saturday)

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Morning Prayer (Sunday)

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

New Testament Canticle



C Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



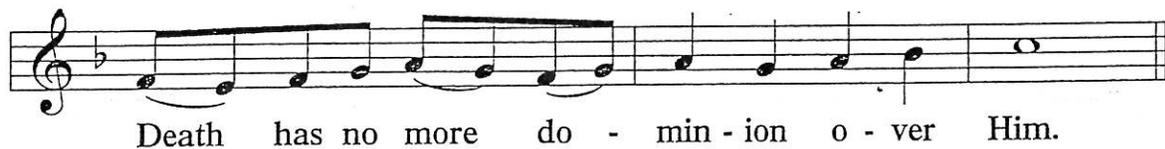
lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.



Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.



Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.



Refrain
Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He



lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to



sin and a - live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.



Refrain
Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Blessing

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (Sunday)

Acknowledgments

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

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Pastor:	Eric Wood
Pianist: (Saturday)	Sophia Wood
Organist: (Sunday)	Sharon Krueger
Acolytes: (Saturday)	Coleson Hasheider
(Sunday)	Landon Elliott
Readers: (Saturday)	Jeff Obermeier
(Sunday)	Angie Kampwerth

Birthdays: 10th Jim Teter, 11th Gage Berger, Beth Williams, Jewel Martens, Coleson Hasheider, Kerry Toensing, 13th Kim Zimmerman

January Ushers – Saturday –

Sunday – Jim Unverfehrt and Caleb Unverfehrt

Saturday service at 5:30 p.m.

Bible Class at 9:00 a.m. Bible class topic is “Ask, Seek, Knock”.

Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.

Public Catechesis this Monday at 6:45 a.m.

Elders’ Meeting this Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Community Bible Study at Bunkers this Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

Chapel this Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. with Pastor Wood

Choir Practice this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Visitation from Our District President: On Sunday, February 15, the President of the Southern Illinois district of the LCMS, Rev. Heath R. Curtis, will be preaching at our worship service. There will be a meal after the service during which President Curtis will also be making a presentation about cultural and demographic change, the four problems this raises for every Christian church in America, and how to faithfully respond in our congregation. Everyone in the church is encouraged to come and hear this engaging and informative presentation! Please see insert for more details about the meal.

Men's Club/Alumni Association Chili & Chicken Soup Supper

The chili and soup supper will be held in Immanuel Lutheran School gym on Sunday, February 22, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. It is all you can eat chili, chicken soup, a dessert, and drink. Adults - \$13.00, Children (10 and under) \$6.00, ages 5 and under are free. Carry outs are available (bring your own containers). Hope to see you there!

Immanuel's former pastor, Robert Cheney, died at the end of January at age 89. He served here 1979 – 1984, first for one year as vicar, then as pastor. If anyone would like to send a card to his widow, her address is: Kay Cheney, 11740 Northpointe Blvd. Unit 1004, Tomball, TX 77377.

Extra copies of the February newsletter are available on the table in the narthex. Please feel free to take one for yourself or someone else.

SCHOOL NEWS

Board for Parochial Education Meeting this Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

No School on Friday, February 13 – Institute Day

No School on Monday, February 16 – Presidents' Day

Immanuel Wee Care is looking for a daycare worker to help a few days or more per week. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Cheri Kurtz at 618-243-6161.

You can help the school financially by doing the following: **Shop With Raiseright** – For complete information visit www.shopwithraiseright.com Checks payable to ILS PTL. Go to smile.amazon.com/ch37-0916756 and Amazon donates to Immanuel Lutheran Church and School Okawville. Participate in the **Kroger Community Rewards** program. Join **Casey's Rewards** today and donate to our school. This is for instore, online or at the pump purchases.

GENERAL NOTES

Life Thoughts in the Church Year: "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14). God's people do wonderful things before the world: march for life, support local pregnancy resource centers, speak up on behalf of the unborn and vulnerable. However, we must always remember that we are to shine our light before men, not to earn favor with men or with God. Such self-serving works "will not make your voice be heard on high" (Isaiah 58:4). Instead, knowing Christ crucified and having the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:2, 16), we let our light shine before men to give glory to God (Matthew 5:16), that all might have life now and forever.

Life Quotes: "God loves you in your vulnerability so much that He subjected Himself to conform to a vulnerable human body. So today ... remember that Jesus, in whom all things hold together, loves you, individually. He is fully present with you just as He was in His mother's arms. God's peace be with you this day, this night." *Andrea Delwiche - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Stewardship: Matthew 5:17 - "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them." We cannot keep the Law of God perfectly. We are sinners. For us to be saved, Jesus had to fulfill the Law in our place so that the threat of the Law is abolished and the Law itself is upheld. Now, in Christ, we do desire to fulfill the Law, to live out a godly Christian life, precisely because we are so full of thanksgiving toward God for His salvation in Christ.

Lutheran programs on Radio & TV on Sundays – 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. 850 AM Radio KFUE Lutheran Worship from a Lutheran church; 9:00 a.m. 104.7 FM Rev. Mueller, New Minden Bible Study; 10:30 a.m. TV Station "TCT" "Lutheran Worship." These are not a replacement for being in church and Bible class. These are for times when we are unable to attend in person.

COMMUNITY NOTES

Hoffman Trinity Lutheran School will be hosting the annual PTL Valentine Pork Chop Dinner and Auction on February 8th, so invite your Sweetheart out for lunch! Meals will be served from 10:45 am -1:00 pm to get your Smoked Pork Chop, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Cinnamon Applesauce, and a delicious dessert all for only \$14.00. Tickets for children 2-10 will be \$6.00. We will also have carry-out dinners available for \$14.00 each. The annual live auction will begin at 1 p.m. in the gym. Bidding for the silent auction will be during the mealtimes, however some may close early, so bid often! All proceeds will go toward the PTL and will be used for the continued education of the students at the school, in the areas of technology, physical education, classroom materials, and school wide projects

Everyone is invited to a hymn festival commemorating the liturgical Festival of the Conversion of St. Paul on February 8. Four SID churches named 'St. Paul'; will join together for this hymn festival that afternoon: St. Paul's Columbia, St. Paul Hamel, St. Paul's Troy, and St. Paul Wood River. The Hymn Festival will be Feb. 5th, 2026 at 3:00 PM – 4:15 PM at St. Paul's Troy, 112 N. Border St., Troy, IL. Hymn commentaries will be provided by pastors of the participating churches. The organist will be Joseph Meador from St. Paul, Wood River and MELHS. The choir conductor will be Karen Shimkus from St. Paul's, Troy and St. Paul's, Columbia. The accompanist will be Kantor Janet Muth from St. Paul, Hamel. Singers and instrumentalists from all 4 churches and MELHS will participate. In the spirit of St. Paul, a mission offering will be collected for the Seminario Concordia El Reformador in the Dominican Republic (a mission partner of the SID).

Bethlehem Lutheran to Hold Its Winter Workshop on Necessary Masculinity: The world says all sorts of things about masculinity, even that it's toxic. Yet, Holy Scripture says otherwise. What does true masculinity look like? What are the responsibilities that God gives to men? How do we raise our boys to be godly men? On Sunday, March 8th, Bethlehem Lutheran Church (Ferrin, IL) will host Rev. Jeffrey Hemmer for its annual winter workshop, where he will present on "Necessary Masculinity." Rev. Hemmer is the pastor at Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church (Fairview Heights, IL) and is the author of Man Up: The Quest for Masculinity. He has presented on this topic throughout the synod, which has been well-received. The workshop will be held at the church from 2pm to 5pm, and is open to men in 6th grade and up. Refreshments will be served as well. For those interested in attending, please RSVP to bethlehemferrinchurch@gmail.com.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The offerings for Saturday, January 31, and Sunday, February 1 were not counted.

Expenses for the week: \$1,018.88

Previous Loan Balance: \$45,000.00

Borrowed an additional: \$13,000.00 (1/29/26)

Thrivent Choice

Thank you to everyone who directed their "Thrivent Choice Dollars" to Immanuel. If you have not contacted Thrivent Choice Recently, please call 800-847-4836 to see if Thrivent has money set aside for you to designate to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Immanuel Lutheran School or another designation of your choice. Money is available through the Thrivent Choice Program. This is not a donation coming out of your investment.

Reminder: Bunker's Restaurant (Golf Course) will give 10% to Immanuel Lutheran Church if you show your bulletin from church when eating on Sundays. Over the last six months Immanuel received \$180.00. Thank you for your support!! RBM Golf Course