

Sermon: "We Belong to the Day" 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Saturday, November 14 & Sunday, November 15, 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: 30 Sunday: 71
Bible Class: 10 Sunday School: 13

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 – Carol Brockmann, Norbert Hasheider, Paul Lange, Deb Maschhoff, Martha Schneider, Linda Schuetz, Mike Strasburg
  At Brightly in Mascoutah – Leonard Hemminghaus
  At Bethesda Gardens in Loveland, Colorado – Carol Wennemann
- Non-members: Betty Markowski, sister of Charlotte Durham; Crystal Hasheider, wife of Matt Hasheider; Tim Schnitker, son-in-law of Sharon Storck; Mark Loder, brother – in- law of Pastor Wood
- 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, vicar in Long Beach, CA
- 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

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Order of Service – Divine Service Setting Four

610 Lord Jesus, Think on Me (Sunday)

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst,

enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Stand

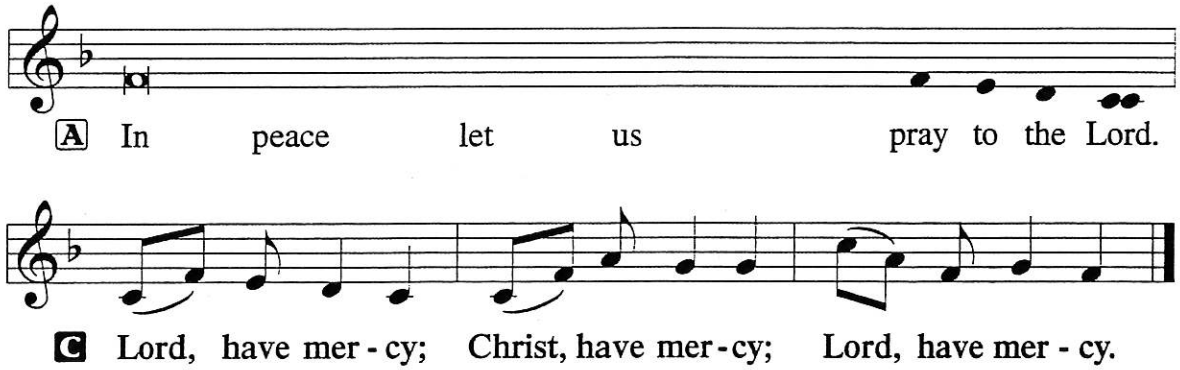
Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 143:2, 5–6, 10–11; antiphon: v. 1

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!*
In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!
Enter not into judgment with your | servant,*
for no one living is righteous be- | fore you.
I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that | you have done;*
I ponder the work | of your hands.
I stretch out my | hands to you;*
my soul thirsts for you like a | parched land.
Teach me to do your will, for you | are my God!*
Let your good Spirit lead me on | level ground!
For your name's sake, O LORD, pre- | serve my life!*
In your righteousness bring my soul out of | trouble!
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!*
In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

Kyrie



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.
Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading — **Zephaniah 1:7–16**

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD!
For the day of the LORD is near;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
8 And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.
9 On that day I will punish
everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.
10 "On that day," declares the LORD,

"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.
[11]Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
[12]At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the men
who are complacent,
those who say in their hearts,
'The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do ill.'
[13]Their goods shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them."
[14]The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud there.
[15]A day of wrath is that day,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
[16]a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

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

Gradual

Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5

These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.*
They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood | of the Lamb.
Blessèd are those whose strength is | in you,*
in whose heart are the highways to | Zion.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

[1]Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have
anything written to you. [2]For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will
come like a thief in the night. [3]While people are saying, "There is peace and security,"
then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant
woman, and they will not escape. [4]But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to
surprise you like a thief. [5]For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not
of the night or of the darkness. [6]So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep
awake and be sober. [7]For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are
drunk at night. [8]But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the
breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9]For God has not
destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10]who died
for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. [11]Therefore
encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

14[Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants
and entrusted to them his property. 15To one he gave five talents, to another two, to
another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16He who had received
the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17So
also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18But he who had received the
one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19Now after a long
time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20And he who had
received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you
delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' 21His master said to him,
'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you
over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 22And he also who had the two talents
came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two
talents more.' 23His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have
been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'
24He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to
be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no
seed, 25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what
is yours.' 26But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew
that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? 27Then you
ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have
received what was my own with interest. 28So take the talent from him and give it to him
who has the ten talents. 29For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have
an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 30And
cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and
gnashing of teeth.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

C **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.

Sit

508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near

Sermon "We Belong to the Day" 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Sit

Offering

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

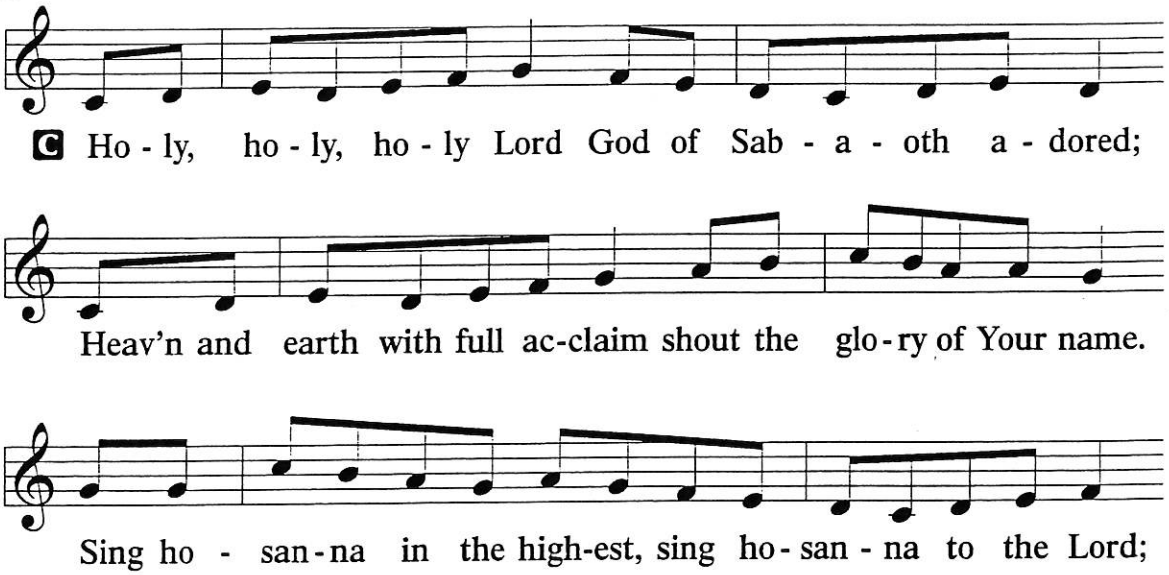
P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

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.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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





Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C **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

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 ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

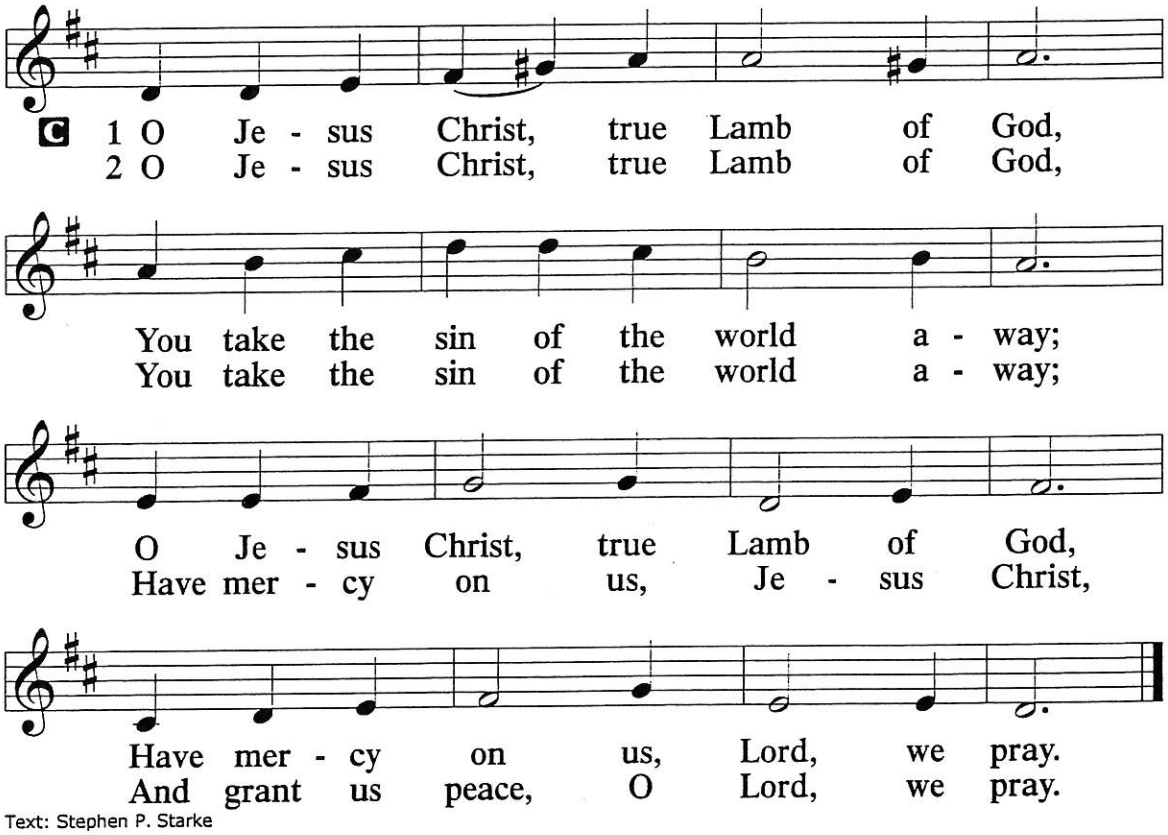
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei



Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.
Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.
Amen.

411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

523 O Word of God Incarnate

632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.

C **Amen.**

Nunc Dimittis





Post-Communion Collect

[A] 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.

[C] **Amen.**

Benedicamus

[A] Let us bless the Lord.

[C] **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

[P] The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.

[C] **Amen.**

663 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray (Sunday)

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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Pastor:	Eric Wood
Pianist: (Saturday)	Sophia Wood
Organist: (Sunday)	Sharon Krueger
Acolyte: (Saturday)	Markus Lautenschlaeger
(Sunday)	Landon Elliott
Reader: (Saturday)	
(Sunday)	Steve Elliott
Communion Assistants: (Saturday)	Mike Jacobs
(Sunday)	Dennis Pruehsner

Birthdays 17th Braden Meyer, Ryker Obermeier, 18th Kathy Suedmeyer, Mallory Riechmann, Brian Frederking, 19th Judy Hasheider, Michael Weeke, 20th Tori Buettner

November Ushers – Saturday –
Sunday – Larry Hasheider and Nathan Hasheider

Saturday service at 5:30 p.m.
Bible Class at 9:00 a.m. studying the Apocrypha
Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.
Men's Club Meeting this Monday at 7:30 p.m.
Chapel at 12:30 p.m. this Wednesday with Pastor d'Entremont
Choir Rehearsal this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
LWML Meeting this Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

The November LWML meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19 at 7pm in the church narthex. Carolyn Rennegarbe will have the opening devotion, and Mary Ann Niedens will have the topic, a study on gratefulness. We will also be discussing our new format for the prayer circle. All women are welcome to join us!

LWML members: subscriptions for the Lutheran Women's Quarterly magazine are up for renewal. If you would like to receive this magazine, please give $8 to Mary Ann Niedens by December 1. The magazine contains news about LWML, devotions, and Bible studies. It is a great resource for all things LWML!

Christmas Stroll: The Alumni & Friends will organize the food court and flea market for the Christmas Stroll again this year at the school. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the narthex for donations of soups & desserts and volunteers. The Alumni Board is very small so please sign up as soon and as often as you can. We need to make sure the schedule gets filled. Thank you in advance for anything you do to make this project a success!

Lutheran Witness renewals are due by November 27th. This year's annual subscription is $30.70. If you would like to continue your subscription or start a new one, please pick up a form from the table in the narthex and return it with payment or call the church office by the above date. Yearly subscriptions begin February 2026.

The Parish Ed Board invites all who are able to help decorate the church for the Christmas season on Nov 29 immediately following church. All help is greatly appreciated!

Poinsettia time is here. This year, Poinsettias may be ordered again in red, white, or multicolored (red/white). The price will remain $8.75 each this year. Please let Lois Obermeier know by December 6th at 618-977-5956, as white and multicolored are limited. Thanks in advance.

The Finance Committee will begin working on next year's offering envelopes. Please let Malinda know if you need or want a new box. The boxes will be the same as this year. We do have some members now using EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer) for their contributions. Please contact Malinda at 618-713-5008.

We received an official letter regarding the battery energy storage system. A public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 19. If you are interested in reading the letter it will be posted on the bulletin board.

SCHOOL NEWS

Special thanks to all the blood donors that helped make the first ever VFW Post 5596 and Immanuel Lutheran School blood drive a success! We collected 31 units of blood. We exceeded our goal by 6 units and could not have done it without you. We saved an estimated 93 lives! God is great! Peace be with you.

The Veterans' Day Glow Run was a huge success! We had 80 participants, great weather, fun, and fellowship! Thank you to everyone who came out to run, volunteer or show your support in any way!

Key Cards

We are in the process of deactivating all key cards for the school that are not being used by past board members or teachers. If you have a key card and are not currently on a board or a teacher at this time, please drop it off in the school office or leave it on the table in the narthex so they can be picked up. We need to order additional cards but if we can collect past cards this may prevent us from having that additional expense.

COMMUNITY NOTES

Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School's First Open House for prospective students is scheduled for Sunday, November 15, with tours from 2:00-4:00. Families will be able to visit the school, tour the facilities, and talk with current students, parents, and teachers. Come see how Christ Our Rock can serve your family. This event is open to all prospective students and families. Transfer students and potential freshmen are encouraged to attend. Interested families not able to attend can contact the school office at 226-3315 to receive an information packet and set an appointment to visit the school.

The Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School choir and band will present their Christmas concert on Sunday, December 6, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Centralia, IL. (201 S. Pleasant Ave) The theme of this free sacred concert is LOVE - JOY - PEACE. Everyone is invited to attend!

GENERAL NOTES

Life Thoughts in the Church Year:

The end of the Church year reminds us that there is an urgency to sharing the Gospel and God's Word about life. Naturally, when Christ returns, we want Him to find us as "good and faithful servants" (Matthew 25:21), using the talents and resources He's given us to glorify Him and love and serve every one of our neighbors. And, because the Lord "has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation" (1 Thessalonians 5:9), we share God's Word with eager anticipation that every life God has created may escape the day of wrath (Zephaniah 1:15) and live eternally with Him.

Life Quotes:

"Tragedies are a reminder that we do live in a fallen world, and we all need to repent. We thank God for the time He has given us in this life to repent. We recognize our sin. We confess our sin. We trust that Jesus did everything for our forgiveness. Out of thanks for God's gift of forgiveness, let's be living fig trees. Each day let's bear good fruit, showing our faith, and giving glory to God in everything we do." Rev. Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Stewardship:

Matthew 25:30 – "And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness." Why did the worthless servant act the way he did? Because of what he believed about the Master. He didn't trust or love the Master; so, his actions did not demonstrate love and trust, but rather hate and mistrust. It's the same with us, but in reverse: since we know our Lord God to be faithful and kind, we desire to serve Him and render faithful service with what He has given us.

Lutheran programs on Radio & TV on Sundays – 7:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. 850 AM Radio KFUO 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.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The offerings for Saturday, October 31st, Sunday, November 1st, Saturday, November 7th, and Sunday, November 8th were as follows: Current $1,060.00, Home Use $4,280.00, Loose $203.00.

Expenses for the week: $20,915.15

Borrowed: $10,000.00 on 06/30/26; $6,000.00 on 07/08/26; $12,000.00 on 09/14/26; $17,000.00 on 10/14/26; $30,000.00 on 11/12/26

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 it to Immanuel 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.

Kroger, Casey's and Box Tops will give cash back bonuses to our school. Check them out online or in store for more information.

Reminder: Bunker's Restaurant (Golf Course) will give 10% to Immanuel Lutheran Church if you show your bulletin from church when eating on Sundays. Thank you for your support!