



**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

37515 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012

Pastor Justin Fenger

Sixth Sunday after Easter

May 10, 2026

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

**SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 5/10/2026  
GATHERING  
TODAY'S SERVICE IS USING  
ELW: RED BOOK  
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**

**PRELUDE:** Faith of Our Mothers  
Male Chorus



**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

**C: Give us the willingness to be honest with ourselves, with one another, and with you about the ways in which we have caused harm in this world. Give us the openness to see where our actions or failures to act have led to pain in those closest to us and in those far away. Do not let us sink further into self-harm through self-blame and hatred, but give us the courage to set right our wrongs, and to return to you again and again for forgiveness.**

P: The risen God has raised you to newness of life in Jesus' name. You are in Christ a new creation, and God forgives you every wrong. Celebrate with all of creation a world redeemed and lavish the love you have received on all that is. **Amen.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: Praise God, who made the world,

L: The God of heaven and earth

L: This one gives life to all,

**C: And all that lives within it!**

**C: Does not live in human shrines.**

**C: And we are God's own children!**

**OPENING HYMN:**

Come Thou Almighty King (v.v.1,2,3)

ELW 408 Red

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Faithful God, **You have promised the Spirit to be with us forever. May our lives show through our love and devotion to you that this one truly lives within us, for the sake of Jesus our risen savior. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:**

On This Day We Ask to Share (Beautiful Mother)

Male Chorus

**BLESSING OF PRAYER SHAWLS:**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON:**

**Welcome to Immanuel!**

Thank you for joining us for our worship service. Whoever you are, whatever you've done, or wherever 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 you see you again soon.

**Visitors**, 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.

**We encourage all children** who can read, to follow along in the bulletin during our worship service.

We invite you to follow the service and take part in a way that feels right to you.

**Hearing devices** are available from an usher.

P = Pastor

L = Leader

**C = Congregation**

R = Reader

Sections in **bold** are to be read by the congregation

**Today's Scripture**

Acts 17:22-31  
Psalm 66:8-20  
John 14:15-21

**SCRIPTURE READING:**

Acts 17:22-31

<sup>22</sup>Then 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."

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**PSALM:**

Psalm 66:8-20

R: Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard,

**C: who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.**

R: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

**C: You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;**

R: you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

**C: I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows,**

R: those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

**C: I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**

R: Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.

**C: I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.**

R: If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

**C: But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer.**

R: Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Come and Fill Our Hearts x2

ELW 528 Red

**GOSPEL:**

John 14:15-21

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>15</sup>"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. <sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to You, O Christ**

**SERMON:**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

Spirit of Gentleness (v.v.1,4)

ELW 396 Red

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

ELW Pg. 112 Red

**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, the power and the glory,  
For ever and ever. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY:**

Take My Life, That I May Be (v.v.1,2)

ELW 583 Red

**PRESENTATION OF GIFTS:**

Create In Me

ELW 186 Red

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

Let us come into God's house **with offerings of thanksgiving and gratitude for all that we have received. Bless these gifts and may they be the means through which others may also be blessed by you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**SENDING:**

L: God does not live in shrines made by human hands.

**C: God is not limited to a single church, or synagogue, mosque, temple, or cathedral.**

L: God is not found in just one nation,

**C: Nor bound by those who worship, pray or serve in just one way.**

L: God does not live in gold or silver, bronze or marble, forms or icons.

**C: God is not revealed by just one painter or sculptor, musician or poet, theologian or layperson.**

L: For God who made all lands and peoples, the living earth and all that crawl, walk, swim, or fly,

**C: Cannot be held inside one place, or in one creature's form or face.**

L: Our God is one and over all,

**C: And in the hearts of all who love.**

**CLOSING HYMN:**

Hallelujah Chorus With the Joint Choir  
Congregation is welcome to come join

**DISMISSAL:**

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Say Yes Again: Special Congregational Meeting** | May 17th | After Worship

One year ago, Immanuel Lutheran took a bold step of faith by entering into a Shared Ministry Covenant with First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Taylors Falls. It has been a year of growth, collaboration, and God's faithfulness at work in both of our communities — and now it's time to take the next step forward.

On May 17th, following worship, we will hold a Special Congregational Meeting to vote on renewing our One-Year Shared Ministry Covenant with FELC. The covenant document will be available for your review beginning May 10th. Don't miss our Informational Meeting and Celebration on Thursday, May 14th at 6:00pm here at ILC — come learn, ask questions, and celebrate what God has done through this partnership!

*We are better together. We hope to see you there.*

## HEALING SERVICE May 31st

Healing Services are offered the 5th Sunday of any month. The short service is used to facilitate spiritual, emotional and physical healing. We use this time to invite God's grace and love to address our concerns as we know it is God alone who heals our minds and bodies. (James 5:14 - 16)

Your Parish Care Team (PCT) will have a Healing Service May 31st immediately following our regular 9:00 am service. This short service will offer anointing and a time for personal prayer.

You will still have plenty of time to join Coffee Hour for Fellowship at the conclusion of the service.

### Attention 2026' Graduates

Senior Recognition Sunday, will be May 31<sup>st</sup>

### Mark Your Calendars

May 22 - **Almelund Farmer's Market** begins its 19th Season at Rod's Country Corner!! Come Friday afternoons – 3-6:00 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.

May 25 - **Memorial Day** is the day we remember the sacrifices made by those who have served in our military, and to also remember the lives of all our loved ones. This Memorial Day we will again gather for an 11:30 Ceremony of Remembrance at the Immanuel Cemetery. Ham Dinner will follow served in the Fellowship Hall. Cost to be determined. Veterans eat Free! Food Service Group D will be in charge with help from the congregation! The Food Sign-Up Chart will be located in the gathering area and will be posted soon. Volunteers will be needed to help set-up 9:00 Saturday, May 23 and for Memorial Day kitchen food preparation and clean-up. We have heard many times throughout the years how much this day is appreciated - not only for the Ceremony of Remembrance, but for the delicious Ham Dinner and the opportunity to reconnect with family and friends. **Mark your calendars for this Meaningful, Community Event! Added this year is the Cemetery Walk** featuring the lives of some of the community's former residents along with some displays of local history. The first walk will be at 10:00 with the second at 1:30 - placards will be placed to guide visitors through the site. The Walk will introduce you to John Almqvist, who owned the first general store in Almelund and Glen Berg, a highly decorated WW II fighter pilot along with several others with interesting stories! Also featured will be some of the most interesting grave markers and monuments in the cemetery - look for the special flags. Tour guides will be available to show the newly decorated sanctuary and also introduce you to the church's labyrinth - a place for meditation and reflection. There is no cost to participate in the Cemetery Walk or any of the educational tours. The event is open to the public - any donations received will benefit Almelund's Amador Heritage Center, sponsor of the Walk. **Help make the cemetery beautiful this year** - if there is an empty pot on a site, feel free to plant flowers. Maybe you have a hanging basket you can loan us for the Memorial Day Weekend? **Volunteers are needed to greet visitors** in the sanctuary and at the labyrinth. Information will be provided for volunteers. **Help is needed on Saturday, May 23rd** to put together placards and install them in the cemetery on Monday morning. Contact Lin Strong ([lin.strong269@gmail.com](mailto:lin.strong269@gmail.com)) if you are interested in helping with this project.

### Youth Group News

Youth Group will meet May 20th from 6pm - 7pm.

May 17th is our last Youth led church service until the fall.

Mission Trip meeting will also be May 17th after service. Please make sure your youth and at least 1 parent attend this meeting.

**The Immanuel quilters** will meet Tuesday, May 12th, from 10am-2pm, with a potluck lunch at noon. Our group donated a quilt to the St. Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization 2026 Convention. The quilts will be donated to Lutheran

Social Service Safe House. In May we are planning on donating more quilts to Options for Women. A message was sent to DeeDee & Jason asking if the youth group could take quilts on their mission trip. We also talked about sewing quilts for The Linus Project (thru The SheShed in North Branch) and Ryan's Case for smiles, thru Rush City church. A big thank you to Peggy Lang, Linda McCormack & Gayle Drewry... they stopped for a visit and brought more quilt kits, several finished tops and lots of fabric for our stash. We are very blessed to have their support! Blessing of the quilts will be Sunday, May 17th and 2026 graduates will receive their quilts on Sunday, May 31st. Quilters will serve coffee that Sunday.

Hope to see you on May 12th!

Martha Strecker. 651-341-3885

### **Dear Church Family-**

Sarah Circle is organizing a cleaning of the sanctuary with Murphy's oil wood cleaner on Wednesday, May 13 at 10:00 am, to maintain our beautiful space and ensure it remains welcoming for everyone. We would love your help! Whether you can spare an hour or more, your contribution makes a difference. Thank you for considering this opportunity. Together, we all can keep our church a "shining" place of worship and fellowship!

**The Naomi circle** will meet at the home of Cami Peltier on May 19th at 9:30am. See you then!

**Confirmation Class:** 5:30-7:00 27<sup>th</sup> The Risen People Share God's Dream

**Community Dinner,** Friday June 12 from 4:30-6:30.

**ATTENTION:** Our veteran's picture board needs to be updated. If you were in the military:

Please provide a picture in uniform.

Branch of Service; dates; job; any special recognition you were awarded or information you wish to share.

Contact Gwen Swenson (651)674-8568 or Sharon Thiel (218)770-3870 We would like to do this by May 25<sup>th</sup>, our Memorial Day Program & Dinner.

### **Sermon Note Art**

As you come into the sanctuary, pick up a blank index card from the back of the narthex (or ask an usher).

During the sermon:

- Confirmation students: write your name on the back of the card.
- Write the sermon theme or main point somewhere on the card.
- Then respond:
  - draw a picture of something that spoke to you, or
  - write a short poem, phrase, or little story.

When you're finished, you can:

- hand your card to Pastor Justin after worship, or
- place it in his box.

If you're especially proud of your artwork or words, feel free to sign your name on the front as well.

This is for everyone, not just confirmation students!

Each week a selection of "Sermon Note Art" will be displayed in the Sunday School hallway as a way to share what God is stirring in our hearts.

### **Attention Sunday school kids and parents**

We do collect a Sunday school offering on Sundays in 2 ways. Food can be brought for the Food Shelf or a monetary offering will be given to Soldier's 6 who train dogs for soldiers and first responders.

**Have you come** to the delicious, tasty, appetizing Community Dinner held at our church the second Friday of each month from 4:30 to 6:30? Please do so. Thanks to all those who have helped with this meal.

## Holy Smokes Is Back!

Mark, your calendars - Holy Smokes is at Wild Mtn. Winery on Thursday, May 28 at 6:30 PM.

# Faith Conversations Widening Circles

*Starting with I/Me, and widening outward, — relationships,  
church and community*

### EVENT DETAILS

Wild Mountain Winery  
4th Thursday of the  
Month  
6:30 PM  
April–October 2026

4th Thursday • 6:30 PM



April — iNDIVIDUALISM: Me, Myself, & I Alone

May — Law & Gospel: Captured & Free

June — The Myth(?) of Christian Self-Help



July — My Story. Your Story. God's Story

August — Mental Health (It's NOT just you...)

September — Listening 101: Listening as the First Act of Love

October — Figuring Out Forgiveness

All are welcome

Good conversation • good community

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### More First Lutheran Events, TF:

**Quilting** 9:30am - 11:00am First and Third Wednesdays of the month. No experience needed! New quilters welcome!

**New Book Study** at The Lodge Wednesdays at 10am.

### Wisdom Seekers Study Group

Every Thursday, 9:00 am @ First Lutheran

**Fri., June 12, 4:30-6:30**

# Community Dinner

*Free!*

*Everyone Welcome!*

*Great Fellowship!*

*Meet your friends & neighbors!*

*Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Almelund*

*Come & Bring a Friend!*

*2nd Friday Each Month 4:30—6:30 pm*



**Thank you for helping lead worship today!**

**Pastor:**  
Justin Fenger

**Organist:**  
Momoh Freeman

**Special Music:**  
Male Chorus & Joint Choir

**Reader:**  
Julie Johnson

**Ushers:**  
Perry Lindberg  
Daryl Abrahamson

**Sound Tech:**  
Loraine Rue

**Camera Tech:**  
Dave Rue

**Proclaim:**  
Carli Linngren

**Children's Sermon:**  
Jeske Noordergraaf

**Altar Guild:**  
Diane Rothe  
Tora Carlson

**Teachers:**  
Dana Johnson  
Amanda Cook  
Teresa Carlson

**Coffee Servers:**  
Linda Peterson

**Immanuel Church Calendar This Week**

**Sunday May 10**  
**MOTHER'S DAY**  
9:00 Male Chorus & Joint Choir Worship Service Live and Online W/Prayer Shawl Dedication & Sunday School after Children's Sermon  
**ALSO** pick up the Shared Ministry Covenant document  
10:00 Coffee Served  
11:00 Service at First Ev. Lutheran Church TF

**Monday May 11**  
9-3 Office hours  
10:00WOW Practice  
5:00 Property Meeting  
6:00 Council Meeting

**Tuesday May 12**  
9-3 Office hours  
9:00 Worship Team Meets  
10-2 Quilters meet W/potluck at noon

**Wednesday May 13**  
9-3 Office hours  
10:00 Cleaning the Sanctuary

**Thursday May 14**  
Deadline for Bulletin Info  
9:00am Wisdom Seekers bible study @ First Lutheran TF  
6:00 Informational Meeting & Celebration at ILC

**Friday May 15**  
9-3 Office hours  
Bulletins Printed

**Saturday May 16**  
**Sunday May 17**  
9:00 Youth Group, Quilt Dedication, WOW Communion  
Worship Service Live and Online. Sunday School after Children's Sermon  
**AFTER** service; Congregational Meeting  
10:00 Youth Meeting for Mission Trip  
10:00 Coffee Served  
11:00 Service at First Ev. Lutheran Church TF

**IMMANUEL STAFF**

**Justin Fenger**, Pastor  
**Momoh Freeman**, Organist  
**Pat Remer**, Accompanist  
**Mark Weslander**, Administrative Assistant & Financial Recorder  
**Kyle Hendrickson**, Financial Secretary  
**Kim's Kleaning**, Church Custodial Work  
**Daryl Abrahamson**, Cemetery Groundskeeper  
**Jason & DeeDee Fredlund**, Youth Directors  
**Teresa Carlson**, Sunday School Leader  
**Office Hours:** M,T,W,F 9:00am-3:00pm  
Unless otherwise noted.  
Cell phone (651)431-8941

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**Teresa Carlson**, Sunday School Leader  
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**Jason & DeeDee Fredlund**, Youth Directors  
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**Daryl Abrahamson**, Cemetery  
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(651)674-2419  
**Martha Strecker**, Quilting group  
[mmstreck@frontiernet.net](mailto:mmstreck@frontiernet.net)  
(651)583-2221  
**Joanne Johnson**, Prayer Shawl group  
[chareter@yahoo.com](mailto:chareter@yahoo.com)  
(651)278-2686

**May 3, 2026**  
**Attendance: 75**

**Weekly Giving Update:**  
**May 3, 2026**

General	\$2,118.00
Benevolence:	
-Undesignated	\$ 110.00
-Luther Point:	\$ 2.00
Building Fund	\$ 340.00
Loose	\$ 13.00
Online Service Fee	\$ 10.40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,593.40</b>

**Happy birthday this week!**

- 10  
Randal Lindblom  
Alexandra Meyer
- 12  
Lesley Mohn  
Christopher Chinander  
James Chinander
- 13  
Bert Nelson  
Aaron Maroschek  
James Armstrong
- 14  
Christina Ellifritz  
Keith Parsons
- 15  
Braxton Kennedy