



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 37515 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012
 Pastor Justin Fenger
 Seventh Sunday after Easter
 May 17, 2026

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

SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 5/17/2026

GATHERING

TODAY'S SERVICE IS USING ELW: RED BOOK

PRELUDE: We Will Glorify WOW Group

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: We do not know the days and times,

L: But we are given power from above:

L: We are witnesses to Christ,

C: The hours and years of God's own ways.

C: The Holy Spirit, here among us!

C: In this place and everywhere on earth.

OPENING HYMN:

God Is Here (v.v.1,4)

ELW 526 Red

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Eternal God, To know you is life. Place within our hearts the Spirit which was in Christ, that we might also live to your glory, just as he did. In the name of our risen savior we pray. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

Build This House

WOW Group

BLESSING OF THE QUILT DEDICATION:

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 1:6-14

Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35

John 17:1-11

SCRIPTURE READING:

Acts 1:6-14

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." ¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM:

Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35

R: Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him.

C: As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God.

R: But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy.

C: Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds— his name is the Lord— be exultant before him.

R: Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

C: God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in a parched land.

R: O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

C: the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

R: Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished;

C: your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

R: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord, Selah

C: O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens; listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.

R: Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; and whose power is in the skies.

C: Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel; he gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Come and Fill Our Hearts x2

ELW 528 Red

GOSPEL:

John 17:1-11

Glory to you, O Lord

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they

have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

SERMON:

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (v.v.1,2,3)

ELW 392 Red

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

OFFERTORY:

Give Thanks

WOW Group

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 184 Red

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

O God, you shower blessings upon us daily. We offer these gifts as small portions of what we have, to share with others and to expand our hearts with your love, which is the purpose of all things, for the sake of Jesus our savior. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION:

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

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

EUCCHARISTIC INVITATION:

Protector of orphans and widows, liberator of prisoners and persecuted, be with us as we gather together at your table. The loving host invites us with all our brothers and sisters worldwide to join in the feast of the forgiven. Come, let us not wait, but be glad at our savior’s invitation!

DISTRIBUTION:

I Am the Bread of Life

WOW Group

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

SENDING:

L: God's timing is not our timing.

C: Yet we want to know when.

L: When Jesus will return to make all things right.

C: When we will see the reign of God.

L: When there will be justice for all people.

C: When there will be peace in all the earth.

L: Jesus tells us it is not for us to know,

C: But promises us that the Holy Spirit will be with us in our waiting.

L: Jesus shows us how to pray, turning to God for discernment.

C: Jesus disciples devoted themselves to prayer.

L: So we wait, not passively, but actively working through the power of the Holy Spirit to bring near the reign of God.

C: And at the same time, we answer the call to PUSH: Pray Until Something Happens.

CLOSING HYMN:

On Our Way Rejoicing

ELW 537 Red

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 31st

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 27th The Risen People Share God's Dream

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

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 Almquist, 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) if you are interested in helping with this project.

Youth Group News

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

TODAY!!! 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 Youth Group leaves on June 6th for their mission trip to Louisville KY. One need that the area we will be serving is good n need if school supplies. If you would like to donate there will be a box set up by the Fireside Room until June 4th

New Address: Lois Johnson's new address is: 23140 Melanie Tr. N.
Scandia, MN 55073

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 May25th, our Memorial Day Program & Dinner.

Luther Point Campership

Parents: Get your kids signed up! **Grandparents:** Get your grandkids signed up! **Kids:** Invite a friend, or a cousin, or a sibling! Even if they are not members of Immanuel, we will pay their entire cost of camp!

Immanuel will pay for your camp experience!!

There are one, two and five-day opportunities. This is for children entering grades 1-12. Just register on line.

For further information go to www.lutherpoint.org or info@lutherpoint.org

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

THANK YOU

A huge thank you for all that helped clean the sanctuary on Wednesday. Your hard work and dedication truly made a difference. And a special thank you to the 5 children that helped us!!! Thank you once again for your willingness to lend a hand and for your support and love for our church.

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!

Leader:
Youth Group

Organist:
Momoh Freeman

Special Music:
WOW Group

Reader:
Youth Group

Ushers:
Youth Group

Communion Servers:
Youth Group

Sound Tech:
Nancy Nadeau

Camera Tech:
Jodi Johnson-Waldemar

Proclaim:
Carli Linngren

Children's Sermon:
Youth Group

Altar Guild:
Diane Rothe
Tora Carlson

Teachers:
Dana Johnson
Cami Peltier
Katie Fenger

Coffee Servers:
Joanne Johnson
Maureen Peterson

Immanuel Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday May 18
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
9-3 Office hours
6:00 Chris. Ed

Tuesday May 19
9-3 Office hours
9:00 Worship Team Meets
9:30 Naomi Circle @ Cami Peltier

Wednesday May 20
9-3 Office hours
Newsletter Proofread
1:30 Prayer Shawl
6-7 Youth Group

Thursday May 21
Deadline for Bulletin Info
9:00am Wisdom Seekers study @ First Lutheran TF

Friday May 22
9-3 Office hours
Bulletins Printed
10:00 Newsletter Assembly
3-6 Almelund Farmer's Market at Rods

Saturday May 23
9:00 Memorial Day set-up & food prep

Sunday May 24
PICK UP NEWSLETTERS
9:00 Worship Service Live and Online.
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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Martha Strecker, Quilting group
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Joanne Johnson, Prayer Shawl group
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(651)278-2686

May 10, 2026
Attendance: 112

Weekly Giving Update:
May 10, 2026

General	\$4,538.00
Benevolence:	
-Undesignated	\$ 30.00
-Synod	\$ 450.00
-Lutheran Soc. Serv.	\$ 65.00
-Luther Point:	\$ 65.00
Building Fund	\$ 60.00
Loose	\$ 70.00
Youth Mission Trip	\$ 2.00
Shared Ministry	\$2,130.00
Online Service Fee	<u>\$ 13.00</u>
TOTAL	\$7,423.00

Happy birthday this week!

19
Matthew Bauman
Waylon Schultz
Weston Schultz

21
Bryan Waldemar

23
Jerzie Peterson
Jason Schultz
Kayla Olson