



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

37515 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012

Pastor Justin Fenger

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2026

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

SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 7 19/2026

GATHERING

TODAY'S SERVICE IS USING

ELW: RED BOOK



PRELUDE:

WELCOME AND

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CONFESSION AND

FORGIVENESS:

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

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Patient God,

C: You have taught us all we need to be your faithful people. And yet we persist in going our own way, doing our own thing, and minding our own business when we ought to be about the business of your kingdom. Forgive our selfish neglect of others and bring us back into wholeness with our brothers and sisters. Amen.

P: God is merciful, patient, kind and forgiving. We have been pardoned for all that we have done, and all that we have overlooked. May we give now as we have received: generously and extravagantly, in the way of our loving teacher, savior and friend. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: How lovely is your dwelling place, O God!

L: My soul longs for the courts of God.

L: Even the sparrow finds a home at your altar.

C: Happy are those whose strength is in you, O God.

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C: Happy are those whose strength is in you, O God.

OPENING HYMN:

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come (v.v.1,2,4)

ELW 693 Red

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

O God, Your ways are beyond our understanding and your mercy is wide enough to include everyone. May we lay aside our temptation to judge and instead seek after your heavenly kingdom on earth. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

Genesis
28:10-19

Psalms
139:1-12, 23-24

Matthew
13:24-30, 36-43

SCRIPTURE READING:

Genesis 28:10-19

¹⁰Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹²And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" ¹⁷And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." ¹⁸So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹He called that place Bethel.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM:

Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24

R: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

C: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

R: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

C: Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

R: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

C: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

R: Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

C: If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

R: If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

C: even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

R: If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,"

C: even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

R: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

C: See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia

ELW pg. 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, Alleluia.

GOSPEL:

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Glory to you, O Lord

²⁴He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"³¹ ³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the

children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

SERMON:

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Borning Cry

ELW 732 Red

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

OFFERTORY:

Change My Heart, O God

ELW 801 Red

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 184 Red

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Like a bountiful harvest, so is the gift of your salvation to us. Loosen our grip on the things of this world, that our possessions need not possess us, and the energy of our lives be spent seeking ways to serve you ever more faithfully. Accept what we offer here for the work of your kingdom and bless others through these gifts. For the sake of your son who sacrificed everything. 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 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.

EUCCHARISTIC INVITATION:

You sow the good seed, O God, and with time it grows into fine wheat. Make our hearts the fertile field where your word may flourish and thrive, for all to receive. Give us now the food of your body and blood and strengthen us to go forth and spread the seeds which will expand your kingdom on earth. The time is now—come and eat!

DISTRIBUTION:

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

SENDING:

L: There is no escaping our God.

L: We think God won't notice

L: We figure God's busy

L: But like it or not, our God is always there.

L: God knows where we are going and surrounds us on our way.

L: It is more that our minds can comprehend.

L: Despite our attempts to separate ourselves,

L: God sees, knows, and loves us in spite of ourselves,

C: Yet so often we try.

C: When we sin and fall short.

C: Doing other, important things.

C: God knows our thoughts before we speak them.

C: It's astonishing to contemplate, the ever-presence of our God.

C: So despite our desire to get away with our sins,

C: It is a comfort to know that we are never alone.

C: And we are moved by humble gratitude.

CLOSING HYMN:

For All the Saints (v.v.1,2,7)

ELW 422 Red

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCA MEETS AFTER CHURCH TODAY

Community Dinner, Friday August 14 from 4:30-6:30.

Almelund Farmer's Market began 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.

"Patty Melts" at the Almelund Lion's Ball Field! The 11th Season began Wednesday, June 10 - running through July 29. Serving starts at 5:30. The "Crew" will be cooking Patty Melts, Cheeseburgers, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, French Fries & Cheese Curds, chips, candy & beverages available. Don't miss these fun, summer nights to meet up with friends and neighbors. What a Great Way to support the Almelund Lion's Club! See You There!!!

Holy Smokes!

Mark, your calendars - Holy Smokes is at Wild Mtn.
Winery on Thursday,
July 23 at 6:30 PM.

Music in Almelund!

The Amador Heritage Museum invites you to Music in Almelund! On the 3rd Sunday of July and August the museum will feature local musicians from 2p – 3p in the museum's picnic shelter.

Sunday, July 19, 2p – 3p

Country Music – Dirk Doble and Cav

Sunday, August 16, 2p – 3p Interstate Band
(TF/SCF)

Bring a lawn chair or blanket! WIFI is available!
Allow time to see the new exhibits in the Museum.
The Museum is open Sundays, 1p – 4p.

Remember: the 3rd Sunday in September is the
Apple Festival! 11a – 4p

Faith Conversations Widening Circles

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

EVENT DETAILS	4th Thursday • 6:30 PM
Wild Mountain Winery	April — INDIVIDUALISM: Me, Myself, & I Alone
4th Thursday of the	May — Law & Gospel: Captured & Free
Month	June — The Myth(?) of Christian Self-Help
6:30 PM	July — My Story. Your Story. God's Story
April–October 2026	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

Apple Festival Meeting! SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2026 - 6:30PM. September is soon here! We need to have an AF meeting. I have picked a day: Sunday, July 19 at 6:30p in the old firehall/maintenance building. Please look over what areas you covered last year; lets see what people have already started! Yes, Music at the Museum is also on Sunday. We are sort of at crunch - so I just picked a day. I hope that everyone can make the meeting. Do we have any new volunteers that we could bring in to help? Thanks!!

The ACS Chisago County Relay for Life will be taking place on Friday, August 21 from 5:30 - 9:00 pm at the Chisago Lake Lutheran Church in Center City. We will be selling luminaries at our Church on Sunday, August 2 and 16 after the service. All donations are welcome. Cancer research is making great strides extending lives and improving the quality of those lives. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause and come join us at this uplifting event.

Jeske Noordergraaf and Kris Koran

THANK YOU

Dear members of Immanuel Lutheran Church Choir - July 2026

Thank you for your generous gift! We are humbled by your love and generosity. We have both loved making beautiful music with you and look forward to doing so again one day. Thank you for taking such great care of Momoh and accepting me into your family.

Until our paths cross again,
Amy ? MOMOH

Fri., Aug 14, 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



ST. BRIDGET OF SWEDEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

BLOCK PARTY

SATURDAY, SEP 5 • 6-10PM

BOOGIE WONDERLAND

Get Down Tonight

**TURKEY DINNER • BEER TENT
BURGERS • HOT DOGS • BRATS
KIDS GAMES • SILENT AUCTION**

7K CASH RAFFLE • FREE ADMISSION

HWY 8, LINDSTROM, MN
FOR MORE INFO: STBRIDGETOFSWEDEN.ORG • 651-257-2474

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

Summer 2026



	1 st - 4 th Grade	4 th - 6 th Grade	7 th - 9 th Grade	Adventure Camp	Family Camp
Week 1 June 21 - 26	1 st & 2 nd Grade Overnight (June 22 & 23)	4 th - 6 th Grade	7 th - 9 th Grade		Grandparent/ Grandchild (June 24 - 26)
Week 2 June 28 - 30 (HALF WEEK)	3 rd & 4 th Grade	4 th - 6 th Grade	7 th - 9 th Grade	7 th - 12 th Grade Night Life Camp	
Week 3 July 5-10	3 rd & 4 th Grade (July 8 - 10)	4 th - 6 th Grade	7 th - 9 th Grade	5 th - 12 th Grade Horse Camp	Grandparent/ Grandchild (July 5 - 7)
Week 4 July 12 - 17	1 st & 2 nd Grade Overnight (July 13 & 14)	4 th - 6 th Grade	7 th - 9 th Grade	4 th - 6 th Grade Fish Camp	Family Camp
Week 5 July 19 - 24	3 rd & 4 th Grade (July 19 - 21)	4 th - 6 th Grade	7 th - 9 th Grade	7 th - 12 th Grade Fish Camp	Grandparent/ Grandchild (July 22 - 24)
Week 6 July 26 - 31	1 st & 2 nd Grade Day at Camp (July 27)	4 th - 6 th Grade	7 th - 9 th Grade	5 th - 12 th Grade Horse Camp 5 th - 12 th Outpost Camp	

VBS "What's Cooking"

3 years old - 5th

August 10-13th 5:30-8:00pm

Looking for volunteers. Sign-up in gathering area outside fireside room and/or pick up registration forms





Discover the Recipe for a Great Life!



REGISTRATION FORM

AUGUST 10-13, 2026 • MONDAY-THURSDAY • 5:30-8:00 PM

1 CHEF'S NAME (Child)



First Name: _____
Last Name: _____
Grade (Fall 2026): ☐ K ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5
Date of Birth: _____ ☐ Boy ☐ Girl

2 KITCHEN CREW (Parent/Guardian)



Parent/Guardian Name: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

3 FOOD ALLERGIES & INGREDIENTS TO AVOID



Please list any food allergies, dietary restrictions, or medical concerns we should know about: _____

5 PHOTO PERMISSION



We love capturing memories! Photos may be used in church publications, social media, and promotional materials.

☐ YES! I give permission.
☐ NO, I do not give permission.

5 CHEF'S SIGNATURE (Parent/Guardian)

I give permission for my child to participate in VBS and authorize the VBS staff to obtain medical care for my child in case of an emergency.

Signature: _____
Date: _____

REGISTER ONLINE! 

www.myvbs.org/ILCA/



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
37515 Park Trail
Almelund, MN 55012

We can't wait to see **YOU** there! 

7

Thank you for helping lead worship today! Pastor: Justin Fenger Organist: Dadu Reeves Reader: Julie Weller Ushers: Marty Johnson Communion Servers: Amanda Cook Norm Peterson Julie Weller Sound Tech: Nancy Nadeau Camera Tech: Jodi Johnson-Waldemar Proclaim: Carli Linngren Children's Sermon: Pastor Justin Altar Guild: Green Diane Rothe Tora Carlson Coffee Servers: Julie Johnson Tora Carlson	Immanuel Church Calendar This Week Sunday July 19 9:00 Communion Worship Service Live and Online. WELCA is meeting after church 10:00 Coffee Served 11:00 Service at First Ev. Lutheran Church TF Monday July 20 Newsletter Deadline 6:00 Christian Ed. Tuesday July 21 9-3 Office hours 9:00 Worship Team Meets 9:30 Naomi Circle Meets @ Karen Goodlander's Wednesday July 22 9-3 Office hours 10:00 Newsletter ready to proofread 5:30 Patty Melts at the Ball Field Thursday July 23 Deadline for Bulletin Info 6:30 Holy Smokes @ Wild Mtn Winery Friday July 24 10:00 Newsletter Assembly 9-3 Office hours Bulletins Printed 3-6 Almelund Farmer's Market at Rods Saturday July 25 Sunday July 26 PICKUP 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 Dadu Reeves, Organist Mark Weslander, Administrative Assistant & Financial Recorder Jenica Beck, Financial Secretary Kim's Kleaning, Church Custodial Work Daryl Abrahamson, Cemetery Groundskeeper Jason & DeeDee Fredlund, Youth Directors Office Hours: T,W,F 9:00am-3:00pm Unless otherwise noted. Cell phone (651)431-8941																																																					
	CONTACT INFORMATION Immanuel Lutheran Church 37515 Park Trail, Center City, MN 55012 Email: office@immanuelalmelund.com Phone: (651)583-2340 Website: www.immanuelalmelund.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchOfAlmelund Justin Fenger, Pastor pastor@immanuelalmelund.com (651)308-7717 Dadu Reeves, Organist dadureeves@gmail.com (609)503-0554 Mark Weslander, Administrative Assistant office@immanuelalmelund.com (651)431-8941 Jenica Beck, Financial Secretary finance@immanuelalmelund.com (763)377-5396 Jason & DeeDee Fredlund, Youth Directors jfredlund@frontiernet.net Dianne Wiik, Prayer Chain ywiik99@yahoo.com (651)583-2600 Daryl Abrahamson, Cemetery julie.l.abrahamson@gmail.com (651)674-2419 Martha Strecker, Quilting group mmstreck@frontiernet.net (651)341-3885 Joanne Johnson, Prayer Shawl group chareter@yahoo.com (651)278-2686																																																							
July 12, 2026 Attendance: 61 Weekly Giving Update: July 12, 2026 <table><tr><td>General</td><td>\$3,625.00</td></tr><tr><td>Benevolence:</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>-Undesignated</td><td>\$ 20.00</td></tr><tr><td>-Synod</td><td>\$ 450.00</td></tr><tr><td>-Lutheran Soc. Serv.</td><td>\$ 25.00</td></tr><tr><td>-Itonia Cong.</td><td>\$ 25.00</td></tr><tr><td>-Luther Point:</td><td>\$ 50.00</td></tr><tr><td>Building Fund</td><td>\$ 50.00</td></tr><tr><td>Loose</td><td>\$ 21.00</td></tr><tr><td>Youth Group</td><td>\$ 500.00</td></tr><tr><td>Online Service Fee</td><td>\$ 12.00</td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>\$4,778.00</td></tr></table>	General	\$3,625.00	Benevolence:		-Undesignated	\$ 20.00	-Synod	\$ 450.00	-Lutheran Soc. Serv.	\$ 25.00	-Itonia Cong.	\$ 25.00	-Luther Point:	\$ 50.00	Building Fund	\$ 50.00	Loose	\$ 21.00	Youth Group	\$ 500.00	Online Service Fee	\$ 12.00	TOTAL	\$4,778.00	Happy birthday this week! <table><tr><td>20</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Emily Koran</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>21</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Matthew McKenzie</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Connor Paavola</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>22</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Julie Abrahamson</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Elizabeth Hays</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>23</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Lydia Hall</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Mike O'Donnel</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Ethan Thelander</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Robert Nelson</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Steve Sellman</td><td></td></tr></table>		20		Emily Koran		21		Matthew McKenzie		Connor Paavola		22		Julie Abrahamson		Elizabeth Hays		23		Lydia Hall		Mike O'Donnel		24		Ethan Thelander		Robert Nelson		Steve Sellman	
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