

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

37515 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012

Pastor Justin Fenger

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 2026

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

SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 8/2/2026

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: O come, let us sing to God!

C: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

L: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving,

C: For our God is great, above all other gods.

L: God holds the depths and the heights of the earth,

C: The seas, the lands: all this God's hands have formed.

L: O come, let us sing to God!

C: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

OPENING HYMN:

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (v.v.1,2,3)

ELW 631 Red

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Holy God, You feed us on the riches of your kingdom, then invite us to feed others in kind. Spread the impulse of your generosity far and wide, that this world may see a revival of your original vision for creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

The King of Love The Shepherd Is

Norm Peterson



**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 32:22-31

Psalms 17:1-7, 15

Matthew 14:13-21

YOUTH SLIDE SHOW OF MISSION TRIP:

CHILDREN'S SERMON:

NOISY OFFERING:

SCRIPTURE READING:

Genesis 32:22-31

²²The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM:

Psalms 17:1-7, 15

R: Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

C: From you let my vindication come; let your eyes see the right.

R: If you try my heart, if you visit me by night, if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me; my mouth does not transgress.

C: As for what others do, by the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.

R: My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped.

C: I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me, hear my words.

R: Wondrously show your steadfast love,

O savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand.

C: As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: God, Whose Almighty Word (V.1)

ELW 673 Red

GOSPEL:

Matthew 14:13-21

Glory to you, O Lord

¹³Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

SERMON:

HYMN OF THE DAY:

The Church of Christ, in Every Age (v.v.1,2,4,5)

ELW 729 Red

YOUTH REFLECTIONS:

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

OFFERTORY:

Dadu Reeves

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 184 Red

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

We are truly blessed, O God, and these gifts are but a token of our gratitude. Make us full of your abundance, not focused on what we lack, that our generosity might mirror your own and inspire others to do likewise. For Jesus' sake. 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:

In your kingdom, O God, all eat and are filled. Satisfy us now at your table of grace and feed us with your body and blood. Come gather at the feast of your savior and learn his way of compassion and love!

DISTRIBUTION:

Dadu Reeves

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

SENDING:

L: Jacob wrestled with more than a stranger by the river.

C: He wrestled with his brother's justifiable anger.

L: He wrestled with his father-in-law's deception.

C: He wrestled with the consequences of his own decisions.

L: That night by the Jabbok, more was at stake than a simple wrestling match.

C: And in the end, Jacob was blessed for his persistence.

L: So we, too, wrestle in our lives.

C: We wrestle with challenges not of our own making,

L: But more often we wrestle with the consequences of our choices.

C: And we wrestle with our faith; we wrestle with the truth; we wrestle with God.

L: God blesses us for our persistence.

C: Our relationship with God is worth fighting for.

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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 August the museum will feature local musicians from 2p – 3p in the museum's picnic shelter.

Sunday, August 16, 2p – 3p Interstate Band

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

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

Threshing Grounds Church Service 9:00 am, next Sunday, August 9, 2026. No Church Service at ILC that Sunday
Service music provided by Jolly Ramblers.

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

Serving Groups:	Monday	Group C	Hot Dogs
	Tuesday	Group D	Grilled Cheese
	Wednesday	Group E	Sloppy Joes
	Thursday	Group A	Taco in a Bag

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

Help Lead Our Sunday School Ministry

We are looking for someone—or a small team of people—to help take the lead with our Sunday School program. This does not need to be a position carried by one person alone. We hope to build a team that can share the planning, organization, teaching, and communication involved in helping our children grow in faith. Those helping lead Sunday School would work with Pastor Justin and other volunteers to:

- Help plan the Sunday School calendar and lessons
- Recruit and support teachers and classroom helpers
- Communicate with families about schedules and special activities
- Help organize supplies and curriculum
- Encourage children and families to participate
- Bring new ideas and energy to our children's ministry

You do not need to be a trained teacher or Bible expert. What matters most is a love for children, a willingness to work with others, and a desire to help young people know that they are loved by God and are an important part of our church family.

This could be a wonderful opportunity for two or three people to serve together and divide the responsibilities according to their gifts and availability.

If you are interested, curious, or willing to be part of the conversation, please contact Pastor Justin.

BENEFIT FOR Denny Betterley



We are having a benefit for Denny on August 22nd, 2026 from 1-6 at the American Legion in Forest Lake Mn at 355 W Broadway Ave Forest Lake, MN 55025

Live entertainment will be Steve Jacoby, the one man rock band. From 1-5 pm There will be a silent auction.

There will be a spaghetti dinner for \$25 (Denny will receive 50% of the proceeds.) If you have any questions or would like to donate to the silent auction please contact April 715-671-8136. Barb 651-860-3227 or Kathi 651-366-1263.



Please come and help support Denny Betterley. In December he thought he had a stomach bug. It would start to get better and then he would get the symptoms back worse than the last time. He was admitted to St Croix hospital in February for a week and then transferred by ambulance to Southdale Fairview hospital in Edina (where he stayed for two weeks). The first week in March it was determined that he had a severe infection in his colon (Diverticulitis) and that part of it needed to be removed. During the surgery scar tissue on his spleen was nicked and another surgeon had to come in and repair this immediately. Due to blood loss he needed to have 3 blood transfusions within a 24-hour period. Due to the sudden blood loss Denny also suffered from a minor stroke and has limited use of his right hand although Occupational Therapy has been able to get him back to almost 100% with his range of motion. Denny has another major surgery coming up this fall and has been extremely limited in what he can do for work.

VENMO DONATIONS APPRECIATED

@dennybet (771) IF VENMO ASKS 4 DIGIT OF CELL

@dennybet

THRESHING SHOW

Polka Worship Service

Jolly Ramblerz

🕒 9:00am

📅 Sunday August 9th

🏠 Entertainment
Building

Featuring the **JOLLY RAMBLERS**



Join us for a morning of worship, music, and community! ❤️

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

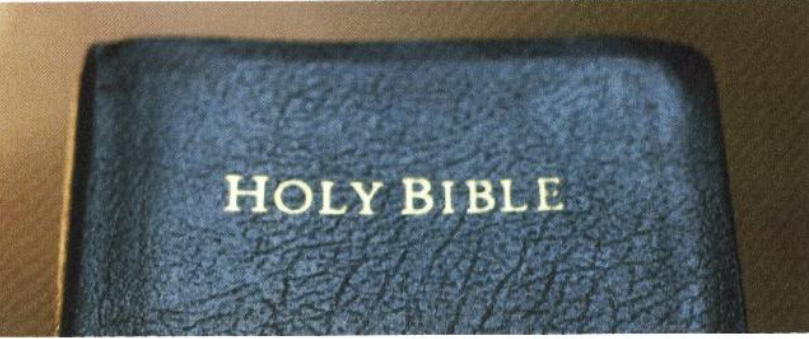
7K CASH RAFFLE • FREE ADMISSION

HWY 8, LINDSTROM, MN

FOR MORE INFO: STBRIDGETOFSWEDEN.ORG • 651-257-2474



Saint Paul Area Synod



HOLY BIBLE

SAVE THE DATE

The Saint Paul Area Women's Synodical Organization invites you to our annual

Bible Study Enrichment

Previewing the 2026-2027 Bible Studies from the Gather Magazine
with Bible Study Leader Pastor Carrie Stiles

Saturday, September 19, 2026
St. Mark's Lutheran Church - North St. Paul

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM followed by lunch

All women are welcome!
Registration and more information will follow soon.

*The mission of Women of the ELCA is to
mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.*

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



Thank you for helping lead worship today! Pastor: Justin Fenger Organist: Dadu Reeves Special Music: Norm Peterson Reader: Pat Remer Ushers: Scott Olson & Karen Goodlander Communion Servers: Sound Tech: Dave Rue Camera Tech: Matt Oknich Proclaim: Carli Linngren Children's Sermon: Pastor Justin Altar Guild: Green Nancy Nadeau Coffee Servers:	Immanuel Church Calendar Next Two Weeks Sunday August 2 9:00 Communion Worship Service Live and Online. W/Noisy Offering. 10:00 Coffee Served 11:00 Service at First Ev. Lutheran Church TF Monday August 3 9:00 Parish Care Meets 10:00 Stewardship Meets Tuesday August 4 9-3 Office hours 9:00 Worship Team Meets Wednesday August 5 9-3 Office hours 1:30 Prayer Shawl Meets 6:00 Hannah Circle Meets Thursday August 6 Deadline for Bulletin Info Friday August 7 9-3 Office hours; Bulletins Printed 3-6 Almelund Farmer's Market at Rods Threshing Show Saturday August 8 Threshing Show Sunday August 9 9:00 Polka Worship Service at the Threshing Grounds. 11:00 Service at First Ev. Lutheran Church TF Threshing Show Monday August 10 5:30 Property Meets; 6:00 Council Meets Tuesday August 11 9-3 Office hours; 9:00 Worship Team Meets 10:30 WOW Pract. Wednesday August 12 9-3 Office hours Thursday August 13 Deadline for Bulletin Info Friday August 14 9-3 Office hours; Bulletins Printed 3-6 Almelund Farmer's Market at Rods 4:30-6:30 Community Meal Saturday August 15 Sunday August 16 9:00 WOW Communion Worship Service/W VBS!!! 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										
July 26, 2026 Attendance: 62 Weekly Giving Update: July 26, 2026 <table><tr><td>General</td><td>\$ 9,190.00</td></tr><tr><td>Loose</td><td>\$ 129.00</td></tr><tr><td>Fund Transfer – Thrivent</td><td>\$ 5,000.00</td></tr><tr><td>Online Service Fee</td><td>\$ 1.00</td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>\$14,320.00</td></tr></table>	General	\$ 9,190.00	Loose	\$ 129.00	Fund Transfer – Thrivent	\$ 5,000.00	Online Service Fee	\$ 1.00	TOTAL	\$14,320.00	Happy birthday this week & Next! 3 Jordan Koran 4 Randy Johnson Ruth Elkerton 6 Brandon Johnson Richard Sellman 7 Lola Munson 10 Jessica Koran Barb Anderson 14 Pat Remer 15 Ryan Armstrong William Flanery		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
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