

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

37515 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012

Pastor Justin Fenger

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

August 3, 2025

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



Service for August, 3 2025

GATHERING

Today's Service is using the ELW; Red Book
Theme

Crossroads of Culture and Faith

PRELUDE:

Amazing Grace/House of The Rising Sun

Sung by Norm Peterson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**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 to 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 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

2 Samuel 12:1-9
Luke 9:1-6

Today's Hymns

Hymn #798 (ELW)
Hymn #796 (ELW)
Hymn #661 (ELW)
Hymn #692 (ELW)
Hymn #184 (ELW)

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION:

P: Everlasting God, you who sent Nathan and called the 12,
you have called us here today to hear your word, to worship and praise you.

C: we give thanks for the myriads of stories told throughout time that have enriched our lives.

P: for writers and storytellers that craft messages of truth and love, that transport us to different locations and times, that make us laugh and cry. for letters and history, for law and parable. there are stories that challenge us and stretch us, and precious ones that focus our attention on the holy.

C: we give you thanks for the story of creation, for the reassurance of order out of chaos and for the patience to look forward to your glorious kingdom.

P: we are sorry we do not proclaim the message of the good news, and that we, despise the word of the lord take matters into our own hands without considering the way of your word. forgive us our lack of enthusiasm in proclaiming and living out your word.

C: give us courage and fire. open our eyes to opportunities to joyfully share what your presence means in our lives. help us to tell your stories. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

P: 'in the beginning' is just the start of the ancient story still being told.

C: not just in the printed word, but in the living word.

P: and we are part of that story still.

C: so let us gather and worship the one,

P: who writes our story anew each day.

OPENING HYMN: Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW #798 Red

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

O Lord, we come to speak to you today out of the fullness of our hearts.
our hearts are filled with blessing for the good moments in our lives.
our hearts are also heavy with the strife we regularly encounter in our communities and in the wider world. we offer you this day our joys and our sorrows. Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC: When Israel Was in Egypt Land Sung by Norm Peterson

CHILDREN'S SERMON:

NOISY OFFERING:

SCRIPTURE READING:

2 Samuel 12:1-9

¹ and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had very many flocks and herds, ³ but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare and drink from his cup and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴ Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." ⁵ Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done

this deserves to die; ⁶ he shall restore the lamb fourfold because he did this thing and because he had no pity.” ⁷ Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; ⁸ I gave you your master’s house and your master’s wives into your bosom and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah, and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. ⁹ Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

How Firm a Foundation (v.1)

ELW #796 Red

GOSPEL:

Luke 9:1-6

Glory to you, O Lord

¹ Then Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. ³ He said to them, “Take nothing for your journey: no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money—not even an extra tunic. ⁴ Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there. ⁵ Wherever they do not welcome you, as you are leaving that town shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.” ⁶ So they departed and went through the villages, bringing the good news and curing diseases everywhere.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON:

HYMN OF THE DAY:

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW #661 Red

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

**Congregational Response: Lead Me Jesus Lead Me Jesus
Lead Me Jesus... Lead Me Lord**

OFFERTORY:

We Are An Offering

ELW #692 Red

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS:

Let The Vineyards

ELW #184 Red

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Creative God, we heard a story today about a rich and a poor man; of power and authority that takes and takes. We give thanks for stories that teach us ways to be, think, and do. Let us hold generosity in our hearts and make us aware of and respect the plight of others, in our giving. We come to dedicate these offerings to your novel work in the world. May these gifts and these givers be used to glorify you. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION:

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

DISTRIBUTION:

Let Us Break Bread

Sung by Norm Peterson

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

SENDING:

May we fix our eyes on God and focus on his mercy and forgiveness. May we let Christ direct our steps with renewed hope and peace. May we be filled with the Spirit to go out in obedience to our Lord. **Amen**

SPECIAL CLOSING:

Lord's Prayer

Sung by Norm Peterson

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Planting Hope" August 17, 2025

Please be here to welcome Bishop Lull!!! Watch bulletins and Newsletter for more info.

Tithing Outside Our Walls, will be matching the loose offering and coffee money for the Planting [More] Hope Campaign.

The museum is open on Sundays from 1 - 4 p.m. this summer. If you could PLEASE help with hosting the museum one Sunday afternoon it would be much appreciated. The only thing you have to do is greet any guests and sit in a lawn chair on the front steps! There is also internet if you would like to be connected! Please let me know - the museum is all clean with all the exhibits ready - so there is nothing else to do.

Thank you! Lin Strong

Almelund Farmers Market Began its 18th Season Friday, May 23rd at Rod's Country Corner! Come Friday afternoons from 3-6pm 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.

Created & Becoming

Faith Conversations at the Edges of Life and Creation

Fourth Thursday of every month at the Wild Mountain Winery

6:30 PM – Come early for wine, stay for the conversation! **August 28th not the 21st as newsletter shows**

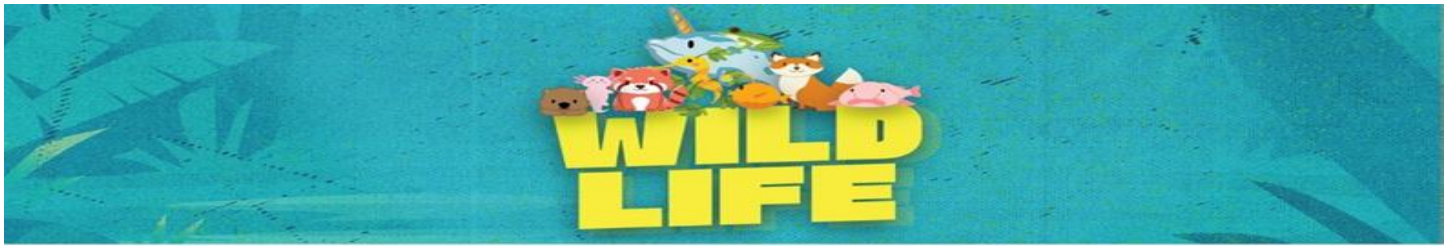
August – Evolution, Theology & Cancer: God's Tools for Creation

Is God at work in natural selection? What do illness and survival reveal about divine purpose? We'll wrestle with how science, suffering, and spirituality intersect.

Relay for Life 2025; The organizing committee is continuing to make plans for the event which will take place on Fri Aug 22 at Chisago Lake Lutheran Church from 6-9:30 with entertainment prior to the 6 pm program. The Illuminated Immanuel Team will be selling luminaries at Immanuel Church on: July 27th, and August 3rd. The Team will also be serving coffee **on August 3rd** and dedicating them on August 17th. Everyone is welcome to join our Team or come to the Relay. Cancer touches all of us unfortunately. Help us raise money for research to beat it. You can contact me with any questions @ 651-775-1233 or jnoordergraaf@yahoo.com. Thank you.

WISDOM SEEKERS

A new discussion group called "Wisdom Seekers" will begin meeting at 9 AM on Thursday, September 4, 2025, in the youth room at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. This discussion is open to all interested parties. We will be exploring how history has influenced religion and how religion has influenced history. Since both of these topics are influenced by philosophy we will explore that aspect of human thought as well. Your opinion will be appreciated by everyone in attendance and the lives of everyone will be enriched by the open, unjudged, fascinating thoughts that will come to the surface as we compare theology, history, and philosophy. (Facilitated by Jerry Rhoads).



August 11th - 14th

www.myvbs.org/ILCA/

What to know

Please go online to www.myvbs.org/ILCA/ to register your children or to volunteer. Paper registration from will be available on the table outside the sanctuary as well.

As always, this is a free program. We would love to see your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbor kids!

Contact

Teresa Carlson 651-214-9531 or
Beth Berger 763-670-6644

Hey families! We are just a few weeks away from our summer VBS! We can't wait to see how this summer grows your kid's connection with God and with others. Before we get there, we wanted to make sure you had all the most up-to-date information. If you have not yet filled all of your kid's registration online or turned in the paper copy, please do that as soon as possible! Please let us know if you have any questions by calling or texting us at the number to the left. See you soon!

Schedule

5:30pm - Check-in
5:30pm- Dinner
6:00pm- VBS Programming
8:00pm- Pickup

Volunteers Needed

Assisting in Classroom; Registration; Clean-up; Games; Music; Crafts; Story time; Rotation assistant

Please bring an item(s) for the food shelf during VBS. We will be collecting items throughout our week together for donation to our local food shelves in Chisago City and North Branch.

SAVE THE DATE

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

Bible Study Enrichment

Previewing the 2025-2026 Bible Studies from the Gather Magazine
with Bible Study Leader Pastor Carrie Stiles

Saturday, September 20, 2025

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.

ATTENTION: Have dinner @ Chipotle in North Branch on Monday, Aug 4th from 5-9 pm. Chipotle will be making a donation to the Chisago County Relay for Life from all sales that evening. You do need to mention the Relay for Life fundraiser when you order. Thank you.

Stewardship will meet on August, 5th at 1pm in the Fireside Room.

Memorial Committee will meet on Monday, August 11th at 5:00 pm

Naomi Circle will meet on Tuesday, August 19th at 9:30 am **at ILC Church**. See you all then!

Tune in our Daily Texts,

Monday through Saturday on our Facebook page [@immanuelchurchofalmelund](#)

A daily devotional time based on an Old and New Testament Bible verse based on a Moravian Church tradition and Ground Up Grace Publications Daily Texts 2025 books.

Apple Festival Committee is reserving the kitchen...

Tuesday, September 9 @ 12:00 - Apple Butter

Thursday, September 18 @ 2:00 - Apple Crisp

Friday, September 19 @ 4:00 - Apple Bread Pudding

Sunrise River Trio Saturday August 9th @ Cornerstone Pub, Wyoming from 3:30-6:30

Sunday August 10th @ Wild Mountain Winery from 1:00-3:00

Summer Concert Series @ St. Bridget of Lindstrom. Alex Schindler, Thursday August 21st @ 7:00

God's work. Our hands. Sunday September 7th congregations of the ELCA will join together for our annual day of service, ["God's work. Our hands."](#)

Participating in service projects is one way to celebrate who we are as the ELCA — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

We are a church that is energized by lively engagement in faith and life. As we continue our tradition of service, we remember the words of Martin Luther, **"Our faith is a living, busy, active, mighty thing."** With our hands, we do God's work of restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus Christ's name.

If your congregation cannot participate on Sept. 7, you are encouraged to pick another date that fits your schedule. **ELCA congregations participate in acts of service every day.** This day of service is an extension of the work you already do to make your community a better place.

Be sure to save the date and check [ELCA.org/DayOfService](https://elca.org/DayOfService) for updated resources soon.

LUTHER POINT BIBLE CAMP
Summer Celebration
August 3, 2025; TODAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Join us for Worship at 11:00 am

Followed by Lunch (free will donation)

1pm – Silent Auction/Carnival Games

2pm – Program/Live Auction

11525 Luther Point Rd.
Grantsburg, WI 54840
(715) 689-2347

FAITH CONVERSATIONS LIVING IN THIS MOMENT

THE AFTERLIFE

The mysteries surrounding
the afterlife and why it matters

WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH YOUR LIFE?

Finding purpose and discerning
God's will

FAITH IN THE DAWN OF A.I.

Technology and the challenges
of the age to come

GENETIC ENGINEERING AND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE HUMAN

Modern science and
human flourishing

END OF TIMES?

Theology, hope, and the
meaning of the Apocalypse

EVOLUTION, THEOLOGY, SCIENCE, CANCER AND GOD'S TOOLS FOR CREATION

Understanding God's working in world



CREATION AND EARTH CARE

Faith and its expression toward
the natural world

**FOURTH THURSDAY
OF EVERY MONTH**

6:30 PM

WILD MOUNTAIN WINERY

BROUGHT TO YOU BY IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN
ALMELUND AND FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN TAYLORS FALLS

Thank you for helping lead worship today!	Immanuel Church Calendar This Week	Happy Birthday this week!
Pastor: Justin Fenger	Sunday, August 3 9:00 Communion Worship Service Live and Online W/Relay For Life & Noisy Offering	3 Jordan Koran
Organist: Momoh Freeman	10:00 Coffee Served: 10:30 Counters count offering 11:00 First Lutheran Service	4 Randy Johnson Ruth Elkerton
Special Music: Norm Peterson		6 Brandon Johnson Richard Sellman
Reader: Sharon Thiel	Monday, August 4 9-3 Office Hours	
Ushers: Todd & Cami Peltier	Tuesday, August 5 9-3 Office Hours 9:00 Worship Team meets 10:00 Parish Care Meets 1:00 Stewardship Meets	
Sound Tech: Julie Johnson	Wednesday, August 6 9-3 Office Hours 1:30 Prayer Shawl Meets	
Camera Tech: Vern Johnson	Thursday, August 7 THRESHING SHOW Deadline for bulletin Info	
Children’s Sermon:	Friday, August 8 THRESHING SHOW 9-3 Office Hours Bulletins Printed 3-6 Farmer’s Market @ Rod’s	
Communion Servers: Clay Ryberg Beth Berger Jeff Lutz	Saturday, August 9 THRESHING SHOW	
Altar Guild: Green Nancy Nadeau	Sunday, August 10 THRESHING SHOW 9:00 Worship Service @ THRESHING GROUNDS 11:00 First Lutheran Service	
Coffee Servers: Relay For Life		
		July 27, 2025 Attendance: 70
		Weekly Giving Update: July 27, 2025
		General \$4,523.00
		Benevolence
		-Undesignated \$130.00
		Building Fund \$30.00
		Loose \$70.00
		Online Serv. Fee <u>\$1.25</u>
		Total \$4,754.25

<p>IMMANUEL STAFF</p> <p>Justin Fenger, Pastor</p> <p>Momoh Freeman, Organist</p> <p>Pat Remer, Accompanist</p> <p>Kim's Kleaning, Church Custodial work</p> <p>Mark Weslander, Administrative Assistant & Financial Recorder</p> <p>Kyle Hendrickson, Financial Secretary</p> <p>Daryl Abrahamson, Cemetery Groundskeeper</p> <p>Jason & DeeDee Fredlund, Youth Directors</p> <p>Teresa Carlson, Sunday School Leader</p> <p>Office Hours: M-W & F 9:00-3:00 unless otherwise noted. Cell phone is always available @ 651-431-8941</p>	<p>CONTACT INFORMATION</p> <p>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/immanuelchurchofalmelund</p> <p>Justin Fenger, Pastor pastor@immanuelalmelund.com 651-308-7717</p> <p>Mark Weslander, Administrative Assistant office@immanuelalmelund.com 651-431-8941</p> <p>Kyle Hendrickson, Financial Secretary (651)717-8804 finance@immanuelalmelund.com</p>	<p>Momoh Freeman, Organist/Director Momohfreeman@yahoo.com (763)415-0330</p> <p>Teresa Carlson, Sunday School Leader 651-214-9531</p> <p>Jason & DeeDee Fredlund, Youth Directors jfredlund@frontiernet.net Jason 651-208-5915 DeeDee 651-206-1190</p> <p>Dianne Wiik, Prayer Chain ywiik99@yahoo.com (651)583-2600</p> <p>Daryl Abrahamson, Cemetery Julie.1.abrahamson@gmail.com (651)674-2419</p>
--	---	---