

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

37515 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012

Pastor Justin Fenger

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026

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

RALLY SUNDAY SERVICE WITH WOW FOR SUNDAY

9/27/2026

GATHERING

TODAY'S SERVICE IS USING **ELW: RED BOOK**

PRELUDE: Majesty WOW

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: You show us how to live as your servants, yet we act as though your teaching applies to everyone else but us. We pass judgment on others, devalue ourselves and disrespect your creation. Show us the way back to the path which leads to life, and help us repair the damage we have caused to our relationships, ourselves and this earth, for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

P: Through God's love we are forgiven, and all things are being made new through Christ. God's grace is enough to cover us and make us whole again, to live and serve another day. Let us rejoice that our God is full of mercy! **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Let us tell the story!

L: The story of God's mighty deeds!

L: God opened the sea for Israel to walk through!

L: Let us tell the story!

C: The story we were told!

C: The story of God's wondrous love!

C: God brought water from the desert rocks!

C: The story of God's power and love!

OPENING HYMN:

Jesus Shall Reign (v.v.1,2,5)

ELW 434 Red

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

All-knowing God, You desire purity of heart and integrity of word.

Empower us by your Spirit to say what we mean and act according to your ways, in Jesus' name. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

Do Lord

WOW

CHILDREN'S SERMON:

PRAYER SHAWL DEDICATION:



**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

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16

Matthew 21:23-32

SCRIPTURE READING:

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

18The word of the Lord came unto me again, saying, ²What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge? ³As I live, saith the Lord God, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die. ²⁵Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel; Is not my way equal? are not your ways unequal? ²⁶When a righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and dieth in them; for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive. ²⁸Because he considereth, and turneth away from all his transgressions that he hath committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die. ²⁹Yet saith the house of Israel, The way of the Lord is not equal. O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? are not your ways unequal? ³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord God. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM:

Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16

R: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

C: I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,

R: things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

C: We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

R: In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

C: He divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap.

R: In the daytime he led them with a cloud, and all night long with a fiery light.

C: He split rocks open in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

R: He made streams come out of the rock, and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Blest Be the Tie That Binds (v.4)

ELW 656 Red

GOSPEL:

Matthew 21:23-32

Glory to you, O Lord

²³When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

SERMON:

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Earth and All Stars (v.v.1,4,5)

ELW 731 Red

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:

This Is The Day

WOW

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS:

Create In Me

ELW 186 Red

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

You ask us to look not to our own interests, O God, but to the interests of others. Accept now these gifts which we bring before you in the name of your kingdom's work, that all your children may know and experience your love and provision. For the sake of Jesus. Amen.

SENDING:

L: Let us strive for humility in all we do,	C: As Jesus modeled true humility for us.
L: Jesus was God, as fully divine as he was fully human,	C: Yet he did not use his divinity to get his own way.
L: He set aside equality with God to be a servant to all.	C: He let go of everything, even his own life.
L: He endured unimaginable suffering in solidarity with all people.	C: He gave his life to break the power of death.
L: Because of Jesus' humility unto death, God raised him above all creation.	C: And raised his name above all names.
L: We praise the name of Jesus, our servant savior,	C: Now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

Shine Jesus Shine

ELW 671 Red

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RALLY SUNDAY AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST!!! Sunday September 27, 2026

Parish Care Team will meet October 5th, at 9:00am

Stewardship will meet October 5th, at 10:00am.

Hannah Circle will meet on Wednesday, October 7th at 6:00 PM.

The Naomi Circle will meet at the home of Linda Mielke on October 20th at 9:30am. Hope to see you all there!

Important Date Change Notice!

The October Community Dinner, hosted by the Prayer Shawl group, will be held on Friday, October, 16th from 4:30p-6:30p.

This is a week later than normal, due to a scheduling conflict. The November and December dinners will be held on the second Friday of those months.

Youth Group has officially kicked off its 2026/27 year. We're already busy with activities. Apple Fest was our first fundraiser of the year and it was fantastic! Thanks to those who stopped by and supported this great group of kids.
Wreath sales are kicking off!
All wreaths fresh & handmade with love by the youth group.
Upcoming dates for Youth Group meetings/events are as follows...
Oct 7th & 21st Youth meeting
Oct 23rd-25th Youth Retreat at Luther Point
Wreath making Nov. 21st all youth are needed! Parents are strongly encouraged to help. We will have a potluck lunch!

Youth Group
Luther Point retreat Oct. 23-25th



Supper & Game Night, Thursday, October 1st, 4:30pm-6:30pm
At FELC; Free supper, board games & great company

Wisdom Seekers, Thursday Mornings at 9am at FELC

Crafting Saturday, October 10th, 9am-2pm at FELC Bring your crafts & a dish to share!!

Quilters will meet on October 13th, 10:00-2:00 W/potluck at noon

On Reformation Sunday, October 25, during worship, we'll present Bibles to our 3-year-olds, 3rd graders, and 6th graders.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE QUARTERLY WELCA MEETING:

Sunday October 11th following the service. Grab your coffee and treats and meet in the north fellowship hall. We have several important dates/events coming up in this last quarter of the year that we will be discussing. Hope to see you then!

Holy Smokes!

Mark, your calendars - Holy Smokes is at Wild Mtn. Winery on Thursday, October 22 at 6:30 PM.

We have a Food and Essential shelf located by the Men's bathroom in the Fellowship Hall. This is for the use of all people/church congregation, neighbors/Our Community. Please take items as needed. You may also donate items to this shelf. Non-perishable/Non expired items. Examples: canned food, boxed cereals, muffins, care items and cleaning supplies. (On behalf of Stewardship members: Thank you)

Viking Vittles Needs You

In order to continue the weekend food program for students in our community that are food insecure we need people to deliver the totes to the schools. This would be one day a month for approximately 1 hour. Each tote contains 8 bags of food for students. The totes weigh between 25-28#. Last year we delivered 7 totes to the Education Center and 23 totes to Sunrise River School. The totes can be delivered on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings.

You would deliver once per month. To volunteer or if you have questions, please call Donna at 612-363-5072.

Sunday School TODAY!!!

- Sept 27th - Rally Sunday with pancake breakfast
 - Rally Sunday will be a Carnival game style as the last few years have been
 - Teresa noted 21 large bags and 21 small bags to use for prizes and giveaways
 - Ping Pong balls and numbered duckies
 - Many prizes and give aways
 - Bags, ping pong balls, duckies and give aways are in a large tote in Classroom B
 - Pre-load bags, and then have additional prizes at the game sites

Exercise your vocal chords! Come sing with Unexpected Company Chorale! Rehearsals for our winter concert, "Songs of Wonder", started on Monday, September 14th, at Trinity Lutheran Church, [13025 Newell Avenue, Lindstrom](https://www.google.com/maps/place/13025+Newell+Avenue,+Lindstrom,+MN+55035/@45.7888889,-93.0833333,15z). Register in person starting at 6:30 PM or register online at www.ucchorale.org. Rehearsals are Monday evenings, at 7PM. If you love to sing, you should sing with Unexpected Company Chorale!

THANK Y OU

Thanks to all who made the Almelund Apple Festival a huge success.
The food was delicious. The entertainment was great.
The vendors had many wonderful things to sell.
Stewardship Committee

Dear lunch people, thank you for such a wonderful luncheon you served.
My family really appreciated. God Bless You all!!
The DeWayne Gunderson Family

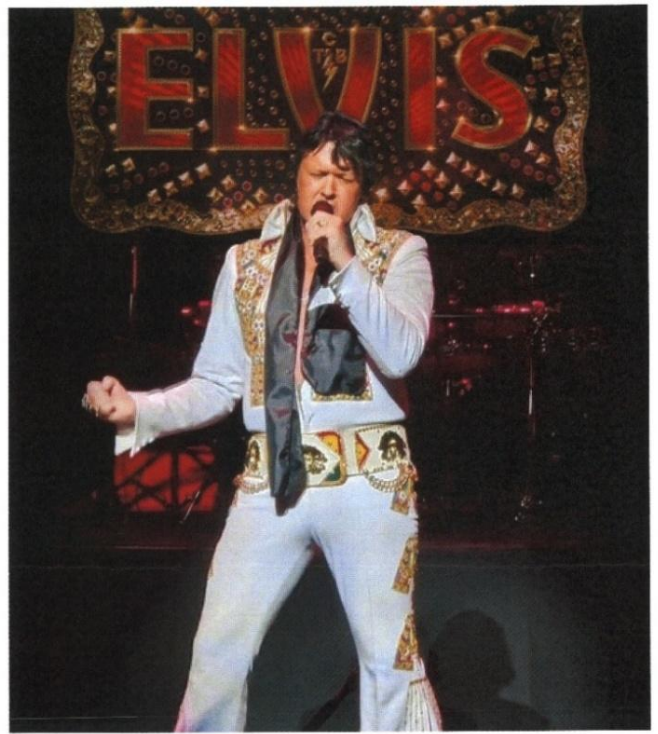


Thursday, October 1st

4:30pm - 6:30pm

Come enjoy a delicious supper and have some fun playing games! Bring your favorite game or play what is available at the church! There is something for everyone!!!

**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Taylors Falls**



Experience the King like never before. Anthony Shore will be putting on a Gospel Show as Elvis.

October 25, 2026 at 2:00 PM

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Almelund, MN

Come for a fun afternoon show and rock to the Gospel Music of Elvis Presley

Fri., Oct 16, 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



Tractor and Treat HALLOWEEN EVENT



Immanuel Lutheran Church
Sunday, October 11th

🎃 4pm - 6pm 🎃

37515 Park Trail, Almelund

All Are Welcome!

Thank you for helping lead worship today! Pastor: Justin Fenger Organist: Dadu Reeves Special Music: WOW Group Reader: Lynn Schultz Ushers: Marty Johnson Sound Tech: Julie Johnson Camera Tech: Vern Johnson Proclaim: Carli Linngren Children's Sermon: Jason Fredlund Altar Guild: Jeske Noordergraaf Coffee Servers: Men of Immanuel Pancake Breakfast	Immanuel Church Calendar This Week Sunday September 27 9:00 RALLY SUNDAY/WOW Worship Service Live and Online. W/Prayer Shawl Dedication 10:00 Men of ILC serving pancakes 11:00 Service at First Ev. Lutheran Church TF Monday September 28 9-3 Office hours 6:00 Worship & Music Meets Tuesday September 29 9-3 Office hours 9:00 Worship Team Meets Wednesday September 30 9-3 Office hours Thursday October 1 Deadline for Bulletin Info 9:00am Wisdom Seekers study @ First Lutheran TF 4:30-6:30 Game Night @ FELC Friday October 2 9-3 Office hours Bulletins Printed Saturday October 3 Sunday October 4 9:00 Worship Service Live and Online. W/Noisy Offering. Jerry Rhoads will be leading the service 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: M,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																											
September 20, 2026 Attendance: 75 Weekly Giving Update: September 20, 2026 <table><tr><td>General</td><td>\$11,660.00</td></tr><tr><td>Benevolence:</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>-Undesignated</td><td>\$ 100.00</td></tr><tr><td>-Lutheran Soc. Serv.</td><td>\$ 50.00</td></tr><tr><td>-Luther Point:</td><td>\$ 50.00</td></tr><tr><td>Building Fund</td><td>\$ 20.00</td></tr><tr><td>Loose</td><td>\$ 72.00</td></tr><tr><td>Online Service Fee</td><td>\$ 1.00</td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>\$11,953.00</td></tr></table>	General	\$11,660.00	Benevolence:		-Undesignated	\$ 100.00	-Lutheran Soc. Serv.	\$ 50.00	-Luther Point:	\$ 50.00	Building Fund	\$ 20.00	Loose	\$ 72.00	Online Service Fee	\$ 1.00	TOTAL	\$11,953.00	Happy birthday this week! <table><tr><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>Henry Cook</td></tr><tr><td>28</td></tr><tr><td>Brianna Mohn</td></tr><tr><td>29</td></tr><tr><td>Jesiah Peltier</td></tr><tr><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>Kate DeVault</td></tr></table>		27	Henry Cook	28	Brianna Mohn	29	Jesiah Peltier	30	Kate DeVault
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