



**September 6 and 8, 2020**

**Church:** 812-522-3118

*Dial-A-Meditation:* 812-522-1345

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[www.immanuelseymour.com](http://www.immanuelseymour.com)

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**Pastors:** Rev. Dr. Ralph Blomenberg

Rev. Philip E. Bloch

Rev. James A. Rodriguez, Jr.

**Vicar:** Sem. William Fredstrom

**Ministry Leaders:**

**Music:** Mr. Paul Scheiderer

**Youth:** Mr. Matt Nieman

**Children:** Mrs. Patti Miller

**School:** 812-522-1301

[www.immanuelsschool.org](http://www.immanuelsschool.org)

**Principal:** Dr. Todd Behmlander

**Faculty:**

Mrs. Julia Bell

Mrs. Martha Bloch

Mrs. Melissa Brown

Mrs. Heather Dyer

Mrs. Charlotte Elkins

Mrs. Sandy Franke

Mrs. Becky Goecker

Mrs. Tamara Keilman

Mrs. Megan Keller

Mrs. Jennifer Pyle

Mr. Mark Rudzinski

Miss. Cassidy Sawyer

Mrs. Sue Sims

Mr. B.J. Sinclair

Mr. Charles Smith

Mrs. Jordan Spieker

Mrs. Tracy Stam

Mrs. Julie Tracey

Mrs. Kelley Whitson



**Welcome to Worship!** We think we know greatness when we see it. Yet in our Gospel reading this morning, Jesus completely redefines what greatness means in the Kingdom that he brings. In a radical reversal of our expectations, Jesus teaches us that to be the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven is not about being powerful or seeking to be in control of our destiny. Instead, to be the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven is to be like little children. Children who are receptive and dependent on our Heavenly Father to provide all we have need of, most of all, the forgiveness, life, and salvation given to us through faith in his Son, Jesus Christ.

A **Nursery** is available below the entrance on Walnut St. and a **Comfort Room** is in the Atrium. The Nursery is not staffed at this time.

All **Sunday School Classes** and **Bible Classes** will resume September 13<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up online at [www.immanuelseymour.com](http://www.immanuelseymour.com) or call the church office at 812-522-3118.

**Cell Phones:** *Please remember to silence cell phones and electronics during worship.*

**Holy Communion will be** offered at the 11:15 service. If you are not a confirmed member of the Lutheran Church, please contact an Elder or Pastor before Communing. An usher will dismiss your row to move forward to the person serving the bread, and then to the person serving the individual cup. You may then dispose of the cup and return by the center aisle.

**Hearing devices** are available from an usher.

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**THE PRELUDE:** "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" - Paul Manz

**THE HYMN:** "Today Your Mercy Calls Us"

**Hymn 915**

- 1 Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sin. However great our trespass, Whatever we have been, However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away, Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.
- 2 Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin. The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv'n, A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav'n.
- 3 Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits; His blessed angels gather Around the heav'nly gates. No question will be asked us How often we have come; Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father's home.
- 4 O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door, What should we do without You When heart and eye run o'er? When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair, We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

**THE INVOCATION:**

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. C **Amen.**

**THE EXHORTATION:**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**THE CONFESSION OF SINS:**

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**



**THE ABSOLUTION:**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**THE KYRIE:**       **C**    **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

**THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS:**

**C** To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high—

For You alone are holy, You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

**THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY:** (we pray together) O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**THE WORD OF THE MONTH:** (we speak together) "Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law." Romans 13:10

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ezekiel 33:7-9**

"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul."

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**+++ THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: 9:00 and 7:00**

**THE EPISTLE READING: Romans 13:1-10**

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**THE ALLELUIA AND VERSE: C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**C** These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

**THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:1-20 C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to You, O Christ.

**THE HYMN: "Children of the Heavenly Father"**

**Hymn 725**

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.
- 2 God His own doth tend and nourish; In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them; In His mighty arms He bears them.
- 3 Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.
- 4 Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

**THE SERMON: "Who is the Greatest?"**

**THE NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

+++ **THE HYMN: "Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"**

- 1 Gracious God, You send great blessings New each morning all our days.  
For Your mercies never ending, For Your love we offer praise. Refrain
- ref Lord, we pray that we, Your people Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,  
Through the sharing of Your blessings May bring glory to Your name.
- 2 By Your Word You formed creation Filled with creatures large and small;  
As we tend that endless treasure May our care encircle all. Refrain
- 3 In His earthly life, our Savior Knew the care of faithful friends;  
May our deeds of dedication Offer love that never ends. Refrain
- 4 Heav'nly Father, may our caring Bear the imprint of Your grace;  
With the Son and Holy Spirit, Praise be Yours in ev'ry place! Refrain

+++ **THE DEDICATION OF PARAMENTS**

**THE PRAYERS**

+++ **11:15 HOLY COMMUNION, Distribution: Hymns: 611, 622, 632**

**Preface**

P The Lord be with you. C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts. C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary... evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus**

- C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Lord's Prayer**

**The Words of Our Lord**

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ,... This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**Pax Domini**

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always. C **Amen.**

**Agnus Dei**

- C **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray**

**The Distribution**

**611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be**

- 1 Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.  
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
- 2 Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heav'ns above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity!  
Love that found me—wondrous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
- 3 Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart,  
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,  
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

4 Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.  
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.

5 O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your Word!  
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

### **622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared**

1 Lord Jesus Christ, You have prepared This feast for our salvation;  
It is Your body and Your blood, And at Your invitation  
As weary souls, with sin oppressed, We come to You for needed rest, For comfort, and for pardon.

2 Although You did to heav'n ascend, Where angel hosts are dwelling,  
And in Your presence they behold Your glory, all excelling,  
And though Your people shall not see Your glory and Your majesty Till dawns the judgment morning,

3 Yet, Savior, You are not confined To any habitation;  
But You are present even now Here with Your congregation.  
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Unmoved by any daring hand Or subtle craft and cunning.

4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your precious Word believing  
That Your true body and Your blood Our lips are here receiving.  
This Word remains forever true; All things are possible with You, For You are Lord Almighty.

5 Though reason cannot understand, Yet faith this truth embraces:  
Your body, Lord, is even now At once in many places.  
I leave to You how this can be; Your Word alone suffices me; I trust its truth unailing.

6 Lord, I believe what You have said; Help me when doubts assail me.  
Remember that I am but dust, And let my faith not fail me.  
Your supper in this vale of tears Refreshes me and stills my fears And is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive Your supper, Lord, our Savior,  
And, truly grieving for our sins, May prove by our behavior  
That we are thankful for Your grace And day by day may run our race, In holiness increasing.

8 For Your consoling supper, Lord, Be praised throughout all ages!  
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place The world against it rages.  
Grant that this sacrament may be A blessed comfort unto me When living and when dying.

### **632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee**

1 O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee My heartfelt thanks forever be,  
Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me Thy body and Thy blood.

2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day!  
My Savior dwells within my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

### **Nunc Dimittis**

**C O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill, The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.  
All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son, All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding Through all  
eternity.**

### **THE POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

### **THE BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION**

P Let us bless the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you... C **Amen.**

**THE CLOSING HYMN: "Before You, Lord, We Bow"**

**Hymn 966**

- 1 Before You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns above  
And rules the world below, Boundless in pow'r and love.  
Our thanks we bring In joy and praise, Our hearts we raise  
To You, our King!
- 2 The nation You have blest May well Your love declare,  
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care.  
For this bright day, For this fair land – Gifts of Your hand –  
Our thanks we pay.
- 3 May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,  
Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen!  
May ev'ry tongue Be tuned to praise And join to raise A grateful song.
- 4 Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own;  
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone.  
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore, And bow before  
The Crucified.
- 5 And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our native land  
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,  
A countless throng, With joy to sing To heav'n's high King  
Salvation's song!

**THE POSTLUDE: "God of Grace and God of Glory" – Paul Manz**

**Preacher:** Vicar Fredstrom **Liturgists:** Pastor Blomenberg and Pastor Rodriguez

**Organist:** Paul Scheiderer

*Pastor Bloch is visiting family in St. Louis this weekend.*

*Immanuel's mission is to connect people to the life, calling, and community of Christ. Founded in 1870, Immanuel is a member of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. We believe the Bible is God's inspired Word and that we are saved by grace, through faith in Jesus Christ, who died for our sins. Please take a brochure from the Information Center or visit us on-line at [www.immanuelseymour.com](http://www.immanuelseymour.com).*