



125th Anniversary Services

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
1009 G Street – Eagle, Nebraska 68347-5048

July 13, 2025

WELCOME TO IMMANUEL: We are so thankful for all our guests and brothers and sisters in Christ who have joined us today as we celebrate “125 Years of Receiving God’s Gifts.” The name of our congregation is a constant reminder of the Lord’s steadfast love and grace toward us. He is Immanuel, which means, “God with us.” We as Lutherans confess these truths in the Apology of the Augsburg Confession – “It is by faith that God wants to be worshiped, namely, that we receive from Him what He promises and offers” (Art. IV, 114.9). Christ our Lord continues to bestow His gifts upon us through His Word and Sacraments, the very means by which He gives us His forgiveness, life and salvation.

We are honored to have with us the Reverend Lynn Christensen as our guest preacher this morning. He served as the Pastor of Immanuel from 1994-1999, and now serves Zion Lutheran Church in Ainsworth, Nebraska.

THE LORD’S SUPPER: The Lord has instituted His Supper for our benefit, that we might receive His gifts. In love for the individual, and in love for the teachings of our Lord and the unity of His Church, the congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod promise to practice closed communion. Those who are united with us, as expressed by membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, are invited to receive the Sacrament today. If you have any questions about this historic practice of the Christian Church, please arrange a time to speak with Pastor Porath.

In His Service

Preacher	Rev. Lynn Christensen
Liturgist	Rev. Scott Porath
Organist	Barbara Hohman
Trumpeter	Joseph Reimer
Choir Directors	A.J. Reimer, Bobbi Hohman
Elders	Tom Cosby, Dallas Obenland, Kevin Bolin, Terry Kuebler
Crucifer	Miles Kuebler
Torchbearers	Anderson McCreight, Lucas Yelkin
Ushers	Tom Hohman, Andy McLaughlin, Jim McLaughlin, Marcus Schmidt
Altar Guild	Leslie Graphenteen, Catherine Porath

[congregation] Now You are here, Christ Jesus Lord,
Once in a manger, flesh and Word,
Today You rest upon my brow;
Our ears, our mouths receive You now.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

[congregation] The weakness, poverty, and want
You suffered though the world would taunt
To dwell with us, content to give
Your life that we might ever live.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

[congregation] So will we sing Your praises here
With joyful spirit year by year;
And when we reckon time no more,
May we in heav'n Your name adore!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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Prayer of the Church

Offering

Offertory **“What Shall I Offer to the Lord”** Adult Choir

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“We Sing, Immanuel, Your Praise”

Mrs. Christina Roberts was commissioned to write a hymn for the occasion of Immanuel Lutheran Church’s 125th anniversary. We are so thankful for this wonderful hymn that we sing today, and for the anonymous donors who commissioned this hymn.

The text of “We Sing, Immanuel, Thy Praise” is a twenty stanza Christmas hymn by Lutheran pastor Paul Gerhardt. For today’s anniversary celebration we are singing five stanzas chosen and edited to focus our attention on the Lord’s presence in the Incarnation and in His gifts to the Church. The lilting new tune is similar to many Christmas carols which dance with the joy that Jesus is with us in time and into eternity.

Mrs. Roberts serves as Kantor for Our Savior Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan. **THANK YOU MRS. ROBERTS** for your gift to us, and to Christ and His Church which you serve.

Schedule for the remainder of the Celebration

11:30 am	Lunch
12:00 pm	Kids Games + Activities
1:00 pm	String Quartet
1:15 pm	Hymn Sing
1:30 pm	Vespers Service

CONGREGATIONAL PICTURE: Immediately following the Divine Service you will be directed outside to take a group picture on the south side of the church.

CATERED LUNCH: Following the group picture you will be seated in the tent on the south side of the church. We will dismiss tables to go through the buffet lines located in the parish hall. We will direct you. If you need assistance, we have people to help you. Even if you did not RSVP, you are welcome to join us. We planned for extras!

KIDS GAMES & ACTIVITIES: We have a variety of games and activities lined up for the children. At approximately 12:00 p.m., after they have eaten, they will meet under the bell tower in front of the church.

STRING QUARTET: Beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, we will have a quartet of stringed instruments providing special music. We are delighted to have the Cosby/Fusselman family playing for our celebration. Members of the quartet are: Erin Cosby (violin), Claudia Fusselman (violin), Micah Fusselman (viola), and Quintus Fusselman (cello).

HYMN SING: Following the String Quartet we will have a Hymn Sing, also in the sanctuary. You will have an opportunity to suggest a favorite hymn and the congregation will sing a stanza (or two).

WELCOME: As the children of God gathered here today, we rejoice to receive His gracious gifts. We are honored to have with us the Reverend Joel Hoyer as our guest preacher this afternoon. He served as the Pastor of Immanuel from 1985 to 1994, and now serves Grace Lutheran Church in Coopersville, Michigan.

Office of Vespers

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Sunday ~ July 13, 2025 ~ 1:30 p.m.

Prelude

Ringing of the Bell

Hymn **“Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You”** **668**

Versicles 229

Ascription of Praise – Common 229

Psalm **“What Shall I Offer to the Lord”** Adult Choir

Office Hymn **“We Sing, Immanuel, Your Praise”**

[Hymn commissioned for Immanuel’s 125th Anniversary]

[choir] We sing, Immanuel, Your Praise
 Our Prince of Life and Fount of grace
 O Flow’r of heaven, Star of morn,
 The Lord of lords, the Virgin born.
 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

[choir] With all Your saints Your praises sing,
 And honor, thanks to You we bring.
 That You, O long expected Guest
 Have come at last to make us blest!
 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

[congregation] Now You are here, Christ Jesus Lord,
Once in a manger, flesh and Word,
Today You rest upon my brow;
Our ears, our mouths receive You now.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

[congregation] The weakness, poverty, and want
You suffered though the world would taunt
To dwell with us, content to give
Your life that we might ever live.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

[congregation] So will we sing Your praises here
With joyful spirit year by year;
And when we reckon time no more,
May we in heav'n Your name adore!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Readings from Holy Scripture

1 Kings 8:22-30

Revelation 21:1-5

St. Luke 19:1-10

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Acolyte	Lucas Yelkin
Ushers	Tom Hohman, Andy McLaughlin, Jim McLaughlin, Marcus Schmidt
Altar Guild	Leslie Graphenteen, Catherine Porath

MEMORABILIA DISPLAYS: Be sure to take the opportunity to look at some of the historical memorabilia that we have gathered and are displayed on tables in the parish hall.

SLIDESHOW: There is also a slideshow of a variety of pictures being played on the TV in the parish hall. Please feel free to walk around the entire church to see the parish hall, kitchen, organ loft, and classrooms. Make yourself at home!

ANNIVERSARY BOOK & ORNAMENT KEEPSAKE: An Anniversary Book is in the final stages of production and is available for presale today along with a keepsake ornament. There is a table in the narthex where you can get more information and place your order.

THANK YOU: We extend our sincere gratitude to all who helped make our 125th Anniversary celebration a meaningful and memorable occasion. To our guests and congregation members – thank you for your continued support and presence.

We offer special thanks to those who participated in the church cleanup day and the Eagle Day parade. We are especially grateful to Pastor Hoyer and Pastor Christensen for their service, and to Christina Roberts, Erin Cosby, Claudia Fusselman, Micah Fusselman, Quintus Fusselman, and Barbara Hohman for generously sharing their time and musical talents. We also thank the Children’s Choir and the choirs from our neighboring churches for blessing us with their beautiful music during this special celebration.

Thank you to the many volunteers who helped the day run smoothly. We are particularly thankful to Ashley Heitman for her tireless work in gathering assets, coordinating communication, and organizing details; to Ron Graphenteen for his expert carpentry; and to Jenna Scherrer for her graphic design support and expertise.

This celebration would not have been possible without the dedication and support of each of you. Thank you.

THANK YOU TO THE ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE: With grateful hearts, we give thanks to God for the faithful service of our 125th Anniversary Committee. Your dedication, prayerful planning, and hard work helped make this celebration a beautiful reflection of God’s enduring faithfulness to our church.

We especially thank Charity Baker, Barbara Hohman, Rachel Hrabik, Dallas & Becky Obenland, Stu Osterthun, Pastor Porath, and Lisa Schmidt for their leadership, time, and tireless efforts in preparing for this milestone event. Your commitment and love for this congregation have been a true blessing. May today be a joyful reminder of all God has done through His people – and a celebration of the continued work He will do in and through our church family. To God alone be all the glory!

THANK YOU! We are so glad that you have been able to be with us today as we celebrate the Lord’s gifts of grace to Immanuel for 125 years. God bless you, and keep you in the one true faith, even unto life everlasting!

