



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Office@ImmanuelNegaunee.org + www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org
Sunday, April 7, 2024, 9:30am

Second Sunday of Easter

Welcome to
worship! Please
complete a
Connection Card
and place the
card in the
offering plate.
Thank you!

The Easter season
is a week of
weeks, seven
Sundays when we
play in the mys-
tery of Christ's
presence, mostly
through the glori-
ous Gospel of
John. Today we
gather with the
disciples on the
first Easter, and
Jesus breathes
the Spirit on us.
With Thomas we
ask for a sign,
and Jesus offers
us his wounded
self in the broken
bread. From
frightened indi-
viduals we are
transformed into
a community of
open doors,
peace, for-
giveness, and
material sharing
such that no one
among us is in
need.

GATHERING

WELCOME TO COMPANION CONGREGATION SUNDAY!

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

African Call to Peace

Choir

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

GATHERING SONG

Christ Has Risen, Alleluia

#364

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, **with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God. **Word of Life. Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 133

¹How good and how pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!

²**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.

For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1—2:2

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. ^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity. (Ps. 133:1)

The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.

Word of God. **Word of Life. Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading* **#401**

v. 1, 3, & 5—Refrain in Swahili

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to...

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Drs. Brian & Danielle Anderson

(Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Listen, God Is Calling

#513

MAASAI CREED

We believe in the one High God of love who created the beautiful world and every thing good in it. He created man and wanted man to be happy in the world. God loves the world and every nation and tribe in the world. We have known this God in darkness, and we now know God in the light. God promised in his book the Bible that he would save the world and all the nations and tribes. We believe that God made good on his promise by sending his son, Jesus Christ, a man by the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left his home and was always on safari, doing good, curing people by the power of God, teaching about God and man, showing that the meaning of religion is love. He was rejected by his people, tortured and nailed hands

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

and feet to a cross, and died. He lay buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day he rose from the grave. He ascended to the skies. He is lord. We believe that all our sins are forgiven through him. All who have faith in him must be sorry about their sins be baptized in the Holy Spirit of God, live by the rules of love and share the bread together, to announce the good news to others until Jesus comes again. We are waiting for him. He is alive. He lives. This we believe. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Guide all bishops, pastors, missionaries, and other ministers of the gospel, including Bishop Alex and Pastor Deborah. Foster our relationships with partner synods, local ministry partners, and our beloved sisters and brothers of Yombo Parish, that our visions and actions are Spirit-led. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you (*especially Dietrich Bonhoeffer and all whose lives have been given in faithfulness to the gospel*). Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(Please be seated)

MEAL



PROCESSIONAL OFFERING/NOISY OFFERING

(Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit)

OFFERING SONG

*Asante sana Yesu,
(Thank you, thank you, Jesus,)*

*Asante sana yesu,
(Thank you, thank you, Jesus,)*

*Asante sana Yesu, moyoni.
(Thank you, thank you, Jesus in my heart.)*

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

SENDING

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Tom Skrenes

COMMISSIONING OF TANZANIA TRAVELERS

Pastor Terry Cathcart

(Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit)

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✠ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

SENDING HYMN

We Are Marching in the Light

#866

(We Are Dancing)

(We Are Praying)

(We Are Singing)

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF April 7—April 14, 2024

***SYMPATHIES** to Suzzane Sheldon and family of Bruce Sheldon who passed away in Florida recently. Suzzane and Bruce are past members of Immanuel.

***THANK YOU** to the **Scanlon** family: Walter, Connie, Cody and Caleb for their special music on Easter Sunday. Their instrumental accompaniment made the service even better.

***FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Are you willing to help with Fellowship hour? Donations that are needed are bakery items, crackers, cheese, fruit, or whatever suits your fancy, & cleanup! Your Fellowship Hour committee for April is Property Committee. If it fits your schedule to bring items before Sunday morning, there are shelves in the refrigerator tagged for **Coffee Hour** or leave on the counter marked "Coffee Hour". Please contact **Walter Scanlon or Marty Saari** with your date and any item you wish to bring. **THANK YOU ALL FOR VOLUNTEERING!**

***TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY** All are welcome to come to our study on **TUESDAYS** from 7:30pm-9:00pm at Pasquali's in Negaunee. We welcome you to drop in as your schedule allows. Each week's discussion will be structured as a stand-alone study. **This week's Bible Study will be Exodus 7:14-25; 8-9; 10:27-29—Plagues of Egypt**. Bring your questions, confusions, and doubts! If you have questions, call or text 540-435-4915.

***WELCOME CHILDREN & FAMILIES** We don't mind the noise. We're glad you're here! The family room across the hall has toys if that would be helpful. Activity bags are also available for the children to use during the service.

***NEW ORLEANS YOUTH TRIP** This summer, a group of youth from Immanuel is going to New Orleans for the national youth gathering. At this event, they will expand their faith through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service, and fellowship. It is a unique experience for all those involved. They would really appreciate the continued support from the congregation. The youth are extremely grateful for all the generous donations that they have received. Without the love from you, they would never be able to go! The group is on their way to hitting their goal and

could use your help. If you would like to donate, there are envelopes on a white board in the fellowship hall. Please put your donation in one of the envelopes and then put it in the offering plate. Thank you!

***VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** will be held at Immanuel from June 10-14, 2024, with classes for children Age 2 through Grade 5. **Registration forms are now available on the church website.** The success of our VBS program lies in having enough staff so the children can have a safe, fun learning experience. Our exact number of classroom staff will depend on our enrollment. We have several teachers, but need more. We need teacher assistants. Snack center has some volunteers, but need more- come for the whole week- or for one day. Our BIG need is for Playground helpers! Responsibilities will be to set up equipment. Play with the kids. Take down the equipment. This will take about an hour and a half mid-morning. Snacks will be included! **Please text Paulette Patron (906)361-1562- or leave a message with the Office for more details.**

***CPR/AED TRAINING** will be held on **Wednesday, May 1, 2024**, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. People from across the ministries of Immanuel are encouraged to attend including those from both Sunday worship services, the quilters, and various Bible Study and committee members, etc. Contact the church office to sign up.

***BEACON DEADLINE** The deadline for the May/June Beacon is **April 14.**

***COMMUNITY MEAL** The next Community Meal will be held on **April 21** at 5:00pm.

***HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** Habitat for Humanity would like to ask for our help providing lunches to their volunteers in the 2024 build season. They will need anywhere between 4 and 25 lunches on any given day. There will be advanced notice to lunch donors regarding the number of lunches needed. Please contact the church office if you are interested in helping out this summer!

***PRISON MINISTRY** The Marquette Branch Prison is reopening it's doors to the Keryx Ministry program. Once again, a team of 25 Christian men will be conducting a Keryx weekend (Christian renewal) for a group of inmates at the Marquette Branch Prison. It is a condensed, life-changing course in Christianity offered to 24 new inmates every 6 months.

Your support is needed in two ways:

1. We need our congregation's prayer support for the weekend. Prayer that the Holy Spirit will open the hearts and the minds of the inmates so that they may more fully receive and accept the message of divine love that comes through God's grace as revealed by our Lord Jesus in the Gospels. Also, we need prayers that the team will effectively reflect God's love for these inmates. A prayer vigil sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board next to the church office. You can pray wherever you are at the time you have chosen. A list of the prayer vigil, with first names only, is put up in the prison chapel and really touches the hearts of the candidates.
2. We need homemade cookies for the correction officers and prison staff as a reward and incentive for the additional responsibilities they have associated with our program. Cookies can be put in a disposable container in the church kitchen, labeled "prison". They need to be ready for pick-up by noon on Thursday, April 18th.

*Listen! Is Jesus calling you to Sunday School Ministry?



*LENT PROJECT Here is our Lenten icon that was put together during our Soup Suppers before Lenten Services. Thank you for participating!



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

IN APRIL our ELCA World Hunger will be our Monthly Mission Emphases. The world provides enough food for all, but more than 800 million people around the world face chronic hunger. We believe in a God of abundance, so as a church, we live out our call in baptism to strive for a just world where all are fed.

ELCA World Hunger is this church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, at work. We walk alongside our partners and companions in the United States and more than 60 other countries. Generating unique solutions to local challenges starts by listening to our neighbors and communities. Then, together, we work and serve to help break the cycle of hunger and poverty – for good.

If you wish to give to ELCA World Hunger, use the *April Monthly Mission envelope* from your offering envelope box or in some other way designate your gift. *Thank you for your generosity!*

ASSISTING IN SERVICE

SERVING IN WORSHIP: *Drs. Brian & Danielle Anderson*

ORGANIST/PIANIST/MUSICIAN: *Connie Scanlon*

Office Hours are 8:00am-2:00pm, Monday-Thursday (or by appt.)

VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE:

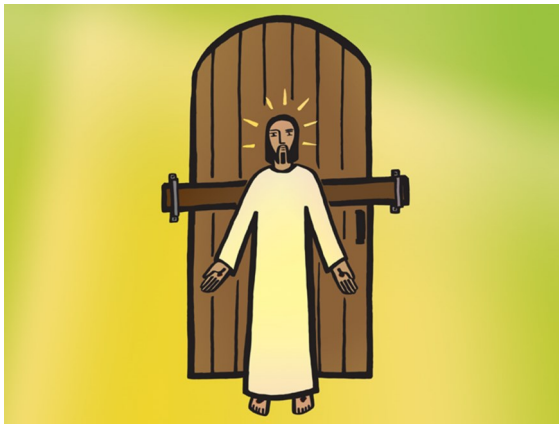
9:30am GREETERS	<i>Alice Mutkala Jim Vercoe</i>	6:00pm GREETERS	<i>Katie Ritzenhein</i>
9:30am USHERS	<i>Alice Mutkala Jim Vercoe</i>	6:00pm USHERS	<i>Katie Ritzenhein</i>
9:30am LECTOR	<i>Alice Mutkala</i>	6:00pm LECTOR	<i>Kerri Puckett</i>
9:30am COMM ASST	<i>Stacy McEachern</i>	6:00pm COMM ASST	<i>Kerri Puckett Youth</i>
9:30am Tech Team	<i>Tyler Moore</i>		

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Pray For: *Lori Bell, Betty Carilli, Kevin Carlson, Karen Couture, Dan Hendrickson, Betty Kinnunen, Michael Kjellman, Anna Laurila, Don & Mary Leece, Kathryn Madison, Diane Nault, Gerald Neldon, Ezra Newman, Kathy Palomaki, Shirley Pizziola, Jim Ritzenhein, Jessica Roberts, Marlene Romback, Reuven Romback, Louise Spickerman, Kathy Stambaugh, Molly Taseris, Bob Walker.*

Our Shut-ins: *Jonelle Collins, Rudy Gagnon, June Jarvi, Timothy Kjellman, Betty Lukkarinen, Butch Pynnonen, Dolores Reichel, Lillian Rivers, Paul Alan Smith, Elsie Suardini, Lynne Tossava.*

Members in the Armed Service: *Luke DeWitt, Adrianna Gustafson, Michael Gustafson, Spencer Harvala, Hunter (Jessica) Hetrick, Dennis Koski, Tanner Romback, Michael Sedlock, Ethan Wallner, and all Armed Services Families.*



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 7—April 14, 2024

YOU CAN FIND ALL ONLINE INFORMATION REFERENCED BELOW AT...

www.ImmanuelNequaunee.org

Second Sunday of Easter

Companion Congregation Sunday

Sunday	9:30am	Worship Service
	9:30am	Sunday School
	6:00pm	Worship Service in Fellowship Hall
	7:30pm	AA Group Meets (men & women)
Monday	5:30-7:00pm	Lion's Club Meeting
Tuesday	10:00am	Bible Study
	7:00pm	Bible Study @ Pasquali's
Wednesday	8:00-4:00pm	Kindergarten Registration
	6:00pm	Choir
Thursday	8:00-4:00pm	Kindergarten Registration
	10:00am	Quilting
Friday	OFFICE CLOSED	
	10:00am	AA
Sunday	<i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>	
	9:30am	Worship Service
	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Coffee & Fellowship
	6:00pm	Worship Service in Fellowship Hall
	7:30pm	AA Group Meets (men & women)

(FYI: Pastor Bre can be reached at 507-993-1909 or email: upbre3@gmail.com)

Join us for a
CPR/AED
Training
(Cardio pulmonary resuscitation &
Automated external defibrillator)

May 1, 2024

10 AM – 1 PM

Fellowship Hall

Register by notifying the church office

906-475-9161

OR email office@immanuelnegaunee.org

We are encouraging people from across the ministries of Immanuel be trained in CPR and the use of the AED. This includes both Sunday worship services, quilters, various Bible Study and committee members, etc.

Our community will be a safer place with trained people in our midst.

AEDs SAVE LIVES!!



