



# The Image



"The MISSION of Immanuel is to glorify God, build the Christian Church, foster Christian fellowship and concern, and join in the worldwide work of winning souls for Christ."

## From the Pastor's Desk – November 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I don't feel like dancing. Or much like singing.

There was a time it wasn't so. Jitterbug? Yes. (My dad could really cut a rug.) The stately Waltz? Easy-peasy. And the elegant Fox-trot? Slow-slow-quick-quick-slow. And what was a family picnic without the Hokey-Pokey? Put your left foot in... And the family singing. Long before our earbuds and AirPods isolated us in public, we listened and sang together. Aunt Rita would sit at the piano and lead us as we sang and sang. And sang. A carload of teenagers belted out the hit du jour in rust-covered wheels as we coaxed those tired heaps around town. Yes, we sang. And we danced.

Maybe it was the jubilation that many of our parents and grandparents had come through the War. The "Great Peace" (a term coined by politicians, no doubt) was born. The bodies of sons and brothers returning from Vietnam and the full effects of post-war PTSD (results of that "Great Peace?") remained future events. And the baby-boom boomed along. Widespread use of the pill (approved for use in 1960) would come later, along with the horror of government and citizen-sanctioned abortion. (As an aside, the live birth rate is less than half of what it was during the boom. Remember that as you ponder, and perhaps blame others for, the shrinking church. We stopped having kids.)

Life was filled with joy and optimism. Maybe it was the result of seeing life through those rose-colored glasses of youth. Maybe. But things seem so different now. Perhaps it's the political darkness of a state like Illinois. Maybe it's because we kept, and keep, electing politicians that are shamelessly hostile to the Faith. I hear more than a few of God's people express a full-throated support for those officials that unflinchingly support death, and later these same folks kneel before God's holy altar to receive the body and blood of the Author of Life. What am I to make of that? Or do about that? I pray the Lion of the Tribe of Judah blesses me—and you—with His wisdom.

And, of course, we pastors are not immune to spiritual attack. The Father of Lies hates what we do in our church. And he hates what I preach. He desires us to worship the god of our emotions and imaginations. He wants us to worship the Jesus of our ideations—the god we create for ourselves. Yes, he tempts us to worship ourselves. And many do. Many are the tales I have of people seated before me telling me what Jesus would and would not do (with little familiarity with the Word of Christ recorded for us). And no matter how I respond, they have convinced themselves I'm wrong and they're right. Spiritual attack is a very real thing.

So, yeah, I don't feel much like dancing. Or singing.

It's difficult to not be discouraged. Maybe it's because I have the habit of frequently checking my various "feeds." If you're not familiar with the term, it's tech-speak for monitoring the various on-line social media sites to which I subscribe (Facebook, X—formerly known as Twitter, Instagram—or simply Insta, and a host of local and national news outlets and podcasts). It's been years (you read that right) since I've tuned into the six o'clock news or read a newspaper actually printed on paper. Now I receive news via these outlets on my tech devices—chiefly my smart phone. I still subscribe to a small number of news magazines, all delivered to me electronically. These outlets also give me multiple alerts and items each day. Perhaps this behavior stems from my time at the seminary, many years ago now. There, one of my beloved professors taught us to carry the Bible under one arm and a newspaper under the other. His point was that we need to be familiar with current events in our communities and nation so we might address these events from a Christian point-of-view. Hence, my media consumption.

The not-so-technical term for this is "doom-scrolling." The algorithms that decide what shows up in our feeds are "tuned" to put negativity before us. Why? It sells. As much as we point the finger at our tech overlords, we must first point the finger at ourselves. What does it say about us that negativity generates dollars? Soap operas, fights on Maury Povich's depressing show, and a host of other negative diversions were all popular when Zuckerberg was stumbling around in diapers. These things say more about us than them. We like to wallow in the slop of our sties. We gossip about our neighbors—those people we were just kneeling next to as the manna from heaven was placed in our mouths. And we relish in it. And I hear it.

So, yeah, I don't feel much like dancing. Or singing.

But, thankfully, gratefully, the story continues.

Every Sunday, as we are given Christ through His Holy Word and the Blessed Sacrament, we are turned and pointed forward. We are pointed forward to what's already been accomplished by our Savior but too often seems unrealized for us. We are pointed forward to our life to come. We are reminded that we are sojourners here and that we are citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. Yes, we are told, without sugar-coating it, that we will suffer—even as God's people—in this world. But we are also told of the reality we cannot yet see, yet a reality it is. At the Table of our Lord, we join all those saints who have gone before us. "With angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven..." Sometimes that's all we have to get us through—the promise of what's to come.

The psalm that follows, the Thirtieth Psalm, is a song written by King David for the dedication of the Temple—the place where God promised to be to bless His people. You will recognize it. From the day of its writing to this day, this psalm has occupied a place of prominence in our liturgical life. As the Temple was made obsolete by the Incarnation of our Lord, today God's presence occurs in the life of His church—God is with us. Hence, our name. In the psalm David reminds us of what happens as we come to the place where the Lord promises to be. David writes:

*I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up  
and have not let my foes rejoice over me.  
O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,  
and you have healed me.  
O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;  
you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.  
Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints,  
and give thanks to his holy name.  
For his anger is but for a moment,*

*and his favor is for a lifetime.  
Weeping may tarry for the night,  
but joy comes with the morning.  
As for me, I said in my prosperity,  
“I shall never be moved.”  
By your favor, O LORD,  
you made my mountain stand strong;  
you hid your face;  
I was dismayed.  
To you, O LORD, I cry,  
and to the Lord I plead for mercy:  
“What profit is there in my death,  
if I go down to the pit?  
Will the dust praise you?  
Will it tell of your faithfulness?  
Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me!  
O LORD, be my helper!”  
You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;  
you have loosed my sackcloth  
and clothed me with gladness,  
that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent.  
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!*

Sometimes, it's all I have—all we have. We have the truth of what Christ has done and the promise of what will be. I think we all look forward to the day when our mourning is turned into dancing as we give thanks forever. We look forward to that unending marriage feast.

I think often of my grandmothers before they were called from this life—well advanced in years and wearing the evidence of a hard life a little too lived. They could only walk from here to there with assistance of mechanical devices and the arms of family. They had endured so much. The Great Depression, severe poverty, the violence of Prohibition-Era Chicago, the War, and short lives with tragic ends all shaped their lives. These women, indeed, were an earthy and tough lot. Yet, even as the hour of their deaths approached, I would often witness a Lourdes level “miracle.” At every major family gathering, invariably a good polka would find its way in. (EVERY Chicago party band worth their salt would have, along with the current popular songs, a few polkas in their repertoire. It was a nonnegotiable for being hired.) Walkers, canes, wheelchairs cast aside; out my dear grandmothers went onto those dance floors. For a few moments, that lively dance drowned the pain of age and old memories. And for a moment, smiles graced the lined faces of old women. They were—are—God's people. And they also knew the promises of God. So, they danced. And sang.

The day will come when we all will dance and sing with a joy that cannot yet be grasped or diminished.

I will dance. And sing.

The Lord has spoken. It's all going to be okay.

A blessed Feast of All Saints!

Rev. L.A. Astrowski Jr., Pastor

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & BAPTISMS

*We ask God for His blessing upon all our members, especially those who celebrate birthdays, anniversaries and baptisms this month*

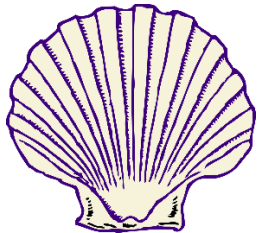


- |                       |                           |                      |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Ben Elder         | 6 - Andrew Atkins         | 19 - Judy Moore      |
| 2 - Myckenzie Raymond | 7 - Remy Cozadd           | Julia Settles        |
| 5 - Sherry Duburg     | Benjamin Tiece            | 20 - Doug Allison    |
| Kenny Wilson          | 10 - Andy Klockau         | Karlene Campbell     |
|                       | 12 - Linda Haake          | 23 - Riley Nixon     |
|                       | Cole Rusk                 | 24 - Cathy Langdon   |
|                       | 12 - Ashley Ayers         | Greg Masias          |
|                       | 14 - Wendy Davis          | 27 - Sandy Schumaker |
|                       | 17 - Pastor Len Astrowski | 28 - Kathryn England |
|                       |                           | 29 - Mel Woolfolk    |



November 9, 1996 – Tom & Stacy Biscontine  
 November 13, 2019 – Mel & Nancy Herman  
 November 21, 1987 – Scott & Kathy Welch  
 November 25, 1978 – Richard & Shelley Moeller

### Baptism Birthdays



- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 - Bryan Cobert     | 22 - Haley Gruner       |
| Jane Copeland        | 23 - Justin Henke       |
| 2 - Danielle Stevens | 24 - Riley Nixon        |
| 5 - Mitch Bull       | 25 - Mindy Diaz         |
| 7 - Patricia Matheny | 26 - Cathy Langdon      |
| Kate Weinstein       | 27 - MacKenzie Heriford |
| 12 - Joanne Soyke    | 29 - Nathan Leeson      |
| 13 - Benjamin Tiece  | Isabel Leeson           |
| 20 - Sophie Agbayani | Abigail Leeson          |
| 21 - Remy Cozadd     | Paul Lunneberg          |
| Judy Moore           | 30 - Gabriel Cozadd     |

*\*NOTE – Birthdays, anniversaries and baptisms are listed according to our records.  
 If you find a mistake or any missing information, please notify the office. Thank You.*

### MEMBERSHIP AND DIRECTORY CHANGES / MEMORIALS - NOVEMBER REPORT:

**Membership** – **Additions:** Norma Johnson, by transfer from St. John's, East Moline

**Deletions:** None to report

**Directory Changes** – None to report.

**Memorials** – In memory of Myron Hazen

In memory of Dorothy Luebbe

**EMERGENCY VOTERS MEETING  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2025  
IMMEDIATELY AFTER CHURCH**

**VOTERS  
MEETING**



**Reminder... each time you enter the hospital**, be sure to say you are a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Rock Island so that the hospital can inform the church. ***If you would like Pastor to know immediately, please have a family member or friend call the office and/or Pastor—otherwise we may not be aware of your hospitalization.*** The hospitals do not regularly call the churches as they once did. Please contact the office when someone is hospitalized or

homebound. The church office phone number is **309-786-3391**; email address is [officeimmanuelri@gmail.com](mailto:officeimmanuelri@gmail.com).



**THE 2025 FLOWER CHART and THE ETERNAL LIGHT CHART** are posted in the Narthex. The cost for Altar Flowers (two vases) is \$30.00 and for Eternal Light is \$10.00. If you sign up, please be sure to check the calendar periodically for the date(s) you signed to donate.



**\*\*PLEASE WRITE OUT ON THE FORM WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE PRINTED IN THE ANNOUNCEMENTS, OR EMAIL THE INFO TO [OFFICEIMMANUELRI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:OFFICEIMMANUELRI@GMAIL.COM). YOU CAN ALSO WRITE A NOTE AND LEAVE IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE FOR THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

*All adults and youth are invited to participate in any or all Bible studies offered at Immanuel. We are thankful we can gather around God's Word. You are welcome to attend anytime.*



- **Sunday Adult Bible class** – 10:30 am in the Luther Room.
- **Sunday School** – 10:30 am in Peter and Mark rooms.
- **Adult Bible Study** – Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am in Luther Room or on Zoom.
- **Intergenerational Studies** – Tuesdays at 6:00 pm on Zoom.
- **For the older youth** – there is a Rock Island Circuit Youth Group. Watch for announcements on dates and times.



## **YOUTH GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Regular Youth Meetings at Immanuel Rock Island**

- All Circuit youth are welcome to attend the regularly scheduled Youth Group meetings at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rock Island.
- Meeting schedule - First hour: Pastor leads a Bible Study, Second hour: games and snacks.
- Future meeting dates will be shared via email at the beginning of each month for your reference and monthly planning.
- Please join us **Sunday, November 2, 2025 5:00 pm, at Mt. Calvary, Galesburg for RI Circuit Youth** The youth service project will be collecting socks and winter clothes for Christian Care.
- Please join us **Sunday, November 16, 2025 5:30 pm, at Immanuel.**

***Remember – we continue to recycle aluminum cans.***

There is a white barrel outside of the kitchen door – west side of the building. Please place your aluminum cans in the barrel and they will be taken to be recycled. The money is then used to purchase gas for the mower at the church. **Thank You.**



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*From the Social Ministry Group:*

This year we will again be distributing **Thanksgiving AND Christmas Food Baskets** to those in need. If you know of someone who might need a little extra help during this Holiday Season, please contact Tammy Robinson or Mel Vogel with their name, address, phone number, and the number of people in their household. Due to financial constraints, we will be giving preference to the family and/or friends of our congregation first and if finances hold up, we will take names from outside of the congregation. We have received several generous donations this year and hope to help more families!

**We will be distributing the Thanksgiving Baskets on Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at the church starting at 11 a.m.**

**We will be distributing the Christmas Baskets on Monday, December 22nd at the church starting at 11 a.m.**

We will also be looking for helpers to sort, pack and distribute the baskets. Please contact Tammy or the church office to let us know you would be available to help.

This is a great mission that the Immanuel Social Ministry team has been carrying down through the years and the recipients of the baskets have been very appreciative! Thank you everyone for your continued support.



In addition to providing Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets, our Social Ministry continues to help with special needs throughout the year as needed when requested via the Elders or Pastor. Envelopes are provided in your envelope box or use plain envelope, indicating for Social Ministry. If you have any questions, contact the church office or Mel Vogel.

**Another part of our Social Ministry** includes helping support two Seminarian families. If you wish to help with their support, you can place your gift in an envelope with **"Seminarians"** and your envelope number written on it, and place it in the offering plate or bring to the church office. These gifts will be recorded on your Financial Statement and checks will be sent to them quarterly.

**Names and NEW addresses if you wish to send a card of encouragement, etc.:**

Josh Bieri – Vicarage appointment to  
Faith Lutheran Church  
1407 Main St  
La Crosse, WI 54601

Josh Camp - 2<sup>nd</sup> year at CTSFW  
Josh & Catherine Camp  
7630 Coldsprings Blvd  
Fort Wayne IN 46825



## Items Needed:

Men's Deodorant	13-gal Trash bags	Toilet paper
Shampoo	33 gal trash bags	Men's disposable razors
Conditioner	39 gal lawn & leaf trash bags	Napkins
		Deodorant

***Please place items in the Christian Care box in the Narthex. Items will be taken to Christian Care.***

The November LWML meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 20th**. We will enjoy a devotion with Pastor Astrowski and Chris Roth's famous White Texas Sheet Cake. After our business meeting you are welcome to stay and make a craft which will be a fundraiser for one of our supported charities.



Yours in Christ,  
Helen Vogel

## **November and December 2025 LWML CID Mission Grant #4 – Healing Spaces for At-Risk Children - \$10,000**

Children who come to Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch have experienced significant abuse, neglect, violence, and other heartbreaking traumas, resulting in psychiatric, emotional, behavioral, and/or developmental challenges. The purpose of this project is to build Zurcher Cottage, a new Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility, a place of care specifically designed to provide Christ-centered care and treatment for the youngest and highest-need children served at Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch.

*How can I help? Pray that God provides the funds to build Zurcher Cottage where Christ-centered care can be given to the most challenged of our youth. Support this grant by donating to your church's LWML group mite fund.*



**As we gear up for fall and winter, Bella's Boutique is in full swing and in need of a few items:**

- 2T-3T outfits for boys and girls
- Infant and Toddler Pajamas!
- Baby lotion
- Bibs - Boy (smaller for newborn)
- Diapers - size newborn, 4, & 5
- Newborn girl long-sleeve onesies

*Check out our Amazon wishlist! Thank you!*



## **Building Upkeep**

Thank you to those who have signed up to clean a room/area monthly. We really appreciate the help. If you are interested, there are several areas that haven't been claimed yet. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex.



*November 2, 2025  
(Observed)*

*We remember the faithful departed:*

<i>January 30, 2025</i>	<i>Carolyn Holmgren</i>
<i>May 21, 2025</i>	<i>Angela Anders</i>
<i>May 25, 2025</i>	<i>Maxine Grisham</i>
<i>July 6, 2025</i>	<i>Joyce Heald</i>
<i>September 14, 2025</i>	<i>Myron Hazen</i>
<i>September 25, 2025</i>	<i>Dorothy Luebke</i>



### **THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE**

**Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM**

Everyone is invited to join us as we take time to give God thanks and praise for all the blessings we have received from Him.

*There will be no service on Thanksgiving Day.*

Please join us on **Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.** to help decorate the church for Advent/Christmas. We will need many hands to make the church beautiful! Thank you for helping adorn the church for Advent.



### ***Holiday Service Schedule 2025***

November 26	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Thanksgiving Eve
November 30	Sunday	9:00 AM	First Sunday in Advent
December 3	Wednesday	5:30/6:30 PM	Supper/Advent I
December 10	Wednesday	5:30/6:30 PM	Supper/Advent II
December 17	Wednesday	5:30/6:30 PM	Supper/Advent III – Children's Program
December 24	Wednesday	2:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service
		6:30 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight w/HC
December 25	Thursday	9:00 AM	Christmas Day – The Feast of the Nativity
December 28	Sunday	9:00 AM	The First Sunday After Christmas
December 31	Wednesday	6:30 pm	New Year's Eve Service

## Wednesday Evening Supper and Advent Worship



We are continuing our tradition of inviting our members and the public to join us for a light supper prior to our mid-week Advent Worship Services. Supper will be served at 5:30-6:15 pm in the cafeteria. Our worship service begins at 6:30 PM.

The meals may be soup, sandwiches, veggies, and a dessert. Coffee, tea, milk, lemonade, etc. are provided. The host may keep the free-will offering to cover expenses or donate it to the general benefit of the church.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the Elders.

**Wednesday, December 4th – Board of Elders**

**Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

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## NOVEMBER 2025 MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE



Week of November 2, 2025 - **2 Timothy 2:13**

*If we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.*

Week of November 9, 2025 - **1 Thessalonians 5:23**

*Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Week of November 16, 2025 - **Ephesians 3:20–21**

*Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

Week of November 23, 2025 - **Revelation 2:10**

*Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.*

Week of November 30, 2025 - **Micah 7:7**

*But as for me, I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.*



**CENTRAL ILLINOIS  
DISTRICT**  
*of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

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## News You Can Use

**MUSIC FOR MISSIONS** – St. John's Lutheran Church (711 Court Street) in Pekin is hosting a Sacred Music Concert and Hymn Sing in support of our Immanuel Lutheran Student Center, our LC-MS Central Illinois District Campus

Ministry at Western Illinois University, Macomb, on Sunday, November 16, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

We will join together in singing some hymns, and in listening to sacred organ, choir, vocal solo, and handbell music, all under the theme, "Hymns of Our Heavenly Home." Featured musicians will include guest organist Peter Wykert, vocalists Allison Harley and Jennifer Rosa, as well as the St. John's Hand Bell and Sanctuary Choirs.

A free-will offering will be gathered to support our Immanuel Lutheran Student Center in Macomb (under the leadership of Pastor Chris Hull). Refreshments will be served following the program.

Please set aside the time to participate in and enjoy the music program, and to support our Central Illinois District mission work. For more information, you may contact the church office at 309-347-2136.

# Pointing to the Rock of Ages

LCMS Stewardship Ministry — [lcms.org/stewardship](http://lcms.org/stewardship)

*Not the labor of my hands Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone. (LSB 761:2)*

While the classic hymn “Rock of Ages” shows up in the Lutheran Service Book in the “Hope and Comfort” section, it can also teach us a valuable lesson about Christian stewardship. If that surprises you, stay with me on this one. No Lutheran would ever dispute the fact that our work does not save us. Ephesians 2 makes it truly clear that we are dead in our trespasses and sins and would remain in that state until Christ raises us by grace. There is not a ladder on which we can climb out of the grave that our sins have dug for us. No blood, sweat nor tears will be able to rescue us. We all know this.

Our works do not save. Christ’s work on the cross of Calvary does! He bore human flesh. He carried the burden of our sin to the cross. His body was beaten, bruised and bloodied for us. He has indeed atoned for us! This is more than enough reason for this hymn to be bouncing around in your head all day today!

But our work has a place. The place is in response to what the Father has done for us in Jesus. The Rock of Ages, who is Jesus, becomes the foundation on which our lives of faith are built. The Holy Spirit uses the means of grace to make us God’s workmanship that Paul talks about in Ephesians 2:10.

Our workmanship does not display our power or prowess. Like the heavens declare the handiwork of the Creator, the works of a redeemed sinner point others to the salvation that is worked only by Jesus alone. Our work is a response to and reflection of a grace and glory that we ourselves could never accomplish or achieve.

We become stewards of the treasure that is the Gospel. When we faithfully support the work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with our financial support, we are doing the work which points to the One who alone atones. When we come alongside a struggling sister or brother for whom Christ died and we share the stewardship work of compassion and care, we en flesh the treasure of God’s love and redemption. When we make it a weekly priority to arrange our schedule to be in the Lord’s House with other stewards of the Gospel to receive again and again the Gospel’s precious gift, we are stewards of the Body of Christ in the congregation that points even more people to Jesus.

We cannot do this. Jesus does it through us. We are simply stewards of this precious treasure!



Christ the King (Cristo Rey) Lutheran Church

1301-19<sup>th</sup> Street, East Moline, IL 61244

E-mail: [cristorey-em@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cristorey-em@sbcglobal.net) Ph. (309) 738-6124

Rev. Pablo G. Domínguez

**November 2025**



## Do you believe this?

One ancient tradition which is growing stronger little by little among the Hispanics is the belief that dead people return to earth to visit people. There is a special day to mark this tradition. It is called The Day of the Dead (Día de Muertos), and it’s held on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Many people believe that this great, ancient and historic tradition was started by the Indians before Spain’s conquest. Actually, families decorate a special place in their home. This is called the Altar, where their dead love ones’ pictures are displayed with

candles, colorful papers, their favorite meals and beverages, skull candies, and bread (Death bread). They believe that their relatives return from the dead to enjoy these items. The media contribute to this with live coverage from homes and even cemeteries, where people spend entire nights decorating with flowers and candles. Do you find some similarities to Halloween?





Hispanics who live in the U. S. want to preserve this tradition, even right here in the United States. As Christians we must reject this false tradition. Please read 1 John 3: 1b-3 *"The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure."*

What true and amazing words we find in the Holy Scriptures! These words become a great comfort to all as we come to believe in Jesus Christ. The unbelievers may not believe at first what the words say, but Christians need to continue sharing and proclaiming the Good News in Christ. We're confident and we stand on what He says:

***"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"***

### **Baptism:**

The joy and peace Christ gives came to the Nunez when her daughter Catalina Celest received the saving waters of Holy Baptism and became a child of God on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025. With the help of the Lord, her parents, Jose and Laura, Catalina will receive Christian support and guidance. Welcome, Catalina, to God's family!



### **Always give thanks!**

In the last weeks I have seen many faces of people which exhibit confusion, loneliness, bitterness, sadness, anguish, and desperation motivated by family troubles, divorce, sickness, death of a loved one, lack of or loss of work, etc. Words are not necessary when body language informs me that they are living through a difficult period in their life. Some of them have called and asked me to visit them in their homes or they have come to the church office. They want to talk about their present situation and receive spiritual advice. They want a quick solution without any hurt or damage to their lives. Will they have a pleasant and happy Thanksgiving dinner?

Once I heard this: "It's so good that you don't have any troubles. I'm sure, all of your family is so happy, because, as Christians, God takes care of you". Well, you and I know that this is not true at all. Believers in Christ have all kinds of troubles and we all suffer at one time or another. We have a long list of troubles, right? So, can we as Christians give thanks to God when we are going through a difficult time?

I'm going to share this true story. It's a story my grandma used to tell. In a very small town, there lived a faithful Christian man. Every day before the sun began to shine, he prayed. He prayed aloud, and everyone in the town was able to hear him. My Grandma said he never failed to pray. It didn't matter what kind of day it was, sunny or rainy, cold, or hot. He prayed with gratitude and thanksgiving. My grandma said that he never complained even though he worked hard as a farmer. He always gave thanks to God for all the gifts he received.

I'm happy when I see joyful, loving families. Their faces tell me that God has been blessing them and showing me how He protects them in their daily lives. They know God is with them in all the circumstances of life. I'm pretty sure these believers in Jesus will have a pleasant and happy Thanksgiving dinner.

What about you? Are you worried? Do you have troubles? Do you feel as though no one listens or cares about you? Think about what Saint Paul tells us in Philippians 4:6,

***"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."***

Please pray to God in every situation! Happy Thanksgiving Day to you and your family!



## **Daily Readings for NOVEMBER from the Lutheran Service Book, pages 299-304**

Nov 1	Deut. 34:1-12	Matt. 21:1-22
Nov 2	Jer. 1:1-19	Matt. 21:23-46
Nov 3	Jer. 3:6-4:2	Matt. 22:1-22
Nov 4	Jer. 5:1-19	Matt. 22:23-46
Nov 5	Jer. 7:1-29	Matt. 23:1-12
Nov 6	Jer. 8:18-9:12	Matt. 23:13-39
Nov 7	Jer. 11:1-23	Matt. 24:1-28
	<i>Jer. 12:1-19:15</i>	
Nov 8	Jer. 20:1-18	Matt. 24:29-51
Nov 9	Jer. 22:1-23	Matt. 25:1-13
Nov 10	Jer. 23:1-20	Matt. 25:14-30
Nov 11	Jer. 23:21-40	Matt. 25:31-46
Nov 12	Jer. 25:1-18	Matt. 26:1-19
Nov 13	Jer. 26:1-19	Matt. 26:20-35
	<i>Rev. 13:1-18</i>	
Nov 14	Jer. 29:1-19	Matt. 26:36-56
	<i>Rev. 14:1-20</i>	
Nov 15	Jer. 30:1-24	Matt. 26:57-75
	<i>Rev. 15:1-8</i>	
Nov 16	Jer. 31:1-17, 23-24	Matt. 27:1-10
	<i>Rev. 16:1-21</i>	
Nov 17	Jer. 33:1-22	Matt. 27:11-32
	<i>Jer. 34:1-36:32; 45:1-51:64</i>	
Nov 18	Jer. 37:1-21	Matt. 27:33-56
	<i>Rev. 17:1-18</i>	
Nov 19	Jer. 38:1-28	Matt. 27:57-66
	<i>Jer. 39:1-44:30</i>	
Nov 20	Dan. 1:1-21	Matt. 28:1-20
Nov 21	Dan. 2:1-23	Rev. 18:1-24
Nov 22	Dan. 2:24-49	Rev. 19:1-21
Nov 23	Dan. 3:1-30	Rev. 20:1-15
Nov 24	Dan. 4:1-37	Rev. 21:1-8
Nov 25	Dan. 5:1-30	Rev. 21:9-27
	<i>Dan. 7:1-8:27</i>	
Nov 26	Dan. 6:1-28	Rev. 22:1-21
	<i>Dan. 9:1-27</i>	
Nov 27	Is. 1:1-28	1 Peter 1:1-12
Nov 28	Is. 2:1-22	1 Peter 1:13-25
	<i>Is. 3:1-4:6</i>	
Nov 29	Is. 5:1-25	1 Peter 2:1-12
	<i>Amos 1:1-9:15</i>	
Nov 30	Is. 6:1-7:9	1 Peter 2:13-25

# NOVEMBER 2025

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**3300 24<sup>th</sup> Street Rock Island IL 61201**  
**Office: 309-786-3391**  
**Website: Immanuelri.org**

*Calendar subject to change. Any changes will be listed in weekly announcements.*

1



**2 ALL SAINTS (Obs)**  
 7:15 Bd of Elders  
 9 Worship w/HC  
 10:30 Bible Study/  
 Sunday School  
 5 Circuit Youth @  
 Mt. Calvary, Galesburg

**3**  
 7 Matins  
  
 6 Book Club

**4**  
 9:30 Bible Study  
  
 6 Intergen Bible Study

**5**  
 9-12 CHALK  
 home school

**6**

**7**

**8**

**9**  
 9 Worship w/HC  
 10:30 Bible Study/  
 Sunday School

**10**  
 7 Matins  
 9 Winkel  
  
 6 Book Club

**11**  
 9:30 Bible Study  
  
 6 Intergen Bible Study

**12**  
 9-12 CHALK  
 home school

**13**

**14**

**15**

**16**  
 9 Worship w/HC  
 10:30 Bible Study/  
 Sunday School  
  
 5:30 Youth Group

**17**  
 7 Matins  
  
 6 Book Club

**18**  
 9:30 Bible Study  
  
 6 Intergen Bible Study

**19**  
 9-12 CHALK  
 home school  
  
 Deadline for  
 submitting items  
 for THE IMAGE

**20**

**21**

**22**

**23**  
 9 Worship w/HC  
 10:30 Bible Study/  
 Sunday School

**24**  
 7 Matins  
  
 6 Book Club

**25**  
 9:30 Bible Study  
  
 6 Intergen Bible Study

**26**  
  
 6:30  
 Thanksgiving  
 Eve Service

**27**  
**THANKSGIVING**



[Office closed]

**28**  
  
 [Office Closed]

**29**  
 9 Hanging  
 of the  
 Greens

**30 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent**  
 9 Worship w/HC  
 10:30 Bible Study/  
 Sunday School



**THE IMAGE** is the monthly newsletter published for members and friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church, 3300 24<sup>th</sup> St., Rock Island, Illinois. Immanuel is a member of The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod.

### **Sunday Schedule**

Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9:00 AM

Bible Study at 10:30 AM – Sunday School at 10:30 AM

We invite you to join us for worship and Bible Study and the fellowship of Christians who share in the joy of salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Pastor: Rev. Leonard A. Astrowski, Jr.**

**Organists: Christine Roth and Katherine Cobert**

**Church Office Hours:** Monday – Thursday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Our Website:** [www.immanuelri.org](http://www.immanuelri.org)

**Church Office Phone:** 309-786-3391

**Pastor Astrowski's Phone:** 989-326-0199

**Email Addresses:** Pastor Astrowski – [pastrowski@gmail.com](mailto:pastrowski@gmail.com) Church Office – [officeimmanuelri@gmail.com](mailto:officeimmanuelri@gmail.com)

**Facebook Page:**

<https://www.facebook.com/Immanuel-Lutheran-Church-RockIsland-IL-LCMS-179175395513326/>

All Sunday services are “live” streamed on Facebook at 9 am Sundays and posted to the church’s YouTube channel at: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWLcoXZtMq13HOqRo\\_uifqg/featured?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWLcoXZtMq13HOqRo_uifqg/featured?view_as=subscriber).

*Additionally, you can tune in to Pastor’s nightly devotion each evening at 9 pm “live” on Facebook or find it on the church’s YouTube page later.*