



November 2022

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Caring For Our Community Through Christ

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

"Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptism, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets. He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.'" Matthew 16:13-19



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Who do you say Jesus is? Every Lord's Day we come together around Word and Sacrament, and we confess in our hymnody, liturgy, and with our lips that Jesus is indeed as St. Peter confesses, "...the Christ, the Son of the living God." It is meet, right, and salutary that we make such a bold confession for that is exactly who Jesus is for us.

But what about when the service is over and we go into our mission field, then who is Jesus? I would hope as your pastor that you could make the same confession, but the truth of the matter is that we fall quite short of it don't we? One reason given for the sudden change is that our emotions get the best of us. What do I mean? Well, during the week when someone cuts us off in traffic, speaks ill of us, or offend us in some way, our confession is usually not that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. It is rather, far worse than that. All those things we learned in Sunday school, confirmation classes, Bible study, Sunday worship, etc. goes out the window because the devil uses our sinful nature to be very un-Christian in thought, word, and deed. Throw in the fact that we are tired, overwhelmed, and depressed and is it no wonder then that our confession isn't what it should be?

There is another thought to consider as well. Our perception of Jesus is directly influenced by our own actions. What I mean is this: if we think of our sins as being little, then we will think of Jesus as being little as well. If we believe that church isn't important, and then live our lives in a way that our kids start

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod

Caring For Our Community Through Christ

REV. DAVID CASEY-MOTLEY, PASTOR

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Cell Phone.....253-241-1435
Email pastordavid.immanuel@gmail.com

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; and by appointment

BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS

The office is normally open from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Please remember that the administrative assistant may be
away from the office running errands during this time.

Office Phone410-673-7107
Office Fax Number410-673-1426
Office Emailimmanuellutheranpreston@verizon.net

CHURCH OFFICERS — 2022

President..... Richard Wheatley
Secretary..... Lynn Short
Financial Secretary Dee Lambert
Treasurer..... Janice Isenberg
Evangelism Chair Darlena Butler
Trustee Chair Dale Kenton
Stewardship Chair..... Lynn Faulstick
Board of Education Chair Rene Langwost
Elders Chair Mark Frase

to feel the same way, then it is nearly impossible to know the real Jesus. And if what we read, see on the big screen, or listen to on Christian radio is how we perceive Jesus, then friends, I want to encourage you to put the book down and open your Bibles, to turn off the televangelist, and change the radio station or podcast. And if you attend a church whose doctrine and practice goes against the Word of God, please, turn around and run as fast as you can to a church where God's Word is preached in purity and truth and the Sacraments are rightly administered. Or if we believe that we are spiritual and not religious (a dangerous untrue fallacy) and that we don't need to go to church to be close to God, then friend, you are lying to yourself.

Why? Because the only way we are going to learn about the real Jesus and our faith be strengthened and preserved in our baptismal grace is to come together and gather around that place that Christ says He will be, that is, Word and Sacrament. The author of Hebrews puts it this way, "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near" (Hebrews 10:24-25). We are to gather, together, and encourage one another. That is, we are to gather together and carry one another's burdens, loving and forgiving each other as we grow in our Christian faith at the preaching and teaching of God's Word and not despise it as most do (think explanation of 3rd commandment).

Friends, Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Not because Pastor says so, but because God does. That was St. Peter's confession, and it is the confession of the church as well. And to better help us hear, see, and believe it, we turn our hearts, eyes, and ears to Jesus this season of Advent as we wait for the coming of the Lord in Bethlehem. To help give us encouragement in our waiting, we will be considering our Advent theme this year, "This is My Son." I'll let Concordia Publishing House explain exactly what that means for us.

"Whenever I meet with a couple for premarriage counseling, I share this quote: "Every disappointment involves unmet expectations." Then we talk about what expectations for

marriage are realistic or unrealistic. I also let them know that their spouse will inevitably let them down—sometimes multiple times a day!

Marriage is not the only source of disappointment and unmet expectations. Every human relationship will deal with these issues. Have you been happy with every decision an elected official has made, even one for whom you voted? Does your boss ever let you down? Have your employees always done their job well? Do your friends always come through for you? Do your children always make good and wise decisions based on what you have taught them?

Human beings will disappoint by failing to meet expectations. No wonder the psalmist tells us in Psalm 146:3–4, “Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.”

Parents have hopes and expectations for their children. Sometimes these are healthy expectations. Other times parents place unfair or unrealistic expectations on their children. This upcoming Advent season we will take a look at three different sons of men who were disappointments to their fathers.

In the first week, we will be introduced to Cain, the son of Adam. No doubt Adam had higher hopes for Cain than for him to be known as the first murderer in history. But his murder of his brother reveals the murder lurking in all of our hearts.

In the second week, we will be introduced to Ishmael, the son of Abraham. Though it was not his fault, Ishmael was a disappointment to Abraham because he was not the child of the promise. Abraham’s efforts to take things into his own hands highlight our own tendency to do the same in our relationship with God.

In the third week, we will be introduced to Absalom, the son of David. This rebellious son broke David’s heart and exposes the rebellion we display against our heavenly Father.

But each week, we will also be pointed to a different Son. This Son is the true Son of Adam. He is the true Son of Abraham. He is the true Son of David. He is the Son who never disappointed His Father. He is the Son who never did any wrong. He is the Son of whom the Father spoke: “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him” (Matthew 17:5). This true Man, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, is also the Son of God, the very Son of God now living in our flesh and blood. This Son is Jesus, the Christ, the Messiah, who

who fulfills the hope of salvation “that we might receive adoption as sons” (Galatians 4:5). He is the One whom the psalmist spoke of in Psalm 146:5: “Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God.”

During this series, entitled *This Is My Son*, you will hear again that your heavenly Father is not disappointed in you. Rather, through Jesus, He considers you to be His beloved child, with whom He is well pleased.” General Introduction *This Is My Son* © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. Scripture: ESV®. Permission granted to purchaser to reproduce this page for use in congregational setting. All other rights reserved.

Friends, my prayer for us this month (and honestly, daily) is that we will come to know Jesus more every day and in doing so that we will have the courage to share that Good News with others and then to live it daily in thought, word, and deed. Will we fail? Yes. But thanks be to God that when we fail, our Savior is there to lift us up and shower us with His perfect unending love.

God bless you. Have a wonderful thanksgiving. Come to church on Thanksgiving Day at 10:00 am and hear more about who the real Jesus is for you.

With a servant’s heart,

Pastor David



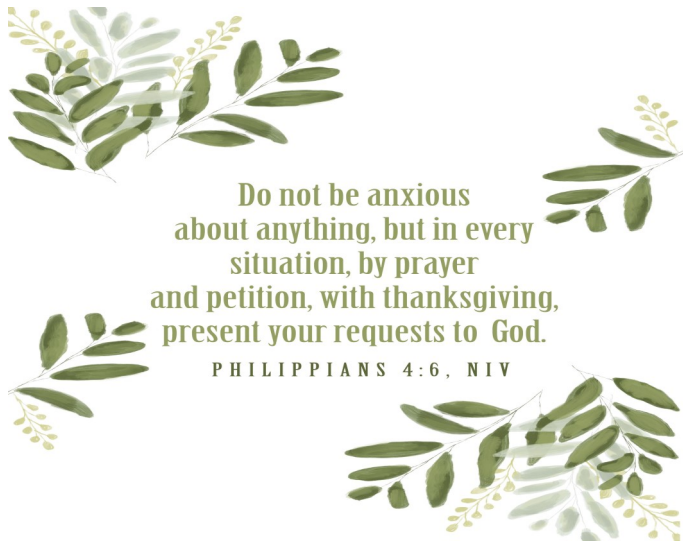


The Annual Fall Bazaar, is being held, Saturday, November 12, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the fellowship hall

Join members, friends and neighbors for the opportunity to shop, eat, and enjoy fellowship. Proceeds from the bazaar supporting: His Hope Ministries in Denton, Immanuel's Care and Compassion fund, and the LCMS Florida-Georgia District in aiding our LCMS church Hurricane fund.

Donations of Silent Auction baskets or items. Crafts, produce, baked goods, and books are always welcome. Your help is also needed on November 9 – 12 (Wednesday – Friday) beginning at 9 a.m. as we prep food and bake items for the soups and bake table.

Thank you



**Do not be anxious
about anything, but in every
situation, by prayer
and petition, with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God.**

PHILIPPIANS 4:6, NIV

SPECIAL FUNDS

Compassion Fund
Anonymous

Care and Compassion 2022 Angel Tree

For the last fifteen years Care and Compassion has sponsored a needy family for Christmas. Our 2022 Angel Tree will soon be up in the narthex. There will be "angel tags" that have the items the family would like for Christmas. If you would like to help this family, please select a tag, purchase and wrap the gift. Attach the angel tag to the gift and return it to church as soon as possible. The toys are available in stores and online. Watch the weekly bulletins for more information. If you are unable to shop but would like to participate by giving a monetary donation, please see or call Irene Wheatley – 410-310-2571. Thank you for helping Immanuel care for our community through Christ.

Thank you, if you have any questions just call me 410-310-2571

Irene



Unremembered Patients

Christmas 2022

Eastern Shore Hospital Center

Unremembered Patients Again this year Wings will be collecting monetary donations for the patients who have no one to remember them at Christmas. The hospital auxiliary is currently working hard to meet the challenge of providing care for 84 patients of which 67% are unremembered without family or friends to provide for them and 72% are indigent.

All donations to the hospital are designated, by state policy, for direct patient benefit. Using our donations, Volunteer Services Staff will purchase the items on each patient's 2022 wish list.

Donations may be **cash** or by **check payable to WINGS**.

A tax-deductible donation may be made by **check payable to ESHC Auxiliary**.

Special preprinted envelopes will be available on the Christmas tree in the Narthex. ***Please place your donation in this envelope and return in the offering plate by November 13, 2022. If you are mailing in a donation, please be sure to put Attn: Wings on the envelope.***

Thank you so much for your continued support of this appeal.

Your servant in Christ,

Janice Isenberg

Thank you From the Varner Family

Thank you for such a beautiful baptism service of our son last week. It was so nice to be able to bring all of our family and friends to celebrate as well. It is truly appreciated.

Best, Lauren, Kyle & Henry Varner

Baptism of Henry James Varner



Henry James Varner born April 16, 2022, was baptized on October 19 2022 by Pastor David Casey-Motley. He is the son of Kyle and Lauren Varner, first grandson to Paul and Lisa Varner and Earl and Lois Edwards and great grandson to Emma Volz.

Baptism

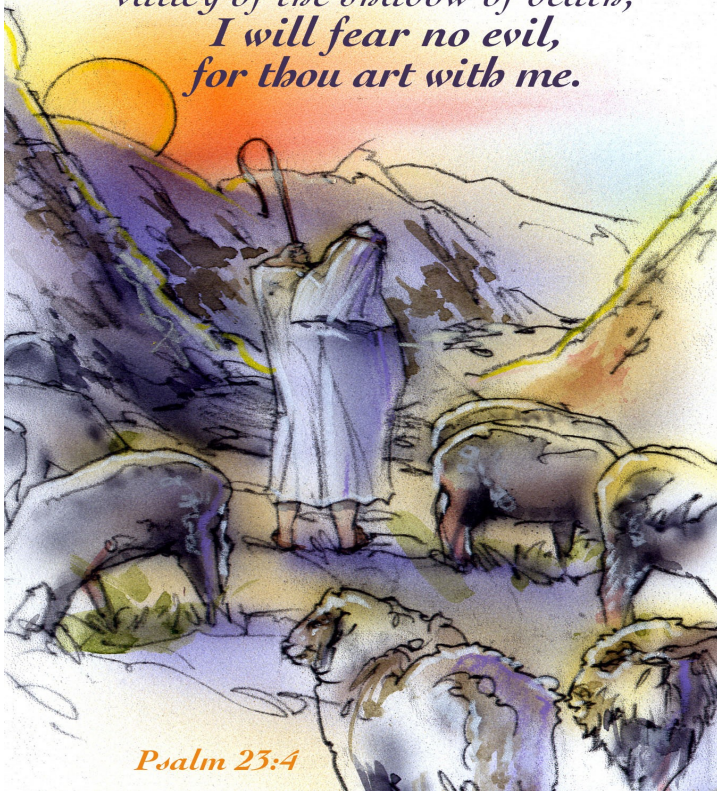


For All the Saints

In our days of Thanksgiving, there is one psalm we can offer for the saints who died before us, and have found their reward.

When the shadow of death fell upon them, we sorrowed, but now we rejoice that they rest in the Lord. ...These stones that have echoed their praises are holy and dear is the ground where their feet have once trod. Yet here they confessed they were strangers and pilgrims, and still they were seeking the city of God. —William H. Draper (1916)

*Yea, though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for thou art with me.*



Psalm 23:4



Church Council Corner

Thank you to the 28 voters who attended the October 23 Voters Assembly. The voters approved a 2023 budget and elected three officers. The officers elected for a 2023-24 term are Janice Isenberg, Treasurer, Lynn Short, Secretary and Lynn Faulstick, Chairman of the Board of Stewardship. These are second, and therefore final, terms for each of the positions. The position of Chairman of the Board of Evangelism remains open.

Congregation President Dicky Wheatley asks members to prayerfully consider serving as Chairman of the Board of Evangelism. Please contact Dicky if you can serve or would like to nominate someone. The Board also needs members to serve with the Chairman through the next two years.

Now that the 2023 Budget is approved, please consider continuing to support Immanuel's financial needs by pledging an offering amount for 2023. For Immanuel, a pledge helps to provide a more consistent income and helps to guide financial planning throughout the year. If you would like to make a pledge, but have not received a form, please contact Lynn Faulstick, Chairman of the Board of Stewardship.

Lynn Short, Church Council Secretary

Stewardship Theme this year is :



Special dates

- All Saints' Day, November 1, 2022
- Daylight saving time ends, November 6, 2022
- Veterans Day, November 11, 2022
- WinGS Bazaar November 12, 2022
- Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 2022
- First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2022



IN EVERY THING GIVE THANKS.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18, KJV



Puzzle!

Although the Bible doesn't mention turkey feasts, the gospels do describe a miracle dinner that made thousands of hungry people thankful (see Matthew 14:13-21). Fill in the words to complete a poem about that meal.

Hint: Each pair of line endings should rhyme.



ate	faces	quest	then
began	late	ran	ton
bunch	lunch	rest	true
done	men	spaces	you

Jesus was tired and went to find _____.
So away from the crowd he started his _____.
It came to an end before it _____.
The crowd followed Jesus; they walked and they _____.
His boat pulled ashore, and he looked at their _____.
Five thousand men, plus families, filled all open _____.
And so Jesus spoke, and he taught until _____.
The disciples told him it was time they all _____.
Jesus said, "Yes, that is certainly _____.
And feeding this crowd is now up to _____."
Feeding five thousand! It could not be _____.
What would they do? They'd need a whole _____.
But then a young boy came and offered his _____.
Five loaves and two fish to feed this big _____?
Jesus gave thanks and blessed it and _____ ...
it fed all the women, the children and _____.

Answer: rest, quest, began, ran, faces, spaces, late, ate, true, you, done, ton, lunch, bunch, then, men

NOVEMBER



NOVEMBER



Ryan & Erin Andrew	11/9
Ed & Sabrina Schanken	11/19
David & Kari Edwards	11/22

Margaret Bolyard	11/2
Hadley Mellor	11/2
Gail Karge	11/3
Dan Mitchell	11/3
Gail Crampton	11/4
Avery Ostermann	11/4
Byron Mead	11/5
Lukas Maloney	11/7
Juliana Garcia	11/8
Michael Lyons	11/9
Alexis Beebe	11/18
Kenny Miller	11/18
Gus Mellor	11/20
Danielle Scudder	11/21
Dolores Slyter	11/22
Lucas Morgan	11/23
Samantha Greenage	11/25
James Rieck	11/26
Ben Braband	11/27
Iris Rieck	11/27

Sunday School News

Christmas Program December 11th during the Worship Service at 10:30

Christmas Program practices during Sunday School:

November 6, 13, 20 and December 4, and 11th

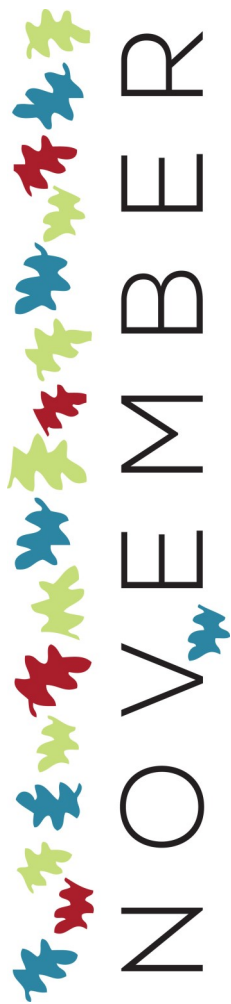
This year's program will be similar format to last year. We will need some adult readers as well as children. It is called, "This is my son". Please try to attend most or all practices so children are prepared, it makes it easier for them.

Also, We do keep track of Sunday School attendance all year. There are 38 Sundays in our school year. Sunday school pins will be given to all students according to how many Sundays they attend. 5-10 – red pin, 11-20 Blue pin, 21 -30 white pin, 31 – 38 Gold pin.

Mustard seed pin for bringing a friend + extra credit on attendance.

Is this a competition? Maybe, but it makes it a little easier to get the little souls to Sunday School, so be it. See you Sunday-----From your dedicated SS staff.





NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8:50-11:45Nursery School	2 8:50-11:45 Nursery School 6:30 pm Bell Practice 7:30 pm Choir Prac-	3 8:50-11:45 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. Women's Bi- ble Study	4	5 Men's Prayer Break- fast 8:30 a.m.
6 ALL SAINTS' DAY 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Divine Service with Holy Com- munion 7:00 p.m. AA Mtg	7 8:50-11:45 Nursery School 6:30 pm Board of Elders	8 8:50-11:45 Nursery School	9 8:50-11:45 Nursery School 6:30 pm Bell Practice 7:30 pm Choir Prac-	10 8:50-11:45 Nursery School 7:00 p.m. WINGS	11 VETERANS DAY Office Closed	12 WINGS Bazaar
13 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Pledge Cards due 7:00 p.m. AA Mtg	14 8:50-11:45 Nursery School 7:00 pm Church Council	15 8:50-11:45 Nursery School	16 8:50-11:45 Nursery School 6:30 pm Bell Practice 7:30 pm Choir Prac- tice	17 8:50-11:45 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. Women's Bi- ble Study	18	19
20 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Divine Service with Holy Com- munion 7:00 p.m. AA Mtg	21 8:50-11:45 Nursery School	22 8:50-11:45 Nursery School	23 NURSERY SCHOOL CLOSED	24 THANKSGIVING 10 am Worship Service	25 Office Closed	26
27 1st DAY ADVENT 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 7:00 p.m. AA Mtg	28 8:50-11:45 Nursery School	29 8:50-11:45 Nursery School	16 8:50-11:45 Nursery School 6:30 pm Bell Practice 7:30 pm Choir Prac-			

THOSE SERVING IMMANUEL NOVEMBER 2021

Date	Ushers	Assisting Elder	Lay Reader	Acolyte	Sound System	Camera Operator	Kids Worship	Greeter	Head Tellers
Nov. 6	John Hochmuth Todd Butler	Mark Frase	Pastor David Casey-Motley	Veronica Phillips	David Schmidt	Janice Isenberg	Rene Langwost	Kenny & Michelle	Janice Isenberg Shelly Kapitan John Crampton
Nov. 13	John Hochmuth Todd Butler		Ruth Thomas		David Schmidt	Jennifer Phillips	Rene Langwost	Kenny & Michelle	Karen Lyons Jennifer Phillips
Nov. 21	John Hochmuth Todd Butler	Mark Frase	Kathy Schmidt	Lucas Maloney	Rex Rosebrock	John Crampton	Rene Langwost	Kenny & Michelle Wheatley	Dee Lambert Glen Plutschak Linda Jefferson
Nov. 20 Thanksgiving	John Hochmuth Todd Butler				TBD	TBD		Kenny & Michelle Wheatley	TBD
Nov. 27	John Hochmuth Todd Butler		Kate Frase		Jim Harris	Ruth Thomas	Rene Langwost	Kenny & Michelle Wheatley	David & Kathy Schmidt Julie Schmidt





Piles of praise

Every autumn, the ground is overflowing with leaves.
What does Paul encourage us to overflow with?

Directions: Use the key to match the leaves and complete the Bible passage.



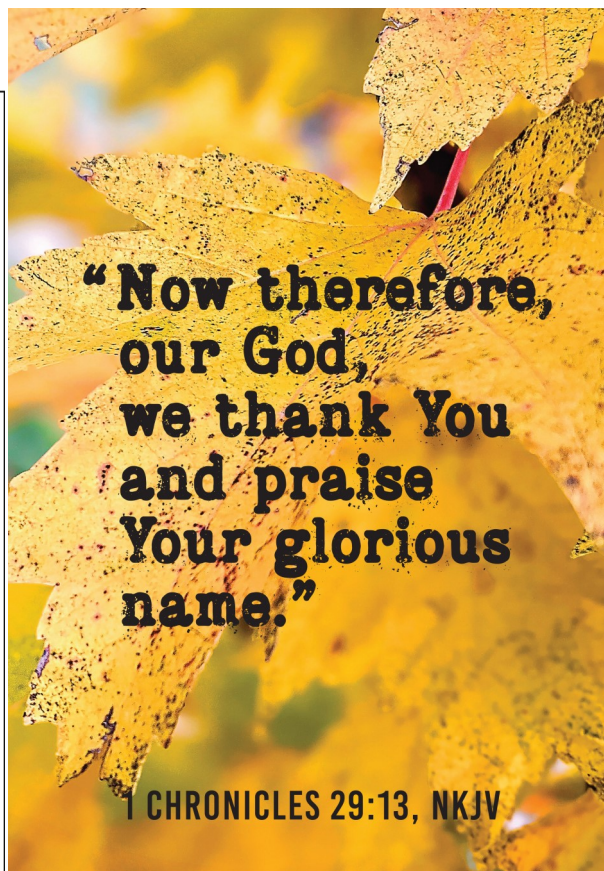
So then, just as you _____ Christ Jesus as _____,

_____ to live your lives in him, _____ and

_____ up in him, _____ in the _____ as you

were taught, and _____ with _____.

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7, NIV



**“Now therefore,
our God,
we thank You
and praise
Your glorious
name.”**

1 CHRONICLES 29:13, NKJV

Gratitude galore

If you’ve ever kept a gratitude journal, you know they’re fairly easy to fill. Edward King, an English bishop known for working with the poor, may not have had a fancy journal. But these words evoke such a list: “I will thank God ... for the glory of the thunder, for the mystery of music, the singing of birds and the laughter of children. ... for the awe of the sunset, the beauty of flowers, the smile of friendship and the look of love ... for the leaves on the trees in spring and autumn, for the witness of the leafless trees through the winter, teaching us that death is sleep and not destruction, for the sweetness of flowers and the scent of hay. Truly, oh Lord, the earth is full of thy riches!”

King concludes: “And yet how much more I will thank and praise God for the strength of my body enabling me to work, for the refreshment of sleep, for my daily bread, for the days of painless health, for the gift of my mind and the gift of my conscience, for his loving guidance of my mind ever since it first began to think, and of my heart ever since it first began to love.”

Answer: received, Lord, continue, rooted, built, strengthened, faith, overflowing, thankfulness

Immanuel's 125th Anniversary

"For Such a Time as This!"

Throughout 2022, as we have commemorated our 125th anniversary, we remember how God has been faithful to the congregation of Immanuel here in Preston. From the faithful Pastors and men and women who nurtured and formed our congregation in 1897, to those who continued and supported its mission through the years, we are thankful for their dedication and faithfulness.

As we look to the future, we know that God will be faithful to Immanuel as we continue to proclaim His Word in Preston. We pray that we will continue to be faithful stewards of the congregation here and prepared for the mission "for such a time as this."

Sunday, October 30 ~ Reformation Potluck and 125th Anniversary Hymn Sing –

On Sunday, October 30th we commemorated the rich music tradition we have at Immanuel church as well as had a celebration potluck.

This was the final event of our 125th celebration.

