



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Special 125th Anniversary Weekend



Saturday, January 17, 2026 – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 18, 2026 – 7:45 a.m.

“Making more and stronger disciples of Jesus Christ
through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Welcome to Immanuel!

Please turn off your cell phones and/or paging devices. Thank you!

If you are a guest, please fill out a guests' card located in the cardholder on the back of each pew and then place it in the offering plate. We look forward to meeting you!

Members, please help us love and care for one another by filling out an attendance card. Remember to include all the members of your family who are present in worship today. If you are communing, please check in the appropriate place. Thank you for filling out an Attendance-Communion card every time you attend Church.

We celebrate Holy Communion today! In this Supper of our Lord we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the earthly forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. This Holy Communion is also a sign of our shared confession of the Christian faith. If you have not communed with us before, please speak with one of our pastors before doing so.

During the communion service: If you're not able to drink wine, the lighter colored glasses in the center of the tray of individual cups contain water with a drop of wine. These special glasses allow communicants to celebrate the Lord's Supper according to Christ's institution, but have a very small amount of alcohol.

Worship at Immanuel is...

Christ Centered. We believe that at the heart of worship is the Good News that God has rescued us from our sins through Jesus' death on the cross and rising to life again.

Trinitarian. We believe that the object of worship is the only true God—The Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Multigenerational. We believe that it is a great blessing for family members to worship together. Taking seriously Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and so not forbid them" (Mark 10:14), we encourage children to worship with their parents and grandparents and provide resources such as children's bulletins and children's sermons.

Eclectic. Eclectic means, "selecting what seems best of various sources." We believe that we should strive to use the best hymns and practices that the church has to offer. Our worship may include hymns written 500 years ago as well as pieces written 5 months ago.

In preparation for worship we ask that you silence your cell phones and/or paging devices. Thank you. The time before service begins can be a good time to pray and prepare your heart and mind for worship. You will find helpful prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal located in the pew in front of you.

Divine Service, Setting One

(*Lutheran Service Book*, pg. 151)

Preservice Music [10:15 a.m. - Organ Selection by Ava Hemmer, “Prelude in F Major” (J.S. Bach)]

Bells

Welcome / Greeting [7:45 a.m. – Welcome New Members, Eric, Lacey, Cason & Carder Birkenmeier]

Please stand

Opening Hymn, “In Christ Alone” (Townend/Getty)

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 1 John 1:8-9

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

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. John 20:19-23

C Amen.

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Introit of the Day

Psalm 19:1-4a, b; antiphon: v. 14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable
in your sight,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

The heavens declare the glory of God,

and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours out speech,

and night to night reveals knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words,

whose voice is not heard.

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to
the end of the world.

In them he has set a tent for the sun.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

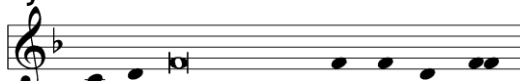
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable
in your sight,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Kyrie

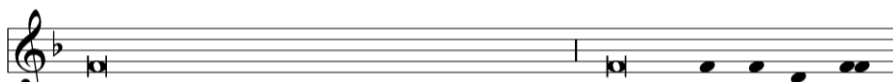
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



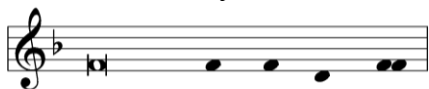
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



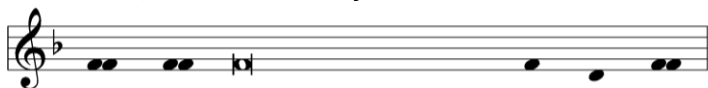
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



- 1 — Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb — who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

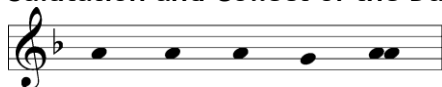


This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Please be seated

(10:15 a.m.) **Choir Anthem**, “Lord, You Call Us” (Haugen/Burkhardt)
[The congregation will sing the last verse (words on the screens) with the choir.]

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 49:1-7

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” ⁴But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God.” ⁵And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him—for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—⁶he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” ⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 3:1-11

¹But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human? ⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. ⁹For we are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building. ¹⁰According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. ¹¹For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Verse

John 6:68



P Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

John 1:29b



Holy Gospel

John 1:29-42a

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



²⁹The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³²And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.” ³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day, *LSB* 644, “The Church’s One Foundation”

Sermon, “Faith, Foundation, and Future—Keeping the Faith, Securing the Foundation, Looking Toward the Future—Doing All in the Holy Name of Christ Jesus, our Lord” based on 1 Corinthians 3:1-11

Please stand

Nicene Creed

C 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 worshipped 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.

Prayer of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P (*Special petitions...*) Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Offertory [Music: Townend/Getty. Words: Tim Scheibe & Ann Frank] (*See the screens for the words.*)

Please be seated

Offering (*During the Saturday service, please place your offering and attendance card in the plate in the narthex before or after the service.*) [10:15 a.m. - Choir Anthem, “Lord God, We Praise and Thank You for Your Love” (D. & R. Schultz)]

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

In this Supper of our Lord we receive the true body and blood of Jesus Christ under the earthly forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Since this Holy Communion is also a sign of how we commonly confess the Christian faith, we welcome to the Lord’s Table those who are confirmed members of congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Please stand

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

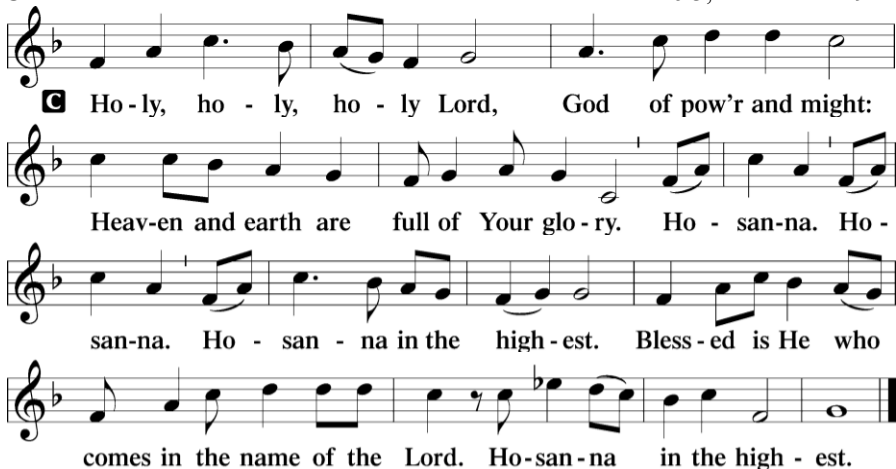
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

C 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.

Words of Our Lord (Matt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25)

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

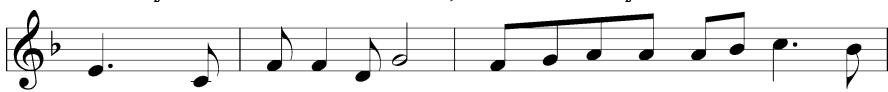
John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated

Distribution

(10:15 a.m.) Organ Selection by Ava Hemmer, "O People, Rise and Labor" (setting J.S. Bach)

LSB 547, "The Lamb"

LSB 602, “The Gifts Christ Freely Gives”

LSB 544, "O Love, How Deep"

Please stand

Dismissal

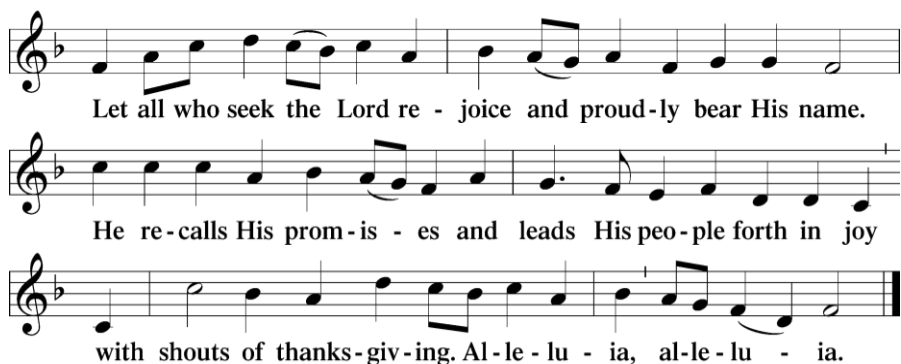
P The body and blood... Go in peace.

C Amen.

Post-Communion Cantic



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.

He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy

with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

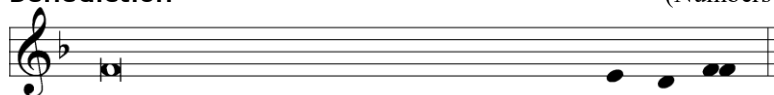
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

(Numbers 6:24-26)



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you
 and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn, LSB 795, "Voices Raised to You We Offer"

Bells / Postlude

Worship Helpers

Saturday, January 17, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Robert Preece
 Liturgist/Celebrant - Rev. Benjamin Hayter
 Acolyte - Brady Drewes
 Altar Guild - Susan Starbuck

Music Director - Ann Frank
 Server - Aaron Thompson
 Media - AJ Helms

Sunday, January 18, 2026 - 7:45 a.m.

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Robert Preece
 Liturgist/Celebrant - Rev. Benjamin Hayter
 Acolytes - Olivia Rusteberg & Amelia Deptula
 Ushers - Allen Jacobs, Don & Gina Birrittier, Mason Wilhelm
 Media - Clark Deptula

Music Director - Ann Frank
 Server/Lector - Sem. Seth Weinberg
 Altar Guild - Amy Kolweier

Sunday, January 18, 2026 - 10:15 a.m.

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Robert Preece
 Liturgist/Celebrant - Rev. Benjamin Hayter
 Lector - Adam Eggemeyer
 Acolytes - Myla Eggemeyer & Alaina Stumpf
 Ushers - Lee Eggemeyer, Adam Eggemeyer, Jakson Gregory, Henry Eggemeyer
 Trumpet - Ashlyn Whelan
 French Horn - Julie Downs
 Saxophone - Daniel Niemeyer & Elden Niemeyer

Music Director - Ann Frank
 Server - Dusty Dethrow
 Altar Guild - Jill Eggemeyer
 Media/Facebook Live - Ayda Eggemeyer
 Trombone - Mark Heise
 Flute - Karen Hodapp

Ushers - Sunday, January 25, 2026

7:45 a.m. - Roy Unterseh, Jim Stueve, Ed Arras, Maddy Prather, Nolan Prather
 10:15 a.m. - Rodney Clamors, Jenna & Nicholas Hoeffken

Acolytes - Sunday, January 25, 2026

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Kenzie Wiegand
 Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Eddie Arras & Nolan Prather
 Sunday 10:15 a.m. - TJ Joellenbeck & Reece Collmeyer

Servers - Sunday, January 25, 2026

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Ranley Killian & Greg Wiegand
 Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Don Birrittier & Warren Frank
 Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Tyson Bradley & Seth Weinberg

Media - Sunday, January 25, 2026

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Melissa Wiegand
 Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Gina Birrittier
 Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Lisa Clamors

Lectors - Sunday, Jan. 25, 2026

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - n/a
 Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Don Birrittier
 Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Seth Weinberg

Altar Guild - Sunday, Jan. 25, 2026

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Cally Killian
 Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Pam Nagel
 Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Linda Gutknecht

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL – WATERLOO, ILLINOIS LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

immanuelwaterloo.org

e-mail: immanuelwaterloo@gmail.com

Rev. Benjamin Hayter, Administrative Pastor
 Mrs. Lisa Clamors, Office Admin.
 Mrs. Ann Frank, Music Director
 Mrs. Delana Whelan, Preschool Director

618-939-6480 or 734-625-1023
 618-939-6480 or 618-719-4954
 618-939-6480 or 618-282-6597
 618-939-6480 or 618-443-8353

A bit about Pastor Preece...

The Rev. Dr. Robert C. Preece, erstwhile Senior Pastor at Zion Lutheran Church and School, Dallas, Texas (1990-2024), now serves as a full-time Altar and Pulpit Supply Pastor Emeritus in Dallas/Fort Worth, East Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

He was born on July 3, 1947, at St. David's Hospital in Austin, Texas and raised in Travis County. He married his high school sweetheart, Linda Jean née Lege Preece, in 1969. Accepting his Divine Call to Immanuel Lutheran Church of Waterloo, Illinois, Metro St. Louis, he served from 1973-1990. In 1973 he had graduated with honors from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and earned the Doctor of Ministry degree in 1981 from Drew University, Madison, New Jersey.

While at Immanuel, the Church, old School Building, and Teacherage were substantially remodeled and the Bell Tower was raised, adding two new bells. The Director of Christian Education position was established with three DCE's serving in succession and a preschool was opened. Community ministry included ecumenical labours with the Waterloo Clergy, the Waterloo Committee for Refugees, and a brief chairmanship on the Board of Directors for St. John's Hospital, Red Bud. His second Divine Call was received and accepted to Zion, Dallas in 1990.

Linda was Director of Endowment Giving for Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, serving 22 years at SMU. Having earned master's degrees, one from Washington University, St. Louis and one from SMU, she was a professional musician, contributing her talents both at Immanuel and Zion Churches, and otherwise laboured for the Lord in those parishes and environs. She served in Waterloo as Soloist, Choir Director, and worked on various projects, particularly the Pipe Organ Committee. In addition, at Zion, she also was the Director of the Women's Choir. From 1973 to 1990 she was employed at Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, in the Art and Music Departments.

Pastor Robert and Linda have two grown sons, Justin (married to Cindy) and Matthew (married to Jenny), and three grandsons; Owen, Andrew, and Luke. Justin works for Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, and Willamette University, Salem, Oregon, in music and scientific fields, along with playing percussive instruments in regional orchestras. Matthew works for the University of Texas at Austin as a Director of Business Development in the sports department and

continues to be a ball player like his Daddy, the Rabbit, #17. Yes, the 1953 Gray Ghost Mainline Ford is still running.

At this time in life's journey, Pastor Preece's Fair Bride suffers Alzheimer's and your prayers are coveted. Unto Christ we commend her in the Church Militant below until she, and we all, join the Church Triumphant above. God be with you till we meet again. Amen!



Left-to-right: Jenny & Matthew, with sons Luke and Andrew, Linda, Robert, Justin, Owen (son of Justin and Cindy), Cindy (Justin's wife)

MORE ANNIVERSARY PLANS & UPDATES:



- + **Renovations almost complete:**
 - Wooden Starburst still to come
- + **Fundraising for Anniversary projects:**
 - \$125,000 goal
 - Collected \$98,690 as of December 30, 2025
 - Continued monetary updates on Immanuel's Bell Tower poster
 - Fund raising envelopes available
- + **Anniversary Remembrances:**
 - Light pole banners are hung
 - Garden flags available
 - Small wooden crosses available
 - Coasters available later this year
 - Copies of the 100th anniversary booklets available
 - 125th anniversary booklets available later this year
- + **Anniversary Services:**
 - April 18-19: Rev. Dr. Tony Troup
 - July 18-19: Rev. Dr. Matthew Clark
 - October 17-18: Rev. Merritt Demski
 - November 29: Concluding Celebration