Welcome and Announcements

* Confession and Forgiveness

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone.

Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen

Liturgy of the Word

Gathering Hymn #772 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways (vs. 1, 2, & 3)

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!

Order my footsteps by your word, and make my heart sincere;
let sin have no dominion, Lord, but keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, a stricter watch to keep;
and should I e'er forget your way, restore your wand’ring sheep.

* Contributors: Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.Music: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870 All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734861-A.

* Greeting

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.

* Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
First Reading: Romans 13:8-14

8 Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. 11 Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; 12 the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; 13 let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. 14 Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

* Response: The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

* Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. Alleluia.

* Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

15 “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. 16 But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 17 If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. 18 Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

* Response: Gospel of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Hymn #465 As The Grains of Wheat

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread; so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.

As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst, may we share the presence of your love.

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread; so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.

Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come when all creation shares this feast with you.

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread; so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.

Contributors: Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734861-A.
Prayers of the Church

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Unite your church, O God. Grant us the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Bless the cooperative work of churches in this community. Strengthen ecumenical partnerships; guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Renew and enliven places suffering from drought, flood, storms especially the areas affected by Hurricane Laura, or pollution especially in the Chesapeake Bay. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Shape new paths toward peace and cooperation, teaching us to recognize one another as neighbors. Guide legislators, civil servants, judges, and police toward laws (and behaviors) that protect the well-being of all. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Journey with all traveling and seeking respite. Bring them home in safety refreshed for the months ahead. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Tend to all in need of your compassion. Hear the cries of those awaiting healing and justice; and those yearning for forgiveness. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit especially for whose names we speak aloud (pause for quiet prayer), in our hearts (again pause…) and those whose names fill the list of ongoing prayer concerns of this community of faith. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Sustain us in our work, O God, and give work to those who need it. Shape societies to ensure fair treatment for all who labor. Help us to love our neighbors in and through our work. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in faith. As you equipped them, equip us with your protection and power, until with them we see your salvation. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Liturgical of the Eucharist

* Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence.

In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

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
Communion Distribution

* Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

* The Blessing

Sending Hymn #836 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (vs. 1 & 3)

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
Praisinf thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the goom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine!

Contributors: Text: 87 87 D; Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. by Edward Hodges, 1796–1867. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734861-A.

* Sending

*Denotes to Stand

We Welcome All Our Visitors and Friends to Our Worship Service Today

To all of you, we extend an invitation to return often, your presence is a blessing to us; we hope that soon we will be able to worship together again. Do come and be with us. If you are interested in becoming a member, please see or call Pastor Carl. All are welcomed to the Lord’s Table for Holy Communion or to receive a blessing.

Please keep the following individuals in your prayers

Members: Helen, Mark, Calvin & Mary, Hazel, Ruth, Jen, Maidie, Vivian, Colton, Bud, Carolyn & John, Carliana, Shriver, Andy, Hannah, Denise, Glenys, Matthew, Nadine, Moore family, Neuheisel family, Gene, and all homebound members.

Family & Friends: Jerry, Bernie & Chris, Nunan Family, Mike, Darlene, Frank, Erin, Clyde, Kary, Gloria, Jim & Barbara, Kevin, Jack & Elinor, Liz, Heidi, Peggy, Laura, Bruce & Jamie, Karen, Caroline, Sonia, Addison, Larry, Chris and the Jackson family, those facing job loss, and those in broken relationships.
Church News

Indoor Worship Update: The Return to In Person Worship Committee met and in order to keep everyone safe we will continue to worship in the pavilion until at least October 11. At that time, the committee will re-evaluate the COVID guidelines and numbers from the County and State, consider the fall weather situation, and will plan accordingly to move to indoor worship. Any changes will be sent out through email and social media. Please note that we will continue to record Sunday morning worship indefinitely and post it on Youtube.

Confirmation class will be resuming and be held virtually via Zoom. Pr Carl is coordinating a time on Sunday evenings. Please let him know what a good time on Sunday evenings is for you.

Adult Bible Study will resume on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 pm under the Pavilion. (9/8, 9/22, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 11/24, 12/8, 12/22). We will discuss the Lectionary Readings that were not discussed in the sermon for the previous Sunday and possibly even the sermon itself. Social distancing and safety will be in place.

Rally Day, Sunday, September 13th, 10:30am, via Zoom. There will be stories/lessons and a review. The congregation is invited to join us!

Council Meeting, Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00pm. Please give any topics for discussion to Suzi Lyons before these dates.

Sunday School Resumes, Sunday, September 20th, 10:30am, via Zoom. With the uncertainty of the pandemic, Sunday school will meet via zoom, on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 10:30, at least through December.

MLR Walkathon & Virtual Cookie Run, Sunday, September 27th. Registration begins September 1st on the MLR website.

Weekly Offering and Attendance

- Donate online via Tithe.ly
- In person during outdoor worship
- Send offering by mail: 15773 Dover Road Upperco, MD 21155

Attendance – August 30th
- In Person – 20
- Online Video – 28

MEN’S CLOTHING DRIVE

Please join Immanuel Church in collecting men’s clothing for about 30 migrant workers at Baugher’s in Westminster that are away from home for at least 8-9 months. Consider donating to show your support for these hard workers.

Donations of new or gently used items include:

- Men’s clothing (medium, large, extra-large)
- T-shirts
- Sweatshirts
- Coats
- Pants
- Socks
- Ball Caps

*Please be sure that used items are clean, without stains and in good condition.
Contact Rachel to arrange dropoff or pickup of donations: Rachel.Murphy@hotmail.com / 410.259.8861 (call or text)
Outdoor In-Person Worship

- Services will be held in the Pavilion, Sundays at 9am.
- A check-in person will perform a brief temperature check as you arrive.
- Seating is 6 feet apart (families can sit together).
  - Use the picnic tables in the pavilion
  - Bring your own lawn chair to sit in the grassy area if you prefer
- Please wear a mask at all times.
- Hand sanitizer will be available.
- Bulletins will be emailed prior to the service for you to print, if desired.
- There will be a safe and no-contact communion and offering.
- Services may be cancelled due to inclement weather.

We will still offer the online recorded services each week for those that can’t / shouldn’t attend the in-person services. Please choose what is best for you, your health, your risk level, and your family.

Online services: http://stpaulsupperco.org

Please stay home if you are feeling ill.
Immediately contact the church if you test positive for COVID after recently attending a service, so we may implement steps for rapid contact tracing.