

- WELCOME!** ✧ Welcome! We are glad that you have come to First Immanuel this morning to celebrate Easter! We welcome people of every race, ethnic background, social status, physical limitation, sexual orientation and gender identity. We are a Reconciling In Christ congregation. Together, in our diversity, we seek to embrace the love God offers us in Jesus Christ.
- HOLY COMMUNION** ✧ You are invited to receive God's gifts of forgiveness and new life in Christ at God's table of Holy Communion. We are prepared and worthy to receive the sacrament when we come with an open heart, trusting that God's love is for us.
- NURSERY** ✧ We encourage children to participate with their families in the worship service. We have a changing table and nursing area downstairs. Please ask an usher for directions.
- FLOWERS** ✧ Altar flowers today are given to the glory of God by Jeannette O'Brien.
- COFFEE HOUR** ✧ Please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall for Coffee Hour following worship today, hosted by Chris and John Koonce.
- MASKS OPTIONAL** ✧ Our worship services and all activities are mask-optional. Those who wish to wear a mask are welcome to do so, since this is a very effective way to prevent infection. The church continues to provide masks, run air purifiers, and make hand sanitizer available, and our caring FILC physicians continue to encourage vaccination for everyone.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| INTERIM PASTORS | Christine Core & Scott Dunfee |
| ASSISTING MINISTER | James Bash |
| LECTOR | Mary Laws |
| ACOLYTE | Chia Stockwell |
| USHERS | Lauren Kim & Jeannette O'Brien |
| COMMUNION PREPARATION | Martha Driessnack |
| COMMUNION BREAD BAKING | John Koonce |
| CHOIR DIRECTOR | Ralph Nelson |
| ORGANIST | Karl Jurisons |
| CAMERA/SOUND TECH | Anke Brandstater |

First Immanuel Lutheran Church
1816 NW Irving Street
Portland, Oregon

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER HOLY COMMUNION

28 April 2024

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

“Prelude and Fugue”

J.S. Bach, comp.

WELCOME AND PARISH NOTES

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

READ

Pastor: During this season of Easter, we remember that we are joined to the death and resurrection of Christ in the waters of Baptism.

As water is poured...

People: We praise you, O God, for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in the dying and rising of Jesus. Shower us with your Spirit and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Pastor: We are Easter people, who praise God and proclaim the good news! So we shout, “Christ is risen!”

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

* Please stand as you are able.

* HYMN OF PRAISE

“Now the Feast”

SING: PAGE 4 NFC

Refrain:

**Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life
and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**

1. Now is the feast
of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God.

Refrain

2. Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever.

Refrain

3. For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new.

Refrain

© 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by
permission (OneLicense.net lic. A-714688).

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: **O God, from the tree of the cross and the empty tomb, you raised up
Jesus to be the Vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our lives
with the power of the resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love,
through Jesus Christ, the Shepherd and Lover of our Souls. Amen**

WORD

CHOIR ANTHEM

“I Am the Vine”

Ralph Nelson, comp.

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 8:26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

From *Sundays & Seasons 2024*, © 2023 Augsburg Fortress.

Lector: Word of God, word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND LESSON

1 John 4:7-21

*We love God and others because God first loved us.
We cannot say we love God, who we have not seen,
while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see.
Love toward God is to be matched by love
toward others because the essence of God is love.*

From *Sundays & Seasons 2024*, © 2023 Augsburg Fortress.

Lector: Word of God, word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

* **GOSPEL PROCESSION**

* **ALLELUIA VERSE**

SING: PAGE 7 NFC (*inside back cover, red book*)

Alleluia, alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

© 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission (OneLicense.net lic. A-714688).

* **THE GOSPEL**

John 15:1-8

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John.

People: **Glory to you, O God.**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the
relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word
and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.*

From *Sundays & Seasons 2024*, © 2023 Augsburg Fortress.

* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Pastor: This is the Good News!

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE SERMON

Pastor Scott Dunfee

* HYMN OF THE DAY

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”

ELW 377 (red book)

1. Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding
in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb,
heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle
God has in sight!

Refrain:

**Jesus is risen
and we shall arise.
Give God the glory!
Alleluia!**

3. Jesus the vine,
we are the branches;
life in the Spirit
the fruit of the tree;
heaven to earth,
Christ to the people,
gift of the future
now flowing to me.

Refrain

* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Assistant: Made alive in Christ and filled with God’s Spirit, let us pray for the church,
the world, and all of God’s creation.

After each petition...

Assistant: Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude...

Pastor: Hear our prayers, O God, and fill us with the risen life of Christ, in whose
name we pray and we say,

People: Amen

4. Weeping, be gone;
sorrow, be silent;
death put asunder,
and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing:
O grave, be open!
Clothe us in wonder,
adorn us in light.

Refrain

5. City of God,
Easter forever,
golden Jerusalem,
Jesus the Lamb,
river of life,
saints and archangels,
sing with creation
to God the I AM.

Refrain

© 1969 *Contemporary Worship I*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Used by permission (OneLicense.net lic. A-714688).

From *Sundays & Seasons 2014*, © 2013 Augsburg Fortress.

HOLY COMMUNION

* **SHARING THE PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

“Aria”

Sumor Gnist, comp.

* **SETTING THE TABLE**

SING: PAGE 9 NFC (*inside front cover, red book*)

Refrain:

**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.**

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

Refrain

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

Refrain

© 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission (OneLicense.net lic. A-714688).

Assistant: Let us pray. Risen Christ,

People: receive these gifts, with our hopes, dreams, and prayers. Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread, that our eyes may be opened to see your presence among us, and our lives filled with the unending love of your resurrection. Amen

* **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

SING: PAGE 10 NFC (*inside back cover, red book*)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**People: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

© 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission (OneLicense.net lic. A-714688).

*** THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Pastor: Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you...

Through whom all honor and glory is yours, O God, both now and forever.

People: Amen

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

READ

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

*** INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Pastor: The disciples knew the Risen One in the breaking of the bread. Come to the table, where you are known and loved.

From Sundays & Seasons 2014, © 2013 Augsburg Fortress.

All are welcome at Christ's table, where the risen Christ is present to strengthen us to share in God's loving purposes for the world. The ushers will direct you to the altar rail. The glasses in the center of the communion tray contain grape juice for those who wish it. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please ask the pastor. To receive a pastoral blessing instead of the bread and wine, simply fold your hands.

LAMB OF GOD

SING: PAGE 13 NFC (*inside back cover, red book*)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you are the way of justice and peace:
have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

© 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission (OneLicense.net lic. A-714688).

DISTRIBUTION HYMN 1 “Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am” ELW 814 (red book)

Take, oh, take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me. (*Repeat*)

© 1995 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission (OneLicense.net lic. A-714688).

DISTRIBUTION HYMN 2 “We Come to the Hungry Feast” ELW 479 (red book)

1. We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a word of peace.
To hungry hearts unsatisfied
The love of God is not denied.
We come, we come
to the hungry feast.

2. We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a world released
from hungry folk of ev’ry kind,
the poor in body, poor in mind.
We come, we come
to the hungry feast.

3. We come to the hungry feast
hungry that the hunger cease,
and knowing, though we eat our fill,
the hunger will stay with us still.
We come, we come
to the hungry feast.

© Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Used by permission (OneLicense.net lic. A-714688).

* **BLESSING**

Pastor: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and these gifts of Christ’s body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

People: Amen

* **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Assistant: Let us pray.

People: In this meal, O God, you have strengthened us by the risen life of Christ. As you send us into the world, guide us on paths of justice, teach us to live as servants to one another, and raise us up to new life and love, through Jesus Christ, the Lover of our Souls. Amen

SENDING

* **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: May God bless us and keep us. May God’s face shine on us with grace and mercy. May God look on us with favor and ✠ give us peace.

People: Amen

* CLOSING HYMN **“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”** ELW 535 (*red book*)

Refrain:

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises,
all our hearts
are filled with gladness.**

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises,
all our hearts
are filled with gladness.**

1. Christ the Lord to us said:
I am wine, I am bread,
I am wine, I am bread,
give to all who thirst and hunger.

Refrain

2. Now he sends us all out,
strong in faith, free of doubt,
strong in faith, free of doubt.
Tell to all the joyful gospel.

Refrain

© 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp. Used by permission (OneLicense.net lic. A-714688).

* SENDING

Assistant: Go in peace. Serve the Risen Christ.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

From Sundays & Seasons 2006, © 2005 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

POSTLUDE

“Dialogue”

Gilbert M. Martin, comp.

*You are welcome to remain in the sanctuary for prayer.
The front section of our worship area is dedicated as quiet prayer space
following the close of worship. God be with you.*

FIRST IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*“A Welcoming Community Centered in Christ’s Love,
Joyfully Reaching Out Together”*

1816 NW Irving Street, Portland, Oregon 97209

Phone: 503/226-3659

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 AM—5 PM

www.firstimmanuelluth.org

office@firstimmanuelluth.org

MINISTRY TEAM

Every Member of First Immanuel
Interim Pastors: Christine Core & Scott Dunfee
Congregation President: James Bash
Office Manager: Debbie Rehn

CHURCH COUNCIL

James Bash, President
Chia Stockwell, Vice President
Bobbi Varnes, Vice President
Jeannette O’Brien, Secretary
Martha Driessnack
Lauren Kim
Kevin Kindschuh
Tyrell Servo
Chris Weiss
Jim Wick
Maddie Wiens
Leslie Wong
Kent Fredrickson, Treasurer

Note: For live links, please see our weekly e-news or website

**American Red Cross Spring Blood Drive at FILC
Next Sunday, May 5, 10 AM-2 PM**

With a significant drop in donations since Covid, there is a critical shortage in the U.S., yet the urgent need continues. People with cancer or chronic diseases like Sickle Cell, as well as trauma victims, rely on a steady supply of blood to stay alive. Please consider donating life-saving blood! First Immanuel's spring blood drive will be **next Sunday, May 5, 10 AM to 2 PM**. Consider donating before or after church...it's easy to be a Life-Saving Hero! Visit our [sign-up page](#), or email Lauren Kim (laurenhhkim@gmail.com) and she will sign you up. **DONATE BLOOD, SAVE A LIFE...THANK YOU!**



"Renewing Our Hearts...for the Journey Ahead"

Congregational Retreat, Saturday, May 11, 9 AM-Noon in Fellowship Hall



Come join with the people of First Immanuel on Saturday morning, May 11, for a time of rest, renewal and consideration of the ministry and mission of First Immanuel Lutheran Church. We will gather at 9 AM with breakfast snacks, and then dive into looking at where we've been and where we might be going. With the use of music, art, intentional conversation, and quiet contemplation, we will touch on the effects of change and the grief that may result, the transition process in front of us, as well as

considering who we are being called to become in this place at this time.

Our time together will conclude at noon. If you will need childcare, please let Pastor Christine know.



Help Prepare for Pentecost

Pentecost is Sunday, May 19, when we celebrate and welcome anew the gift of the Holy Spirit. So, join in and learn how to fold an **origami dove** at Coffee Hour after worship today to help us prepare (and decorate) for Pentecost!

Pentecost Party! Sunday, May 19, 2-4 PM at PSU Smith Student Union, 1825 SW Broadway, Portland

Let's have fun bowling and playing pool at a Pentecost party on Sunday, May 19, 2–4 PM! After celebrating Pentecost and our confirmation students that morning at worship, please join us at Portland State University's Game Room for some congregational fun: bowling (bring tennis or walking shoes—you bowl in your own shoes at this bowling alley), billiards, video games, and foosball. Check out what they offer at [their website](#).

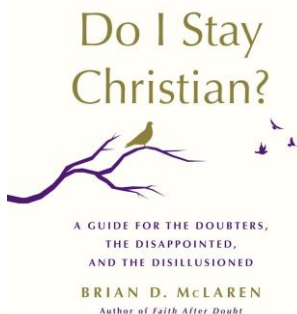


Enter through the main doors of the Smith Student Union (1825 SW Broadway, Portland) and go to the basement level to access the game room.

This party welcomes **all ages and all abilities**. This event is free to all, but donations to congregational life events are always welcome. Parking is available on the street or in the parking garages near PSU. The green streetcar line can also take you from near church to Portland State (NW 18th and Lovejoy stop to PSU Urban Center stop). We hope to see you there! Remember to bring comfortable shoes.

Adult Forum: Sundays at 9:30 AM

Our new book study—*Do I Stay Christian?: A Guide for the Doubters, the Disappointed, and the Disillusioned* by Brian D. McLaren



Do I Stay Christian? addresses in public the powerful question that surprising numbers of people—including pastors, priests, and other religious leaders—are asking in private. Picking up where his book *Faith After Doubt* leaves off, *Do I Stay Christian?* is not McLaren's attempt to persuade Christians to dig in their heels or run for the exit. Instead, he combines his own experience with that of thousands of people who have confided in him over the years to help readers make a responsible, honest, ethical decision about their religious identity.

Kids & Youth Sunday School: May 5 at 10 AM



Join us at 10 AM next Sunday, May 5, for friends, fun and learning! In May, we'll meet on the first and third Sundays (May 5 and 19). **We have two classes: a youth group and a class for the younger kids.** We can't wait to see you...and don't



miss Children's Time every Sunday during worship!

Become an Usher or Communion Preparer

The wonderful news is that our numbers seem to be growing! More members are returning from the Covid hiatus and we're welcoming more visitors, especially during the Easter season. More people means more help is needed, and YOU can help by volunteering to usher or prepare for Holy Communion. The tasks are easy and training is available. Just contact our scheduling guru Leslie Wong (503-880-3099, LeslieSWong@yahoo.com). *Thank you in advance for your service!*



Save the Dates—VBS returns to First Immanuel, Aug. 12-15!



Yes! Vacation Bible School is returning to First Immanuel this summer. Your Education Committee is busy planning and more information will be coming soon. For now, **SAVE THE DATES: August 12-15.** We'll start with a simple supper at 5:30 PM and then move on to games, music, lessons and crafts. If you have young ones in your orbit, this event is for you!

First Immanuel YouTube Recordings

Have you visited our FILC YouTube channel? Most every week our worship services are recorded and posted on YouTube for viewing at any time. It's a whole new frontier of outreach!



FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Psalms 22:25-31**SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this

way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at www.augsburgfortress.org.
Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.

Tracks 1 and 2
ELCA-R