

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

## Second Sunday in Advent

*A Service of Six Lessons and Carols*

December 8, 2024

10:00 a.m.

### **THE VISION STATEMENT FOR IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*As the body of Christ, renewed by the Holy Spirit as a living community of believers, we are committed to sharing the love of Christ and the good news of salvation.*

*We build relationships with others in the **Community Around Us**, while nurturing the **Community Among Us**, so all may know of and grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.*

### ***Building on Christ, Equipping for the Future***

The Five-fold function of the Church: **Worship, Education, Fellowship, Service, and Evangelism**

### **WELCOME VISITORS!**

The Immanuel Lutheran congregation is pleased that you have joined us today. If you have no church home, we invite you to make your home among us.

Organ Prelude – Michael Graham, guest organist

“Prelude and Harmonization on *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*”

arr. Paul Fey

Processional Hymn #376 – “Once in Royal David’s City”



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a  
2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is  
3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by  
4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His  
5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her  
God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a  
day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and  
own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and  
ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y  
sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the  
help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He  
gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He  
heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
feels for all our sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.  
leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.  
stars His chil - dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–95, alt.

Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–76

Text and tune: Public domain

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH** Matthew 11:4–5; Isaiah 35:10; Psalm 119:105

**Pastor:** Beloved in the Lord, this wreath and the candles progressively lit each week remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and lead us into the light of His glorious kingdom. In this Advent season of preparing our hearts and minds to receive the promised Savior given and born for us, we are assured that no matter what trials we may face, Jesus' works of salvation show that He is the Promised One. "Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see:

**People:** **the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.'** "

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, Savior and King, the true light who comes into this world, bless us as we light this candle in preparation for Your coming. Enter our hearts and minds with the light of Your love that we may welcome and receive You with joy as true and eternal King; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

**Pastor:** And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**People:** Your word is a lamp to my feet  
**and a light to my path.**

**Pastor:** The Bidding Prayer (traditional)

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious redemption brought us by this holy child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood within the church he came to build, and especially in this, our own community.

And because this would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are one forevermore.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

**Congregation:**

**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.**

**The First Lesson**

**Reading: Isaiah 7:14-15**

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah

<sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

**CHOIR:** "Call to Advent" – J. Jerome Williams  
*O, Come, O Come Emmanuel & Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

**Prayer:** Lord, you promised that your reign would bring the justice that would never end. May we help to bring this justice in our time. Amen.

## The Second Lesson

### Reading: Luke 1:26-33

An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David.

And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

### Congregational hymn #359: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath  
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in  
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the  
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have  
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er  
air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -  
woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the  
kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to  
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and  
know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.  
us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.  
death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text (sts. 1–2): tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt.; (sts. 1–2, 4): German, 16th cent.; (st. 3): Friedrich L. C. Layriz, 1808–59; (st. 3): tr. Harriet R. K. Spaeth, 1845–1925; (st. 4): tr. John C. Mattes, 1876–1948  
Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1599, Köln  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Prayer:** God, you are always with us. May we always trust in your presence and share it with those around us. Amen.

## The Third Lesson

### Reading: Luke 2:1-7

Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

### Congregational hymn #356: O Little Town of Bethlehem



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;  
While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.  
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!  
Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.  
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93  
Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Prayer:** Lord, you asked Joseph and Mary to trust in you. May we come to share in their trust and always rely on you. Amen.

**The Devotion:** *New Songs*

**VOLUNTARY –** “The Holy Child” – *John Ireland*

### Offering

(We join with Christians all over the world in worshipping God through the giving of our financial resources. If you are a first-time visitor, you are our guest and we do not expect you to give an offering. For members and friends, the ministry of this congregation is completely dependent upon your generous giving. Our offering is a significant act of worship.)

### Offertory

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

### Prayers

Father of all mercies, the visitation of Your Son has enlightened the darkness of our hearts and every corner of creation. Hear us as we pray in His name and according to His will.

O God, You have sent messengers to prepare the way of Your Son's coming. Grant us ears to hear and hearts to believe the words delivered by pastors and all who bear Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, You have instituted the home to be a refuge for husbands and wives and a place of growth and safety for children. Look with favor upon the homes of our land, and grant that the faith might be delivered from one generation to the next. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Righteous Lord, You rule over all things in heaven and on earth. Until that day when Your Son comes in glory to usher in His kingdom, give wisdom and insight to all leaders, that we may live peaceable lives. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, the prophet Isaiah looked for the day when blind eyes would see, deaf ears would hear, lame legs would leap and mute tongues would sing. Until the final day of restoration, draw near to all who have requested our prayers, [*especially \_\_\_\_\_,*] and give them healing according to Your gracious will. Bind up those who grieve, that they may look for the resurrection of all flesh. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With great jubilation, O Lord, we rejoice at Your Son's gracious visitation in His body and blood in the fellowship of this altar. Grant us faith to receive Him worthily as He comes in this foretaste of the Lamb's marriage feast. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, Your love invites us to rejoice in Your goodness. In every circumstance of life, teach us the joy that comes from knowing Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and eagerly expecting His gracious visitation; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **The Fourth Lesson**

### **Reading: Luke 2:8-14**

Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah

<sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"



## Congregational hymn #368: Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.

Text and tune: French

Text and tune: Public domain

**Prayer:** God of power and might, you are beyond all time and space. May we never fail to recognize your majesty and give praise to you in all we do. Amen.

## The Fifth Lesson

### Reading: Luke 2:15-18

Shepherds come to visit the baby Jesus

<sup>15</sup>When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

**CHOIR** – "God's Gift of Love" arr. Robert J. Hughes

Melody by Frédéric Chopin

**Prayer:** Lord, you came to us in humility and vulnerability. May we always show loving care to those around us, especially those in most need. Amen.

## The Sixth Lesson

**Reading: Matthew 2:1-2**

Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

**CHOIR:** Child in a Manger – *John Rutter*

**Prayer:** Lord, you are the giver of all good gifts. May we always remember to share our gifts with others for the glory of your name. Amen.

## *Announcements*

## Benediction

**Pastor:**

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.



■ A - men.

## Recessional Hymn #387 – “Joy to the World”



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

### Organ Postlude –

### “Lift Up Your Heads” – arr. Paul Fey

#### Those Serving Today:

Pastor

Rev. Charles Minetree

Lay reader

Director of Music

Muriel Hopkins

Altar Guild

Sheila Gordon

#### Birthdays This Week:

9 Kristine Wegner

10 Ava Risi

14 June Dennis

#### Anniversaries This Week:

#### This Week at Immanuel:

Sunday	December 8	9:00 am 10:00 am Post worship 4:00 pm	Sunday school, ages 3-12 Worship Adult Bible Class <b>Baltimore Choral Arts Christmas Concert</b>
Monday	December 9	7 pm	Adult Confirmation class
Wednesday	December 11	Noon	CANCELLED -Adult Bible stu study and lunch; will resume in January
Thursday	December 12	7 pm	Choir practice
Saturday	December 14	10 am	<i>Children's Choir practice</i>
Sunday	December 15	9:00 am 10:00 am Post worship	Sunday school, ages 3-12 Worship Adult Bible Class
Children's Christmas Program			

A memorial donation in honor of Ray Will was received from Carolyn and Ray Fields

### Ministry Notes

#### ***EACH ONE, REACH ONE***

*These four little words will be regular reminders of our upcoming Friendship Sundays, which will start in December and continue in the new year. Evangelism is one of the five functions of the church and so vital to our spiritual life.*

*Who will you reach out to and invite to our first Friendship Sunday on December 22?*

*To all who have already turned in their 2025 pledge cards, we thank you. We encourage those who have not yet returned their pledge cards to please send them in so that the budget for 2025 can be completed. If you have misplaced your card, there will be blanks in the Narthex.*

#### **Friendship Sunday - December 22, 2024, "Each One, Reach One"**

As Pastor has been emphasizing Evangelism is one of the 5-fold functions of the church, we are being reminded to reach out to others and invite them to worship the Lord with us. Encourage a friend, family member, neighbor, co-worker, or any acquaintance to join you here at Immanuel for our first Friendship Sunday.

***Pointsettia orders are due to Denise Waicker by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Order form in back of this bulletin.***

### **Sunday Adult Bible Class**

We meet immediately after 10 AM Divine Service in the conference room. Our topic will be examining insights given in the book: **Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes**, Cultural Studies in the Gospels by Kenneth E, Bailey. We will gain insights into some of the Bible passages that are covered in the gospels.

### **Wednesday Lunch Bible Class**

Our Wednesday Lunch Bible Class resumed its twice monthly meetings. This class meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday. We are going to study an often-overlooked epistle, Paul's Letter to the Colossians. We begin with lunch we bring from home (sometimes we also bring things to share). Around 12:30 PM we begin our study. If you would like to attend, please let Pastor Minetree know.

### **Adult Confirmation Class**

Pastor Minetree is teaching an Adult Confirmation Class every Monday at 7:00 pm. In this class we cover the basic teaching of the Christian Faith. Feel free to drop by to join us for one or more classes.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Alice, friend of Denise Waicker, who is in the hospital
- For complete recovery of Barbara Griffa, June Dennis' sister who is in rehab
- Sylvia Holland, a family relative of June Dennis, for her complete recovery from a stroke
- For peace in Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, and Russia
- Bonnie and Joe Castrilli as she cares for her husband who has dementia
- Ginger Glindemann for family members who are being treated for cancer
- Winnie Kruelle who has been diagnosed with cancer
- Naomi Kruelle for health reasons
- Rosemarie Wilson, the daughter of Filleseta James, for return of strength in her left leg
- Joseph Woah-tee missing, and whereabouts unknown

*Immanuel Lutheran Church*



2024 Poinsettia order form  
Last day to order December 15th

I do intend to order Poinsettias this holiday season

\_\_\_\_\_ quantity, white

\_\_\_\_\_ quantity, red

Cost: \$15/each; make check payable to *Immanuel Altar Guild*

Please indicate if order is “in memory of”, or “in honor of” or “in glory to”. Show selection of wording below and provide name

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the church office as soon as possible or give to Denise Waicker. You may also email your response to

[Denisewaicker@mac.com](mailto:Denisewaicker@mac.com)

Thank you

Immanuel Lutheran Church