



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

Fourth Sunday in Advent



Saturday, December 23, 2017 – 5:30 pm
Sunday, December 24, 2017 – 9:00 am

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

Welcome to Immanuel!

Guest/Member Cards can be found in the card holder of the pew in front of you. We invite you to fill out the card and place it in the offering plate when we receive the offering. When you fill out these cards each week you make it possible for our pastors to more easily follow up with and provide pastoral care for our guests and members from week to week. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Holy Communion is distributed every Saturday evening, and at either the 7:45 am or 10:15 am service on Sunday mornings. 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. Since this Holy Communion is also a sign of our common confession of the Christian faith, we welcome to the Lord's Table those who are confirmed members of our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask the pastor before or after the service.

If for health or personal reasons you cannot 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, while only consuming a very small amount of alcohol. You are also welcome to practice intinction (dipping the edge of the host [bread] into the common cup as it passes by).

Immanuel's Saturday evening service is a bit less formal than our Sunday services. Therefore, you will notice there are no ushers, the offering plate is left in the narthex (entrance) of the church rather than being passed during service, and we have only two individuals distributing Holy Communion. On Saturday night we only use the chalice (common cup) during Holy Communion. If for health or personal reasons you cannot drink wine, you're welcome to practice intinction. Intinction involves dipping the edge of the host (bread) into the wine. In this way, the communicant receives both elements. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask the pastor before or after the service.

Worship at Immanuel is...

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.

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

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.

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.

Preservice Music / Bells / Welcome

Opening Hymn, LSB 348, “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”

Please stand

Invocation

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

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

Opening Sentences (Psalm 89:1)

P I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever;

C **with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness,**

All: **to all generations.**

Confession and Absolution (Psalm 89:5)

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P “Let the heavens praise Your wonders, O LORD, Your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!”

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord

Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father
and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C

Amen.

Lighting the Advent Candle (John 8:12; John 1:5; 1 Cor. 4:5; 2 Cor. 4:6)

P

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

C

the light no darkness can overcome.

P

Let Your light scatter the darkness

C

and illumine Your Church.

“We Light the Advent Candle”

**We light the Advent candle
And wait for Christ to come.
With hope, we trust the promise
That He will bring us home.
Our hope is in our Savior
Who wins for us God’s favor.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right!**

**We light the Advent candle
And thank the Lord for rest.
With peace, we know our Jesus
Has come to be our guest.
This peace beyond all knowing
Within our hearts is glowing.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right!**

**We light the Advent candle
And sing with cheerful heart.
With joy, we spread the message
That God would us impart.
Our joy is never ending;
The Son to us is sending.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right!**

**We light the Advent candle
And share the wondrous Word.**

**With love, we tell of Jesus
Till all around have heard.
God's love is for all nations
Throughout His whole creation.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right!**

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+ Service of the Word +

Introit of the Day (Psalm 19:1, 4c, 5–6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b)

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.

In them He has set a tent for the sun,

which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,

and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,

and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

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.

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

All: O Lord, You fulfilled Your promise to Mary that she would conceive in her womb and bear the Son of the Most High, grant that we would hold fast to all Your promises in certain confidence of Your faithfulness; through Jesus Christ, our

Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading, 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

¹Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” ³And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.” ⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in?’ ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”” ⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle, Romans 16:25-27

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Holy Gospel, Luke 1:26-38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He 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, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated

Children's Message (Parents of very young children may also come forward with their children.)

Hymn of the Day, LSB 356, "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

Sermon, Luke 1:26-38, "Savior AND King"

Please stand

Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right

hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us come before our Lord in prayer, asking Him to hear our prayer and grant us love.

Lord of love, during this season of Advent, prepare our hearts that we would be made ready to receive Your Son as He comes in His incarnation and birth, but also in His body and blood. Make us ever ready for His final coming on the Last Day. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant us love.**

P Lord of love, You have called Your Church to bear witness to Christ's redeeming work. Grant that we boldly proclaim the Good News of the One who brings joy to the world through His life, death, and resurrection, that all who hear it may receive the gift of salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant us love.**

P Lord of love, You have instructed us to pray for workers in your harvest field. Raise up faithful and loving teachers of Your Word so that Christ may be proclaimed near and far. Make us Your instruments to encourage and equip individuals for work in Your Church. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant us love.**

P Lord of love, we ask that You stretch forth Your almighty arm to protect the men and women who serve in the Armed Forces of our land (*especially...*). Support them, granting them courage and loyalty. Strengthen them to serve with integrity and honor. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant us love.**

P Lord of love, You are the creator and sustainer of all things. According to Your will, grant healing to those who suffer in body and mind. Look with favor upon Your servants, (*especially...*), and if it is Your will, restore them to health, or give them grace to accept tribulation, knowing that Your grace is sufficient for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant us love.**

P Lord of love, thank You for calling us to be Your people through Holy Baptism. Make us ready to receive Your Supper as we remember the One who is truly present in this Meal as He comes to us in Holy Communion. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant us love.**

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

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy and Your promise to hear us for the sake of the One in whose name we come, Your Son, Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated

Offering *(5:30 pm – Please place your offerings in the plate in the narthex before or after the service.)*

Please stand

Offertory/Response to Prayer, *LSB 367 v. 1 & 5*, “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

1 **Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o’er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation’s story,
Now proclaim Messiah’s birth.
*Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.***

5 **All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the_ eternal Three in One.
*Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.***

+ Service of the Sacrament +

Preface

P The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22)

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts. (Colossians 3:1)

- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. (Psalm 136)
- 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in 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** **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might: heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the Highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.**

(Hosanna is a Hebrew word of praise meaning “save us now.”)

The Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

- All:** **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)

The Peace of the Lord

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always. (John 20:19)
- C** **Amen.**

Please be seated

Distribution Hymns

LSB 366, “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

LSB 379, “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

LSB 393, “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Please stand

Dismissal

P Now may this...Go in peace.

C Amen.

Benediction

P I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever;

C **with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness,**

All: to all generations. (Psalm 89:1)

P The LORD bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24-26)

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 Amen.

Closing Hymn, *LSB 380, “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

Bells / Postlude

We invite you to take the service folder and announcements home with you as you leave today so you can see what's happening this week as well as meditate on the Scriptures, prayers, and hymns from today's service as you go through the week.

*You can also find helpful information on our church website:
immanuelwaterloo.org.*

Worship Helpers

Saturday, December 23, 2017 - 5:30 pm

Preacher/Celebrant - Rev. Merritt Demski

Server - Greg Wiegand

Media - Laurie Sparwasser

Pianist - Ron Jones

Lector - Ny Bartels

Sunday, December 24, 2017 - 9:00 am

Preacher - Rev. Merritt Demski

Server - Howard Shive

Acolyte - Hunter Kettler

Ushers - Chuck Keller, Craig Mehner, Larry Taake, Dawn & Chase Rubemeyer

Celebrant - Rev. Dr. Tony Troup

Music Director - Ann Frank

Media - Adrianna Whelan (with recording)

Media - Chase Rubemeyer

Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24, 2017 - 4:00 pm

Server/Lector - Wayne Collmeyer

Acolytes - Kyra Drewes & Jenna Hoeffken

Ushers - Chuck Keller, Craig Mehner, Larry Taake, Dawn & Chase Rubemeyer

Media - Kelley Keller

Crucifer - Jordyn Koch

Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24, 2017 - 7:30 pm

Server/Lector - Warren Frank

Acolytes - Ali Kloeppel & Jay Grant

Ushers - Jason & Nick Valerius, Tim Troup

Crucifer - Blake Kloeppel

Media - Mitchell/Tim Scheibe (with recording)

Christmas Day - Monday, December 25, 2017 - 9:00 am

Server/Lector - Rodney Clamors

Acolytes - Alex Whelan & Kyle Rusteberg

Ushers - Lee Eggemeyer, Ken Schanz, Roger Schanz, Curt Wittbracht

Crucifer - Autumn Whelan

Media - Lisa Clamors (with recording)

Ushers - Sunday, December 31, 2017

7:45 am - Jim Crawford, Allen Jacobs, Don & Gina Birrittier

10:15 am - Alan Stumpf, Ross Schrader, Paul Broske Sr.

Acolytes - Sunday, December 31, 2017

Saturday 5:30 pm - Lauren Patterson

Sunday 7:45 am - Addie & Ben Janssen

Sunday 10:15 am - K. Rusteberg & T. Cooley

Servers - Sunday, December 31, 2017

Saturday 5:30 pm - Rodney Clamors

Sunday 7:45 am - n/a

Sunday 10:15 am - Warren Frank

Media - Sunday, December 31, 2017

Saturday 5:30 pm - Lisa Clamors

Sunday 7:45 am - Greg Hoeffken (with recording)

Sunday 10:15 am - Pam Nagel

Lectors - Sunday, December 31, 2017

Saturday 5:30 pm - Rodney Clamors

Sunday 7:45 am - Wayne Collmeyer

Sunday 10:15 am - Ollney Mueller, Jr.

Altar Guild - Sunday, December 31, 2017

Saturday 5:30 pm - Joyce & Diana

Sunday 7:45 am - n/a

Sunday 10:15 am - Linda Gutknecht

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL – WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

<http://immanuelwaterloo.org>

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Rev. Dr. Tony Troup, Administrative Pastor

Rev. Merritt Demski, Associate Pastor

Jackson Marchlewski, First Year Seminary Student

Mrs. Lisa Clamors, Secretary

Mrs. Ann Frank, Music Director

Mrs. Linda Polansky, Preschool Director

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