



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

Christmas Eve



Saturday, December 24, 2022
4:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.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. During the offering, place this card in the offering plate. As you leave, please introduce yourself to the pastors.

Members, please help us love and care for one another by filling out one of our attendance cards. 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—it helps us keep good records.

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. 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, 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.

PRESERVICE MUSIC [7:30 p.m. – Choir Anthem, “Let Our Gladness Have No End” (setting E.H. Meyer)]

BELLS / WELCOME

Please stand and face the processional cross

PROCESSIONAL HYMN, LSB 366, “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

INVOCATION

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

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (Psalm 124:8; 30:3-4)

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

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.

C: Amen.

(Psalm 24:1, 3-5; antiphon: Psalm 2:7)

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.”

the world and those who dwell therein,

And who shall stand in his holy place?

who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

and to the Holy Spirit;

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

(Mark 10:47)



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Text: August Rische, 1819–1906; tr. Composite. Text: Public domain

**1 God loves me dearly,
 Grants me salvation,**

**God loves me dearly,
Loves even me. *Refrain***

***Therefore I'll say again:
God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.***

**4 Jesus, my Savior,
Himself did offer;
Jesus, my Savior,
Paid all I owed. *Refrain***

**5 Now I will praise You,
O Love Eternal;
Now I will praise You
All my life long. *Refrain***

SALUTATION AND COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

All: O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

(7:30 p.m.) **CHOIR ANTHEM**, “Shepherds Awake” (M. Jothén)

OLD TESTAMENT READING, Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the

day of Midian. ⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE, Titus 2:11-14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

(John 20:31)

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

C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

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

HOLY GOSPEL, Luke 2:1-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And 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, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And 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. ⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” ¹⁵When 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.” ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY, LSB 368, “Angels We Have Heard on High”

SERMON, Luke 2:1-2, “A Baby in Some Hay”

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

(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.**

P Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom
we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated

OFFERING (7:30 p.m. – Choir Anthem, “Away in a Manger,” arr. M.
Wilberg)

OFFERTORY, *LSB* 390, “Let Us All with Gladsome Voice”

Text: German, 17th cent.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

- 1 Let us all with gladsome voice
Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice,
His own Son hath given.**
- 2 To this vale of tears He comes,
Here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heav’n’s fair homes
We may reign in gladness.**

**3 We are rich, for He was poor;
Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore
Here on earth and yonder.**

**4 Christ, our Lord and Savior dear,
Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year.
Amen, Jesus, hear us.**

✠ 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

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.**

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**All: 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.”)

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.

THE 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: Amen.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 374, “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

LSB 380, “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

LSB 370, “What Child Is This”

LSB 376, “Once in Royal David’s City”

(Please remain seated until the Benediction.)

DISMISSAL

P: Now...go in peace.

C: Amen.

CANDLE LIGHTING

The Light of Christ has come to His people.

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
Isaiah 9: 2

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has
not overcome it. *John 1:5*

P: Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them light
has shined. *Isaiah 9:2b*

C: We have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. John 1:14b

P: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given. Isaiah 9:6

C: In him was life, and that life was the light of men. John 1:4

(The Pastor will give light from his candle to the ushers. They will in turn give light to the worshiper nearest the aisle, who will pass it on to the others in that pew. Please keep the lighted candle upright to avoid dripping wax.)

(The lights are dimmed.)

HYMN, LSB 363, “Silent Night, Holy Night” (7:30 p.m. – accompanied by the Agape Ringers) [The words will be on the screens.]

(Please extinguish your candles as the lights are turned on.)

Please stand

BENEDICTION

(Numbers 6:24-26)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN, LSB 387, “Joy to the World” (7:30 p.m. – accompanied by the Agape Ringers)

BELLS / POSTLUDE

(Please be seated while the ushers dismiss by pews.)

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 24, 2022 - 4:00 p.m.

Pastor - Rev. Merritt Demski	Music Director - Ann Frank
Server - Chuck Keller	Altar Guild - Diana Heins
Acolytes - Nash Bradley, Reagan & Mason Wilhelm	
Ushers - Rodney Clamors, Jenna & Nicholas Hoeffken	
Media - Kelley Keller	Saxophone - Elden Niemeyer
French horn - Joyce Rossel	Trumpet - Jenna Hoeffken

Saturday, December 24, 2022 - 7:30 p.m.

Pastor - Rev. Merritt Demski	Music Director - Ann Frank
Server - Warren Frank	Altar Guild - Carol Kassel
Acolytes - Liam Garner, Brielle Fink, Michael Evers	Saxophone - Elden Niemeyer
Ushers - Cal Neeman, Dean Harbison, Jeriah Fink, Jacob Dethrow	
Media/Facebook Live - Melissa Wiegand	Flute - Brittany Buettner

Ushers - Sunday, January 1, 2023

7:45 a.m. - Lee Eggemeyer, Adam Eggemeyer, Trinity Drewes, Evan Williams
 10:15 a.m. - Alan Stumpf, Paul Broske Sr., Tom McDaniel

Acolytes - Sunday, January 1, 2023

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Lorelei Griffin
 Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Ayda & Myla Eggemeyer
 Sunday 10:15 a.m. - *need acolytes*

Servers - Sunday, January 1, 2023

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Chuck Keller
 Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Rodney Clamors
 Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Warren Frank

Media - Sunday, January 1, 2023

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - *need someone*
 Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Don Birrittier
 Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Clark Deptula

Lectors - Sunday, January 1, 2023

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - n/a
 Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Rodney Clamors
 Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Warren Frank

Altar Guild - Sunday, January 1, 2023

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Susan Starbuck
 Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Barbara Altes
 Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Susan Hargrave

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

immanuelwaterloo.org

e-mail: immanuelwaterloo@gmail.com

Rev. Merritt Demski, Pastor	939-6480 or 847-254-9666
Mr. Hayden Brown, Fourth Year Field Worker	
Mrs. Lisa Clamors, Secretary	939-6480 or 618-719-4954
Mrs. Ann Frank, Music Director	939-6480 or 618-282-6597
Mrs. Linda Polansky, Preschool Director	939-6480 or 618-980-3475