



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WATERLOO, ILLINOIS



Sunday, December 17, 2023 – 10:15 a.m.

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

Preservice Music

“The Little Drummer Boy” (N. Faber) by Ayda Eggemeyer

“We Three Kings” (J.H. Hopkins) by Olivia Simms

“Away in a Manger/It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” (Willis/Schaum)
by Ashlyn Whelan & Ayda Eggemeyer

“Silent Night, Holy Night” (traditional) by Tripp Gardner

Bells / Welcome

Opening Hymn, *LSB* 379, “Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”

[Accompanied by all the children singing and the Preschool – 2nd grade children playing the Kristal Bells.]

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Like Adam and Eve, we too are sinners and need hope of salvation.

C: **Reveal to us the Savior.**

P: Like David and the prophets of old, we need your promise of love.

C: **Reveal to us the Savior.**

P: Like Mary, Joseph and the shepherds, give us peace and joy.

C: **Reveal to us the Savior.**

P: Like all the saints that have gone before us, grant us the gift of life.

C: **Reveal to us the Savior.**

P: O God of Love, you have given us the most precious gift of your Son. On this special day, we again remember the birth of Jesus and the message of love and hope given to us all. As we ponder the mysteries of your plan of salvation, reveal to us the Savior. Bless our worship in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Introduction

Theme Hymn (3rd – 8th grade children)

This little child is God's own Son, a Savior born for everyone.

Introduction of “O Christmas Tree” (Narrators)

Part 1: Tree of Wisdom

Theme Hymn (3rd – 8th grade children)

The tree of wisdom ruined man but God unveiled his saving plan.

The Beginning of the Story (6th – 8th grade children)

Congregational Hymn, LSB 349 v. 1-2, “Hark, the Glad Sound”

Part 2: Tree of Hope

Theme Hymn (3rd – 8th grade children)

God gave us hope when all was lost, He sent his Son—the final cost.

Faithful Men and Women (3rd – 8th grade children)

Congregational Hymn, LSB 361 v. 1 & 3, “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Part 3: Tree of Promise

Theme Hymn (3rd – 8th grade children)

The tree of promise bears good fruit. Passed on by God, through Jesse's root.

Promises by God (5th – 8th grade children)

Hymn, LSB 381 v. 1, 3-4, “Let Our Gladness Have No End” (3rd – 8th grade children sing v. 1 & 3; Congregation sings v. 4)

Part 4: Tree of Love

Theme Hymn (3rd – 8th grade children)

This baby Jesus from above was sent by God—a gift of love.

Jesus’ Birth (5th – 6th grade children)

Children’s Hymn, “Away in a Manger” (Preschool – 2nd grade children)

Part 5: Tree of Peace

Theme Hymn (3rd – 8th grade children)

The angels sang of Jesus' birth. “Glory to God, and peace on earth.”

Arrival of the Angels (3rd – 8th grade children)

Congregational Hymn, LSB 366 v. 1 & 4, “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Part 6: Tree of Joy

Theme Hymn (*3rd – 8th grade children*)

With joy and praise the shepherds sang. Throughout the world, the good news rang.

Shepherds’ Proclamation (*3rd – 8th grade children*)

Congregational Hymn, LSB 367 v. 1-2, 5, “Angels, From the Realms of Glory”

Part 7: Tree of Life

Theme Hymn (*Preschool – 2nd grade children*)

You died upon that awful tree that we’d have life and be set free.

Why Did Jesus Come to Earth? (*Preschool – 3rd grade children*)

Congregational Hymn, LSB 370, “What Child Is This”

Christmas Message

Offering [“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” (arr. J. Marks) by Ashlyn Whelan]

Prayers

P: Dear Lord, we thank you for revealing yourself to us as a little baby. Fill us with the same hope, love, peace and joy that you have given to your people since the beginning of time. Give us the faith to see you as the Savior of the world and the desire to share that message with everyone. In Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Conclusion

P: Reveal to us a Savior.

C: God is our Tree of Wisdom.

P: To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding are his. (Job 12:13)

C: God is our Tree of Hope.

P: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

C: God is our Tree of Promise.

P: And this is what he promised us-even eternal life. (1 John 2:25)

C: God is our Tree of Love.

P: A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. (John 13:34)

C: God is our Tree of Peace.

P: Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:1)

C: God is our Tree of Joy.

P: The ransomed of the Lord will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. (Isaiah 35:10)

C: God is our Tree of Life.

All: For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

Benediction

P: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Cor. 13:14) Be faithful, even unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. (Rev. 2:10)

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn, LSB 525, “Crown Him with Many Crowns”
[Accompanied by Ashlyn Whelan, trumpet]

Bells/Postlude

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Worship Helpers:

Pastor – Rev. Merritt Demski

Music Director – Ann Frank

Ushers – Lee Eggemeyer, Adam Eggemeyer, Chase Richey, Jakson Gregory

Media/Facebook Live – Lisa Clamors

Trumpeter – Ashlyn Whelan

Sunday School Music Leaders – Autumn Whelan

Sunday School Teachers – Deborah Joellenbeck, April Kirkley, Mildred Menke, Tracy Simms, Alan Stumpf, Devin Voges, Greg Wiegand, and Melissa Wiegand

***Please join us for a Birthday Party for Jesus in
the multipurpose room immediately following
this service. All are welcome!***

***Thank you to Gayle Mesnarich for
constructing the Christmas tree
and ornaments used for this
service.***

Join us! All are welcome!

AN ADVENT SERVICE OF
Lessons & Carols

Wed., Dec. 20

Dinner 5-6:30 p.m.
Service 6:30 p.m.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

Sat., Dec. 23 at 5:30 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 24 at 9:00 a.m.



**Christmas Eve &
Christmas Services**

SUNDAY, DEC. 24
4:00 P.M. & 7:30 P.M.
MONDAY, DEC. 25
9:00 A.M.



Christmas Cards of Love

The Board of Social Ministry invites the congregation to join them in brightening the Christmas season for our shut-in and homebound members. They will be delivering goody bags to each shut-in and homebound member on Sunday, December 3rd. In addition to this gift, we are asking the members of Immanuel to remember them as well.

Please consider sending a Christmas card during this Christmas season. Your help will brighten their Christmas and extend the love of Immanuel to them.

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP
Altes, Gary	419 Sycamore Dr	Waterloo, IL 62298
Binder, Nina	406 Avington Dr	Waterloo, IL 62298
Chitty, Donna	5326 Konarcik Road	Waterloo, IL 62298
Clamors, Helen	6703 Susewind Lane	Waterloo, IL 62298
Dietzel, Marie	832 Cheshire Dr	Waterloo, IL 62298
Henry, Marvin & Carolyn	411 Janice Drive	Waterloo, IL 62298
Hitzemann, Judy	611 Morrison Ave.	Waterloo, IL 62298
Jarvis, Beverly	Magnolia Terrace, 623 Hamacher St.	Waterloo, IL 62298
Jones, Pat	246A Hamacher St.	Waterloo, IL 62298
Knoke, Gloria	1038 Gall Road	Waterloo, IL 62298
Lloyd, Charlie & Phyllis	2658 State Route 156	Waterloo, IL 62298
Menke, Millie	1052 Country Club Lane	Waterloo, IL 62298
Mesnarich, Iva	Cedar Trails, 490 Urbanna Dr	Freeburg, IL 62243
Moore, Sandy	1602 Berkley Lane	Belleville, IL 62226
Netzeband, Jack & Kathy	624 Hartman Lane	Waterloo, IL 62298
Orsech, Edith	623 Hamacher St.	Waterloo, IL 62298
Rabbermann, Lois	1020 Turtle Dove Trail	Waterloo, IL 62298
Bush, Rosemary	526 Legacy Dr.	Waterloo, IL 62298
Ruff, Gladys	735 Columbia Ave, Apt 32	Waterloo, IL 62298
Prigge, Arnold	835 Circle Drive	Red Bud, IL 62278
Prigge, Jackie	623 Hamacher St.	Waterloo, IL 62298