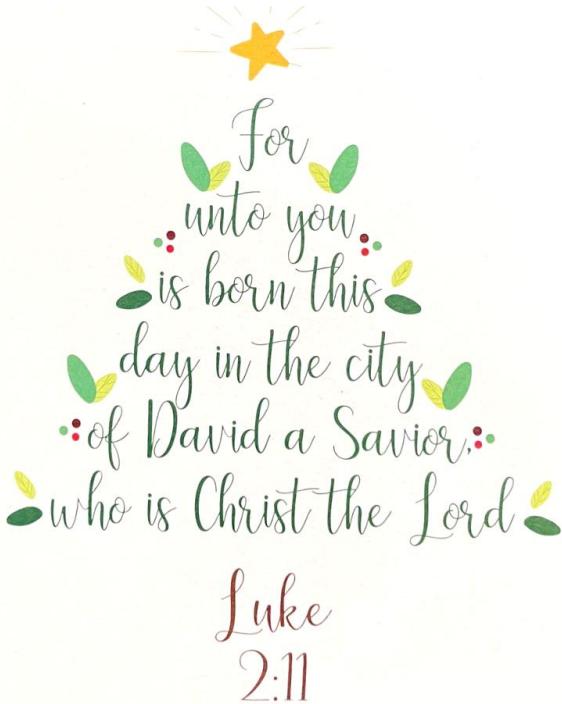




IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

The Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Day



Wednesday, December 25, 2024 – 9:00 a.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.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE

(Lutheran Service Book, pg. 151)

PRESERVICE MUSIC [Piano Selections, “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,” arr. M. Bober (Ava Hemmer); “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” and “Carol of the Bells” arr. Faber & Faber (Ashlyn Whelan)]

BELLS

WELCOME / GREETING

Please stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN, LSB 367, “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.** (Matthew 28:19b; [18:20])

CONFESSİON AND ABSOLUTİON (1 John 1:8-9)

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as**

ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. (John 20:19-23)

C: **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT OF THE DAY

(Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6)

For 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.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

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.

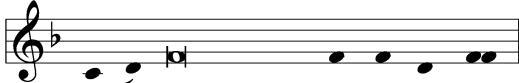
For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,

Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

KYRIE

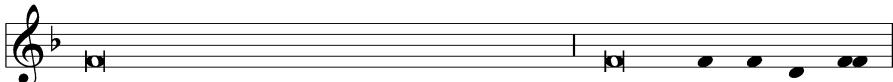
(Mark 10:47)



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



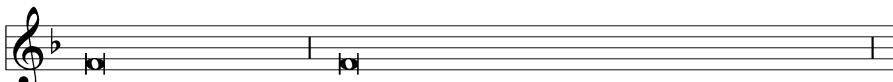
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



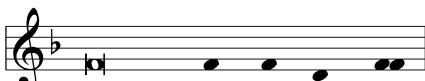
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



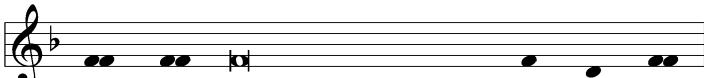
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE, LSB 391, "Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn" [Text: Birgitte Katerine Boye, 1742–1824; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937. Text: Public domain.]

**1 Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn,
A Savior unto us is born,
The Christ, the Lord of glory!
His lowly birth in Bethlehem
The angels from on high proclaim
And sing redemption's story!
My soul, extol
God's great favor;
Bless Him ever
For salvation;
Give Him praise and adoration!**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

(2 Tim. 4:22)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

C: **Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT READING, Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸The voice of your

watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE, Hebrews 1:1-12

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.” ⁷Of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire.” ⁸But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.” ¹⁰And, “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; ¹¹they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, ¹²like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

(John 6:68)



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL, John 1:1-14

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY, LSB 384, "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

SERMON "The Father's Love Begotten.....Full of Grace and Truth" --- based John 1:14

Please stand

NICENE CREED

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our

salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. 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 [Organ Selection (Ava Hemmer), “Away in a Manger” (Traditional Carol)]

Please stand

OFFERTORY

(Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19)

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to

me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
 call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
 vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

+ 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.

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; 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:

SANCTUS

(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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)

PAX DOMINI

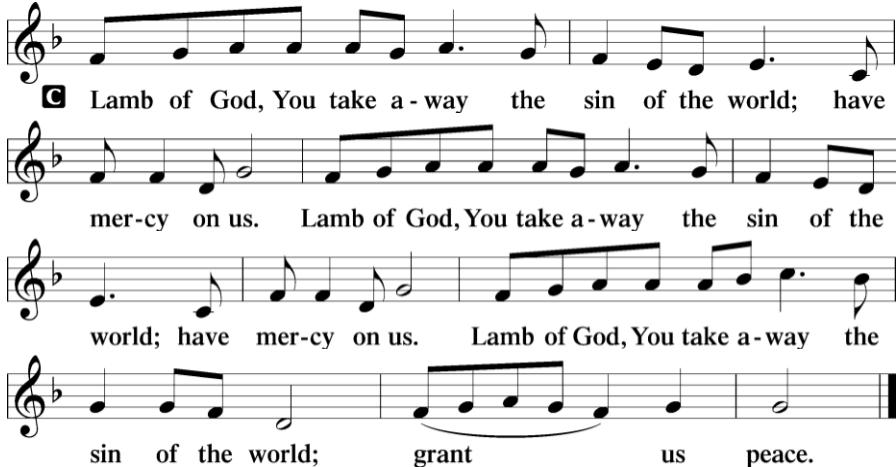
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. (John 20:19)



Music notation for the Pax Domini response. It consists of a single measure in common time with a treble clef. The melody starts with a quarter note, followed by a eighth note, a quarter note, and a eighth note. A vertical bar line follows, and then the text "C A - men." is written below the staff.

AGNUS DEI

(John 1:29)



Music notation for the Agnus Dei response. It consists of four measures in common time with a treble clef. The melody is a simple, repetitive pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace." are written below the staff, corresponding to the musical pattern.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 376, "Once in Royal David's City"

LSB 380, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

LSB 393, "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

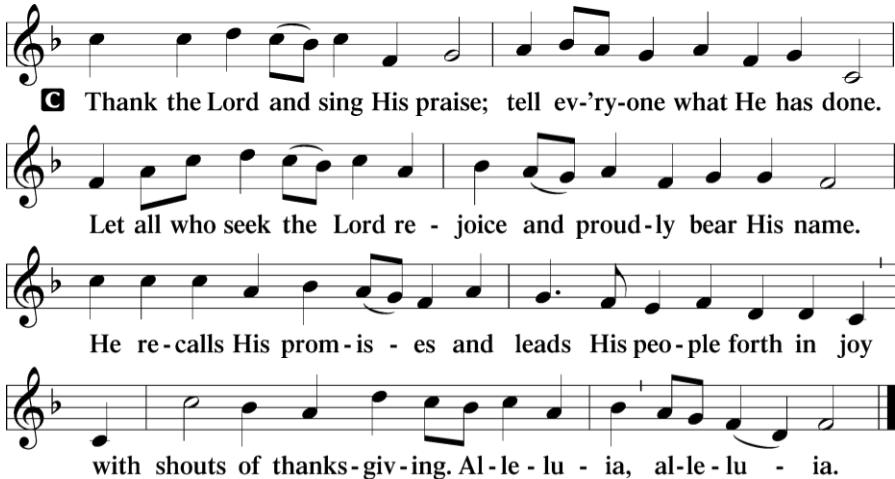
Please stand

DISMISSAL

P: The body and blood...Go in peace.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.
He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

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 lift up His countenance on you and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN, *LSB 387, “Joy to the World”*

BELLS

POSTLUDE [Melody, “O Little Town of Bethlehem” and “Good Christian Men Rejoice” arr. Zimmermann]

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

Wednesday, December 25, 2024 - 10:15 a.m.

Pastor - Rev. Brian Downs

Music Director - Ann Frank

Servers - Jason Valerius & Rodney Clamors

Lector - Rodney Clamors

Acolytes/Torchbearers - Myla & Henry Eggemeyer

Crucifer - Nash Bradley

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

Altar Guild - Joyce McDaniel

Media/Facebook Live - Ayda Eggemeyer

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL – WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

immanuelwaterloo.org

e-mail: immanuelwaterloo@gmail.com

Rev. Brian Downs, Vacancy Pastor

618-939-6480 or 618-920-6657

Mrs. Lisa Clamors, Office Admin.

618-939-6480 or 618-719-4954

Mrs. Ann Frank, Music Director

618-939-6480 or 618-282-6597

Mrs. Linda Polansky, Preschool Director

618-939-6480 or 618-980-3475

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

DEC. 23: 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

DEC. 24-26: CLOSED

DEC. 27: 8 A.M. - 12 P.M.

DEC. 30: 8 A.M. - 12 P.M.

DEC. 31-JAN. 1: CLOSED

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
& HAPPY
NEW YEAR!

YOUTH GROUP

NERF WAR & BALLOON BATTLE

Sunday, December 29, 2024

6-8 p.m.

INVITE A
FRIEND!



THE BOARD OF EVANGELISM
INVITES YOU TO OUR

Christmas **BRUNCH**

FOLLOWING THE 9:00 A.M. SERVICE



SUNDAY 29 DECEMBER

BRUNCH MENU:
CASEY'S BREAKFAST PIZZA
DONUTS - FRUIT
COOKIES - COFFEE
ORANGE JUICE