

Be Born in Us:

Bringing Renewal



Dec 7th, 2022

Immanuel Lutheran Church

They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31

Prelude
Ringing of Bells
Welcome

Hymn of Invocation #LSB 790 *v.1-4* *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*
Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P We celebrate this evening the renewal of our lives through faith in Christ Jesus. The apostle Paul writes, “We were buried therefore with [Christ] by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4).

C **Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. You were born among us so that you might bring us newness of life.**

P “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:2).

C **Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Renew our hearts and minds in the power of the Holy Spirit so that we might serve you by serving others.**

P Let us confess our sins to God, our Father, and ask His forgiveness.

C **Almighty God, we confess to you that we do not always live in the newness of life that is ours in Jesus. We fall back into our selfish ways. We do not love others as we should. Instead of following your will, we seek to conform our lives to the world’s temptations. Have mercy on us and forgive us. Renew and restore us.**

P The Lord God has had mercy upon you. And for you He has sent His Son to die for you to pay the penalty of sin. Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office announce the grace of God unto all of you. And in the stead and by the command of our 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. Blesséd are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered (Romans 4:7)**

Sit

Hymn: O Little Town of Bethlehem *v. 4* (LSB 361)

Once He came in blessing,
All our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly,

Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us;
Hope and freedom gave us.

Collect of the Day

Hymn: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus *v.1*

(LSB 338)

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,	Israel's strength and consolation,
Born to set Thy people free;	Hope of all the earth Thou art,
From our fears and sins release us;	Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Let us find our rest in Thee.	Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:21–31

- ²¹Do you not know? Do you not hear?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
- ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;
- ²³who brings princes to nothing,
and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.
- ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows on them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- ²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.
- ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:
who created these?
He who brings out their host by number,
calling them all by name,
by the greatness of his might,
and because he is strong in power
not one is missing.
- ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
- ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
- ²⁹He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.
- ³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
- ³¹but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

Epistle

Ephesians 1:7–10

⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Stand

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18–25

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

L This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Sit

Hymn of the Day #LSB 344 v.1,3-5 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist Cry*
Sermon

Hymn of the Day #LSB 699 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

Stand

Prayers of The Church

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Departing Hymn #LSB 704

Renew Me, O Eternal Light