

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*"God With Us"*



*Third Sunday in Advent*

December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

*To God be glory for 143 years of His grace at Immanuel and  
71 years of proclaiming Jesus on our radio broadcast!*

Prelude  
Ringing of Bells  
Welcome

# Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation #LSB 849 *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*  
Stand

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon 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.

## Service of the Word

Introit

*Psalm 71:14–18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4*

Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again I will say, Rejoice.

**I will hope continually  
and will praise you yet more and more.**

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,

for their number is past my knowledge.

**I will come with the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD;**

**I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.**

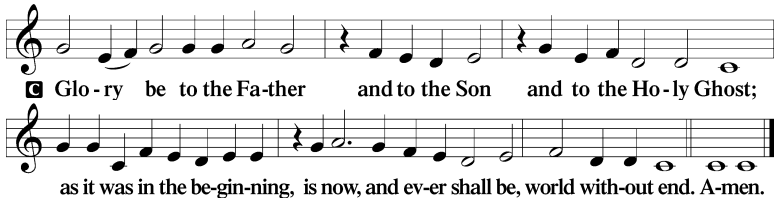
O God, from my youth you have taught me,

and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

**So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,  
until I proclaim your might to another generation, your  
power to all those to come.**

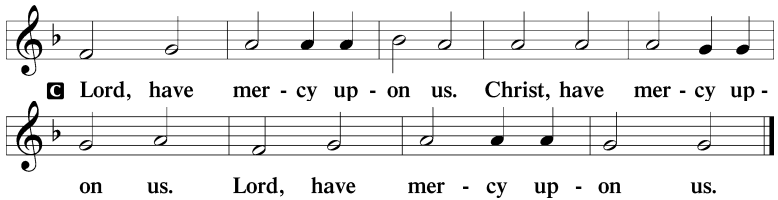
Rejoice in the Lord always;

again I will say, Rejoice.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;  
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

## Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 35:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

<sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
the majesty of our God.  
<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
<sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart,  
“Be strong; fear not!  
Behold, your God  
will come with vengeance,  
with the recompense of God.  
He will come and save you.”  
<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
<sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.  
For waters break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
<sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.  
<sup>8</sup>And a highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;  
the unclean shall not pass over it.  
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;  
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.  
<sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.  
<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain gladness and joy,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*James 5:7–11*

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As

an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 11:2-15*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

**C** Glory be to you, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.”

<sup>11</sup>Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

# Apostles' Creed

**C** 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.

*Sit*

## Hymn #LSB 973

## *Thy Word Is a Lamp*

*Refrain*

Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet And a light un-to my path.

1 When I feel a - fraid, think I've lost my way,  
2 I will not for - get Your love for me, and yet My

Still You're there right be - side me. And  
heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.

noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near.  
Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to Your side; *And Refrain*

Please be near me to the end.  
I will love You to the end.

Text: Amy Grant, 1960    Tune: Michael W. Smith, 1957    Text and tune: © 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003544

## Children's Message

Hymn of the Day #LSB 357 *sts. 1-3, 7*    *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

## Sermon

*Title: Is this the One?*

*Scripture: Matthew 11:2–15*

## Reflection Hymn #LSB 834

*O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth*

## Offering

*Stand*

## Offertory

**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## Prayers of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

### Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn to Depart #LSB 398

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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# The Lord's Week

<b>Sun.</b>	8:00am	Property Board
	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Divine Service on KMMO AM 1300</b>
	10:15am	BC/ SS Christmas Program Practice
	7:15pm	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation
<b>Mon.</b>	8:30am	Royal Oak Bible Study
	1:00pm	Finance Board
<b>Tues.</b>	4:30pm	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation
<b>Wed.</b>	10:00am	Women's Bible Study
	5:30pm	Advent Meal: Care Team (Potato Bar)
	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Advent Service: Be Born in Us: "Bringing Guidance"</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	1:00-2:30pm	Orphan Grain Train
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion Service on KMMO AM 1300</b>
	10:15am	BC/ SS Christmas Program Practice

A special basket is in the Narthex this morning for donations to Pastor Mueller's family. This is to help with the ongoing expenses of Hannah's illness. Our Board of Missions is donating \$500 from Thrivent Choice Dollars and the Ladies of the Congregation are also donating \$500.00. This is an opportunity for you to join in the giving.



*A special thank you to everyone* who helped with the Cookie Festival! We are so appreciative to all who baked, set-up, served and cleaned-up. We are also grateful to the cookie shoppers. Once again thank you for a great fund-raiser.

Ladies of the Congregation



**Children's Christmas Eve Program Practice** will be during Sunday School hour **today**. *It will also be on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>*. Program is Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

## Christmas Choir Singers

**We are seeking people who would be interested in singing as a choir** in the Christmas Eve program this year. If you are willing, please let Carolyn Colson know either in person or by calling 660-641-4728.

*Come and Help us Sing!*

**Practice will be following Advent Services** on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, and Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Those Serving

Musicians: Organ...Ron Baker; Trumpets.....Caroline Carter & Carrie Scott  
 Acolyte.....Braelyn Johnson  
 Radio and Sound.....Steve Vickrey, Ron Meyer, Pete Melies  
 Video.....Andrea Renken, Dana Melies, Debbie Vickrey & others  
 Ushers:.....Ken Hughson, Jerry Reid, Bill Renken, Matthew Vogelsmeier  
 Church Secretary.....Judy Teufel  
 Church Custodian.....  
 Pastor.....Pastor Alan Mueller







**The Board of Properties** is looking for someone to fill the **vacancy of a custodian/lawn keeper**. If you are interested in this position please contact Dave Gieselman at 660-815-7470.



Hello All! It's that time of year again that I'm most excited for...that's right, getting to make the little boys and girls happy with Christmas Gifts...There are numerous children in our community, who without the help of the **Angel Tree**, wouldn't get anything or much for Christmas. It is expected that there will be 70-125 kids on the tree. I am asking for monetary donations that go toward buying for the angels that are not adopted off the tree, to even out gifts for each family, and gift cards for the older kids. **To make a monetary donation:**

1. Mail payable to Lisa Hall/Angel Tree at 103 E. Marshall Street, Sweet Springs, MO 65351.
  2. Take the donation to Equity Bank downtown Sweet Springs and ask them to deposit in the Lisa Hall/Angel Tree account. (*Deadline to donate is Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>*)
- If you have any questions please call Lisa Hall at 660-281-6787.

*Thank you so much, Lisa Hall, Angel Tree Coordinator*

A D V E N T



☺ come • ☺ come • Emmanuel

## Advent Schedule of Services & Meals

Meals at 5:30

Wednesday Services at 6:30

**December 14**

Meal: Care Team  
(Potato Bar)

Service: Be Born in Us:  
"Bringing Guidance"

**December 21**

Meal: Bell Choir  
(Breakfast Fare)

Service: Be Born in Us:  
"Bringing Power"

**December 24**

Christmas Eve Services

4:00pm

"Bringing Light"

**December 24**

Christmas Eve Services

6:00pm

"God Loves Me Dearly"  
Children's Program

**December 25**

Christmas Day Service

9:00am

"Bringing Salvation"



**Poinsettia Order Form in the Narthex.** Place \$8/poinsettia ordered in offering plate.



Help Wanted!

**Trinity Early Childhood Center in Alma, MO** is currently accepting applications for the following positions;

**Receptionist/Administrative Assistant** \* **Daycare Teacher (6 wks-2 yr old room)**  
Hours are flexible, 10-15 hours per week \* Hours are flexible, open 6:30am-5:30pm  
Monday-Friday

**Daycare Teacher (2 year old room)** \* **After Care Aide:**  
Hours are flexible, \* Hours are 3:00-5:30pm Mon.-Fri.  
open 6:30am-5:30pm Mon.-Fri.

**All positions- Must be 18 years old and pass a background check.**

Applications can be picked up at the office of Trinity Lutheran School. Call our director, Ashley Hemme, at 660-287-3230 if you have any questions.



**The Singing Saints Concert Choir and the Saint Paul Orchestra** of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO will be performing their annual Christmas Concert on **Sunday, December 11th** at 3:00pm at St.

Paul's Lutheran Church in Concordia. Admission is free but a free-will offering will be taken to support the choir. Come hear many traditional favorites by the Singing and several familiar melodies played by the Chamber Orchestra. If you cannot attend, the event will be live-streamed through the church at [stpaulsconcordia.org](http://stpaulsconcordia.org).

**thanks**

Immanuel Lutheran,

Thank you for your generous donation to the Hospital Ministry. We appreciate your desire to help in the work of this organization. We look forward to the time when things will be back to normal. Thanks. Pat Hansen, Treasurer, *Mid-Missouri Lutheran Hospital Ministry, Inc.*

*Thank You*

Dear Friends,

**Thank you for your organization's recent gift of \$500.00 to Lutheran World Relief!** When you love your neighbors with your generous gifts to LWR, **you change lives in amazing ways.**

For Walaa Ali al Ali, a Syrian refugee living in Lebanon, your love arrived in the form of a beehive. As the primary breadwinner for her family she struggled to find work amid Lebanon's economic crisis. Her family was safe from the war in Syria, but they didn't have access to adequate food or basic medical care. Through LWR, Walaa enrolled in a livelihoods program for refugees and received all the training and supplies she needed to start a business as a beekeeper. With the money she earned, she also planted a vegetable garden to help feed her family. Now she's earning enough to keep her family afloat and she's even training other women how to produce and sell honey.

Thank you for saving and transforming lives by loving your neighbors.

**Thank you again, and God bless you!** Daniel Speckhard, President and CEO

# PRAYER

**Members of Immanuel:** Cari Higgins.

**Family and Friends of Immanuel:** Cindy Bernard, Brad Bredehoeft, Larry and Eileen Winfrey.

**Shut-ins and Nursing Home Residents:** Dolores Fischer, Lester & Louise Harms, & Martha Jane Vogelsmeier (LGSNH) Dorothy Krause (The Villa); Thelma Nienhueser (The Essex of Concordia)

**Mission Workers:** Josh, Coco, John, and Sophia Lange (China): Rev. Peter & Kristie Kolb (Thailand), Jim & Claudia Dahlke (Mission of Christ Network), those serving POBLO

**Military:** Owen Dobbins, and MaKenna Eckhoff

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Whether you are a lifelong member or visiting for the first time we are honored to have you here this morning. Please feel free to contact the office regarding questions of membership or of a spiritual or personal matter. *You may contact the office at: 660-335-4141.*

If you get a chance check us out online at:

[www.immanuelsweetsprings.com](http://www.immanuelsweetsprings.com)

Church office: 110 Main, Sweet Springs, MO 65351

*May the Peace of Christ dwell in you!*

PROUD  
MEMBERS  
OF



® THE  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
Missouri Synod



## Poinsettias

*Christmas will soon be here. It is time for you to order flowers.*

If you would like to order one or more poinsettias, please fill in the order form located in the Narthex. Place your check or cash with the order form into an envelope and place it in the offering plate. ***The price is \$8.00 per poinsettia.***

**Orders will be taken until December 20th.** So please don't delay if you are wanting a poinsettia.

Purchased by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the message you would like for the bulletin:**

- To the glory of God for blessings received
- In loving memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- To the glory of God in celebration of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

You may pick up your plant following the Worship Service on Christmas Day December 25th. After the Worship Service on January 1, all poinsettias not picked up will be dispersed.