

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"God With Us"



Third Sunday in Advent

December 17th, 2023

*To God be glory for 145 years of His grace at Immanuel and
73 years of proclaiming Jesus on our radio broadcast!*

Prelude
Ringing of Bells
Welcome

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation #LSB 386

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

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.

G 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.

G Amen.

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 126

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

²**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**

then they said among the nations,

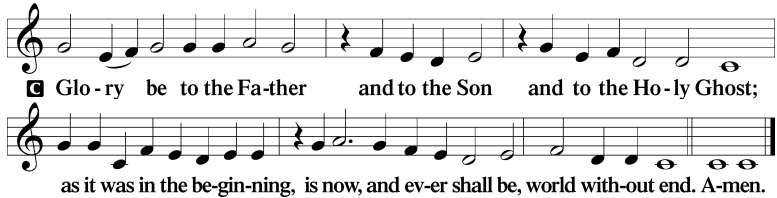
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

³The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.

**⁴Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!**

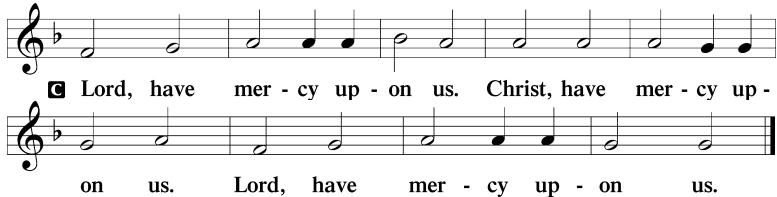
**⁵Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!**

**⁶He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.**



G 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



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

Collect of the Day

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 61:1–4, 8–11

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,

the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations. . . .

⁸For I the LORD love justice;
I hate robbery and wrong;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations,
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge them,
that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful
headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 1:6–8, 19–28

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

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. . . .

¹⁹This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²²So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

☐ 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day #LSB 556 *vv.1-4*

Dear Christians, One and All

Sermon

Title: I Will Rejoice

Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

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

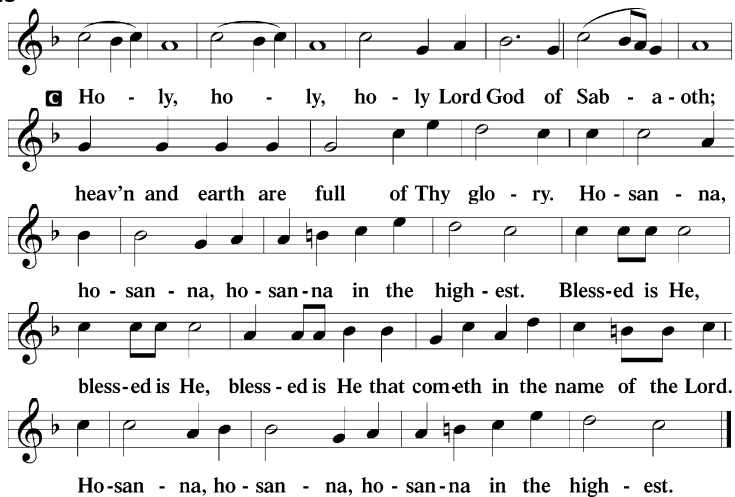
Lord's Prayer

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
C **It is meet and right so to do.**
P It is truly meet, 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him as the promised Messiah, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. 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



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn #LSB 528

Distribution Hymn #LSB 936

Distribution Hymn #LSB 344

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Sing Praise to the God of Israel

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

- A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endures forever.
- A** 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.
 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 A - men, a - men, a - men.

Hymn to Depart #LSB 387

Joy to the World

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
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The Lord's Week

Sun.	9:00am 10:15am	Holy Communion Service on KMMO AM 1300 <i>Children's Program Practice/SS</i>
Mon.	8:30am	Royal Oak Bible Study CUT OFF DAY FOR POINSETTIA ORDERS
Wed.	5:30pm 6:30pm	5:30 Advent Meal by Missions Team— Serving/Breakfast Advent Service 3: "Thou Branch of Jesse's Tree" Following Service: Christmas Eve Choir Practice
Sat.	12:00pm	Fellowship Hall Hinck/King Family Christmas
Sun.	9:00am 10:15am	Service on KMMO AM 1300 <i>Children's Program Practice /BC</i>

Children's Program Practice for Christmas Eve Service: All participants will be practicing for the program on Sundays in December at 10:15am until 11:30am. Parents please make every effort to get your children here each Sunday as 3 or 4 practices is a short time to pull together a program!!

Poinsettia Order forms are in the Narthex on the table. Please complete and place your order with payment in an envelope and **drop in the offering plate or bring by the office. Monday, Dec. 18th is the last day to order.**

Christmas Eve Choir: Please consider joining us~~whether you have sang before or are new to the group~~we need you. Practice will be following the Advent Services Dec. 20th.

Any questions~~call Carolyn 660-641-4728,

Looking forward to seeing you there!



Thank you to everyone that contributed to the Church's Christmas Project. This project would not happen without the support and love of each of you!! Blessings on your Christmas holiday happenings.-----Judy Teufel

Saint Paul Lutheran High School is accepting applications for the Development Director. This is a year round, full-time position. This position will contribute to the improvement and growth of Saint Paul Lutheran High School by managing all resource development, collaborating with recruitment and alumni activities, and assisting with coordinating communication. *For a full job description please see the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Please email a resume, including references to pmehl@splhs.org*

Those Serving

Musician.....	Ron Baker
Acolyte:	Sophie Koch
Radio and Sound.....	Steve Vickrey, Ron Meyer, Pete Melies
Video.....	Andrea Renken, Dana Melies, Debbie Vickrey & others
Ushers.....	Ken Hughson, Jay Vogelsmeier, John Dohrman, Matt Vogelsmeier
Church Secretary.....	Judy Teufel
Pastor.....	Pastor Alan Mueller

Angel Tree Donations: This is the 18th year for Lisa Hall to administer this program for the children in need in our community. The program needs your monetary donations. These help buy for the angels that are not adopted from the tree, also used to even out gifts for each kid in a family, and for buying gift cards for the older kids which are harder to select a gift.

You may make a donation one of two ways.

1. Mail donations made payable to Lisa Hall/Angel tree to 103 E. Marshall St., Sweet Springs, MO 65351. A receipt will be mailed back if requested.
 2. Take a donation to Equity Bank downtown Sweet Springs and ask them to deposit in the LisaHall/Angel Tree account.
- Any donations would be greatly appreciated. This is the season for giving so give a little of yourself to help the children have a Merry Christmas

Concordia Music Conservatory is now enrolling for the spring semester of private lessons in piano, organ, strings, guitar, brass and woodwinds for all ages, as well as our group ensembles in choir, handbells and guitar for children. To learn more or enroll online please visit cmc-music.org. Keep watching our website and Facebook page to enroll for our summer choir and orchestra camps. (Enrollment in lessons, group ensembles or camps would be a wonderful Christmas gift for a child or grandchild!)

3rd Sunday in Advent

Joy

The Shepard's Candle, reminding us of the shepherd's joy at the birth of Jesus. It is the liturgical color for joy.



PRAYER

Members of Immanuel: Randy Brandt, Cora Lee Fuchs, Ron Hinton, Carolyn Luebbert

Family and Friends of Immanuel: Cindy Bernard, Michelle Boland, Gloria Burrow, Bennet Ging (son of Michael & Autumnn Ging), Retta Hamilton, Diane Heermann, Linder Hoffman, Scarlett Mackesty, Gary Rapp, Tracy Schultz, Nicole Scott, Dana Sleeper, Vernon Sylvester, Jeff Vogt, and Debbie Wulser.

Shut-ins and Nursing Home Residents: Dorothy Krause (The Villa)
Dolores Fischer, & Martha Jane Vogelsmeier (LGSNH)
Thelma Nienhueser (The Living Center)

Mission Workers: Rev. Peter & Kristie Kolb (Thailand),
Jim & Claudia Dahlke (Mission of Christ Network), those serving POBLO.

Military: Jeffrey Abel, Owen Dobbins, and MaKenna Eckhoff



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
of Services & Meals

Meals at 5:30

Wednesday Services at 6:30

December 20

Meal: Soup

Hosted by: Missions Board

Service: "Thou Branch of Jesse's Tree"

December 24

Christmas Eve Services

9:00am "Thou Key of David" 6:00pm Children's Christmas Program

December 25

9:00am **Christmas Day Service**

"Thou Dayspring from on High"

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.immannuelsweetsprings.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