

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"God With Us"



Second Sunday in Advent

December 8th, 2024

*To God be glory for 146 years of His grace at Immanuel and
74 years of proclaiming Jesus on our radio broadcast!*

Prelude
Ringing of Bells
Welcome

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation #LSB 511 *Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment*

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

Psalm

Psalm 81:8, 10–11, 13; antiphon: Luke 3:4b

The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!

O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

But my people did not listen to my voice;

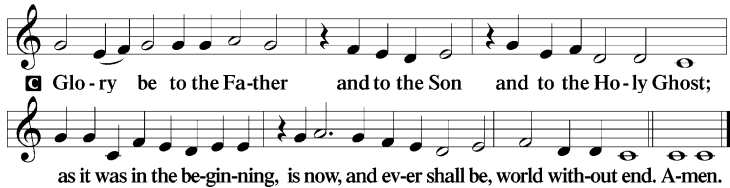
Israel would not submit to me.

Oh, that my people would listen to me,

that Israel would walk in my ways!

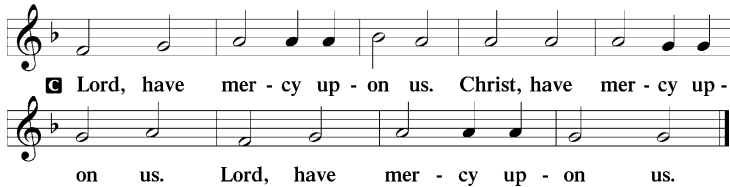
The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”



☐ 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

☐ Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☐ Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Malachi 3:1–7b

¹“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who

swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

⁶“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Philippians 1:2–11

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

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

Luke 3:1–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

C Glory be to you, O Lord.

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,
⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” ¹¹And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” ¹³And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.”

¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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 #LSB 605 v.1

Father Welcomes

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day #LSB 345

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Sermon

Title: Prepare the Way

Scripture: Luke 3:1-20

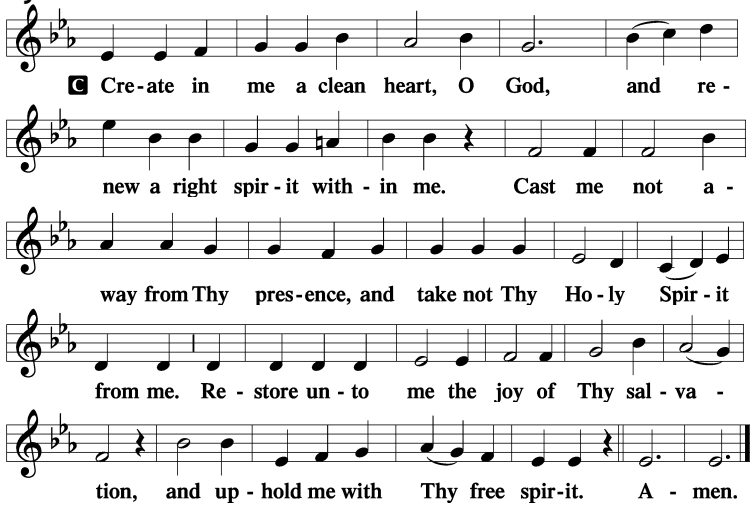
Reflection Hymn #LSB 347

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

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 344 *vv.1-4 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

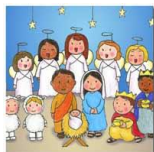
Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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The Lord's Week

Sun.	9:00am 10:15am	Divine Service on KMMO AM 1300 BC/ SS Christmas Eve Program Practice
Mon.	8:30am 10:00am 5:30pm	Royal Oak Bible Study Finance Board Missions Board
Wed.	5:30pm 6:30pm 7:15pm	NO Women's Bible Study Advent Meal-Board of Ed Advent Service "Mary's Journey" NO Adult Choir Practice
Thurs.	10:00am	Bible Study at Royal Oak
Sat.	11:00am 4:30pm	Renken Family Christmas Baby Shower for Katie Wing
Sun.	9:00am 10:15am	Holy Communion Service on KMMO AM 1300 BC/SS Christmas Eve Program Practice



Children's Christmas Eve Practice Schedule

It is that time of year when the anticipation for Christmas Eve begins. Practices for the program on Christmas Eve will take place on Sunday mornings during Sunday School hour from **10:15-11:30am for 4 Sundays.**

December 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd.

Adult Choir Practice 7:15pm December 4th & 18th.

Please mark your calendars for these dates!

Kayla Ohrenberg & Courtney Gieselmann will oversee the program this year. If you are planning on your child/children participating in the program, please let them know. Kayla: 816-244-6766 Courtney: 660-815-4080

POINSETTIA ORDERS

Forms for Poinsettia orders are on the Narthex table. Poinsettias will cost \$8/plant. Orders will be taken until Thursday December 19th or until all ordered poinsettias have been reserved. Please place your order and money in the envelopes available in the Narthex and place them on the offering plate or bring to the church office.

Adult Choir Members Needed for Christmas Eve Program

Practices will be December 4th & 18th following the Advent Service.

Please come join the fun & chorus!

Those Serving

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

ANGEL TREE

The Christmas season is quickly approaching. I am once again asking for help. There are several children in our community, who without the help of the Angel Tree may not see any or very little at Christmas. I am asking for monetary donations if you can help. Those donations go towards helping buy for the angels that are not adopted and used to even out the gifts for each kid in the family and then buying gift cards for the older kids that are harder to but for. To help you can do one of the following:



1. Mail a donation made payable to Lisa Hall/Angel Tree to Lisa Hall, 103 E. Marshall St., Sweet Springs, MO. 65351.
2. Take the donation to Equity Bank downtown Sweet Springs and ask them to deposit the donation in the Lisa Hall/Angel Tree Account. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. The deadline for donations will be December 17th.

This is the season for giving, so give a little of yourself to help the children have a Merry Christmas. For any questions, please call me at 660-281-6787.

Thank you so much, Lisa Hall.

PRAYER

Members of Immanuel: Carol Brandt, Randy Brandt, Stanley Bredehoeft, Millie Dohrman, Bruce & Melissa Eckhoff.

Family and Friends of Immanuel: Cindy Bernard, Evelyn Bledsoe, Ruby Brandt, Michelle Boland, Melinda Butterfield, Mike & Eva Cordes family, Brandy Clevenger, Avery England, Lonnie Fischer, Gail Foster Horman, Retta Hamilton, Holly McCullough, David Maas, River Mae Miller, Shania Mills, Rhonda Neupert, Jessica Nicolson, Brooke Rieckhoff, Tracy Schultz, Nicole Scott, and Debbie Wulser.

Shut-ins and Nursing Home Residents:

Dolores Fischer (GSNH) Millie Dohrman (Westport Assisted Living)
Dorothy Krause & Thelma Nienhueser (The Living Center)

Mission Workers: Rev. Peter & Kristie Kolb (Thailand),
Jim & Claudia Dahlke (Mission of Christ Network), those serving POBLO.
David & Valerie Federwitz (LBT West Africa Regional Director)
Tim & Erin Schulte (LBT-Cameroon)

Military: MaKenna Eckhoff

**Immanuel Lutheran's
Wednesday Advent & Christmas Services**

Wednesday Advent Services

December 4th Advent Meal 5:30pm Served by Bell Choir <i>Service at 6:30pm</i> <i>"Mary's Catechesis"</i>	December 11th Advent Meal 5:30pm Served by Board of Ed <i>Service at 6:30pm</i> <i>"Mary's Journey"</i>
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December 4th
Advent Meal 5:30pm
Served by Care Team-Breakfast
Service at 6:30pm
"Mary's Song"

Tuesday, December 24th Children's Christmas Eve Program 6:00pm	Wednesday, December 25th Christmas Day Service 9:00am
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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.immanuelweetsprings.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



Tyler Linneman-Seminarian

MASTER OF DIVINITY STUDENT

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E linnemant@csi.edu
A 735 E Swon Ave. Webster Groves, MO 63119

Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church,

December 1, 2024

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! I want to thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for me. Your continued support and prayers for me means more than you could ever know.

We are approaching Christmas break, which means the end of my first semester of my second year. I cannot believe how fast this time is flying by. Soon, I will be heading out on my vicarage placement and soon after that I will be receiving my first call. I will say that I am really looking forward to serving out in the field. I love my time here at seminary, but I am excited to be able to serve and put all that I am learning into practice.

This semester my classes have been focusing on a lot of Hebrew, as well as some liturgical practices. It has been a lot of fun to learn more about why we worship the way we do. Something that has captured my attention recently that we have learned is about how Christians can properly interact with science and its discoveries...The Bible narrative is true because Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead, said it is true. And when I stand on that as the basis of truth, I am free to test or even work with the theories of science because I know they cannot disprove our faith. That has been something that has given me a lot of comfort to understand that science and theology are not contradictory, because science is simply the pursuit of understanding God better.

In my last letter, I asked for prayers that my family's harvest would go well. I thank you for your prayers and thank God that he has blessed my family with safety and a bountiful harvest this fall. Please continue to keep them in your prayers and please pray for all the seminarians as we approach our vicarage placements.

Thank you for everything that you do for me. Please send a letter or email if you have some time, or even a phone call. I always enjoy hearing from you. You are in my prayers.

God's peace be with you always,
Tyler Linneman



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. Place your check or cash with the order form into an envelope. Put the envelope

in the offering plate. ***The price is \$8.00 per poinsettia.***

Orders will be taken until December 19th.



Ordered 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: _____

Number of Plants ordered: _____

\$8 x # of Plants: _____

You may pick up your plant following the Worship Service on Christmas Day December 25th. After the Worship Service on December 31st, all poinsettias not picked up will be dispersed.