

Immanuel Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Rev. Eric Swyres, Pastor

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The mission of Immanuel Lutheran Church is to preach Christ crucified and risen from the dead for the salvation of the world. We reflect God's love by spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ through a caring ministry of reaching, teaching, and serving our congregation and the community.

A Warm and Sincere Welcome! We are excited that you have chosen to join us. We invite you to join us often. If you do not have a church home, we hope you will consider making Immanuel Lutheran your church home. Please contact the church office for more information.

+ The Sacrament of Holy Communion+

As we partake of this blessed sacrament, our Lord has promised to give us His true body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and strengthening of our faith. Those who partake, firmly believing in Christ's real presence, receive these blessings. If you are a member of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and have not communed at Immanuel before, please speak with the pastor or an elder before participating. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod please speak with pastor before the service.
Thank you.

Advent 4
December 24, 2023
Divine Service 5

Confession and Absolution

350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

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.**

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 this 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 19:1, 4c, 5–6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

**The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his
handiwork.**

In them he has set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his
chamber,

and, like a strong man, runs its course with
joy.

**Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its
heat.**

**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.**

Show, O heavens, from above, and let the
clouds rain down righteousness;

let the earth open, that salvation and
righteousness may bear fruit.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and
help us by Your might, that the sins which
weigh us down may be quickly lifted by
Your grace and mercy; for You live and
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

God's Covenant with David

Now when the king lived in his house and the
LORD had given him rest from all his
surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan
the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of
cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” And
Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in
your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

But that same night the word of the LORD
came to Nathan, “Go and tell my servant David,

‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. . . .

And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Doxology

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Adult Choir “Christmas Blessings”

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Birth of Jesus Foretold

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

953 We All Believe in One True God

Children’s Sermon

341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Sermon

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord, our God, nothing is impossible with You. Grant us faith to believe Your Word and follow the example of Your servant Mary, to receive the miraculous gift of Your Son, our Immanuel. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Eternal God, Your Word has been sent forth into the world to the joy and edification of Your holy people. Encourage, comfort and strengthen all who hear it. Grant faith to those who do not know You, both here and abroad, that all peoples may sing to Your name and extol Your goodness. By the power of the Holy Spirit, fill all who hear Your Word with joy and peace in believing. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, our God, bless our Synod president; _____, our district president; _____, our circuit visitor; and _____, our pastor(s), that like the angel Gabriel, they may be faithful messengers of Your Good News. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, our God, let Your favor rest upon all pregnant women and mothers of young children, that they may rejoice in the blessing of new life You give. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of lords, by the reign of Your Son You govern all things in heaven and earth. Raise up true Davids among us to govern our land in faithfulness and in humble strength to do Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, our God, uphold
[_____ and] all who suffer in mind or body. Give them the knowledge of Christ, their Immanuel, who is with them in their trials. Grant them health and healing in accord with Your perfect will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, our God, give us joy that as surely as Your Son was conceived in blessed Mary at Your Word, so He comes to abide in us also at Your Word in the blessed Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

C **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 216

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and

preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

P In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 217

P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My \dagger bod-y, which is giv-en for you.
This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so
He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it
to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
My \dagger blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

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.

Distribution

623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

353 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

Post-Communion Collect

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.

Benedicamus

LSB 218

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and
be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and †
give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

355 O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Five from Lutheran
Service Book

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This Week at Immanuel

Sunday:

Divine Service: 9:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Service 6:00 p.m.

Monday:

Christmas Day Service 9:00 a.m. with communion

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

No Bible Class

Leisure Lutherans 1:00 p.m.

Friday:

Saturday:

Poinsettias are given to the Glory of God by

Jim & Sue Perry: In memory of Reno & Christina Key.

Albert Malone & Family: In memory of Laura Malone.

Richard & Berniece Strandberg: In memory of R.M. & Ardy Strandberg, and Edwin & Clara Kirch.

Matt, Sue, Taylor, & Jacob Banholzer: In memory of Anna Lee Young.

Tim, Christy, & Nikki Rush: In memory of Mary Goddard, and Dan Rush.

Robert & Pam Phelps: In memory of Dalton & Rosalie.

Wayne & Kay Beasley: In memory of Patrick.

David & Carla Roedemeier: In memory of Milton & Virginia Roedemeier, and Carl & Mignon Webb.

Pastor & Kelle Swyres: In memory of our Grandparents Everett & Aubrey Yates, Jess and Lois Swyres, Elmer & Rose Sandcork and Frank & Edna Krumrie

Susan Kolling: In memory of Kenneth.

A private Baptism was held Saturday December 23rd for Wesley Oliver Rogers born September 17, 2023 to Caleb & Olivia Rogers. God Parents are Ryan Cox, and Sophie & Kyle Stagner. Welcome as a new Child of God.

Lutherans For Life

Almighty God has profound interest and investment in childbearing and childrearing (2 Samuel 7:12; Luke 1:31). He has made this relationship and vocation central to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Every mother and father, every son or daughter embodies the love of the Lord for humankind. While abortion attempts to conceal the realities, our sanctity-of-life advocacy gets to reveal this delightful mystery (Romans 16:25).

Winter copies of "LifeDate", a magazine provided by the national Lutherans For Life organization, are available to everyone in the narthex information center.

LWML/Dorcas

There will be no Servant Workshop in December. Our next Servant Workshop is scheduled for January 16, 1-3 p.m. in the church basement.

Mites collected in December totaled \$97.91. The total amount of mites for 2023 comes to \$728.58. These donations support national and Missouri district LWML mission projects. A complete list of Missouri District mission projects can be found at www.missourilwml.org. The next mite collection is Sunday January 7. To God be the glory.

Fall issues of LWML Quarterly are available to everyone and are located in the narthex information center. Quarterlies contain happenings of local and national LWML along with devotion and Bible study guides.

Leisure Lutherans

Card and Game Days, every Thursday at 1:00 pm, after Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to participate.

There are some new RADA soups and kitchen items in the RADA/Card cabinet. The RADA/Card cabinet is located in the downstairs hall. It contains Christian greeting cards sold by the card or by the box as well as RADA kitchen utensils. Profits from these sales benefit the activities of Leisure Lutherans. Additional RADA kitchen utensils, knives, sauces and recipe books may be ordered through the catalog and order forms located in the rack next to the card cabinet. Payment for cards and RADA items can be made via the deposit box on the wall to the left of the cabinet.

Leisure Lutheran lunch is scheduled for Wednesday, January 17, at noon in the church fellowship hall. Soups, rolls, cheeses and sausages will be served and plans for February through May will be discussed. Join in for lunch and Christian fellowship.

Baby Shower

The ladies of Immanuel Lutheran Church are invited to a baby shower open house for Sophie Stagner Saturday January 13, 2024 from 2-4 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.

Ushers

Please consider volunteering to become an usher
prayerfully consider helping out in this ministry.

LSF

The 2024 College refreshment sheet is up on the
bulletin board for Tuesday evening bible class. Please
consider helping out in this ministry.

Sunday morning bible refreshments sign up sheet for
2024 is on the bulletin board. It would be nice to
partner with someone. Please consider helping in this
ministry

Peace Lutheran Church will be celebrating Christmas
day Service at 8:30 a.m.

No Sunday School today.

Members serving in the Armed Forces

Jacob Banholzer
Matt Battley

Marshall Dean
Joe Duehning

Those Serving Today

Elder: Jim Perry

Communion Attendant: JD Cox

Organist: Phil Thiem

Ushers: Team 4

Greeters Today: Andy & Nancy Anderson

Altar Guild: Martha Cox, & Sue Perry

Money Counters: Aaron Wassilak & David Roedemeier

Altar Flowers Today: Given to the Glory of God by the Swyres family for Christ our Savior's Birth.

The Fruits of Our Faith

Attendance Sunday 12/17/2023: 102 Communion: 90

Attendance Sunday 12/17/2023: Bible Class 47

Attendance Thursday 12/14/2023: Bible Class 23

Offering for 12/17/2023 \$ 4,025

The Family Altar

For Families Gathered Around God's Word
The week of December 24th - December 30th

Sunday: Reflect upon the sermon

Monday: Isaiah 52:7-10

Tuesday: Psalm: 2

Wednesday: Hebrews: 1: 1-6

Thursday: John 1: 1-14

Friday: **Small Catechism** – 7th Petition/Meaning

Saturday: Personal prayers for family and church

Prayers

Ethan, Lyndsey, Sophie, & Emma Fite

Jordan, Randy Krauss

Judy Elsing

Jana Goddard

Dotty Wolf

Brandon Lowe

Bob Chretien

Sandy Ray

Tracy Krauss

The Family of Shirley Marsh

Prayer before Communion: Dear Savior, a Your gracious invitation I come to your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament: Almighty and Everlasting God, I thank and praise you for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the Holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Luther's Morning Prayer: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Luther's Evening Prayer: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen