



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

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## **Children's Christmas Service**

FROM  
HEAVEN  
ABOVE

**Sunday, December 23, 2018 – 10:15 am**

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“Making more and stronger disciples of Jesus Christ  
through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

# Welcome to Immanuel!

*In preparation for this service we ask that you silence your cell phones and/or paging devices. Thank you.*

Thank you for coming this morning to support the children in this year's Christmas service, *From Heaven Above*. We hope that this service is a blessing to you as the children tell the story of Jesus' birth.

We will be recording this service as well as projecting it onto the screens. During the service, there is a chance that the screens may black out; however, this will not interfere with the recording of the service. Be sure to visit our website ([www.immanuelwaterloo.org](http://www.immanuelwaterloo.org)) and click on Service Archives under *Worship* on the home page to view this service. The service will be uploaded later this week.

**Preservice Music** [Instrumental Piece, "Christmas Medley" (Zimmermann); Immanubells, "Hark the Glad Sound" (Mueller)]

## Bells / Welcome

*Please remain seated as the children & teachers process in.*

**Processional Hymn**, *LSB* 368, "Angels We Have Heard on High"

**Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.**

**Refrain: *Gloria in excelsis Deo.*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.***

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain***

**Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain***

*Please stand*

**Invocation**

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

**All:** Amen.

**Responsive Reading**

**P:** From heaven above,

**C:** **The angels sing.**

**P:** On earth below,

**C:** **Our praises bring.**

**P:** Our Lord has come,

**C:** **With us to dwell.**

**P:** Now we go out:

**C:** **Good News to tell!**

*Please be seated*

**Hymn, LSB 370, "What Child Is This"**

**What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary!**

**Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,**

**The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary!**

**So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!**

## **Christmas Meditation**

**+ The Message Presented by the Children +**

**Luke 2:1-7**

*7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades*

**Hymn, LSB 364, “Away in a Manger”**

*Preschool – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade*

**Recitation**

*Preschool*

**Hymn, LSB 358 v. 1-2, “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”**

**“From heav’n above to earth I come  
To bear good news to ev’ry home;  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
Whereof I now will say and sing:**

**“To you this night is born a child  
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;  
This little child of lowly birth  
Shall be the joy of all the earth.”**

**Luke 2:8-14**

*7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades*

**Hymn, LSB 379 v. 1-3, “O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

**O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him  
Born the king of angels: *Refrain***

*Refrain:*  
*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*Christ the Lord!*

**Highest, most holy,  
Light of Light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;  
Son of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain***

**Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
In the highest: *Refrain***

**Recitation**

*Kindergarten*

**Hymn, LSB 358 v. 5-6, “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”**

**“These are the signs that you shall mark:  
The swaddling clothes and manger dark.  
There you will find the infant laid  
By whom the heav’ns and earth were made.”**

**How glad we’ll be to find it so!  
Then with the shepherds let us go  
To see what God for us has done  
In sending us His own dear Son.**

**Luke 2:8-14**

*5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades*

**Hymn, LSB 363 v. 1, “Silent Night, Holy Night”**

- 1 Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Luke 2:8-14**

*5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades*

**Hymn, LSB 363 v. 2, “Silent Night, Holy Night”**

- 2 Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav’nly hosts sing, Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Recitation**

*3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grades*

**Piano Selection, “Joy to the World,” Ava Hemmer**

(traditional Christmas Carol)

**Hymn, LSB 363 v. 3, “Silent Night, Holy Night”** (*Accompanied by the Immanubells.*)

- 3 Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love’s pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

**Recitation**

*3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grades*

**Hymn, LSB 358 v. 13-14, “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”**

**Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,  
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,  
A quiet chamber set apart  
For You to dwell within my heart.**

**My heart for very joy must leap;  
My lips no more can silence keep.  
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue  
That sweetest ancient cradlesong.**

**Recitation**

*5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades*

**Hymn, LSB 358 v. 15, “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”**

**Glory to God in highest heav’n,  
Who unto us His Son has giv’n!  
While angels sing with pious mirth  
A glad new year to all the earth.**

**Recitation**

*1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grades*

**Song, “The Heavens Are Telling” (T. Fettke)**

*3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades*

**Recitation**

*1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grades*

**Piano Selection, “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear,”** Nicholas Hoeffken (traditional Christmas Carol)

**+ Why Was Jesus Born? +**

**Recitation**

*1<sup>st</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades*

**John 3:16**

*All children*

**Song, “Christmas Song”**

*All children*

## **Offering** [Immanubells, “Advent Hope” (Hakes)]

*Please stand*

### **The Apostles’ Creed**

**P:** As Christian people we confess our faith together in the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

**All:** **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.**

### **Prayer**

**P:** We pray:

**All:** **Father in heaven, You sent Your Son to earth to be our Savior. You sent the angels down to tell the Good News. You sent the shepherds out to tell the Good News. And You send us now to tell the Good News. Help us share the message of Your love throughout the world. In His name we pray. Amen.**

### **The Lord’s Prayer**

**P:** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

## **Benediction**

**P:** The Lord bless and keep You in the peace of His Son. May the blessing of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you every day as you receive His gifts and promises.

**C:** Amen.

*Please be seated as the children & teachers recess out.*

**RECESSIONAL HYMN, LSB 388, “Go Tell It on the Mountain”**  
*(Immanubells will accompany.)*

### ***Refrain:***

***Go tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and ev’rywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!***

**While shepherds kept their watching  
O’er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light. *Refrain***

**The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo, above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed our Savior’s birth. *Refrain***

**Down in a lonely manger  
The humble Christ was born;  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain***

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**Worship Helpers:**

Leader/Preacher - Pastor Demski

Ushers - Robert Mesnarich, Jr., Pam Nagel, Don & Carol Matzenbacher

Media - Greg Hoeffken (with recording)

*Following the service, please join the children in the multipurpose room as we join together in fellowship for a “Birthday Party for Jesus!” Be sure to stick around for some cake, ice cream, and drinks! All are welcome!*

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL – WATERLOO, ILLINOIS  
LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD**

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*We would like to invite you to our  
upcoming Christmas services to  
celebrate the birth of our Savior,  
Jesus Christ!*

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24  
4:00 pm & 7:30 pm

Christmas Day, Dec. 25  
9:00 am

*All are welcome!*



***... to all who participated!***

Thank you to all 55 children who participated in this Christmas service, and to all of their parents, families, and friends for your support and attendance today! Thank you to Pastor Demski for leading our practices and this service!

***... to our instrumentalists!***

The instrumentalists participating in this service during the preservice music and several of the hymns are Jenna Hoeffken (trumpet), Elden Niemeyer (saxophone and director), Adrianna Whelan (trombone), and Alex Whelan (trumpet). Ava Hemmer and Nicholas Hoeffken provided the piano music during the service, Elden Niemeyer directed the Immanubells choir, and Ann Frank is Immanuel's music director.

***... to our Sunday School teachers and helpers!***

Our current teachers are Pam Nagel & Sandy Mueller (Preschool), Deborah Joellenbeck (Kindergarten), Lisa Clamors (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grades), Millie Menke (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grades), Gayle Mesnarich (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades), and Alan Stumpf (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades). Our music leaders are Ann Frank and Deborah Joellenbeck.

***... to Immanuel's Board of Christian Education!***

This Board is hosting the "Birthday Party for Jesus" following the service and has also provided goodie bags for all of the children here today.

***Praise be to God for a wonderful service!***