



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

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**Third Sunday in Advent**

**REJOICE  
ALWAYS!**

**Saturday, December 12, 2020 – 5:30 pm**  
**Sunday, December 13, 2020 – 7:45 am & 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!

*Please turn off your cell phones and/or paging devices. Thank you!*

**If you are a guest**, please fill out a guests' card located in the cardholder on the back of each pew and then place it in the offering plate. We look forward to meeting you!

**Members**, please help us love and care for one another by filling out an attendance card. Remember to include all the members of your family who are present in worship today. If you are communing, please check in the appropriate place. Thank you for filling out an Attendance-Communion card every time you attend Church.

**We celebrate Holy Communion today!** In this Supper of our Lord we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the earthly forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. This Holy Communion is also a sign of our shared confession of the Christian faith. If you have not communed with us before, please speak with one of our pastors before doing so.

**During the communion service:** If you're not able to drink wine, the lighter colored glasses in the center of the tray of individual cups contain water with a drop of wine. These special glasses allow communicants to celebrate the Lord's Supper according to Christ's institution, but have a very small amount of alcohol.

## Worship at Immanuel is...

**Christ Centered.** We believe that at the heart of worship is the Good News that God has rescued us from our sins through Jesus' death on the cross and rising to life again.

**Trinitarian.** We believe that the object of worship is the only true God—The Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Multigenerational.** We believe that it is a great blessing for family members to worship together. Taking seriously Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and so not forbid them" (Mark 10:14), we encourage children to worship with their parents and grandparents and provide resources such as children's bulletins and children's sermons.

**Eclectic.** Eclectic means, "selecting what seems best of various sources." We believe that we should strive to use the best hymns and practices that the church has to offer. Our worship may include hymns written 500 years ago as well as pieces written 5 months ago.



**P** The true light has come. To all who receive Him, He makes to be the children of God. Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to 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.

**Lighting of Advent Candle, “We Light the Advent Candle” (v. 1-3)**

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- 1 We light the Advent candle  
And wait for Christ to come.  
With hope, we trust the promise  
That He will bring us home.  
Our hope is in our Savior  
Who wins for us God’s favor.  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!**
  
- 2 We light the Advent candle  
And thank the Lord for rest.  
With peace, we know our Jesus  
Has come to be our guest.  
This peace beyond all knowing  
Within our hearts is glowing.  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!**
  
- 2 We light the Advent candle  
And sing with cheerful heart.  
With joy, we spread the message—  
A blessing to impart.  
Our joy is never ending;  
The Son to us is sending.  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!**

## ✠ Service of the Word ✠

### Introit of the Day

(Psalm 85:8-9, 12-13; antiphon: v. 7)

Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,

**and grant us your salvation.**

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,

**for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.**

Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,

**that glory may dwell in our land.**

Yes, the LORD will give what is good,

**and our land will yield its increase.**

Righteousness will go before him

**and make his footsteps a way.**

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 us your steadfast love, O LORD,

**and grant us your salvation.**

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you!

(2 Timothy 4:22)

**C** **And also with you!**

**P** Let us pray...

**C** **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. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### Old Testament Reading, Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

<sup>1</sup>The 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; <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; <sup>3</sup>to 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. <sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. . . . <sup>8</sup>For 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. <sup>9</sup>Their 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. <sup>10</sup>I 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. <sup>11</sup>For 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.

*After the reading:*

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### **Epistle, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup>Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Do not despise prophecies, <sup>21</sup>but test everything; hold fast what is good. <sup>22</sup>Abstain from every form of evil. <sup>23</sup>Now 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. <sup>24</sup>He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

*After the reading:*

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

### **Holy Gospel, John 1:6-8, 19-28**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. . . . <sup>19</sup>This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said." <sup>24</sup>(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup>They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" <sup>26</sup>John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do

not know, <sup>27</sup>even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” <sup>28</sup>These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

*After the reading:*

**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.

*Please be seated*

**Hymn of the Day, LSB 344, “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”**

- 1 On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev’ry life from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within,  
And let us all our hearts prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward;  
Without Thy grace we waste away  
Like flow’rs that wither and decay.

**4 Lay on the sick Thy healing hand  
And make the fallen strong to stand;  
Show us the glory of Thy face  
Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.**

**△ 5 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee  
Whose advent sets Thy people free,  
Whom with the Father we adore  
And Holy Spirit evermore.**

## Sermon

*Please stand*

### Prayer of the Church

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

For the Holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess the name of Christ, that God guard and defend us from all temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For Rev. Matthew Harrison, our Synod President, Rev. Timothy Scharr, our District President, for all pastors and servants of Christ, that they proclaim with faithfulness and clarity the true light of the Gospel in all they do, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the government and all who have been set into positions of leadership, that they use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of all people, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who suffer from hunger, homelessness, poverty, or unemployment, that God's great mercy and love preserve and relieve them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who are sick, [*especially...*], that God grant healing to their bodies and strength to bear their infirmities with patience and grace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who rejoice in the rich blessings of God, that they always remember the Giver of every gift and give Him heartfelt thanks, let us pray to the Lord:

- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** *(Special petitions...)* Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

**Offering** *(You can place your offering in the plate in the narthex or mail it to the church anytime.)*

**✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠**

*In this Supper of our Lord we receive the true body and blood of Jesus Christ under the earthly forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Since this Holy Communion is also a sign of how we commonly confess the Christian faith, we welcome to the Lord's Table those who are confirmed members of congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.*

**Preface**

- P** The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22)
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts. (Colossians 3:1)
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. (Psalm 136)
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**Proper Preface**

- P** It is truly good, 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 the promised Messiah, the very 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

(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)

**C** Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might: heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the Highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest. (*Hosanna* is a Hebrew word of praise meaning “save us now.”)

## The Lord’s Prayer

(Matthew 6:9-13)

**All:** 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.

**Words of Our Lord** (Matt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25)

## The Peace of the Lord

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always. (John 20:19)

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated*

## Distribution Hymns

*LSB 624, “The Infant Priest Was Holy Born”*

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- 1** The infant Priest was holy born  
For us unholy and forlorn;  
From fleshly temple forth came He,  
Anointed from eternity.
- 2** This great High Priest in human flesh  
Was icon of God’s righteousness.  
His hallowed touch brought sanctity;  
His hand removed impurity.

- 3** The holy Lamb undaunted came  
To God's own altar lit with flame;  
While weeping angels hid their eyes,  
This Priest became a sacrifice.
- 4** But death would not the victor be  
Of Him who hung upon the tree.  
He leads us to the Holy Place  
Within the veil, before God's face.
- 5** The veil is torn, our Priest we see,  
As at the rail on bended knee  
Our hungry mouths from Him receive  
The bread of immortality.
- 6** The body of God's Lamb we eat,  
A priestly food and priestly meat;  
On sin-parched lips the chalice pours  
His quenching blood that life restores.
- 7** With cherubim and seraphim  
Our voices join the endless hymn,  
And "Holy, holy, holy" sing  
To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

*LSB 332, "Savior of the Nations, Come"*

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- 1** Savior of the nations, come,  
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!  
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,  
That the Lord chose such a birth.
- 2** Not by human flesh and blood,  
By the Spirit of our God,  
Was the Word of God made flesh—  
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

- 3** Here a maid was found with child,  
Yet remained a virgin mild.  
In her womb this truth was shown:  
God was there upon His throne.
- 4** Then stepped forth the Lord of all  
From His pure and kingly hall;  
God of God, yet fully man,  
His heroic course began.
- 5** God the Father was His source,  
Back to God He ran His course.  
Into hell His road went down,  
Back then to His throne and crown.
- 6** For You are the Father's Son  
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.  
By Your mighty pow'r make whole  
All our ills of flesh and soul.
- 7** From the manger newborn light  
Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides;  
In this light faith now abides.
- △ **8** Glory to the Father sing,  
Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be  
Now and through eternity.

*Please stand*

**Dismissal**

**P** Now...Go in peace.

**C** Amen.

**Post-Communion Thanksgiving**

**P** Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may,

together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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. (Numbers 6:24-26)  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance on you and + give you peace.

**C** Amen.

### **Closing Hymn, LSB 345, “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”**

- 1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!**  
“Christ is near,” we hear it say.  
“Cast away the works of darkness,  
All you children of the day!”
- 2 Startled at the solemn warning,**  
Let the earthbound soul arise;  
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected,**  
Comes with pardon down from heav’n.  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all, to be forgiv’n;
- 4 So, when next He comes in glory**  
And the world is wrapped in fear,  
He will shield us with His mercy  
And with words of love draw near.
- △ 5 Honor, glory, might, dominion**  
To the Father and the Son  
With the ever-living Spirit  
While eternal ages run!

### **Bells / Postlude**

*We invite you to take the service folder and announcements home with you as you leave today so you can see what's happening this week as well as meditate on the Scriptures, prayers, and hymns from today's service as you go through the week. You can also find helpful information on our church website: [immanuelwaterloo.org](http://immanuelwaterloo.org).*

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## Worship Helpers

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**Saturday, December 12, 2020 - 5:30 pm**

Preacher/Celebrant - Rev. Roy Atkins

Media - Greg Hoeffken

Organist - Joan Ruwald

**Sunday, December 13, 2020 - 7:45 am**

Preacher/Liturgist/Celebrant - Rev. Roy Atkins

Music Director - Ann Frank

Media - Kelley Keller

**Sunday, December 13, 2020 - 10:15 am**

Preacher/Liturgist/Celebrant - Rev. Roy Atkins

Music Director - Ann Frank

Media - Lisa Clamors (Facebook Live)

**Worship Helpers - Wednesday, December 16, 2020 - 6:30 pm**

Media - Pam Nagel (Facebook Live)

**Media - Sunday, December 20, 2020**

Saturday 5:30 pm - Kelley Keller

Sunday 7:45 am - Cathy Whelan

Sunday 10:15 am - Tim Scheibe

**Altar Guild - Sunday, December 20, 2020**

Saturday 5:30 pm - Diana Heins

Sunday 7:45 am - Sandy T & Wendy

Sunday 10:15 am - Linda Gutknecht

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

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Hayden Brown, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Field Education Student

309-231-2183

Mrs. Lisa Clamors, Secretary

939-6480 or 618-719-4954

Mrs. Ann Frank, Music Director

939-6480 or 618-282-6597

Mrs. Linda Polansky, Preschool Director

939-6480 or 618-980-3475