



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

First Sunday after Christmas
The Feast of St. Stephen



Sunday, December 26, 2021 – 7:45 am & 10:15 am

“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.

In preparation for worship we ask that you silence your cell phones and/or paging devices. Thank you. The time before service begins can be a good time to pray and prepare your heart and mind for worship. You will find helpful prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal located in the pew in front of you.

Preservice Music / Bells / Welcome

Opening Hymn, *LSB* 367, “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

- 1 **Angels from the realms of glory,
 Wing your flight o’er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation’s story,
 Now proclaim Messiah’s birth. *Refrain***

*Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.*
- 2 **Shepherds in the field abiding,
 Watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
 Yonder shines the Infant Light. *Refrain***
- 3 **Sages, leave your contemplations,
 Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
 Ye have seen His natal star. *Refrain***
- 4 **Saints before the altar bending,
 Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
 In His temple shall appear. *Refrain***
- △ 5 **All creation, join in praising
 God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
 To the_ eternal Three in One. *Refrain***

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.** (Matthew 28:19b; [18:20])

Confession and Absolution

(Psalm 124:8; 130:3, adapt.)

P Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are sinful and unclean. We have taken for granted the free gift of salvation You give us through Jesus. Help us to focus on the reason for the season, the birth of Your Son. Forgive us, O God, and let us depart in peace, according to Your Word, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus, who came to save us from our sins.**

P Receive the free gift that Jesus offers: the forgiveness of sins. As a called and ordained servant of our Savior King, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Thank You, Jesus! Amen.**

+ Service of the Word +

Introit of the Day

(Psalm 98:1-4; Isaiah 52:10)

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

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.

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Kyrie

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of our Savior King, which is beyond our understanding, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our salvation that comes from Christ, the Prince of Peace, for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Holy Christian Church, for we have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise, LSB 370 v. 1 & 3, “What Child Is This”

1 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!

3 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!

Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

All: **O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus**

Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading, Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.” ³Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .” ¹¹“When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹²you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s. ¹³Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. ¹⁵For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle, Colossians 3:12-17

¹²Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Holy Gospel, Luke 2:22-40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, ²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.” ³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.” ³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Children’s Message (Parents of young children may also come forward with their children.)

Hymn of the Day, LSB 517 v. 1, 7, 3, “By All Your Saints in Warfare”

**1 By all Your saints in warfare,
For all Your saints at rest,
Your holy name, O Jesus,
Forevermore be blest!
For You have won the battle
That they might wear the crown;
And now they shine in glory
Reflected from Your throne.**

**7 Praise for the first of martyrs
Who saw You ready stand
To help in time of torment,
To plead at God’s right hand.
Like You, our suff’ring Savior,
His enemies he blessed,
With “Lord, receive my spirit,”
His faith, by death, confessed.**

**△ 3 Then let us praise the Father
And worship God the Son
And sing to God the Spirit,
Eternal Three in One,
Till all the ransomed number
Fall down before the throne,
Ascribing pow’r and glory
And praise to God alone.**

Sermon, Acts 7:54-60, “Celebrating the Feast of St. Stephen”

(10:15 am) Retirement Recognition of Sandy Mueller

Please stand

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 of the Church

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

Wonderful Counselor, we praise and thank You for guiding us with the Word of Christ, which dwells richly in us. Bless all pastors and teachers of Your Word, that they teach and admonish

Your people with all of Your wisdom so that whatever we do, in word or deed, we do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. O God of our salvation,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Mighty God, You created this world and everything in it through Your powerful Word and still take care of it. Continue to watch over and work through all who lead and serve our nation, state, and local communities. Lead and guide all first responders and members of the military as they carry out their duties to protect and serve. O God of our salvation,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Everlasting Father, You are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We ask for Your encouragement, healing, and care for all who are struggling with their health, [*especially . . .*]. Heal the broken hearts of those who grieve the loss of those close to them. O God of our salvation,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Prince of Peace, we praise and thank You for the peace we have in You. Empower us and all your people to embrace the opportunities You give us to share the gift of Your redemption. O God of our salvation,

C **hear our prayer.**

P (*Special petitions...*) Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior King.

C **Amen.**

Offering

Offertory, *LSB* 384 v. 1, “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that

have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

+ 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.**

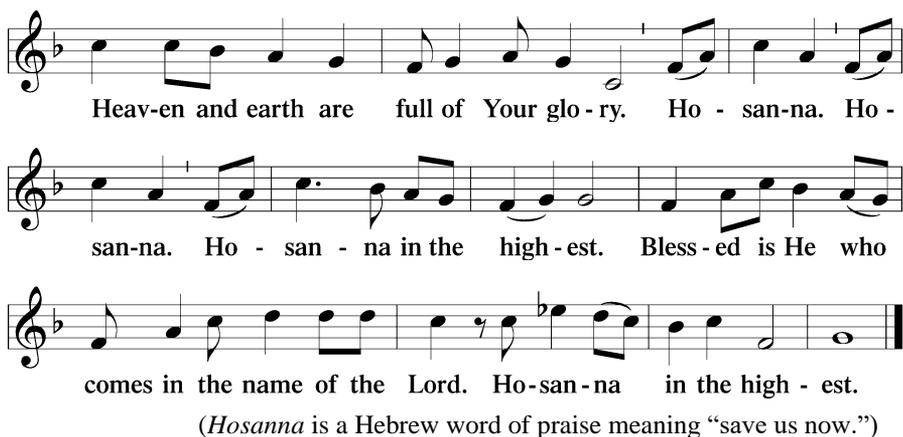
Proper Preface

- 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, for the countless blessings You have given to us and all creation. This day we rejoice with the heavenly host as they proclaim the glad tidings of great joy, knowing that the Word has become flesh and made His dwelling among us. Your holy Child, who entered our world that first Christmas, comes unto us again this day in His body and blood as we are drawn unto Your holy presence. 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 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
 (*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)

Pax Domini

(John 20:19)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Please be seated

Distribution Hymns

LSB 376, “Once in Royal David’s City”

- 1 Once in royal David’s city
 Stood a lowly cattle shed,
 Where a mother laid her baby
 In a manger for His bed:
 Mary was that mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little child.

- 2** He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 3** For He is our childhood's pattern,
Day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feels for all our sadness,
And He shares in all our gladness.
- 4** And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heav'n above;
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.
- 5** Not in that poor, lowly stable
With the oxen standing by
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned,
All in white, His praise will sound!

LSB 389, "Let Us All Together Praise the Lord"

Text (st. 2): Public domain. Text (sts. 1, 3-7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001526

- 1** Let all together praise our God
Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav'n again
To give us His own Son,
To give us His own Son.
- 2** He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne,
Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone,
Lies in a humble stall,
Lies in a humble stall.

- 3 **Within an earthborn form He hides
His all-creating light;
To serve us all He humbly cloaks
The splendor of His might,
The splendor of His might.**
- 4 **He undertakes a great exchange,
Puts on our human frame,
And in return gives us His realm,
His glory, and His name,
His glory, and His name.**
- 5 **He is a servant, I a lord:
How great a mystery!
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
No truer friend than He,
No truer friend than He.**
- 6 **He is the key and He the door
To blessed paradise;
The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise,
To God our praises rise.**
- △ 7 **Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.**

Please stand

Dismissal

P Now may this... Go in peace.

C Amen.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

(Psalm 106:1b)

P Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C **His steadfast love endures forever.**

P Let us pray.

We thank You, our Savior King, for You have given us the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation. Let Your Word and this Meal dwell within us richly, empowering us to live lives as Your chosen ones—lives lived with compassion, kindness, humility,

mekness, and patience as we bear with one another in love and forgive others as You forgive us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

(Numbers 6:24-26)

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.

Closing Hymn, LSB 380, “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the_angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!” *Refrain***

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”*

**2 Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the_incarinate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel! *Refrain***

**3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. *Refrain***

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.

Worship Helpers

Sunday, December 26, 2021 - 7:45 am

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Tony Troup

Server/Lector - Warren Frank

Media - Pam Nagel

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

Celebrant/Liturgist - Rev. Merritt Demski

Music Director - Ann Frank

Altar Guild - Barbara Altes

Sunday, December 26, 2021 - 10:15 am

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Tony Troup

Music Director - Ann Frank

Server - Bob Polansky

Ushers - Rodney Clamors, Jenna Hoeffken, Wyatt & Masson Fink

Celebrant/Liturgist - Rev. Merritt Demski

Lector - Rodney Clamors

Acolytes - Jeriah Fink & Brielle Fink

Media/Facebook Live - Lisa Clamors

Ushers - Sunday, January 2, 2022

7:45 am - Allen Jacobs, Don & Gina Birrittier

10:15 am - Jason & Nick Valerius, Tyler Cooley

Acolytes - Sunday, January 2, 2022

Saturday 5:30 pm - Lorelei Griffin

Sunday 7:45 am - Reagan Wilhelm & Tyler Major

Sunday 10:15 am - Jakob Gregory & Carson Filipiak

Servers - Sunday, January 2, 2022

Saturday 5:30 pm -

Sunday 7:45 am -

Sunday 10:15 am - Bob Polansky

Media - Sunday, January 2, 2022

Saturday 5:30 pm -

Sunday 7:45 am - Pam Nagel

Sunday 10:15 am -

Lectors - Sunday, January 2, 2022

Saturday 5:30 pm - n/a

Sunday 7:45 am - Don Birrittier

Sunday 10:15 am -

Altar Guild - Sunday, Jan 2, 2022

Saturday 5:30 pm - Susan Starbuck

Sunday 7:45 am - Sandy Thompson

Sunday 10:15 am - Carol Kassel

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL – WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

immanuelwaterloo.org

e-mail: immanuelwaterloo@gmail.com

Rev. Merritt Demski, Administrative Pastor

939-6480 or 847-254-9666

Rev. Dr. Tony Troup, Associate Pastor

939-6480 or 618-340-8375

Travis Henry, Fourth Year Field Education Student

716-223-0496

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

National Lutheran Schools Week



The Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod
Immanuel Lutheran
Church
Waterloo, Illinois
January 23–30, 2022
Col. 1:15-20
**Preschool and Day
School Alumni Needed**

In honor of **Lutheran Schools Week** in January, the Preschool staff, students, and alumni are working with Ann to create a music video and art show featuring current students **and alumni**. **If you are an Immanuel Preschool or Day School Alumni, we need your help!** If you no longer live in the area – **No Problem!** There are several ways that you can participate.

We want to keep parts of the program a surprise for our congregation so -

Please contact one of the following for more details.

Linda Polansky (618-980-3475 or ilcwprek@gmail.com)

Deborah Joellenbeck (618-340-5262)

Lisa Clamors (618-719-4954 or immanuelwaterloo@gmail.com)

Ann Frank (314-346-7413)

If you know of someone who went to Immanuel preschool or day school, please forward this information to them. We would love a large turnout both virtually and in person.