

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Third Sunday in Advent

December 11, 2022—10:15am

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We celebrate the Lord's Supper today! Please prepare yourselves using these questions as a guide:

- Have I been baptized in the Name of the Triune God, Father, Son & Holy Spirit?
- Do I believe that I am a sinful being without hope for eternal life except in mercy of Jesus Christ?
- Do I believe in Jesus as My Savior?
- Do I believe that Jesus Christ is personally present in communion with His body and blood to forgive my sins, as the Bible teaches?
- Do I desire and strive by the power of the Holy Spirit to live a God-pleasing life?

As you come to the Lord's Supper you are affirming with each communicant that Jesus is your Lord and Savior, and that the Lutheran Church's confession of Jesus Christ and His Supper is your confession as well.

*White grape juice is now available in the center of the communion tray for those who cannot partake of alcohol.  
Gluten free wafers available upon request during distribution.*

## Prelude

**Welcome:** Pastor Haara

*Please note that in the hymnal whenever we see a small triangle next to a hymn verse, that triangle means the Trinity is proclaimed in that verse and we are to stand for that verse.*

## Call to Worship from Isaiah 40

**Pastor:** A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord."

**All:** **Make straight in the desert a highway for our God**

**Pastor:** Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low.

**All:** **The rough ground shall become level, the rugged places plain.**

**Pastor:** And the glory of the Lord will be revealed

**All:** **And all people will see it together.**

**Pastor:** Trusting in the Word of Life given in our baptism, we are gathered together today in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** **Amen.**

## A Time for Praise *(Please rise as you are able)*

**Opening Song: "In His Time" Verse 1 & 2**

In His time, in His time,  
He makes all things beautiful in His time  
Lord, please show me ev'ry day  
As You're teaching me Your way,  
That you do just what You say in Your time.

In Your time, in Your time,  
You make all things beautiful in Your time  
Lord, my life to You I bring,  
May each song I have to sing  
Be to You a lovely thing in Your time.

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**# 712 “Seek Ye First” Verses 1-3**

Seek ye first the kingdom of God,  
And His righteousness;  
And all these things shall be added unto you,  
Allelu, alleluia.

Man does not live by bread alone,  
But by every word,  
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord.  
Allelu, alleluia.

by Karen Lafferty c 1972 Maranatha! Music  
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Pastor: Let us pray

Pastor: Gracious heavenly Father, as we gather for worship  
this morning, we praise You for sending Jesus to be our Savior. We thank You that You have loved us  
with an everlasting love and have chosen us to be Your people. Lord, You promised You would come;  
You came and You have promised You are coming back in all Your glory. Bless our worship as we  
prepare to celebrate Your birth once again. In Your precious name, Amen.

**All: Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**Confession and Absolution**

Pastor: Let us now confess our sins and receive God’s forgiveness

**All: O Lord Jesus, the glory and beauty of Your eternal home gives me hope for all my tomorrows. Yet,  
unless You are Lord of my life; reigning as King, I will get in the way of You being Lord of the Church.  
My own selfish ideas and personal theologies tear down what You build up. Forgive me Lord and  
give me a new vision for Your Kingdom.**

*(We pause for a few minutes of silence to reflect upon God’s Word and self-examination)*

Pastor: Praise God, for the precious Word of the Lord is faithful and true. To those who confess with penitent  
hearts, God forgives us and calls us His children. Washed clean in His blood, we can stand before His  
throne rejoicing. In the name of Jesus, I declare to you that you are forgiven. Amen.

**Children’s Message Song: #833 “Listen God is Calling” Verse 1**

*Refrain*

Listen, listen, God is calling  
Through the Word inviting,  
Offering forgiveness,  
Comfort, and joy.

Jesus gave his mandate:  
Share the good news  
That He came to save us  
And set us free.

**Children’s Message:** Scott Wilcox

**The First Reading – James 5:7-11**

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit  
of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains.

<sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

<sup>9</sup> Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

<sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

<sup>11</sup> Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise for the reading of our Gospel Lesson*

### **The Gospel**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel is written in the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter of St. Matthew beginning at the 2<sup>nd</sup> verse.

**People: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>2</sup> Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?"

<sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.

<sup>6</sup> And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

<sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?

<sup>8</sup> What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.

<sup>9</sup> What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

<sup>10</sup> This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

<sup>11</sup> Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

<sup>12</sup> From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force.

<sup>13</sup> For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup> and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come.

<sup>15</sup> He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

### **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 life everlasting. Amen.**

**Message Song: #344 "On Jordan's Bank" Verses 1 & 3**

**Sermon: "John the Baptizer" Pastor Haara Matthew 11:2-15**

## Offerings are gathered

### The Prayers

Peace & comfort for the family of Charlie Dannels, brother-in-law of Ann Heinkel  
Healing and good test results for Jennifer, the niece of Peg Rankin  
Healing for Sasha Powell, daughter of Pastor Farnsworth & Tammie

### The Lord's Prayer *(Please rise)*

**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.**

*(Please help us keep our attendance numbers accurate by filling out the attendance cards and giving to Ushers at communion.)*

## The Lord's Supper is Celebrated

Pastor: The Consecration of the Bread and Wine

### All: "Make Me a Servant"

Make me a servant, humble and meek  
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.  
And may the prayer of my heart always be;  
Make me a servant, make me a servant,  
Make me a servant today.

By Kelly Willard c1982 Maranatha Music/ Willing Heart  
Music (Admin. By Maranatha! Music) ARR.UBP.CCLI License #171299

*(Distribution is continuous style. Please come to the communion rail and kneel or stand. As a place at the communion rail becomes open, please come forward and take that spot. After receiving the bread and the wine and you feel comfortable, please dismiss yourself to return to your seat; the post communion blessing will be given to all at the end. There are baskets available for the empty communion cups.)*

## Welcome to the Table of the Lord

### Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

### The Benedicamus and Benediction

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: "Emmanuel Emmanuel"**

Emmanuel, Emmanuel  
His Name is called Emmanuel  
God is with us, revealed in us.  
His Name is called Emmanuel.

*Repeat*

CCLI Song #12949

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Bob McGee

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**Our Vision:**

**Pastor:** As a reminder of the reason why we exist as a church let us speak our vision statement together.

**All:** **Through Word and Sacrament ministry, we share the love, joy and peace of Jesus Christ among ourselves and with those around us.**

**Pastor:** Our worship has ended, our service now begins. Let us go in peace.

**All:** **And serve the Lord**

**Altar flowers are placed to the glory of God and in honor of Tina and Todd Buchholz anniversary and in memory of Mary Kallas and Dorothy & Edward Beck by Todd & Tina Buchholz**

***I am very grateful to God and each one of you for the Prayers and Support to start my Studies as a Deaconess. Thank you very much.***

***Romans 1:8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your Faith is proclaimed in all the world.***

***God's Blessings -Katherine Guarin Castro***

*Services will be live-streamed and a recording of service will be posted by the end of the day. You may watch these on Facebook, YouTube or go to website under Worship or scroll down on home page and find the latest services.*

**Continued Prayers**

Peace, strength & comfort for all the victims of Hurricane Ian, who have lost loved ones or their home and belongings

We pray to God our Lord for the new Hispanic Mission in Immanuel and that through the Holy Spirit he will give us guidance to share the Gospel with new families.

Employment for those struggling to find a job

**Healing or Good Test Results**

Reagan McGowan, grand-daughter of Pastor & Tammie Farnsworth

Casey Forsong

Mike Doon, father of Marsha Doon

Jim Hogue, husband of Kathy Hogue

**Battling with Cancer or Serious Illness**

Philip (PeeWee) Hoskins, friend of the Habeck's

Rusty Cotterman, friend of Ed Clarke

Tammy Smith, friend of Danielle Farnsworth

Lou Mercaldo & family, as he is suffering with dementia, grandfather of Carolyn Clarke

Debra's son-in-law, just diagnosed with fatal brain tumor, friend of Sue Hague

Donald Crouse as he has dementia, brother-in-law of Joan Crouse

Kidney transplant for Charles, grandfather of Immanuel student

Don Monahan, brother-in-law of Cathy Wilson

David, son-in-law of Nancy Christianson

Nancy Schild, (non-Hodgkins Lymphoma) former teacher of ILS and member of Immanuel

Diane, friend of Sandy Goode

Doug Woodward, father of Jennifer Woodward, friend of Beth (Harmon) DeKnoblough

Richard Seedroff  
 Victoria Hage, friend of Cindy Szczesny  
 Lee, father of Ashlee Garrett  
 Rich Richards  
 Barbara LaVere  
 Barbara Knott  
 Yvonne Lenzen, grandmother of Grace Sierra  
 Pat, suffering with dementia, Aunt of Beth Hutches  
 Cathy Nichols with terminal cancer, mother of Cathy Wilson  
 David, brother of Larry Habeck  
 Don Swisher, step-father of Larry Habeck  
 Tracy, cousin of Jacquelyn Hahn  
 Lisa Steinbrueck, niece of the Steinbrueck's  
 Tom Meyferth

**PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY**

**Safety for... and strength for families:**

Robert Lowry  
 Joshua Littrel, stationed at Ft. Campbell, KY with the 101st Airborne/Air Assault Division, 3rd Brigade "Rakkasans  
 Luke Buchholz, Navy, grandson of Ann Donahue, stationed at Norfolk, VA  
 Matthew Reikowski as he is deployed on the Carl S. Vinson  
 Logan Crouse, US Army, great-nephew of Joan Crouse, stationed at Ft. Campbell in NC  
 Samuel Drake, Captain stationed at Holloman AFB in Alamogordo, NM, son of Kerry Drake  
 Cpl. Xander Ritter, USMC, stationed at Camp Pendleton, CA  
 Gavin Mattson, para-rescue man, stationed in the Panhandle of FL, grandson of Edith Mattson  
 Jeremy Brockmeier (USMC) & family, stationed at Camp Pendleton in CA, son of Jerry and Janice Brockmeier

**ALSO, FOR ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS**

**PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILIES**

Sunday: Beverly Lowe  
 Monday: Robert & Kristy Lowry  
 Tuesday: Nelson & Lucia Ludke  
 Wed: Joise & Ridiana Martin  
 Thursday: Shirley Martin  
 Friday: Edith Mattson  
 Saturday: Tom McGillem

**PRAYERS FOR OUR SCHOOL STUDENTS & FAMILIES**

Sunday Abriana, Charlie & Nicholas Martin  
 Monday: Alyssa & Matthew Medina  
 Tuesday: Reagan Meldrum  
 Wed: Christina Molina  
 Thurs: Amira & Angelina Nelson  
 Friday: Mathias Noria  
 Saturday: Emma Ortiz

Please take this scripture and prayer that the Call Committee has prepared and place it on your refrigerator or in a spot where you can see it often. We would encourage all of our Immanuel family to memorize the scripture verse each week and to daily lift each other, the Committee and our Vacancy Pastor, Pastor Dan, in prayer

**The LORD hath been mindful of us; He will bless us...Psalm 115:12**

*Father, once again we come before you, seeking your wisdom and guidance as we continue with this process of calling a Senior Pastor. We are disappointed when we receive a decline from a pastor, but we are not shaken. We trust Your loving hand and the Holy Spirit's direction. Be with President Rockey, our Circuit Pastor, Pastor Kuehn, Pastor Dan, the Call Committee, and all of our members as we work together through this process. All praise, glory and honor are Yours. In the precious and strong name of Christ, Amen*