

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

421 North Second Street
Mankato, Minnesota 56001
(507) 345-3027 www.immanuelmankato.org



Word of Truth

Jesus said to him, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."* John 14:6 NKJV™

The 2nd Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2012

Volume 75, No. 64

Deacon: Alan Olmanson; Organist: Karla Olmanson
Sound: Andrew Stelter; Video: Paul & Diane Bode; Screen: Rachael Hanel
Head Usher: Daryl Pischner; Asst. Usher: Dale Spear

WELCOME to all visitors and members! Visitors: please sign the guest register in the narthex.

Pre-Service Meditation: Psalm 1 (p. 481, pew Bible; p.123, red hymnal)
[Pew Bibles are located on the book shelves in the narthex or on the counter by the back entrance.]

Pre-Service Prayer: O Lord God, my precious Savior, as I enter Your presence this day for worship, open my ears to hear the truths You would lay upon my heart. Instruct my mind, so that I might fully understand Your Word and truly comprehend Your will. Move me to rejoice this Advent Season in the certainty of Your return, for then the challenges of this life will end and the joys of heaven will begin. I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE

I. WE PREPARE TO MEET OUR LORD

Bells

Grades 5-6 Handbells: "Joy to the World"

Hymn: 62 — "*Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel*"

WELCOME in the name of Jesus—the Prophet promised by God...the Prophet to whom we are to listen with care and confidence!

Invocation:

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (sings): Amen.

Our Confession of Sins

Pastor: 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. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Congregation (sings): Who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

Congregation (sings): And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Pastor: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Congregation: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives the privilege of being children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

Congregation (sings): Amen.

II. WE PRAISE OUR LORD

Responsive Reading: Psalm 119:33-35, 40 NKJV™

P: Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes:

C: And I shall keep it to the end.

P: Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law:

C: Indeed, I shall observe it with my whole heart.

P: Make me walk in the path of Your commandments:

C: For I delight in it.

P: Behold, I long for Your precepts:

C: Revive me in Your righteousness.

P: Glory be to God!

Congregation (sings):

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

"When Sinners See Their Lost Condition" (CW #32)

When Jesus comes—O blessed story!—

He works a change in heart and life;

God's kingdom comes with pow'r and glory

To young and old, to man and wife;

Through Sacrament and living Word,

Faith, love, and hope are now conferred.

Oh, may He soon to ev'ry nation

Find entrance where He is unknown,

With life and light and free salvation,

That Satan's pow'r be overthrown
And healing to the hearts may come
In heathen land and Christian home!

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation (sings): And with your spirit.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Congregation (sings): Amen.

III. OUR LORD SPEAKS TO US

The Epistle Reading: 2 Timothy 3:10-17 (p. 1057, pew Bible)

The Bible is a book inspired by God the Holy Spirit. It is therefore true and trustworthy. It reveals to us how we are saved by faith in Christ Jesus and equips us to accomplish every good work!

Church Choir: An Advent Alleluia

Accompanist: Viv Hanel

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.*

Alleluia!

*Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a Child, and yet a King;
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.*

Alleluia!

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The Gospel Reading: Luke 17:26-33 (p. 927, pew Bible)

Although the Bible is God's inspired Word, many people today unfortunately ignore its truths. They are preoccupied with their lives in this world, even as the people were in Noah's day and in Lot's day. Sadly, unless they have a change of heart, they will lose the lives they are trying to gain.

Our Confession of Faith in the Apostolic Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty.
From there 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.

Children's Sermon: "Get Ready!" (Taken from the *Jesus Storybook Bible*.) *Children (pre-school-2nd grade) are invited to come forward and gather around the pastor in the front of the church.*

Hymn: 61 — "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"

The Sermon: Text – Deuteronomy 18:15-22 (p. 176, pew Bible)

Theme - **THE LORD GOD SENT JESUS
TO BE HIS SPOKESMAN!**

- I. Listen to Jesus for He proclaims divine truth!
- II. Do not listen to those who proclaim their own fantasies!

Pastor Paul D. Nolting

Sermon Notes:

Tues. Dec. 11

- **1:00 PM** Seniors' Bible Study @ Orness Plaza (900 Hope St.)
- **3:00-5:00 PM** Pastor's Office Hours [PDN]
- **6:00 PM** Board of Deacons meeting (TIME change for this month only)
- **7:00 PM** Board of Education meeting
- **7:00 PM** Board of Property meeting
- **7:30 PM** Board of Finance meeting
- **8:00 PM** Church Council meeting

Wed. Dec. 12

- **12:45 PM** Immanuel Church Service CCTV Charter Ch. 13 or HickoryTech Ch. 7
- **1:00 PM** Mid-week Advent Worship (Grades 3-4 sing)
Deacon: Gene Schreyer; Screen: Russ Schmitt
- **5:30 PM** Youth Instruction
- **6:00 PM** Wed. Bible Study in upper hallway Mr. Roehl's classroom (study of God's Word regarding church fellowship)
- **7:00 PM** Mid-week Advent Worship (ILHS Choir sings)
Deacon: Alan Olmanson; Screen: Clifford Kuehne

Thurs. Dec. 13

- **1:00 PM** Bible Study @ Old Main (301 S. 5th St.)
- **3:30 PM** Bible Study @ Keystone (100 Dublin Rd.)
- **6:00 PM** HOME ILS Girls' JV vs. Echo Charter
- **7:30 PM** HOME ILS Girls' V vs. Echo Charter
- **7:15 PM** Church Choir Practice

Fri. Dec. 14

- **6:30 AM** Men's Breakfast
- **8:00-10:00 AM** Pastor's Office Hours [WCE]
- **1:00 PM** English Class

Sun. Dec. 16

- **8:15-8:20 AM** Immanuel Meditations KTOE 1420 AM or 102.7 FM radio
- **8:15-9:15 AM** Sunday School, Youth Ambassadors, & Bible Study
- **9:30 AM** 3rd Sunday of Advent WORSHIP Service [PDN]
Altar Flowers: G. Schreyer; S. Nolting; Deacon: Dave Busse; Sound: Larry Hartman
Video: Kristen Friedrichs; Screen: Clifford Kuehne
Ushers: Third Sunday of the Month: Head Usher: Paul Bode (382.3867); Asst. Usher: Fred Friedrichs (243.3239); Axton Becker; Ty Hanel; Brett Kruse; Andy Olmanson; Evan Olmanson; Isaac Schmitt; Russ Schmitt; Ron Wolle; Steve Wolle

Future Events (mark your calendars)

December 16 following the worship service

- Christmas Eve Children's Service rehearsal in the sanctuary.
- School PR Committee "Meet and Confer" in school lunchroom (see below)
- Voters' Meeting in the church basement (Agenda: Election of a Deacon for 2013, Presentation of the Gospel-work in Peru by Daniel Pfeiffer)
- ILHS Bake Sale in the MPF

December 23

- Christmas Eve Children's Service rehearsal immediately following the worship service



Immanuel Ambassadors' Christmas

Saturday – December 22

5:00 – 9:30 p.m.

5:00 p.m. – Meet at Church

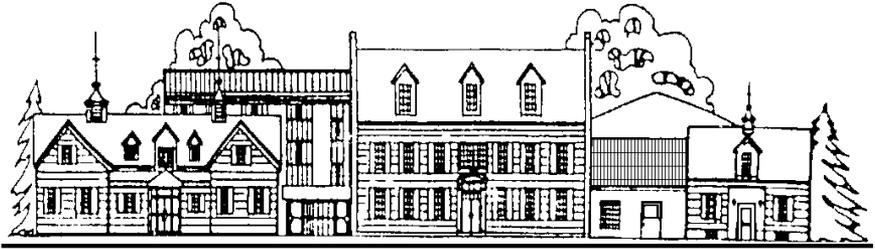
- Bring a food shelf donation (non-perishable food items) + \$2.00
- Come with proper attire to spend time outside
- Lights in Sibley Park, Supper, Christmas Project, Assembling Christmas Bags, Games by Kym

Sign-up Sheet is in the Narthex!



Painting Party! The goal is to do a great deal of painting—as much as time and funding will allow—and in so doing brighten up and instantly improve the appearance and upkeep of the facility with which God has blessed us. **Can you help?**

Painting volunteers are needed January 2-5. Some prep work could be done earlier. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. You may also volunteer/gain more information via Pastor Eichstadt. Volunteers will be contacted to solidify timing, areas to paint, access to supplies, etc.



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Immanuel Lutheran College Christmas Concert – Immanuel is chartering a bus to the Immanuel Lutheran College (Eau Claire, WI) Christmas Concert on December 21st. No specific fee is being charged. Participants are encouraged to give a donation to the cost of the bus in the amount they choose and are able to contribute (the total cost averaged across all seats is \$22.50). Bring friends and family along for an enjoyable evening of Christian fellowship and edifying Christmas music in celebration! The bus leaves at 3:15 p.m., will stop for a 45 minute supper opportunity enroute, and will leave Eau Claire 30 minutes after the close of the concert (return around midnight). You may register for this trip on the sign-up sheet in the narthex, or by calling the church/school office.

Bake Sale: The ILHS senior class will be holding its annual Christmas Bake Sale on Sunday, December 16. Come and take home your favorite Christmas goodies, pies, and sweet breads! The bake sale will be held immediately following the church service in the MPF. All proceeds go to offset expenses for the senior class trip in April.



2013 Offering Envelopes can be picked up in the church basement. In order to save money and to cut down on waste, only those who used envelopes in the past have been given an envelope pack. If you would like to make use of envelopes in 2013, please place your name on the sheet.

Could you use an extra \$150 monthly tax free?

Become a Foster Grandparent at Mankato Head Start. Foster Grandparents must be born between 1946 and 1964 and above to qualify; service of 10 to 15 hours or more a week earns a small hourly tax- free stipend, plus receive travel reimbursement. For more information, contact Gail at 507.530.2295 or gail.sumerfelt@lssmn.org

IN THE HOSPITAL:

2013 Mission Helper Trip to India: The deadline for applications is January 10, 2013. For more information see the bulletin insert as posted on the narthex bulletin board.

Christmas Gifts? Pastor L.D. Redlin books may be purchased at reduced costs in the church conference room from now until Christmas:

It Takes Cow Chips to Make Dinner
Poems of Prayer & Praise
Sheep & Shepherds

Christmas Cards may be purchased in the church office. Please place your payments (exact cash or check made out to Study Guild) in the wooden payment box. \$6.50/box.



School PR Committee: “MEET & CONFER” – The Immanuel School PR Committee is proposing the use of an updated and consistent logo in our outreach efforts.



The current school logo is a long, narrow, crimson shield, has a black cross in it, and says, “God With Us” inside a white bible.

Other logo concepts have been put forth in more recent years, in which a shield was outlined, and the letters ILS (Immanuel Lutheran School) were in the center of the shield, and the “L” was crossed at the top to represent a cross within the design.



Elements that the PR Committee felt were important in a new design concept:

A new logo would maintain a shield, as not to stray too far from the original. / It would contain the name of the school (or ILS, or ILHS) within it, to distinguish it from other shields / It should have at least two of the following four elements to make clear the Christian emphasis: A Cross, the meaning of Immanuel--“God With Us,” a Bible, the School Motto: An Education Enlightened by God’s Word / Royal blue, the school color, would be the predominant color of the logo. Accent colors would be red (honoring the previous red shield / The logo would contain white space, so that

when printed in one color only (black), it would not appear as a dark mark on the page. / It would have a balanced shape, which would fit better onto letterhead, etc.

A Church logo was also drafted.



The PR Committee welcomes input from church members, parents, faculty, staff, administration. Please review the logo design project information, and plan to attend the **“Meet & Confer” on next Sunday—December 16th after church, in the school lunchroom.**

Our Response of Faith

Attendance:

- 11/29 Keystone = 9
- 11/30 Pathstone = 20
- 11/30 Autumn Grace = 11
- 12/2 Sunday School = 54 / Ambassadors = 7 / Bible Study = 47
- 12/2 Sunday Worship = 362 / communed = 255 / registered = 206
- 12/4 Seniors' Bible = 11
- 12/6 Walnut Towers = 9 / Old Main = 13

Offerings from Dec. 2

<u>Immanuel</u>	<u>CLC</u>
(Sunday Current NEED = \$10,678)	(Weekly Missions NEED = \$1,273)
Sunday Current = \$10,808	Missions = \$1,108
Endowment = \$160	ILC Building = \$20
Expansion / Relocation = \$0	ILC Student Aid = \$8
Major Improvement = \$46	MDF: Mission Develop. Fund = \$105
Debt = \$15	
OTHER: Benevolent = \$67 Food Shelf = \$40 Imm. School = \$75 Imm. Student Aid = \$50 Tuition Aid = \$100	OTHER:



QR code to Immanuel's website

Want a treat?

Come for a "Sunday!"