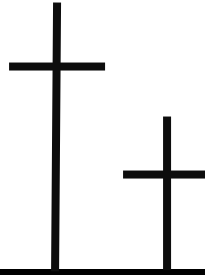


DEC
15 - 16
2018

Vol. 81
No. 67

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN



3rd Sunday in Advent

Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
nor have entered into the
heart of man the things
which God has prepared for
those who love Him.

I Corinthians 2:9

Welcome! We are excited to share the
Good News of the Gospel with you!
If you are visiting us today, please
sign our guestbook in the entryway.
We invite you to join us again.

For more information about Immanuel, contact

Pastor Joe Naumann 920.266.5386

Pastor Neal Radichel 920.268.8002

Church and School 507.345.3027

www.immanuelmankato.org

SERVING US TODAY

PASTOR Neal Radichel ♦ DEACON Logan Wendt ♦ ORGANIST Bonnie Cornish
SOUND Evan Matzke ♦ VIDEO Vern Frank ♦ SCREEN Russ Schmitt
FLOWERS Trudy Dackins, Lane Fischer, Donna Klammer & Grace Schreyer
HEAD USHER Fred Friedrichs ♦ ASSISTANT John Heinze ♦ USHERS Niko Becker;
Joshua Clobes; David Clobes; Hunter Hanel; Jay Hanel; Ty Hanel; Dennis
Heinze; Brett Kruse; Andy Olmanson; Luke Olmanson; Mick Rykhus; Russ
Schmitt; Alex Schmitt; Ron Wolle; Steve Wolle

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION

Psalm 22 (*Red Hymnal pg. 127*)

Prayer *Holy Ghost, with light divine Shine upon this heart of mine; Chase the shades of night away, Turn the darkness into day. Let me see my Savior's face, Let me all His beauties trace; Show those glorious truths to me Which are only known to Thee. Holy Ghost, with power divine Cleanse this guilty heart of mine; In Thy mercy pity me, From sin's bondage set me free. Holy Ghost, with joy divine Cheer this saddened heart of mine; Yield a sacred, settled peace, Let it grow and still increase. Holy Spirit, all divine, Dwell within this heart of mine; Cast down every idol-throne, Reign supreme, and reign alone! In Jesus name I pray, Amen! [TLH 234:1-5]*

CHANTING ORDER OF SERVICE


Hymn

645 (v. 1-3) *Red Hymnal*

Behold a Branch is Growing

INVOCATION

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

Congregation (C):  Amen!

All: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. I justly deserve Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for my sins and sincerely repent of them. I pray that You would of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy upon you and has given His only Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your 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.

C:  **Amen.**

(sung)

P: The Lord be with you

C: **And with your spirit.**

P: Glory be to God on high

C: **And on earth peace, good will toward men.**

P: We praise You, we bless You, we worship You,

C: **We glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory.**

P: O Lord God, heav'nly King,

C: **God the Father Almighty.**

P: O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

C: **O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

P: Who takes away the sin of the world,

C: **Have mercy upon us.**

P: You who takes away the sin of the world,

C: **Receive our prayer.**

P: You who sits at the right hand of God the Father,

C: **Have mercy upon us.**

P: For You only are holy;

C: **You only are the Lord.**

P: You only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

C: **Are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON:

ZECHARIAH 3:1-10

God has given us the righteous robes of Jesus. Jesus is the Servant, our Branch, who removes the iniquity of our land. He performed this in a single day, the day of salvation. He reassures Joshua the High Priest, and us also, that our iniquity is taken away, and we are given the joyous task of serving the God who has saved us!

Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him. 2 And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan!

The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?" 3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel. 4 Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And to him He said, "See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes." 5 And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head, and they put the clothes on him. And the Angel of the LORD stood by. 6 Then the Angel of the LORD admonished Joshua, saying, 7 "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'If you will walk in My ways, And if you will keep My command, Then you shall also judge My house, And likewise have charge of My courts; I will give you places to walk Among these who stand here. 8 'Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, You and your companions who sit before you, For they are a wondrous sign; For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH. 9 For behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone are seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' Says the LORD of hosts, 'And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. 10 In that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'Everyone will invite his neighbor Under his vine and under his fig tree.' "

C: ♪ Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

PSALM 22: 19-23

P: But You, O LORD, do not be far from Me; O My Strength, hasten to help Me!

C: **Deliver Me from the sword, My precious life from the power of the dog.**

P: Save Me from the lion's mouth And from the horns of the wild oxen! You have answered Me.

C: **I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.**

P: You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him,

ALL: And fear Him, all you offspring of Israel!

SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 4: 1-5

C: ♪ **Glory be to You, O Lord!**

What is the most important quality for a servant of God? That we be found faithful as stewards or caretakers of what Paul calls the "mysteries

of God". A mystery is something that must be revealed in order for it to be known. Consider the virgin birth, redemption, the resurrection of Jesus and of all people. These are examples of what God has done but what He must reveal for us to know and believe. Lord, help us all be faithful stewards!

Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. **2** Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. **3** But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. **4** For I know nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. **5** Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

C: ♪ **Praise be to You, O Christ!**

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH

BASED ON 2 PETER 3

The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with us, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare...

But in keeping with Jesus' promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. Bearing in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote with the wisdom that God gave him... that we may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

Hymn
69 (v. 1, 5-6) *Red Hymnal*

Hark the Glad Sound!
The Savior Comes

SERMON MEDITATION

MATTHEW 11: 2-10

Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples **3** and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" **4** And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: **5** 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. **6** And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." **7** 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? **8** What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. **9** What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. **10** This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

Be Like John. Point to Jesus.

1. "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)
2. "He must increase, but I must decrease." (John 3:27)
3. "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you." (Malachi 3:1 / Matthew 11:10)

*Preaching today Pastor Neal Radichel
Sermon note sheets available in the narthex*

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence; and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation; and uphold me with Your free Spirit. Amen.

Hymn

75 Red Hymnal

Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Harken

OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

Offering Meditation: What Child is This *Chris Tomlin © 2015*

Hymn

69 (v. 3-4) Red Hymnal

**Hark the Glad Sound!
The Savior Comes**

LAST WEEK

Gatherings

December 8-9

Saturday Worship: **53**
 Sunday Worship: **329**
 Weekend Total: **383**

Saturday Bible Study: **10**
 Saturday School: **0**
 Sunday Bible Study: **54**
 Sunday School: **39**
 Ambassadors: **8**

December 12

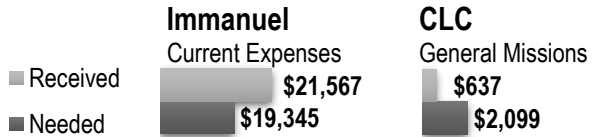
1 PM Worship: **36**
 6 PM Worship: **144**

Bible Studies:

Adult Instruction: **10**
 Durst Home: **8**
 Men's Breakfast: **26**
 New Perspective: **4**
 Old Main: **6**
 Primrose: **5**
 Walnut Towers: **9**

Fruits of Faith

Church-Benevolent \$20	Tuition Aid \$40
Church-Land Purchase \$50,165	CLC-Kinship \$25
Church-Major Improvement \$95	CLC-MDF \$115
ILS Mankato-Foundation \$20	CLC-ILC Building \$20
ILS Mankato-Student Aid \$60	
ILS Mankato-Discretionary \$4,510	
Wheaton Scholarship \$2,000	
In memory of David Holtan \$10	
Special gift of stocks (received and liquidated in November)	
ILS Mankato-Endowment \$5,282.28	
Immanuel Current Expenses \$45,955.87	
CLC General Missions \$1,584.69	



Did you know?

Offerings specifically designated to the “**Endowment Fund**” are intended to provide an ongoing source of revenue to support the work of our K-12 school and thereby the overall program of Immanuel Lutheran Church. Money given to this fund is invested; the interest is then given to help cover the costs of teacher salaries. The present goal of the fund is to provide enough revenue to keep tuition costs as low as possible.

THIS WEEK

more event details can be found in our online calendars at www.immanuelmankato.org

- Sat Dec 15 6:00p WORSHIP**
 7:00p Bible Study *in the church basement*
- Sun Dec 16 8:15a** Radio Sermon: *KTOE 1420AM or 102.7FM*
 9:00a Bible Study *in the church basement*
 9:00a Sunday School - *see online calendar for specific class room locations*
 10:00a **WORSHIP**
 11:00a Christmas Eve Practice *in the sanctuary*
 2:15p Ambassadors Ice Skating (\$5), *All Seasons Arena, 1251 Monks Avenue*
 4:15 pm Ambassadors Devotion/Activity *in the church basement*
 5:00 pm Ambassadors Food/Social (\$2) *in the church basement*

- Mon Dec 17 8:10a** ILS K-6 Devotion *in the church sanctuary*
- Tues Dec 18 10:00a** Bible Study, *New Perspective Senior Living, 100 Dublin Road*
3-5p Pastors' Office Hours
4:00p ILS Grade School Girls 5-6 Home Game vs Mount Olive
5:00p ILS Grade School Girls 7-8 Home Game vs Mount Olive
6:30p Women's Study Guild *in the church basement – enter by the church office*
Bible study topic: Benedictions in the Bible; serving: Ruth Mueller
- Wed Dec 19 12:45p** Televised **WORSHIP** Service, *Charter #181; Consolidated Communications #7*
1:00p Advent **WORSHIP**
2:00p Ladies Auxiliary & Cookie Exchange *in the church basement*
Serving: Marilyn Timm; enter through the south school entrance
5:00p Confirmation Class (for non-ILS students) *in the 7th-8th grade classroom*
6:00p Advent **WORSHIP**
- Thu Dec 20 10:00a** Bible Study, *Walnut Towers, 105 E. Walnut Street*
1:30p Bible Study, *Old Main, 301 S. Fifth Street*
3:30p ILS Grade School Boys 5-6 Home Game vs Risen Savior
4:30p ILS Grade School Girls vs Risen Savior
4:40-9p Kiwanis Holiday Lights Volunteer Night, *Sibley Park*
contact info: Sarah Kruse, Sarah.Kruse@mnsu.edu or 507-380-6018
5:00p Adult Instruction Class *in the language classroom*
5:30p ILS Grade School Boys 7-8 vs Risen Savior
5:45p Televised **WORSHIP** Service, *Charter #181; Consolidated Communications #7*
6:00p Church Choir Rehearsal *in the sanctuary*
- Fri Dec 21 6:30a** Men's Breakfast and Bible Study *in the basement*
8a-10a Pastors' Office Hours
8:10a ILS Christmas Eve Practice *in the church sanctuary*
8:30a Jail Ministry Meeting *in Pastor Neal's office*
9:30a ILS K-12 Chapel *in the church sanctuary*
10:15a Bible Study, *Pathstone, 708 Mount Avenue*
- Sat Dec 22 10:00a** Bible Study, *Primrose, 2nd floor community room, 1360 Adams Street*
6:00p **WORSHIP**
7:00p Bible Study *in the church basement*
- Sun Dec 23 8:15a** Radio Sermon: *KTOE 1420AM or 102.7FM*
9:00a Bible Study *in the church basement*
9:00a Sunday School - *see online calendar for specific class room locations*
10:00a **WORSHIP**
11:00a Christmas Eve Practice *in the sanctuary*
11:00a Help fill Christmas Eve giveaway bags *in the church basement*

SAVE THE DATES

- December 24 Christmas Eve **WORSHIP** Service at 6 pm
 December 25 Christmas Day **WORSHIP** Service at 10 am
 December 31 New Year's Eve **WORSHIP** at 6 pm
 January 1 New Year's Day **WORSHIP (Favorite Hymns Service)** at 10 am

IMMANUEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE PRACTICE All children of our congregation are welcome to join in our Christmas Eve Service that will take place on December 24 at 6pm. It is very important that ALL children attend the Sunday practices that will occur **today and on Sunday, December 23, after the worship service**. Please plan to attend these practices so that our children are prepared and ready to share God's Word on Christmas Eve. Thank you!

NEEDED: Kiwanis Holiday Lights Volunteers The PTO needs a few more volunteers for the ILS nights at the Kiwanis Holiday Lights in Sibley Park. Volunteers are needed on **Dec 20**, for concessions on **Dec 23 and 30**, and tear down on **Jan. 1, 5 or 6**. In past years, this event has raised \$500-\$700. This year, funds will be used to help purchase a laminator for the school. After the service, please stop by the sign-up table in the school hallway if you are able to help.

CHRISTMAS EVE GIVEAWAY BAGS If available, your assistance will be appreciated after church on Sunday, **December 23** in filling up the paper giveaway bags for Christmas Eve. Please check in in the church basement for direction on how to help.

SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING Congregation President Ted Schreyer has granted a request by Council to hold a Special Voters meeting immediately following the church service on Sunday, **December 23**, in the gym. The agenda includes several membership matters resulting from recent member contact efforts and one excommunication consideration.

FOR SALE: 2019 God's Creation Calendars for \$7.00

WSO and Study Guild are selling 2019 calendars. A sample calendar is available to preview. You can find the sample, a sign-up order sheet and payment box in the narthex next to the guest registry. Checks can be made out to Immanuel Study Guild. Calendars will be available to pick up in the church office this weekend through January. **We still have available calendars.** Please sign-up in the narthex and/or contact Kristen Friedrichs at wso@immanuelmankato.org or at 507-382-5257. *Any profits will offset costs of fellowship meals.*



FOR SALE: Seasonal Cards The Immanuel Women's Study Guild has added Thanksgiving and Christmas cards to the card display. Cards are 50 cents each. There are also boxes of 12 Christmas cards available to purchase for \$5. The card display is located in the hallway outside the church offices.

FYI: CHURCH LIBRARY The church library, which was relocated during renovations of the pastors' office area, has found a new home! You may check out our library resources in the following locations:

- All children's materials are now available in the mother's room.
- Some theological materials are available in the pastor's offices.
- Most of the devotion and study materials are available in the narthex.

If you need assistance finding any of these resources, please ask a deacon, an usher or one of the pastors.

WANTED: Altar Flowers Volunteers are still needed for January 2019 through April 2019. Opportunities to volunteer are listed below. Volunteers for each month coordinate with each other to ensure all worship services are covered. To sign up or get additional information, please see the posted sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex or contact Kristen Friedrichs at 507-382-5257 or StudyGuild@ImmanuelMankato.org

January 2019	1) Karla, 625-3381	March 2019	1) Mark, _____
	2) _____		2) _____
February 2019	1) Laura, 469-4758		3) _____
	2) _____	April 2019	1) _____
			2) _____
			3) _____

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS! The deacons and other volunteers have recently been making many phone calls to members we do not believe we have seen for a while. There have been many encouraging connections! But we need YOUR help now too. Look over the following list of members on the next two pages. The information we have for them is NOT current. **Please, pass along ANY contact information you may have to the pastors so we can reach out to these brothers and sisters in Christ!**

Amundson, Matthew	Enter, Eric	Johnson, Scott
Amundson, Nicole	Fraze, Jeri	Jones, Justin
Anderson, Joel	Garang, Mary	Kellogg, Alyssa
Anderson, Jordan	Gibson, Matthew	Kerns, Amanda
Anderson, Nancy	Guentzel, Larry	Kerns, Barb
Anderson, Wm., Sr.	Guentzel, Ron	Lanes, Lindsay
Becker, Dale	Harmon, Carol	Lang, Gilbert
Bissell, Judy	Helmers, Hannah Heinze	Lang, Linda
Born, David	Hendley, Vicki	Otto, Anthony
Brandt, Dianne	Herme, Holden	Petersen, Dennis
Broviak, Clinton	Herme, Steven	Pettis, Julie
Broviak, Katelyn	Hiniker, Rita	Rasmussen, Laura
Broviak, Penny	Hiniker, Terry	Ruae, Sarah
Clobes, Michael	Hoffman, Ryan	Schultz, Donald
Cole, Lois	Hofman, Rick	Strege, Julie
Dummer, Jon	Jackson, Carol	Tester, Jessica
Dummer, Tamara	Johnson, David	Wreath, Howard
Edwards, Ronald	Johnson, Roxann	

CLC ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLC CALL NEWS Our Redeemer's Lutheran, Red Wing MN, has called the Rev, Edward .Starkey, pastor of Resurrection Lutheran, Corpus Christi TX. <> Bethel Lutheran, Morris MN, has called Pastor Richard Kanzenbach, pastor of Morning Star Lutheran, Fairchild WI, Peace with God Lutheran, Onalaska WI, and Trinity Lutheran, Millston WI.



2019 MISSION HELPER TRIP Applications for the 2019 CLC Mission Helper Trip to India are being accepted. The application deadline is January 7, 2019. Space is limited so it is best to apply early. Find more information or apply online at: www.MHT.LutheranMissions.org or contact Todd Ohlmann at thohlmann@gmail.com.

NEEDED: CLC KINSHIP Sponsors The CLC KINSHIP Committee is seeking sponsors to support overseas orphans and seminary students. There are both students and orphans that will not have financial support starting in January if new sponsors are not found. Please give this prayerful consideration. For more information, please email, call or text Dan Roehl at danroehl@hotmail.com or 507-381-2042.

ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY COMPARED The Midwestern outreach seminar tour was recently completed by Pastors Dave Koenig and Paul Tiefel. Here is a rundown of locations and attendance: Mankato 70 (12 visitors); New Ulm 17 (2 visitors); Eau Claire 116 (8 visitors); Appleton 27 (7 visitors); Marquette 22; Saginaw 54 (21 visitors); Detroit 12; Grand Rapids 13 (2 visitors); Milwaukee 27; Middleton 27 (13 visitors). Total = 385 (67 visitors). We thank the Lord for the opportunity to share His Word among ourselves and with our visitors. If you missed this Seminar, you may view the video of Eau Claire's seminar, at www.tinyurl.com/Messiah-seminar-2018.

2019 MIDWEST CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT The retreat will be held March 22-24, at the Riverport Inn & Suites in Winona. Registration is \$75, opens on January 1 and is limited to the first 120 applicants. Register at www.ladiesretreat.clclutheran.net by choosing the "Midwest Spring Retreat." Hotel reservations (separate from retreat registration) can be made by calling (507) 452-0606, with the special block rate for our group available now. Be sure to mention the retreat to get the block rate. Deadline for both retreat registration and hotel reservations is February 22.

+ +

If you have an announcement or event that you would like in next weekend's bulletin or in the online calendars, please send it to Bulletin@ImmanuelMankato.org or contact one of the pastors by Thursday at 12 pm. Thank you!