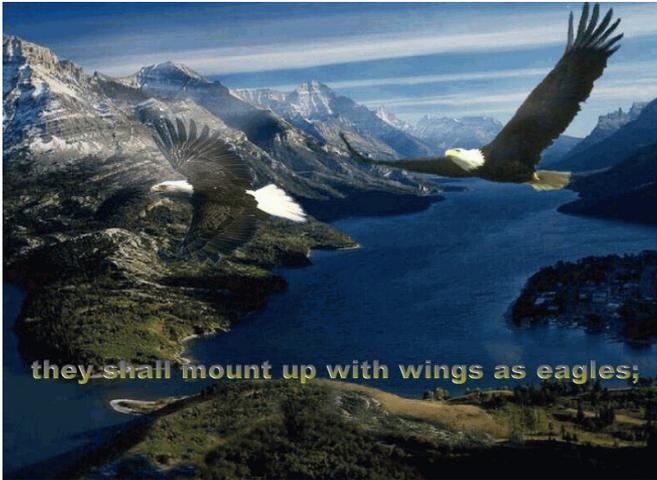


IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

421 North Second Street
Mankato, Minnesota 56001

(507) 345-3027 www.immanuelmankato.org



Word of Truth:

"Whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope!" Romans 15:4 NKJV™

The Sunday after Christmas

December 29, 2013

Volume 76, No. 70

Deacon: Dave Busse; Organist: Grace Schreyer

Sound: Andy Hagen; Video: Kristen Friedrichs; Screen: Clifford Kuehne

Head Usher: Council Chm.; Asst. Usher: Deacon Chm.

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WELCOME to all visitors!



Pre-Service Meditation: Psalm 93 (p. 531, pew Bible; p.143, red hymnal)

[Pew Bibles are located on the book shelves in the narthex.]

Pre-Service Prayer: O Lord God, our dear Heavenly Father, I come before You with joy in my heart this Christmas Season, yet I find myself often sorely oppressed by the trials and troubles of this life. Strengthen my faith, dear Lord, so that I might confidently believe that the Baby of Bethlehem is now the King of kings and Lord of lords watching over me and enabling me to meet the challenges of life, even as I seek faithfully to follow Him. Amen.

Matins ORDER OF SERVICE

WE PREPARE TO MEET OUR LORD

Hymn: "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

1. A great and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure:
The virgin bears the Infant
With virgin honor pure!
Proclaim the Savior's birth:
"To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"

2. The Word becomes incarnate
And yet remains on high,
And cherubim sing anthems
To shepherds from the sky.
Proclaim the Savior's birth:
"To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"

3. While thus they sing your Monarch,
Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, O vales and mountains,
And oceans, clap your hands.
Proclaim the Savior's birth:
"To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"

4. Since all He comes to ransom,
By all be He adored,
The infant born in Beth'lem,
The Savior and the Lord.
Proclaim the Savior's birth:
"To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"

5. All idols then shall perish,
And Satan's lying cease,
And Christ shall raise His scepter,
Decreeing endless peace.
Proclaim the Savior's birth:
"To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"

Welcome & Invocation

Confession of Sins & Absolution

Pastor: We have come together in the presence of the Triune God, to give thanks for the great benefits we have received from His hand, to give Him praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and others those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

Congregation: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your Holy name.

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord has granted you pardon and forgiveness for all your sins, grace for true repentance, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

WE PRAISE OUR LORD

Matins TLH, p.33 **Invitatory**

Pastor: Oh, come, let us worship the Lord.

Congregation (sings): For He is our Maker.

The Venite as printed on next page.

The Venite exultemus

1. O come, let us sing to the Lord:
 3. For the Lord is a great God:
 5. The sea is His, for He made it:
 8. Glory be to the Father and to the Son

1. let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our sal-va-tion.
 3. and a great King a-bove all gods.
 5. and His hands form-ed the dry land.
 8. and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

2. Let us come before His presence with thanks-giv-ing
 4. In His hand are the deep places of the earth:
 6. O come, let us worship and bow down:
 >7. For He is our God:
 8. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:

2. and make a joyful noise to Him with psalms.
 4. the strength of the hills is His al-so.
 6. let us kneel before the Lord, our Mak-er. (7)>
 >7. and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
 8. for- ev-er-more. A-men.

OUR LORD SPEAKS TO US

Epistle Reading: Galatians 4:1-7 (p. 1035, pew Bible)

At just the right time in history God "*sent forth His Son*" into the world to redeem us. We were in bondage to sin and death—"the elements of this world" mentioned here by Paul. By faith we become the adopted children of God and "*heirs of God through Christ!*" What joy!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-23 (p. 850, pew Bible)

Joseph is here warned by an angel in a dream to take Mary and Jesus away to Egypt. King Herod ruthlessly murdered all infant boys in Bethlehem and the surrounding region in an attempt to destroy the new-born King. He did not succeed, for despite all outward appearances, God is in control!

Responsory:

P: But You, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Cong. (sings): Thanks be to You, O Lord!

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.**

Hymn: 90 — *"Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising"*

Sermon: Text - Isaiah 40:25-31 (p. 639, pew Bible)

**WHEN FACING THE TRIALS AND TROUBLES OF LIFE,
DO NOT DESPAIR OR GIVE UP!
REMEMBER THAT JESUS IS NO LONGER
THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM!**

- I. He is rather the Holy One who with might and power has created and sustains all things!
- II. He is also the everlasting God, the LORD, who strengthens and enables those who wait on Him!

Pastor Paul D. Nolting

Sermon Notes:

Hymn: "On Eagles' Wings"

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord; "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain:

**And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His hand.**

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear:
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield.

REFRAIN.

You need not fear the terror of the night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.

REFRAIN.

For to His angels He's given a command
To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot
against a stone.

REFRAIN.

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CW#440

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO OUR LORD

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Lord's Prayer

Liturgy: TLH, p. 40

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Cong. (sings): And with your spirit.

Pastor (prayer): "...one God forever and ever."

Cong. (sings): Amen.

Pastor: Bless we the Lord.

Cong. (sings): Thanks be to God.

Sat. Jan. 4

- **11:00 AM** Christmas Eve Service on CCTV Charter Ch. 13 or Hickory Tech Ch. 7

Sun. Jan. 5

- **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 Worship with Holy Communion** [PDN]

Altar Flowers: Karla Olmanson; Audrey Lueck; **Deacon:** Alan Olmanson/Paul Bade;

Sound: Andrew Stelter; **Video:** Tony Harris; **Screen:** Rachael Hanel

Ushers: First Sunday of the Month; Head Usher: Karl Friedrichs (625.1452); Asst. Usher: Kyle Hulke (382.7335); Aaron Busse; Mitchell Dummer; Jon Greve; Matt Hagen; Jacob Hanel, Nathan Hanel; Allen Hansen; Nathan Heinze; Tyler Heinze; Kyle Hulke; Andrew Lentz; David Lueck; Richard Lueck; Alan Olmanson; Adam Owings; Brent Schreyer

Christmas Eve Worship Service may be seen on CCTV on the following dates:

Tuesday, Dec. 31, 8:30 PM

Saturday, Jan. 4, 11:00 AM

Tuesday, Jan. 7, 8:30 PM

Saturday, Jan. 11, 11:00 AM

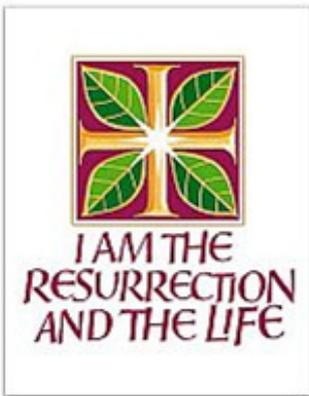
ILS Faculty “Wish Lists” – Each school classroom/office door now holds a collection of items that faculty and staff would find beneficial for educating our children. As you prayerfully think about supporting our school and its ministry during the Christmas season, please consider these ideas in your gift planning. Most are small, practical, and simple, but feel free to ask the respective teacher if you have any questions! Just remove the item you wish to purchase from the door and use it as a reminder for yourself in the coming days and weeks. The items will remain on the doors through early January. This effort is supported and created by a number of ILS PTO volunteers. Thank you!

IHM Assembly Volunteers: THANK YOU for your willingness to serve in the church office!

HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated in next Sunday's worship service. Communicants who plan to attend are asked to register their intent--registration sheets are located in the narthex and back entry.

Thank You! The pastors and their families thank you for the encouragement given in an assortment of ways this Christmas season. We pray that God blesses each of you during this New Year.

IMMANUEL AMBASSADORS
SAVE THE DATE: "Warm Up for Whitewater"
event on January 10th
beginning at 5:30 p.m.
Watch for more details.



"Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him. He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those who are with young .. Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He

increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:10-11,28-31). NKJV™

Gladys Edith Beetch was summoned in the spirit into the heavenly presence of our Savior on December 18, 2013. Funeral service was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church on December 21, 2013. Interment was at Pilgrims Rest Cemetery.



QR code to Immanuel's website

ANNUAL *Report*

Annual Reports

for all Immanuel organizations are needed!

When possible, please email your report as an attached WORD document or EXCEL document (or for Mac users as a rich text file) to church@immanuelmankato.org. Those without a computer may leave a paper copy of their report on Sara's desk.

Each year these reports are due before the Annual Meeting (Monday, Jan. 20, 2014), so that copies can be available for non-voters to read and make comments to voters before the meeting, and available for voters to read in preparation for the meeting.

Please give ANNUAL REPORTS to Sara by Sunday, January 12th.

2014 Offering Envelopes can be picked up from the tables in the church entryway. 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 2014, please place your name on the sheet.

For **2014** envelope users: for the first month of January, please write your name on your envelope to aid the finance committee and the recording of your contributions. Many of the members were given new envelope numbers for 2014.

Our Response of Faith

Attendance:

- 12/18 Wednesday Bible Study = 13
- 12/18 Midweek Advent (1 PM) = 48 — (7 PM) = 126
- 12/20 Men's Breakfast = 24
- 12/22 Sunday School = 55 — Ambassadors = 9 — Bible Study = 32
- 12/22 Sunday Worship = 362

| <u>Immanuel</u> | <u>CLC</u> |
|---|--|
| Sunday Current NEED = \$11,148 | Weekly Missions NEED = \$1,273 |
| Sunday Current = \$10,405 | Missions = \$520 |
| Endowment = \$50 | ILC Building = \$20 |
| Expansion / Relocation = \$45 | MDF: Mission Develop. Fund = \$50 |
| Major Improvement = \$80 | |
| Debt = \$65 | |
| OTHER:

<div style="text-align: right;"> Benevolent = \$30
 Food Shelf = \$25
 Imm. Student Aid = \$60
 Memorial = \$25
 Midweek Advent Current = \$2,330
 Piano Basement = \$20 </div> | OTHER:

<div style="text-align: right;"> ILC Student Aid = \$20 </div> |

The following gifts are received with thanks by Immanuel...

In Memory of Donald Hoffman

Memorial Fund \$25

In Memory of Gladys Beetch

Basement Piano \$40 Memorial Fund \$105
 Immanuel School \$3 CLC India Mission \$25

In Memory of Donna Leiding & Jeanne Leiding

Current Fund \$1,000

In Memory of Wallene Salfer

Memorial Fund \$100

