

Immanuel Lutheran

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Pastor Joe Naumann 920-266-5386

Pastor Neal Radichel 920-268-8002

Advent

Fourth Sunday

December 21 - 22, 2019

Vol. 82, No. 67

Welcome!

We are excited to share the Good News with you!

Guests, please sign our guestbook in the entry. Please join us again.

Serving Us This Week

PASTOR Joe Naumann ♦ DEACON Brent Schreyer ♦ ORGANIST Bonnie Cornish
SOUND Gabe Strand ♦ VIDEO Mike Schweim ♦ SCREEN Russ Schmitt
FLOWERS Grace Schreyer & Katie Dick ♦ GREETERS (Sat) _____ (Sun) _____
HEAD USHER Joe Friedrichs ♦ ASSISTANT Michael Wheaton
USHERS Ben Busse; Jacob Busse; Peter Busse; Sherman Carstensen;
Jason Dick; Mark Geiger; Sam Geschwind; Sam Hagen; Kevin Moeri;
Karl Mueller; Bernt Olmanson; Charles Olmanson; Chuck Schmid;
Nick Schmid; Noah Schmid; Ben Stelter; Wayne Timm

CHRISTMAS EVE

SOUND, FLOWERS & USHERS same as above

DEACON Logan Wendt

ORGANISTS Bonnie Cornish & Lane Fischer

VIDEO Alan Olmanson

CHRISTMAS DAY

DEACON Brent Schreyer

ORGANIST Karla Olmanson

SCREEN Rachael Hanel

“Comfort, yes, comfort, my people!” says your God.

Isaiah 40:1

Pre-Service Meditation

Psalm 85 (pg 140, TLH - Red Hymnal)

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I thank and praise you for the great sacrifice You have made for me. Not only did you come as a human child, humbling Yourself, You also came as the redemption price for my sins. Let this word of comfort be engraved in my heart forever, so that I may always trust in You for eternal salvation. Amen!

Order of Service

Worship Supplement 2000, pg. 12ff

Preparation for Worship

Entrance Hymn 416 *TLH (Red Hymnal)*
Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways

INVOCATION We invoke (“call upon”) the name of our Triune God.

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

Congregation (C): ♪ Amen!

CONFSSION & ABSOLUTION

- P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.
- C: ♫ Amen.

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

♪ Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;
Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.

Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.

Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,
At God's right hand in majesty most high:
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: Let us pray...
- C: ♫ Amen.

FIRST LESSON LUKE 1:67-80

Now his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying: **68** "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people, **69** And has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of His servant David, **70** As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets, Who have been since the world began, **71** That we should be saved from our enemies And from the hand of all who hate us, **72** To perform the mercy promised to our fathers And to remember His holy covenant, **73** The oath which He swore to our father Abraham: **74** To grant us that we, Being delivered from the hand of our enemies, Might serve Him without fear, **75** In holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life. **76** "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest; For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways, **77** To give knowledge of salvation to His people By the remission of their sins, **78** Through the tender mercy of our God, With which the Dayspring from on high has visited us; **79** To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, To guide our feet into the way of peace." **80** So the child grew and became strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his manifestation to Israel.

PSALM OF THE DAY PSALM 96

Worship Supplement (Tan Hymnal) page 26

SECOND LESSON HEBREWS 12:14-29

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: **15** looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; **16** lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. **17** For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears. **18** For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, **19** and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. **20** (For they could not endure what was commanded: "And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow." **21** And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.") **22** But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly

Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, **23** to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, **24** to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel. **25** See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, **26** whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven." **27** Now this, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. **28** Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

29 For our God is a consuming fire.

P: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C: ♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

CONFSSION OF FAITH 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

*Children are invited to come forward and gather around
the pastor in the front of the church.*

Hymn of the Day 63 *TLH (Red Hymnal)*
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

"Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God. **2** "Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the LORD'S hand Double for all her sins." **3** The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God. **4** Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth; **5** The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." **6** The voice said, "Cry out!" And he said, "What shall I cry?" "All flesh is grass, And all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. **7** The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people are grass. **8** The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever."

Our God's Road Construction Plan

1. From Babylon to Jerusalem

2. From the Forerunner to the Savior

3. From the Word to Your Heart

Preaching today Pastor Joe Naumann
services online at www.ImmanuelMankato.org

OFFERTORY WS2000 (TAN HYMNAL) PG 16

In this prayer we offer God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

Hymn 61 *TLH (Red Hymnal)*
Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People

OFFERING OF THANKSGIVING

So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION A Good Word or Blessing.

Congregational Response: ♫ Amen. Amen. Amen.

Hymn 411 (v. 1, 2, 6) *TLH (Red Hymnal)*
From Eternity, O God

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Last Week

Gatherings

December 14-15

Saturday Worship: 82
Sunday Worship: 228
Weekend Total: 310
Saturday Bible Class: 11
Saturday School: 4
Sunday Bible Class: 24
Sunday School: 65
Ambassadors: __

December 18

1 pm Worship: 41
6 pm Worship: 142
Wednesday Total: 183

Bible Studies

Men's Breakfast: 26
New Perspective: 7 & 7
Old Main: 7
Primrose: 8
Realife: 6
Walnut Towers: 11

Fruits of Faith

Immanuel

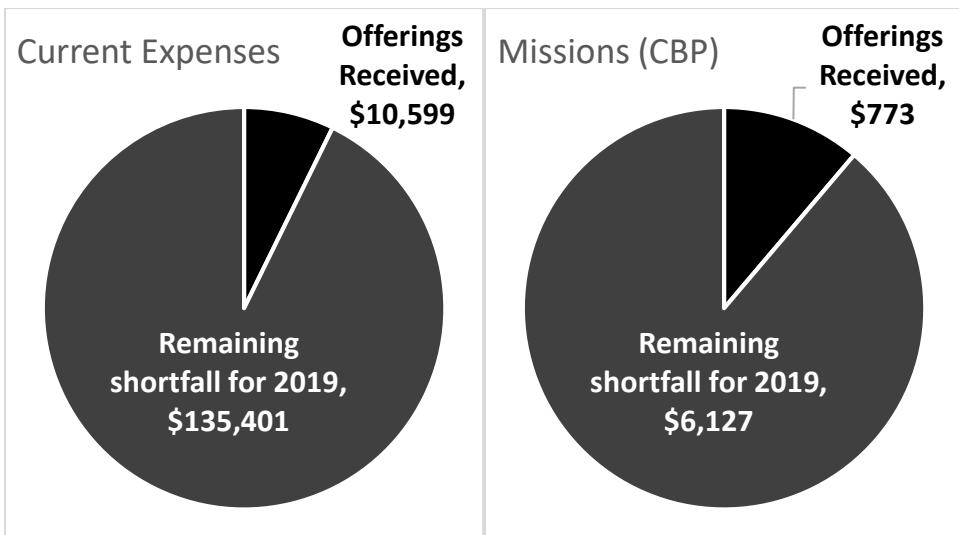
Current Expenses \$10,598.75
Weekly Need for the Remainder of 2019: \$49,000
Advent \$2,309.24
Benevolent \$40
ILS Foundation \$50
ILS Interactive Display Fund \$30
ILS Preschool Fund \$350
ILS Student Aid \$150
ILS Tuition Aid \$40
Land Purchase \$35
Thanksgiving \$20

CLC

Missions (Cooperative Budgeted Plan CBP) \$773
Weekly Need for the Remainder of 2019: \$2,300
ILC Building \$20
ILC Student Aid \$1
Mission Development Fund (MDF) \$50

FROM THE BOARD OF FINANCE

We are behind on our 2019 giving goal. This gap in giving is a significant amount of money to make up over the remaining weekends in 2019 and Christmas. Please take time to consider your giving.



This Week

- Sat Dec 21 6:00p WORSHIP followed by 3rd Sunday Communion
7:00p Bible Study *in the church basement*
7:00p Saturday School *in the Kindergarten room*
- Sun Dec 22 9:00a Bible Study *in the church basement*
9:00a Christmas Eve Practice *in the church sanctuary*
9:15a Radio Sermon: KTOE 1420AM or 102.7FM
10:00a WORSHIP followed by 3rd Sunday Communion
11:00a Church Choir Practice *in the sanctuary*
1:00p Immanuel Caroling - see announcement
- Mon Dec 23 ILS Christmas Break - classes resume on January 6
- Tues Dec 24 9:00a Bible Study, New Perspective Senior Living, 100 Dublin Road
NO Bible Study, Realife, 50 Teton Lane
6:00p WORSHIP: Christmas Eve Children's Program
- Wed Dec 25 8a-5p Church Basement Reserved
10:00a WORSHIP: Christmas Day Service
12:45p Televised WORSHIP Service, Charter #181; Consolidated Comm #7
- Thu Dec 26 NO Bible Study, Walnut Towers, 105 E. Walnut Street
NO Bible Study, Old Main, 301 S. Fifth Street

- Thu Dec 26** NO Jail Ministry Meeting *in the pastors' offices*
5:45p Televised **WORSHIP** Service, Charter #181; Consolidated Comm #7
- Fri Dec 27** NO Men's Breakfast and Bible Study *in the church basement*
8-9:30a Pastors' Office Hours
3p-5a Gym Reserved
- Sat Dec 28** **9:00a** Worship Music Practice *in the church sanctuary*
NO Bible Study, Primrose, Fireplace Community Rm, 1360 Adams St
6:00p **WORSHIP**
7:00p Bible Study *in the church basement*
7:00p Saturday School *in the Kindergarten room*
- Sun Dec 29** Food Shelf Sunday: donations accepted in the church office entry or offering plate
9:00a Bible Study *in the church basement*
9:00a Sunday School *in designated classrooms*
9:15a Radio Sermon: KTOE 1420AM or 102.7FM
10:00a **WORSHIP**
11:00a Church Choir Practice *in the sanctuary*
11:00a Voters Meeting *in the church basement*

Serving Us Next Week

PASTOR Joe Naumann ♦ DEACON Mark Stelter ♦ ORGANIST Viv Hanel
SOUND Craig Stelter ♦ VIDEO Alan Olmanson ♦ SCREEN Rachael Hanel
FLOWERS Grace Schreyer & Katie Dick ♦ GREETERS (Sat) _____ (Sun) _____
USHERS Council Members

Immanuel Announcements

CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE Our Christmas Eve program will hold practice during the 9 am hour on Sunday, **December 22**. Please expect to see the children practicing. The chairs will be moved before the 10 am services start.

CAROLING All are invited to join us for caroling this Sunday, **December 22**, at 1 pm. We will meet at church, carol for an hour or two, and then enjoy refreshments, Christmas trivia, and family board games as long as people would like to stay.

CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM The Christmas Eve Service begins at 6:00pm. Classroom teachers will be available in their rooms for supervision beginning at 5:40pm. Please have your child remain with you until your child's classroom is open. Preschoolers will not meet in a classroom. They will sit with their parents again this year and come up from their pew for their part.

STILL NEEDED: Volunteers for ILS PTO fundraiser

DIRECTING TRAFFIC Only 3 more volunteers (16 and older) are needed for our volunteer night on **Thursday, December 26**, from 4:40 - 9 pm.

Clean-Up 2 more volunteers (ages 12 and older) are still needed to help with taking down the lights and displays on **January 1, 4, or 5**.

Contact person To sign up or for more info, contact Sarah Kruse at email sarah.kruse@mnsu.edu; text: 507-380-6018; phone/voice messages: 507-625-3512. When arriving at the park, sign in and list Immanuel Lutheran School Mankato as your organization so we get fundraising credit.

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING A meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, **December 29**, immediately after the 10 am service. Voters, please make it a priority to attend. All members are welcome to attend. The agenda includes: (1) Teacher call; (2) Board of Ed: 2019 Budget Increase Request; (3) Compensation Committee update.

HELPERS NEEDED We are looking for more volunteers to:

- 1) show slides for the worship services (contact: Cliff Kuehne 385-0696) and
- 2) video-record the worship services - particularly the midweek services (contact: Alan Olmanson 344-0328).

Neither of these tasks are very complicated to do, but we would like to have a few more people to help if possible! Please contact the respective individuals above for more info.

CLC Announcements

CLC CALL NEWS Pastor Paul Tiefel, Jr., Messiah, Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call extended to him by Bethel, Morris, MN. <> Principal Joshua Ohlmann, Grace, Sleepy Eye, MN, has returned the call extended to him by Faith, Markesan, WI, to be their upper grade teacher/principal.

SEMINAR: *What is Christianity?* Pastors Joe Naumann and Nathanael Mayhew are putting on a presentation at the Sleepy Eye Convention Center on Wednesday, January 8, from 6 - 8 pm, entitled "What is Christianity?". This presentation will be based on the Veith book, The Spirituality of the Cross, and will delve into the alarming movement of people departing from organized religion, the dangers this presents to our society and how only Christianity fills the greatest need we have as human beings. For more information, contact Michael at 507-461-1698.

UPDATE: 2020 CLC Mission Helper Trip to Nepal

The maximum number of applications have been accepted for the trip to Nepal this summer. If you would like to have your name placed on a waiting list, please contact Missionary Todd Ohlmann at thohlmann@gmail.com.

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



The Ten Commandments

The Law's place in evangelism

Six Chief Parts

1. Ten Commandments
2. Apostles' Creed
3. Baptism
4. The Lord's Supper
5. The Office of the Keys and Confession
6. The Lord's Prayer

This series of articles is about using the Small Catechism for evangelism, for the catechism is nothing other than a manual of the basic teachings of the Christian Faith. There is nothing in the Bible that does not fall under the umbrella of one of the six chief parts. Furthermore, many of us have learned the catechism from youth. That wasn't just so we could put them down once we donned the white Confirmation gown and leave them to collect dust! The catechism

is a treasure for daily renewal in the faith and it serves very well as a manual for evangelism.

The word “evangelism” refers to preaching the gospel, which is the “good news” about Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Man who humbled Himself and suffered on the cross, bearing the sins of every person. By Jesus’ blood you have been atoned for, redeemed, and justified. By faith in Him forgiveness is yours and eternal life along with it! But preaching this gospel is not all that is involved in evangelism, for the gospel has no content without the law.

When you confess Christ to unbelievers, the law is the place to start! The Ten Commandments are the clear expression of God’s eternal, moral will. The laws of the Ten Commandments reveal our sin. They condemn and crush us so that we have no excuses, and they lead us to repentance.

By nature, all human beings are dead in sin and don’t know it. Try asking an unbeliever if they think they are a good person, or if they’ve done more good things than bad. Then use the law to condemn some particular sin. Pick one commandment. Commandments 4-10

are usually better for this since those sins are more obvious. This preaching of the law is necessary to make the gospel personal. You only need a Savior if you have sin.

Jesus did this often. When He came into contact with people who believed themselves to be good enough for God, He gave them the law. Read Matthew 19:16-22. Jesus never preached the gospel to the man in this text. The man still believed he could earn his own salvation. So, Jesus gave him a command He knew the man would not be able keep in order to make him sad. Jesus' goal was that this man might realize that he wasn't good enough to get to heaven so that he would turn to Jesus as Savior. When you speak to others, be willing to speak the law. It might seem harsh, and awkward, to point out sin. Do it anyway! Only do it with humility and respect. Do it knowing that you yourself are a great sinner with a greater Savior. Do it with a heart of love for the lost, created in you by Christ!

Catechism Evangelism Starts at Home

When is the last time that you read through your catechism's explanations of the Ten Commandments? During your family or personal devotion time tonight, take a few minutes to read through them.

Read More About this Topic

Romans 2:1-16

2 Timothy 4:1-5

Catechism Evangelism

The Ten Commandments

The First Article

The Second Article

The Third Article

The Lord's Prayer

Baptism

The Lord's Supper

The Office of the Keys and Confession



The **Committee of Domestic Fields** is a subcommittee of the CLC Mission Board. "The purpose of the Committee on Domestic Fields (CDF) is to make outreach ideas and material available to CLC congregations and to encourage them in carrying out the Great Commission of our Savior, Jesus Christ."