



Immanuel Lutheran

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Pastor Joe Naumann 920-266-5386

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Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 19-20, 2020

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But of Him you are in Christ Jesus,
who became for us wisdom from
God- and righteousness and
sanctification and redemption.

1 Corinthians 1:30

Serving Us This Week

PASTOR Neal Radichel DEACON Brent Schreyer
ORGANIST Karla Olmanson SOUND Evan Matzke
VIDEO Evan Matzke LIVESTREAM Matthew Kranz

Welcome!

We are excited to share the Good News with you! Guests, please contact us if you are interested in learning more about Immanuel.

Order of Service

We Prepare to Meet our Lord

Opening Hymn 75 TLH (Red Hymnal)
Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken

INVOCATION *We invoke ("call upon") the name of our Triune God.*

Pastor (P): The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,

Congregation (C): But to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
(1 Cor. 1:18)

P: For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom;

C: But we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,

P: But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks,

C: Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. (1 Cor. 1:22-24)

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

Congregation: 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.

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.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING ISAIAH 2:2-5

Isaiah pictures a day when the LORD's kingdom would be established as the preeminent kingdom of the world and that it would be open to all people. In that kingdom, the LORD's Word would be supreme and would judge the nations. In this kingdom peace would reign, both between God and man and between the inhabitants of that kingdom. This is the kingdom that Christ comes to bring!

Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD'S house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it. **3** Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. **4** He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore. **5** O house of Jacob, come and let us walk In the light of the LORD.

RESPONSIVE READING PSALM 49:1-9

God works in a way that is beyond our understanding. His ways are above our ways and He calls us to trust in Him and gives us a good reason to do so. His way has planned our salvation through redemption at great cost to Himself, sending His own Son to pay our ransom. We make regular use of His Word through which He reveals His plan and strengthens our faith.

P: Hear this, all peoples; Give ear, all inhabitants of the world, Both low and high, Rich and poor together.

C: My mouth shall speak wisdom, And the meditation of my heart shall give understanding.

P: I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will disclose my dark saying on the harp.

C: Why should I fear in the days of evil, When the iniquity at my heels surrounds me?

P: Those who trust in their wealth And boast in the multitude of their riches,

C: None of them can by any means redeem his brother, Nor give to God a ransom for him—

P: For the redemption of their souls is costly, And it shall cease forever--
C: That he should continue to live eternally, And not see the Pit.

GOSPEL READING LUKE 1:46-55

This is Mary's "Magnificat" which she spoke after meeting with Elizabeth. In contrast to the views of many, Mary confesses that God is her Lord and Savior, and that she, too, is in need of His mercy. The amazing nature of God's work is that the Child in her womb would be the One to fulfill the promises that she confesses and rejoices in. Mary connects her faith to the history of the Old Testament by confessing the same faith as Abraham.

Congregational Welcome : ♪ **Glory be to You, O Lord!**

And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, **47** And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. **48** For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. **49** For He who is mighty has done great things for me, And holy is His name. **50** And His mercy is on those who fear Him From generation to generation. **51** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. **52** He has put down the mighty from their thrones, And exalted the lowly. **53** He has filled the hungry with good things, And the rich He has sent away empty. **54** He has helped His servant Israel, In remembrance of His mercy, **55** As He spoke to our fathers, To Abraham and to his seed forever."

Congregational Response: ♪ **Praise be to You, O Christ!**

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH THE 2ND ARTICLE

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 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 there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe that Jesus Christ, is true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Hymn of the Day 934 LSB
My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord

SERMON READING 1 CORINTHIANS 1:26-31

For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, [are called]. **27** But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; **28** and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, **29** that no flesh should glory in His presence. **30** But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God – and righteousness and sanctification and redemption – **31** that, as it is written, "He who glories, let him glory in the LORD."

Rejoice in your Calling this Christmas!

1. Because the world thinks we're 'morons'
2. Because Christ calls you His chosen ones

Preaching today: Pastor Neal Radichel

We Offer Ourselves to the Lord

OFFERTORY TLH (RED HYMNAL) PG 12

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, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit. Amen.

OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

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

What Child Is This?

1. What child is this who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the Son of Mary!
2. Why lies He in such mean estate
Where oxen now are feeding?
Good Christians, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through;
The cross He'll bear for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the Son of Mary!
3. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high;
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the Son of Mary!

PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Our Lord Blesses Us

BENEDICTION *A Good Word or Blessing.*

Congregational Response: ♪ Amen!

Closing Hymn 78 TLH (*Red Hymnal*)
Hail the Day So Rich in Cheer

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Last Week

Gatherings

Saturday Worship 12/12: 44

Saturday Family Bible Study: 7

Sunday Worship 12/13: **In Person 83 ; Views 174**

Sunday Family Bible Study 12/13: 15

Midweek Advent Worship 12/16: 99

Primrose Bible Study 12/18: 9

Note: the number of views listed is as of 12/18/2020; "views" does not represent the number of viewers, but rather only the number of computers/devices that accessed it

Fruits of Faith

Immanuel	Plate/Mail	CashApp
Current Expenses <i>Weekly Need: \$53,444.70</i>	\$14,098.50	\$759
Land Purchase Fund	\$40	
MPF Floor Replacement	\$129	
Church Library Fund	\$120	
Interactive Display Fund	\$5	
Advent Offerings	\$1,089.50	\$95

Preschool Fund	\$40	
Thanksgiving	\$200	
CLC		
Missions (CB) <i>Weekly Need: \$7,278</i>	\$735	\$5
Memorial for Herb Geiger		
MPF Lettering	\$250	
Memorial for Janet Barry		
Undesignated	\$20	
Memorial for Evelyn Hoffman		
ILS Undesignated	\$100	
Memorial for Robert Heinze		
Undesignated	\$50	
Memorial for Sonja Olmanson		
Immanuel School	\$10	
MPF Bleacher	\$20	

This Week

- Sat Dec 19 6:00p WORSHIP, In-Person
7-7:45p Family Bible Class- Sanctuary
- Sun Dec 20 9-9:45a Family Bible Class- Sanctuary
9:15a Radio Sermon: *KTOE 1420AM or 102.7FM*
10:00a WORSHIP, In-Person or Live Stream. Join us live by following the link at the top of the page on our website www.ImmanuelMankato.org OR find and watch the recording afterwards at www.ImmanuelMankato.org/sermons/
11:00a 3rd Sunday Communion in pastors' office
- Mon Dec 21 Have a great week!
- Tues Dec 22 3-5p Pastors' Office Hours
7:00p Board of Education Meeting- high school language room
- Wed Dec 23 12:45p Televised WORSHIP Service, *Charter #181; Consolidated Comm #7*
- Thu Dec 24 8a-12p Senior Blood Drive
4:00p Christmas Eve Service
6:00p Christmas Eve Service

Fri Dec 25 9:00a Christmas Day Service
 Sat Dec 26 6:00p WORSHIP In-Person
 Sun Dec 27 9-9:45a Family Bible Class- Sanctuary
 9:15a Radio Sermon: KTOE 1420AM or 102.7FM
 10:00a WORSHIP In-Person or Live Stream

Immanuel Announcements

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Our Immanuel High School Seniors are hosting a blood drive at Immanuel on **December 24 from 8am-12pm**. Everyone who donates gets a free long sleeve t-shirt and COVID antibody testing. Contact Amber Casto to sign up or call 1-800-RED-CROSS, or visit redcrossblood.org and enter the Mankato zip code (56001) to find our blood drive and give the gift of life this holiday season!

Amber Casto: [Email:ajcasto12@gmail.com](mailto:ajcasto12@gmail.com) Phone: 507-327-3059

Thank you for your support!

Aubree Kranz, Amber Casto, Grace Busch, Danielle Durst

ERC: SHOULD IMMANUEL RELOCATE?: The Expansion Relocation Committee is re-investigating why certain areas of our current Immanuel campus are problematic. We hope to try to expand on these areas for the congregation in the coming months. Over the years, some of the major concerns the congregation has about our current campus have been:

Parking <> Single Level <> Preschool <> **FACILITY CONGESTION** <>
 Security <> Storage <> Green Space <> Maintenance & Operational Costs
 <> Location

- **Facility Congestion**

- **Multiple overlapping areas** - between the classes, study spaces, eating lunch, art space, band-choir space, we usually have to run these activities in the same spaces at the same time which is incredibly distracting for teachers and students.
- **High School Class Space** - we offer more classes than the three classrooms can handle at once.
- **Shared space with church and school** - special services like midweek, funerals, etc. conflict with school operations, and vice versa.
- **Fellowship area** in the narthex outside of the sanctuary, can get very crowded after services and gives no opportunity for members or guests to visit.
- **Existing church nursery** does not offer a great deal of privacy for families or mother's nursing.

- o **Special school services** - like our title one services and speech, are crammed into closets.

Questions to consider:

Are there ways to resolve these concerns with our current property?

Do you think these areas alone justify moving to a different location?

More questions? Would you like to meet and discuss more with one or two of us? Please ask one of our **ERC** members: Dave Busse (chair), Mick Rykhus, Russ Schmitt, Jared Miller, Jason Dick, Scott Kruse, Jim Buckley, Brandan Heinze, Neal Radichel

THE CHRISTMAS GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING special

books by L. Dale Redlin \$10.00 each. These are located for purchase by the church office:

God's Promise Kept --- Vol. I, Vol. II

Sheep and Shepherds

Poems of Prayer and Praise

It Takes Cow chips to Make Dinner

CLC Announcements

CLC CALLS Pastor Michael Gurath, Holy Cross, Phoenix, AZ has returned the call by Redeemer, Cheyenne, WY. <> Pastor Del Maas, Gift of God, Mapleton, ND and St. Paul, Ponsford, MN has returned the call by Redeemer, Bowdle and Zion, Ipswich, SD <> Pastor Sam Rodebaugh, Immanuel, Winter Haven, FL has returned the call by Living Savior, Eden Prairie, MN <> Teacher Matt Thurow, Berea, Inver Grove Heights, MN. has returned the call to teach grades 4-8 and serve as principal for Holy Trinity Lutheran School, West Columbia, SC <> Paul Tiefel III, Messiah, Eau Claire, WI. has been called to serve as principal and upper grade teacher by Messiah, Hales Corners <> Pastor David Ude, Living Hope, Appleton, WI has been called by Redeemer, Cheyenne, WY

NOMINATIONS FOR ILC PROFESSOR The following nominations have been received to fill the professorship vacated by the impending retirement of Professor John Reim at the end of the 2020-21 academic year: Pastors Paul Krause, Neal Radichel, Rob Sauers, and David Schaller. All comments from members of CLC congregations regarding these candidates are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight December 29, 2020 (letters postmarked December 24, 2020) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.

2021 CLC MISSION HELPER TRIP TO NEPAL With an application deadline quickly approaching and still so much uncertainty concerning international travel, vaccination requirements and availability, and government restrictions on gatherings in Nepal due to the pandemic, the decision has been made to cancel the 2021 trip that was tentatively scheduled for July with the prayer that things will be back to normal enough by this time next year to make plans for 2022.

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!