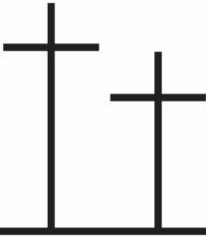


**You
therefore
must
endure
hardship
as a good
soldier of
Jesus
Christ.**

2 Timothy 2:3



welcome to
IMMANUEL
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior!

Thank you for joining our church family for worship this morning. Immanuel is a Bible based Christian congregation and so our worship reflects deep devotion to God and to His Holy Word. We especially welcome any guests or visitors and invite you to sign our guest book in the entryway of the church and invite you to join us again.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE is printed in this bulletin and will be projected on the screen in the front of the sanctuary.

RESTROOMS are located at the bottom of the stairs to the right when you exit the narthex into the school building.

AMPLIFYING HEADSETS are available in the Deacons room. Please see any usher if you would like assistance.

THE MOTHER'S ROOM is next to the bookshelf and stained glass window in the corner of the entryway and is meant only for women and children. Fathers may use the bathroom in the upstairs school hallway. Kid's bulletins and quiet bags can also be found in the entryway.

QUESTIONS? Please contact the Deacon on duty or any of the ushers. They would love to assist you!

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE? Scan this QR code to learn more about what we believe at [ImmanuelMankato.org](https://www.immanuelmankato.org)



3rd Weekend in the Season of

Advent

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Worship Supplement Setting One

The Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19*

Congregation (C): ♪ Amen.

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

TLH 705 "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus"

Confession and Absolution of Sins

P: Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

C: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P: God, our Heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ♪ Amen!

John 20:19-23

The Kyrie † *O Lord*

♪ **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Mark 10:47

Gloria in Excelsis † *Glory in the Highest*

This hymn of praise is based on the words of the angels to the shepherds on Christmas night. Since Advent is a time of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, this hymn of praise is often removed from our worship services during the season of Advent. The joyful hymn will reappear on Christmas and, Lord willing, with us having a greater appreciation of it after its absence from our worship.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray... Lord Jesus Christ, hear our prayers, and by Your mercy bring light to our darkened hearts; You who live and rule with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1-7

Thus says the LORD: "Keep justice, and do righteousness, For My salvation is about to come, And My righteousness to be revealed. **2** Blessed is the man who does this, And the son of man who lays hold on it; Who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And keeps his hand from doing any evil." **3** Do not let the son of the foreigner Who has joined himself to the LORD Speak, saying, "The LORD has utterly separated me from His people"; Nor let the eunuch say, "Here I am, a dry tree." **4** For thus says the LORD: "To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant, **5** Even to them I will give in My house And within My walls a place and a name Better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name That shall not be cut off. **6** "Also the sons of the foreigner Who join themselves to the LORD, to serve Him, And to love the name of the LORD, to be His servants-- Everyone

who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant-- 7 Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations."

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 146

P: Praise the LORD!

C: Praise the LORD, O my soul!

P: While I live I will praise the LORD;

C: I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

P: Do not put your trust in princes,

C: Nor in a son of man, in whom there is no help.

P: His spirit departs, he returns to his earth;

C: In that very day his plans perish.

P: Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help,

C: Whose hope is in the LORD his God,

P: Who made heaven and earth, The sea, and all that is in them;

C: Who keeps truth forever,

P: Who executes justice for the oppressed, Who gives food to the hungry.

C: The LORD gives freedom to the prisoners.

P: The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; The LORD raises those who are bowed down;

C: The LORD loves the righteous.

P: The LORD watches over the strangers; He relieves the fatherless and widow;

C: But the way of the wicked He turns upside down.

P: The LORD shall reign forever-- Your God, O Zion, to all generations.

C: Praise the LORD!

Second Reading

Luke 7:18-26

Then the disciples of John reported to him concerning all these things. **19** And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to Jesus, saying, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" **20** When the men had come to Him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to You, saying, 'Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?'" **21** And that very hour He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight. **22** Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them. **23** "And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me." **24** When the messengers of John had departed, He began to speak to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? **25** "But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed those who are gorgeously appareled and live in luxury are in kings' courts. **26** "But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet.

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! Alleluia!

Luke 11:28; John 20:31

Confession of Faith

Apostles' 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 of the Day *TLH 60 “Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding”*

Sermon

2 Timothy 2:3-13

You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. **4** No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. **5** And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. **6** The hard-working farmer must be first to partake of the crops. **7** Consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things.

8 Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, **9** for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, even to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained. **10** Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. **11** This is a faithful saying:

For if we died with Him,
We shall also live with Him.

12 If we endure,
We shall also reign with Him.

If we deny Him,
He also will deny us.

13 If we are faithless,
He remains faithful;
He cannot deny Himself.

Life is Hard, but God is Faithful

1. To Give You the Strength to Endure

2. To Give You the Wisdom of Salvation

Preaching today: Pastor Joe Naumann

Offertory

**C: ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God.
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 me with Your free Spirit.**

Psalm 51:10-12

Sermon Hymn

TLH 445 "Am I a Soldier of the Cross"

Offering of Thankful Hearts

TLH 442:2

**C: ♪ Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You
Gladly, freely of Your own.
With the sunshine of Your goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by You, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.**

The General Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name;
Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is
in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And
forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who
trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Matthew 6:9-13

Benediction

P: The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious
to you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give
you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

C: ♪ **Amen! Amen! Amen!**

Closing Hymn

TLH 451 "Stand Up!—Stand Up for Jesus"

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LAST WEEK

<p>IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH (DEC 7-11 REPORTED) Budgetary <u>\$38,527.82</u> Current Expenses</p> <p>Non-Budgetary <u>\$1,635</u> ILS Student Aid <u>\$1,155</u> Land Purchase <u>\$40</u> Preschool Fund <u>\$40</u> Benevolent <u>\$250</u> Thanksgiving <u>\$100</u> ILHS Music Program <u>\$2,162</u> Advent Season <u>\$100</u> Christmas Day <u>\$90</u> Daily Rest Devotional</p>	<p>CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION <u>\$3,040</u> CLC General Budget (CBP) <u>\$4</u> CLC Kinship</p> <p>Memorials In Loving Memory of Marvis Anderson <u>\$50</u> ILC Student Aid</p>
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Saturday Worship 12/7: **79**
 Saturday Bible Class: **11**
 Midweek 12/11 2pm: **140**
 Midweek 12/11 6pm: **63**

Sunday Worship 12/8: **192**
 Sunday Bible Class: **61**
 Sunday School: **29**

Location	Active	Time	Day of the week	Type	# Souls
Old Main/ AZ Pioneer Home	Yes	11:00 AM	2 nd , 4 th Monday	Worship	11
Latitude	Yes	10:00 AM	Every Tuesday	Study	20
Oak Terrace	Yes	9:00 AM	Every Thursday	Study	9
New Perspective	Yes	10:00 AM	2 nd Thursday	Worship	13
Pond's View	Yes	10:00 AM	Every Thursday	Study	7
Water's Edge	Yes	11:00 AM	Every Thursday	Study	12
Old Main	Yes	1:30 PM	Every Thursday	Study	6
Mankato Lodge	Yes	9:00 AM	Every Friday	Study	3
Men's Breakfast	Yes	6:30 AM	Every Friday	Study	28
Number of souls finding comfort in God's Word this week:					109
Thank you to our volunteer laymen who we've called to continue to help lead these services!					

THIS WEEK

Sat Dec 14	6:00p	Divine Worship Service / 3 rd Sunday Communion
	7:00p	Adult Bible Class/ Sunday School
Sun Dec 15	9:00a	Adult Bible Class/ Sunday School
	9:00a	Radio Sermon: KTOE 1420AM or 102.7FM
	10:00a	Divine Worship Service / 3 rd Sunday Communion Live Stream – CLICK HERE
	3:45p	MPF/Fellowship Hall/ Church Kitchen Reserved
	5:00p	Caroling at Washington Park Blessings on your week!
Mon Dec 16		
Tues Dec 17		
Wed Dec 18	2:00p	Midweek Advent Service
	5:00p	Women’s Bible Study
	6:00p	Advent Midweek Service
	7:00p	Evening Ambassadors Bible Study Fellowship Hall
Thur Dec 19	8:00a	Women’s Coffee & Chats
	3-5p	Pastors’ Office Hours (let them know if you need a visit)
	6:15p	Church Choir Practice
Fri Dec 20	6:30a	Men’s Breakfast & Bible Study
Sat Dec 21	6:00p	Divine Worship Service
	7:00p	Adult Bible Class / Sunday School
Sun Dec 22	9:00a	Adult Bible Class / Sunday School
	9:00a	Radio Sermon: KTOE 1420AM or 102.7FM
	10:00a	Divine Worship Service
	3:00p	Ladies Ugly Sweater Party

UPCOMING EVENTS

Caroling at Washington Park Sing Along- December 15th 5-6pm

Midweek Advent Service #3 – December 18th at 2 and 6pm

Evening Ambassadors- December 18th 7-9pm Church Basement

Women’s Chats- December 19th at 8am & January 3rd at 5pm

IMMANUEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUTREACH SING-A-LONG Outreach is putting on a Sing a Long in Washington Park this Sunday! Please join us!

UGLY SWEATER Women of Immanuel! Get out your glitzy Christmas sweaters and join us for a party in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, December 22nd from 3-5**. Bring a dish to share and join us for games with prizes and fun fellowship together. At the end of the party, we will join to make the Christmas Eve bags for the children’s program. Any questions contact Hilary Lien.

ARTS CAMP Camp will run **March 21-23** at Immanuel Mankato and is an amazing opportunity for creative fun and learning with other young Christians. There will be a variety of sessions based in music, drama, crafts and more for students in grades 5-8. **We can use your help!** Arts Camp is looking for volunteers; no arts talent required! **How can you help?**

- Plan and lead a class
- Lead a preplanned class
- Supervise (overnight/daytime or other)
- Prepare, serve, clean up a meal/snack
- Donate towards supplies or sponsor a camper scholarship
- Many other opportunities!
- Always prayers and encouragement for others to come!

Contact Amber Casto 507-327-3059 artscamp@immanuelmankato.org

WOMENS CHATS Recently, as survey went out to the women of the congregation to see how we can better serve one another. To discuss the results of the survey and to make a plan moving forward please try to join us for one of these 'Chat dates'. It is the same meeting twice, so pick what works best in your schedule! The **first date is December 19th at 8am** in the church basement. **Second is January 3rd at 5:30pm** in the church basement. Hope to see you there! Any questions or concerns reach out to Jen Theneman or Hilary Lien.

EVENING AMBASSADORS Any 9-12th grader is invited to join in for another Evening Ambassadors session on **Wednesday, December 18th from 7-9 in the church fellowship hall**. This time we will be going through Bible Journaling and discussing the importance of making time for personal time in the Word of God. Afterwards we will have a 'White Elephant' Gift exchange and decorate some Christmas cookies to take home! Contact Hilary Lien with any questions.

ADVENT SERVICES Join us Wednesday at 2 or 6pm for the last of our special midweek Advent services. This year we have been meditating on the genealogy of Jesus recorded in Matthew's Gospel and what we can learn from the Family Tree of Jesus. Our theme has been: "Jesus is the Savior of All people." In our first week Pastor Naumann explained how Jesus came as the Savior of Men and Women, Jews and Gentiles, sinners of all kinds. Last week Pastor Sippert highlighted that Jesus came as the Savior for the High and Mighty, for Rulers and Kings, for the Foolish and Wise. This Wednesday, Pastor Mayhew will take us through the final verses of Jesus' family tree, where we will see that Jesus has come as the Savior of the common person. We invite you to join us for the last of our special Advent services as we contemplate and focus on the importance of Christ's coming for sinners!

LADIES AUXILIARY will meet on Wednesday December 18th at 3:00 PM in the church basement after the Lenten service. We will have our cookie exchange and enjoy refreshments and fellowship.

SYNOD ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLC CALL NEWS Pastor Del Maas of Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN has received the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Pastor Drew Naumann of Trinity Ev. Lutheran, Spokane, WA has returned the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Pastor George Dumann of Salem Lutheran Church, Eagle Lake, MN has received the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

CLC YOUTH CAMP COUNSELOR APPLICATION 2025 CLC Youth Camp is looking for 2025 camp staff! Camp will be June 8-14, 2025 at Camp JIM in Pillager, MN. Staff must be 18+ to apply to be a counselor. Sign up can be found on our Facebook page or our website: <https://youthcampclc.wixsite.com/camp>. Email Amber Casto if you have any questions at youthcamp.clc@gmail.com.

Applications close December 31st, 2024. If you would like to help in other ways please reach out to Amber via email!

FAMILY BIBLE CAMP Are you still considering plans for a family vacation in 2025? If so, the voters of Zion Lutheran Church in Loganville, GA invite you to consider the possibility of joining us for our first annual Family Bible Camp. Currently, we are hoping to have enough expressed interest in this idea to reserve the group campsite at Cloudland Canyon State Park in northwest Georgia for early June. If this is something you would be interested in, please let us know by sending an email to Pastor Frank Gantt: pastorfrankgantt@gmail.com. At this time, we are not requesting an absolute decision from you but a simple "Yes, I'm interested." Also, please inform us of how many you would likely bring if you were to join us. Please respond by December 31.

CLC MISSION PRAYERS Missionary Bruce Naumann (Tanzania-East Africa) – Missionary Naumann and Paula will spend a few weeks in December in the U.S. to visit family. They plan to return to Tanzania in time for the beginning of the new semester at the seminary in early January. You can follow Missionary Naumann's blog at: <https://clc-tz.blogspot.com/> Praise the Lord for all that is being accomplished by Missionary Naumann, and ask our Savior to grant safe and uneventful travels for both Bruce and Paula.

THE MEANING BEHIND THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath is a custom which has been used in the church for many years, dating back to the Middle Ages. The Advent wreath is rich in symbolism, and as such it aids our worship by reinforcing our hope in the ultimate coming of our Lord. The wreath is covered with evergreen. Just as this species of tree is always green, so our hope for eternity is always alive because it rests upon the living Christ. The wreath is also in the form of a circle, which has no beginning and no end. What better way to picture the fact that our life with God is everlasting.



The lighted candles are symbolic of the light of Christ who said, *“I am the light of the world” (John 8:12)*. They are also symbolic of the Word which is *“a lamp to my feet And a light to my path” (Psalm 119:105)*. It is Christ and His Word alone which lifts us out of our sin and spiritual darkness. The four candles remind us of the 4000 years of waiting for Christ by the Old Testament world. Each of the four candles have been given a special name with special significance and meaning for the season of Advent.

The Prophecy Candle – is the first candle and is lit on the first Sunday in Advent. It is symbolic of the long years of waiting during which the prophets, inspired of God, kept alive the hope that the Son of God was coming to redeem His people from their sins.

The Bethlehem Candle – is the second candle which is lit. It symbolizes the preparations being made for the coming of the Christ-child. The prophecy in Micah 5:2 that foretold Jesus’ birthplace at Bethlehem may seem to be a minor revelation, but it shows how God prepared even the smallest detail for the coming of Christ.

The Shepherds’ Candle – is the third candle lit and reminds us of our responsibility to share the Savior and His promises. The shepherds left their task and went with haste to see the Christ-child; then they returned to tell others about the good news of the Savior.

The Angels’ Candle – is lit the fourth week of Advent. It reminds us of the activity of the angels before and after Jesus’ birth, bearing messages, ministering, protecting, praising; they will be with Jesus at His final coming on Judgment Day, to gather the nations.

The light these candles put forth seems small; so does the gospel at times. But to those in lonely darkness, it is the powerful light which shows the way to Heaven.

CLC Financial Report - November 2024

Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2024	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 5 Months	Balance 11/30/2024
General Fund	0	411,204	522,621	547,075	(111,417)
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	742,673	695,794	718,375	46,879
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	110,979	16,450	53,954		73,475
ILC Building Projects	1,560,282	279,410	0		1,839,692
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	120,784	81,518	63,274		139,028
Kinship	169,884	60,010	80,529		149,365
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	2,684,208	310,381	56,123		2,938,466
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	117,317	39,479	84,484		72,312
EduK8 Fund	47,692	16,748	0		64,440
Reserve Fund	79,964	77,511	0		157,475
Auxiliary Funds Totals	\$4,891,110	\$881,507	\$338,364		\$5,434,253

General Fund – In the month of November we spent about \$12,000 more than we received in contributions. This increased the deficit in the fund to just over of \$111,000 compared to a year ago when it we had a deficit of about \$34,000. Contributions through November are down about \$53,000 from last year at this time.

ILC Operations – Revenue is up about \$38,000 over the same period as last year while disbursements are up about \$22,000.

ILC Building Projects – Year-to-date contributions have been about \$157,000 with the remaining revenue of around \$122,000 a result of increases in the market value of the investments

Church Extension Fund – Year to date revenue consists of payments received of almost \$114,000 from congregations on the loans they owe the CLC, about \$195,000 of increases in the market value of the investments and just under \$1,000 of contributions to the fund.

Other Auxiliary Funds – The activity in the other funds in the table above is like the activity in the same period a year ago.

Stephen R. Lentz, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Joe Naumann	920-266-5386
Pastor Nathanael Mayhew	404-729-4602
Secretary Hilary Lien	507-345-3027 ext 104
Principal Brandan Heinze	507-519-0470
Secretary Amanda Harris	507-345-3027 ext 103

We Thank Those Serving Us Today

(3rd Weekend of the Month)

PASTOR Joe Naumann	DEACON Anthony Greve
ORGANIST Kristen Friedrichs	GREETERS Macias
SCREEN Joe Furst & Wyatt Lien	COUNTERS Olmanson & Survis
HEAD USHER Fred Friedrichs	ASST USHER John Heinze
USHERS Aaron Busse, Austin Hanel, Hunter Hanel, Jay Hanel, Ty Hanel, Brett Kruse, William Lien, Wyatt Lien, Kevin Rykhus	

Serving Us Midweek

PASTOR Nathanael Mayhew	DEACON O. Olmanson & A. Greve
ORGANIST L. Fischer & V. Schreyer	GREETERS Enters, Schaller & Survis
SCREEN W. Lien	COUNTERS Olmanson & Survis
HEAD USHER Fred Friedrichs	ASST USHER Joh Heinze
USHERS Aaron Busse, Austin Hanel, Hunter Hanel, Jay Hanel, Ty Hanel, Brett Kruse, William Lien, Wyatt Lien, Kevin Rykhus	

Serving Us Next Weekend

(4th Weekend of the Month)

PASTOR Nathanael Mayhew	DEACON Schreyer & Friedrichs
ORGANIST Grace Schreyer	GREETERS Schmitt & Jensen
SCREEN Joe Furst & Russ Schmitt	COUNTERS Bade & Jensen
HEAD USHER Ben Busse	ASST USHER Michael Wheaton
USHERS Peter Busse, Jason Dick, Mark Geiger, Gaius Hensley, Mark Mayhew, Bernt Olmanson, Charles Olmanson, Andrew Olmanson, Ben Stratton, Jack Stratton, Tim Williams, Troy Williams	