

November 28-29, 2026 Vol. 89, No. 63

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

1st Weekend in the Season of

Advent

SERVICE OF THE WORD

The Invocation

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

Congregation (C): *(spoken)* **Amen.**

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn *TLH 75 "Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken"*

Confession and Absolution of Sins

P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C: Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity. *Psalm 32:1-2*

P: Let us confess our sins to the LORD.

C: Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended You and sinned against Your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, LORD! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to Your promises in Christ Jesus. *Isaiah 53:6*

P: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and

Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by His death on the cross and freed us from death by His resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God, now and forever. *Isaiah 53:4-5; Romans 5:1*

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis ✝ *Glory in the Highest* *LSB 948*

♪ **All glory be to God alone,**
Forevermore the Highest One.
Who did our sinful race befriend;
And grace and peace to us extend.
Among us may His gracious will,
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

You take the whole world's sin away;
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
You take the whole world's sin away;
O Lord, receive our prayer this day.
From God's right hand, Your mercy send,
To all the world Your grace extend. *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.
Make Your power evident and come to us, O Lord. Protect us, rescue us from the peril of our sin, and enable us to know Your salvation; through Him who lives and rules with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

Epistle Reading *Romans 13:11-14*

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. **12** The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. **13** Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. **14** But put on the Lord

Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

P: This is the Word of the LORD.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day *Psalm 24*

P: The earth is the LORD'S, and all its fullness,
C: The world and those who dwell therein.

P: For He has founded it upon the seas,
C: And established it upon the waters.

P: Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?
C: Or who may stand in His holy place?

P: He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
C: Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.

P: He shall receive blessing from the LORD,
C: And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

P: This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him,
C: Who seek Your face.

P: Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!
C: And the King of glory shall come in.

P: Who is this King of glory?
C: The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.

P: Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors!
C: And the King of glory shall come in.

P: Who is this King of glory?
C: The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory.

Adult Choir *"Long Awaited One"*

Gospel Reading *John 18:36-37*

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." **37** Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

Response to the Word *TLH 15:2*

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

C: ♪ Eternal all Your mercies, LORD,
Eternal truth attends Your Word.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! *Psalm 117*

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.

Children's Sermon *"Jesus is always with you!"*

Hymn of the Day *TLH 73 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"*

Sermon *Isaiah 62:10-12*

Go through, Go through the gates! Prepare the way for the people; Build up, Build up the highway! Take out the stones, Lift up a banner for the peoples! **11** Indeed the LORD has proclaimed To the end of the world: "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Surely your salvation is coming; Behold, His reward is with Him, And His work before Him.'" **12** And they shall call them The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; And you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.

How Would the LORD have Us Prepare for the Future?

We are to approach the future with confidence:

1. In view of His gospel proclamation

2. In view of our gospel identification

Preaching today: Pastor Paul Nolting

Offertory *TLH 50:2*

C: ♪ Thanks we give and adoration
For the Gospel's joyful sound;
May the fruits of Your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound!
Ever faithful, ever faithful
To Your truth may we be found! *Colossians 1:3-6*

Hymn *TLH 58 v.1,4-5,7,9 "O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee"*

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Offering Hymn *CW21 748*

C: ♪ By His mercy, by His bounty,
By the gift of Christ, His Son,
What great goodness He has shown us,
What high marvels He has done!
Let us to Him promptly, freely,
Yield our bodies and our souls,
Thankful that His love protects us,
That His wisdom all controls. *Romans 12:1,11*

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 68 "The Advent of Our King"*

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THE ADVENT WREATH AND CANDLES At the beginning of Advent many churches set up an Advent wreath with five candles at the front of the church. This is not just for decoration. The Advent wreath is a valuable teaching tool which is rich in symbolism and intended to instruct us in our worship.

The wreath is covered with evergreen. The evergreen, which is always green, is a reminder that 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, reminding us that our life with God is everlasting. The lighted candles are symbolic of the light of Christ and His Gospel, which alone can lift us out of our sin and spiritual darkness. The four advent candles remind us of the 4000 years of waiting for Christ by the Old Testament world. The three blue candles remind us that we are in a season of reflection and repentance over our sins. The pink candle is the color for joy. Each of the four candles has a special name with special significance.



The Prophecy Candle is lit the first week in Advent. It represents the long years of waiting during which the prophets, inspired by God, kept alive the **HOPE** that the Son of God was coming to redeem His people from their sins.

The Bethlehem Candle is the 2nd candle. 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 gives us **PEACE** knowing that God prepared even the smallest detail for the coming of Christ.

The Shepherds' Candle is the 3rd candle. It reminds us that the shepherds left their task and went with haste to see the Christ-child; then they returned with **JOY** to tell others about the good news of the Savior. This helps us reflect on our responsibility to share the Savior and His promises with others around us.

The Angels' Candle is lit the 4th week of Advent. It reminds us of the activity of the angels before and after Jesus' birth, bearing messages, ministering, protecting, and praising God. They proclaimed God's **LOVE** and will also be with Jesus at His final coming on Judgment Day, to gather the nations.

The Christ Candle is the white candle in the center. This candle is lit on Christmas Eve. It signals that He Who is the Light of the world has been born according to God promise. Our Savior has come!

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

LAST WEEK

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
(NOV 14-15 REPORTED)

Budgetary
$8,065.36 Current Expenses

Non-Budgetary
$**40** ILS Student Aid
$**400** Debt Fund
$**15** ILS Foundation
$**40** Benevolent

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION
$620 CLC General Budget (CBP)
$35 CLC MDF (Missions)
$103 CLC Kinship
$80 ILC Student Fund

Memorials
In Loving Memory of Lisa Carroll
$**75** Kindergarten Fund
$**15** ILS

Scan this QR code to contribute via CashApp

Saturday Worship 11/14: **70**
Saturday Bible Class: **6**

Sunday Worship 11/15: **214**
Sunday Bible Class: **70**
Sunday School: **21**

Location	Active	Time	Day of the week	Type	# Souls
Cottagewood	Yes	10:00 AM	Every Sunday	Worship	9
Old Main/ AZ Pioneer Home	Yes	10:00 AM	Every Tuesday	Study	8
Latitude Bible Study	Yes	10:00 AM	Every Tuesday	Study	19
Laurel's Edge	Yes	10:00 AM	Every Wednesday	Study	9
Mankato Lodge	Yes	9:00 AM	Every Friday	Study	6
Number of souls finding comfort in God's Word this week:					51
Thank you to our volunteer laymen who we've called to continue to help lead these services!					

THIS WEEK

Sat Nov 28	6:00p	Divine Worship Service
	7:00p	Adult Bible Class
Sun Nov 29	9:00a	Adult Bible Class/ Sunday School
	9:00a	Radio Sermon: KTOE 1420AM or 102.7FM
	10:00a	Divine Worship Service
		Live Stream – CLICK HERE
		Food Shelf Sunday
	6:00p	Sunday Night Basketball
Mon Nov 30	5:30p	College Age Bible Study
Tues Dec 1	11:00a	Women's Book Club (Immanuel Church Office)

	3:30p	Outreach Committee Meeting
	5:15p	Board of Elders Meeting
	6:00p	Building Committee Meeting
	7:00p	Women's Book Club (Schreyer House)
Wed Dec 2	3:15p	Advent Midweek Service
	5:00p	Advent Chili Supper
	6:00p	Advent Midweek Service
Thur Dec 3	6:15p	Church Choir Practice
Fri Dec 4	6:30a	Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
	8:30a	Christmas Eve Practice
Sat Dec 5	6:00p	Divine Worship Service with Communion
	7:00p	Adult Bible Class
Sun Dec 6	9:00a	Adult Bible Class / Sunday School
	9:00a	Radio Sermon: KTOE 1420AM or 102.7FM
	10:00a	Divine Worship Service with Communion
	11:00a	Coffee & Fellowship
	6:00p	Sunday Night Basketball

UPCOMING EVENTS

Advent Chili Night- December 2nd @ 5pm
Youth Group Christmas Party- December 9th @ 7:30pm
Preparing Phoebes & Teaching Timothys- December 19th @ 2-4pm

IMMANUEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to all who gave of their time and talents to decorate our church for the Advent and Christmas season this weekend. These beautiful decorations do more than add warmth and beauty to our worship space; they serve as visible reminders of the wonderful truths of God's Word. The evergreens remind us of the everlasting life that is ours through faith in Jesus Christ. The lights point us to Jesus, the Light of the world, who came to dispel the darkness of sin and death. The wreaths, with their unbroken circles, remind us of God's eternal and unchanging love for us. And the nativity directs our hearts to the greatest gift ever given—God's own Son, who humbled Himself to become one of us to be our Savior. May these decorations serve to focus our hearts and minds, not merely on the beauty of the season, but on the beauty of God's grace revealed to us in the birth of our Savior. Thank you to all who helped prepare our place of worship for the joyous celebration of our coming Savior! "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:15, NKJV)

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE SCHEDULE There is a change to our Midweek Advent service schedule this year. In recent years we have held services on Wednesday at 2pm and 6pm. This schedule cut into the educational hours of our school day for ILS students and made church attendance challenging for parents who wanted to attend church with their children. For these reasons, the Deacons have decided to move our early service from 2pm to 3:15pm. This gives educational hours back to our teachers and enables parents to attend church with their children, either right after school or in the evening. The early time should also enable older members to get to church during daylight hours. In addition, this will make it easier for our guest pastors, having less down time between services. Please plan to join us for these special services in December!



NEW CHURCH YEAR AND ADVENT SERVICES Today marks the beginning of a new church year with the season of Advent. The word "advent" means "coming" or "arrival." During the four Sundays in Advent we will focus on the coming of our Savior Jesus and prepare for His birth on Christmas. Starting on December 2nd, we will have mid-week Advent services, as we study God's Word and His promised redemption. The theme for our mid-week Advent services this year is "Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes!" We will be participating in a pulpit exchange with our sister congregations in Okabena and Sleepy Eye, and will review the responses of Zacharias, Mary and Joseph to the news of a coming Savior. This is our schedule:

Theme: Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes…

12/2 - with proof to him who doubts (S. Rodebaugh)
12/9 - with comfort to him who waits (Z. Sippert)
12/16 - with enlightenment to him who does not understand (N. Mayhew)

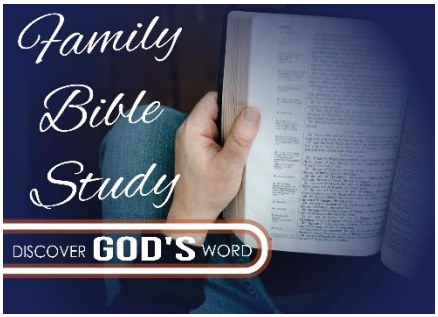
It seems that every year there are more distractions to the true celebration of the birth of our Savior. This year we encourage you to take time out to join us for our special Midweek Advent services as we consider coming of Jesus. The Lord bless your worship!

BOARD OF PROPERTY MEMBER NEEDED We currently have an opening on our Board of Property. The Board of Property serves a very important role for our congregation, facilitating the upkeep of our building and property. The Council is authorized to appoint a replacement and would like to know if anyone would be willing to serve in this important role. If you are willing to fill this one-year vacancy or know of someone who would serve well in this capacity, please speak to President Zachary Lien (507-341-4892) or one of our pastors.

IMMANUEL FAMILY DEVOTIONS 2027 The Board of Elders wants to continue supporting family devotions among our church family in the coming year. They have again purchased and prepared two resources for 2027.

The first is a Children's Bible for families with children ages 3-10. These were first distributed last year, but if you did not pick one up for your family last year or have a child that has turned three in the past year, you can pick one of these up by speaking to one of the pastors.

The Elders also made a bulk purchase of a new family devotion book and are making these available to Immanuel families. The devotion book is titled "A Year in the New Testament" and is intended to dig into the Scriptures more deeply. Each day includes a Psalm reading, an Old Testament reading, and a Gospel reading, which will help us read through much of the Bible over the course of the year. It then includes a short meditation on the readings and a prayer. The elders would like every Immanuel family to take a book and participate in this Bible study journey in the coming year. These devotion books can be picked up on the table in the narthex.



Whether you utilize time in the morning or before bedtime, take time each day to gather around God's Word, trusting that the LORD will bless our study of His Word of truth!

PREPARING PHOEBES & TEACHING TIMOTHYS Mark your calendars for another 5-8th grade girls and boys Bible Study! We will have our Annual Christmas Time Study and Party! **Saturday December 19th from 2-4pm.** Plan on bringing some Christmas Treats to share & your Bibles! Contact Rebecca Heinze or Wyatt Lien with questions.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY Youth Group is having a Christmas Party at the Lien's Residence on **December 9th from 7:30-9:30pm**. Bring a Christmas Treat to share and a white elephant gift! Questions can be directed to Mrs. Hilary Lien.

SCHOOL POSITIONS NEEDED Our school is still looking for a School Secretary and a School Cook (for this school year if possible). The positions pay an hourly rate and offer a reduced tuition rate for any children attending ILS. If you, or someone you know, are interested in more information about the either of these positions, please reach out to Principal Rick Mariner (rick.mariner@immanuelmankato.org or 507-317-0805).

SYNOD ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLC MISSION PRAYERS Togo (West Africa) – Missionary Evensen reports that two independent pastors have recently expressed interest in joining the

MELC and three new seminary students will begin classes soon. … Pray for the doctrinal studies and discussions with two pastors and for three new seminary students. … Pray that Pastor Blewu's radio program continues to bear fruit and result in more contacts and lead preaching stations and congregations.

USED SMARTPHONES FOR AFRICA Once again, Missionary Bruce Naumann is requesting donations of a certain kind of used smartphone, for use by pastors and pastoral students in East Africa. The need is for used phones that were once on a Verizon plan (or you know that they are otherwise "unlocked"). Please do a factory reset on the phone and tape your name and your church's name on it. Bring it to the church office and it will find its way to Africa. These phones are much appreciated by students and pastors in our sister African churches - thank you!

KINSHIP SPONSERS NEEDED After the CLC declared fellowship with the Bangladesh Lutheran Church Mission (BLCM) in 2020, the CLC Board of Missions has been working together with the BLCM to establish a local seminary for pastoral training. There is currently one BLCM pastor serving 1,715 souls across 19 congregations and 14 preaching stations in a country that is 95% Muslim. However, this January, 14 men will begin their pastoral training as the inaugural seminary class of the BLCM. Sponsors are needed to help these men receive their training so that they may join in the abundant work in Bangladesh. The cost of a sponsorship will be $60 per month. To begin a sponsorship or for more information, please text, call, or email Dan Roehl. (Cell: 507-381-2042; Email: danroehl@hotmail.com)

If you have an announcement or event for next weekend's bulletin, please send it to Church@ImmanuelMankato.org or contact Hilary Lien by Friday at 10 am. Thank you!

IMMANUEL
Lutheran Church and School

Pastor Joe Naumann	920-266-5386
Pastor Nathanael Mayhew	404-729-4602
Secretary Hilary Lien	507-345-3027 Ext 104
Principal Rick Mariner	507-317-0805
Secretary Amanda Harris	507-345-3027 Ext 103

We Thank Those Serving Us Today

(5th Weekend of the Month)

PASTOR Paul Nolting
ORGANIST Debra Mayhew
LIVESTREAM Craig Stelter
HEAD USHER Church Council
USHERS Board & Councilmen

DEACON Paul Bade
SCREEN Furst, G Harris

ASST USHER Church Council

Serving Us Next Weekend

(1st Weekend of the Month)

PASTOR Joe Naumann
ORGANIST Vickie Schreyer
LIVESTREAM Tony Harris
HEAD USHER William Lien
USHERS Mac Friedrichs, Bentley Hagen, Matt Hagen, Alan Olmanson, Brent Schreyer, Philip Stelter, Ross Theneman, William Roettger
COMMUNION SET UP Strattons, Hoffman, Hagens
COMMUNION DISTIRUTION Matzke, Nolting

DEACON Brent Schreyer
SCREEN

ASST USHER Karl Friedrichs

Weekly Memory Verse:

Call upon Me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."

Psalm 50:15

Sermon Notes

Text _____

Theme _____

Notes _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Specific Law (How does this text point out my sin?)

_____

_____

Specific Gospel (How does this text point to Jesus?)

_____

_____

Specific Application (How does this text teach me to live?)

_____

_____