



Immanuel
Lutheran
of Evanston

First Sunday of Advent

**10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist
December 2, 2018**

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Welcome!

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

We welcome people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation and gender identity, socio-economic status and marital status, every ability and challenge.

We welcome believers and questioners, and questioning believers.

We're glad God has called you here today! If you're a guest, please feel free to introduce yourself to our pastor or assisting minister. If you would, sign the guest book in the Gathering Area or fill in a guest card, and we'll be happy to send information on how you can get involved at Immanuel.

Facilities

- Our parking lot is located on the south side of the church off Sherman Avenue. You may park in the lot at any time, whether for church events or for shopping or other errands in downtown Evanston; weekdays, see the church office at the Lake St. entrance to get a parking pass. On Sundays, additional parking is available across the street at the Holiday Inn or in Lot 6 on Lake St. across from the Police and Fire Headquarters. Parking meters are free on Sunday!
- The parking lot entrance is an accessible entrance. An elevator is located just inside that door.
- Restrooms are downstairs near the meeting of the two hallways. Accessible restrooms are located near the elevator on both upper and lower levels. A gender-neutral restroom is located on the lower level by the elevator.
- We love having children in worship! There is a nursery and changing/crying room for parents to use, if needed, located downstairs. There are also changing tables in both restrooms on this level, by the elevator. An usher will be happy to direct you.
- Hearing assistance is available. Ask an usher for equipment.
- Wi-Fi is available throughout most of the building. The network is "Immanuel", password "allarewelcome". Please use the Internet responsibly!

About Our Worship

Our Sunday worship is organized around the proclamation of the Word of God and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It has a familiar form each week, but the content changes for each service according to a calendar shared with many other Christians. Our hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, is organized so that page numbers for the liturgy are in the front part of the book, while hymn numbers are in the second part. The liturgy and hymns are printed in this bulletin, but page numbers are provided for those who wish to follow along in the hymnal.

Receiving Holy Communion

We invite you to share with us in the sacramental meal, because Christ himself invites you! At the direction of the usher, come forward if you are able, and kneel at the altar rail, starting at the walls. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand. (Gluten-free wafers are available. Just ask the pastor.) You may eat it immediately, then take the silver chalice and drink from it or, if you prefer, take a small cup from the tray. The cups in the outer ring contain wine. The cups in the center contain grape juice. As you return to your seat, place your empty cup in the trays provided at the ends of the front pews. Return to your place via the side aisles after you have communed. If you need to have Communion brought to you, please sit on the aisle, and let either the pastor or an usher know before the service that you would like to commune at your seat. If you desire a blessing but not the sacrament, you are invited to come forward with everyone else and fold your arms over your chest to indicate this.

Gathering: The Holy Spirit assembles us as the People of God ...

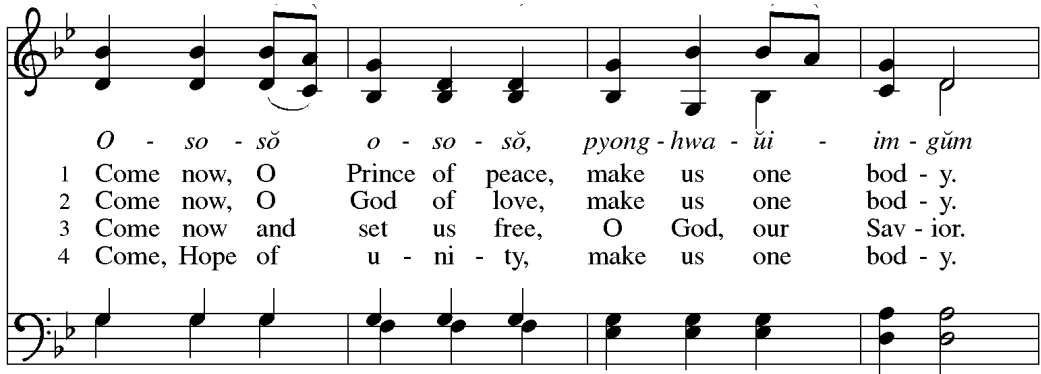
Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Our Lord's contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of our Lord in word and supper.

P: Presiding Minister **L:** Leader/Assisting Minister **R:** Reader **A:** Assembly
+ All may make the sign of the cross.

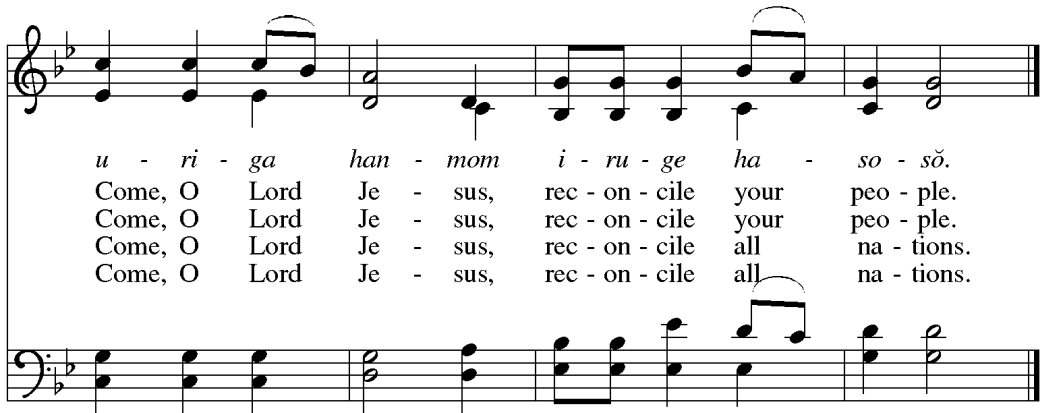
Pre-Service Music Variations on "Wake, Awake" and "O Savior of the Nations, Come" Bach et al.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

As the candle is lighted, the Assembly sings v.1.



O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Advent Wreath Prayer

L Let us pray. We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

A Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

A Amen.

P Let us come before God in confession.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P To you, O God,

**A we lift up our souls.
You know us through and through;
we confess our sins to you.
Remember not our sins;
remember us with your steadfast love.
Show us your ways;
teach us your paths;
and lead us in justice and truth,
for the sake of your goodness
in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

P Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of + Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near.

A Amen.

Gathering Song

"My Lord, What a Morning" Hymnal 438

Please turn to face the doors. You may reverence the cross as it passes you.

Refrain

My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,

my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.

1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,
2 You will hear the sin-ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

Refrain

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

A **And also with you.**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



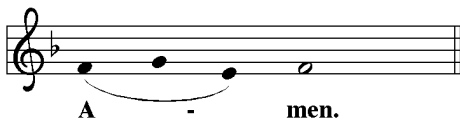
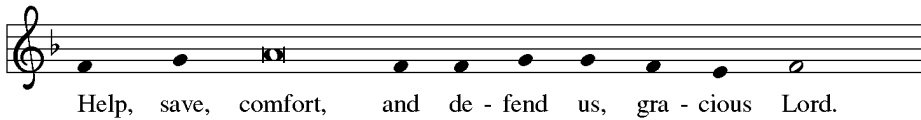
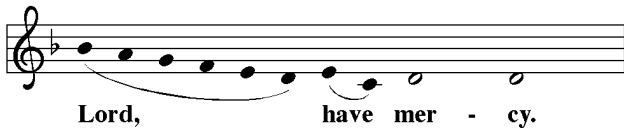
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Word: *God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and song ...*

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Jeremiah 33:14-16

R A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

R Word of God, word of life.

A **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 25:1-10

ELW Psalm Tone 3

*The organ will play the tone, then the refrain, and then the Assembly will sing the refrain through.
The right side of the Assembly sings lightface verses to the tone, and the left sings boldfaced verses.
All sing the refrain where indicated by "R."*

Tone:



Refrain:



¹To | you, O LORD,

I lift | up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

³Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous

⁴**Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths. R**

⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting. R**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- |
ness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies. R**

Reading from the New Testament

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

R A reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

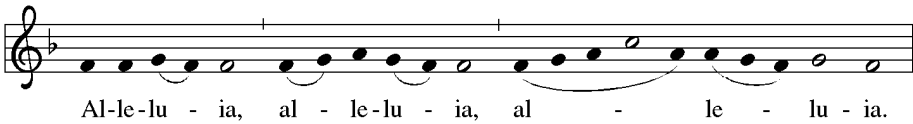
R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

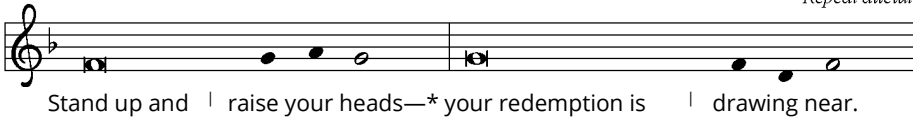
The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Hymnal p. 160



Repeat alleluia



Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

P This is the Good News of Jesus Christ according to Luke.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

[Jesus said:] ²⁵There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ!

The Alleluia of the Gospel Acclamation is sung once again. The Assembly is then seated.

Sermon

Time of Silence

A bell will chime to begin a time of silence for reflection.

During this time, you may want to meditate on one word or phrase from the scriptures or from the sermon that stands out to you, asking the Spirit to show you how it applies to your own life.

When the bell sounds a second time, the Assembly stands to respond to the Word.



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -
 2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in
 3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all
 4 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e -
 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,
 splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child
 hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 ter - nal day; de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you hear us when we call.
 of Mar - y, bless - ed moth - er mild.
 like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.
 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

This Week's Commemorations

Francis Xavier, missionary to Asia, d. 1552

Monday, December 3, 2018

A native of the Basque region of Spain, Xavier became a missionary to India, Southeast Asia, Japan, and the Philippines. He also helped to found the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).

John of Damascus, theologian and hymnwriter, d. ca. 749

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

A monk in an abbey near Jerusalem, John wrote many hymns as well as theological works. One of his works, *The Fount of Wisdom*, remained influential for centuries.

Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, d. ca. 342

Thursday, December 6, 2018

Little is known about Nicholas, except that he was a bishop in present-day Turkey. According to legend, he was famous for his giving to the poor, and so has become a symbol of anonymous gift-giving.

Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, d. 397

Friday, December 7, 2018

While a governor of northern Italy, Ambrose was elected bishop of Milan on the same day he was baptized. He was a famous preacher, a writer of hymns we still sing today, and helped lead St. Augustine to faith.

The Nicene Creed

L With the whole Church, let us profess our faith.

**A We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the + resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

L As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.
L Equip your church, merciful God. Secure our roots in the soil of your eternal word. Ease our worries and remove our shame. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Wayne, our pastor, Keith, our president, Sara, our Council, and for all whom you have called here in your name. Grow our faithfulness and let your steadfast love blossom among us. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L Sustain your creation, holy God. Water the parched soil. Restore depleted fields. Send farmers, forest rangers, and gardeners to care for fig trees and wheat fields, gardens and arboretums. Increase our love for the land. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L Grow peace within us, abundant God. Raise up leaders in every community grounded in your justice and mercy. Increase their love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L Feed the hungry, living God. Gather our harvest into a feast for our neighbors. Move us to nurture those who are bereaved and lonely. Empower those living with HIV/AIDS and all who are sick. We pray especially for Serena Bernstein, Margaret Carlson, Lynn Carson, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Judy Hokenson, Ron Laudert, Richard Lewis, Joe Skelton, John and Doris Strom, and those we name now aloud or in our hearts [...]. Deliver them from their struggles into havens where they can find healing and faithful companionship. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L Increase our joy, wondrous God. Plant thanksgiving in our hearts and multiply the good fruit of our outreach ministries and creation care programs, especially our Farmers Market. Guide us in our service to local and global neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L And now, sisters and brothers, for what else shall we pray?

The petitions and thanksgivings of the Assembly, silent or spoken aloud, are invited.

L Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L In thanksgiving, we remember all who have died and now rest in your glory. Hold all who mourn in the comfort of your eternal light, and bring us to delight in the new life you promise. We remember especially this week Francis Xavier, John of Damascus, Nicolas, bishop of Myra, and Ambrose, bishop of Milan. Through the witness of your saints who now rest in the Lord, inspire us in our lives of faithful service. Lord, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

P Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

Prayer for Discernment of Leaders

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

A And also with you.

Greet one another in the peace of Christ, saying "Peace be with you," "The peace of the Lord," or similar words. If you prefer not to shake hands, you might raise your hand in a gesture of blessing as you speak peace to your neighbors. After the Peace, all return to their seats.

Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ ...

Offering *An offering is gathered for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need.*

Offering Music "Sleepers, Wake!" from the "St. Paul Oratorio" F. Mendelssohn

Presentation of the Gifts "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" **Hymnal 254**

The Assembly stands and sings as the gifts are brought forward and the Table is prepared.



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev-'ry na - tion, joy of ev-'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

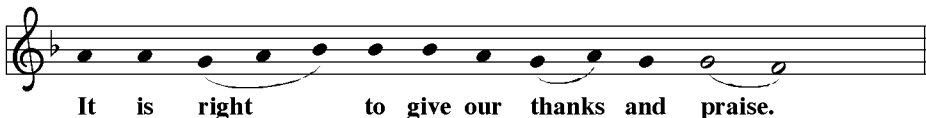
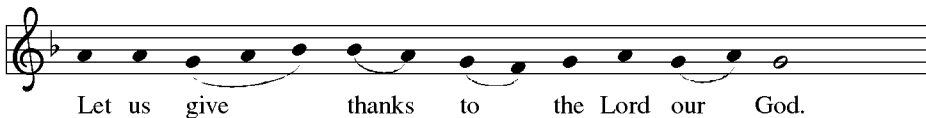
Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

**A God of abundance,
we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation,
and with them our very lives.
Teach us patience and hope
as we care for all those in need
until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

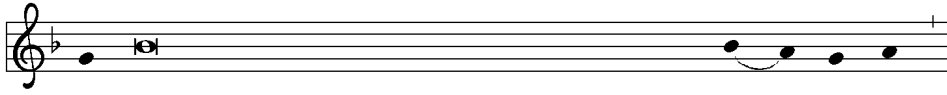
The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue





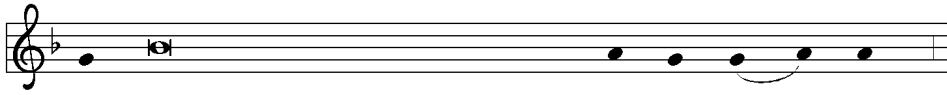
It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,



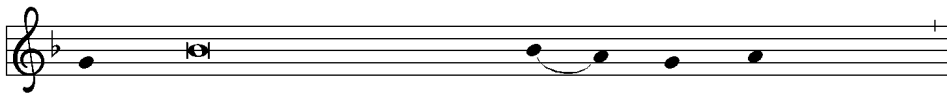
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,



al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.



You comforted your people with the promise of the Re - deem - er,



through whom you will also make all things new



in the day when he comes to judge the world in righ - teous-ness.



And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,



with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,



we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. It consists of five staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Let us proclaim the mystery of faith. *All sing:*



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

P With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

A Come, Lord Jesus!

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

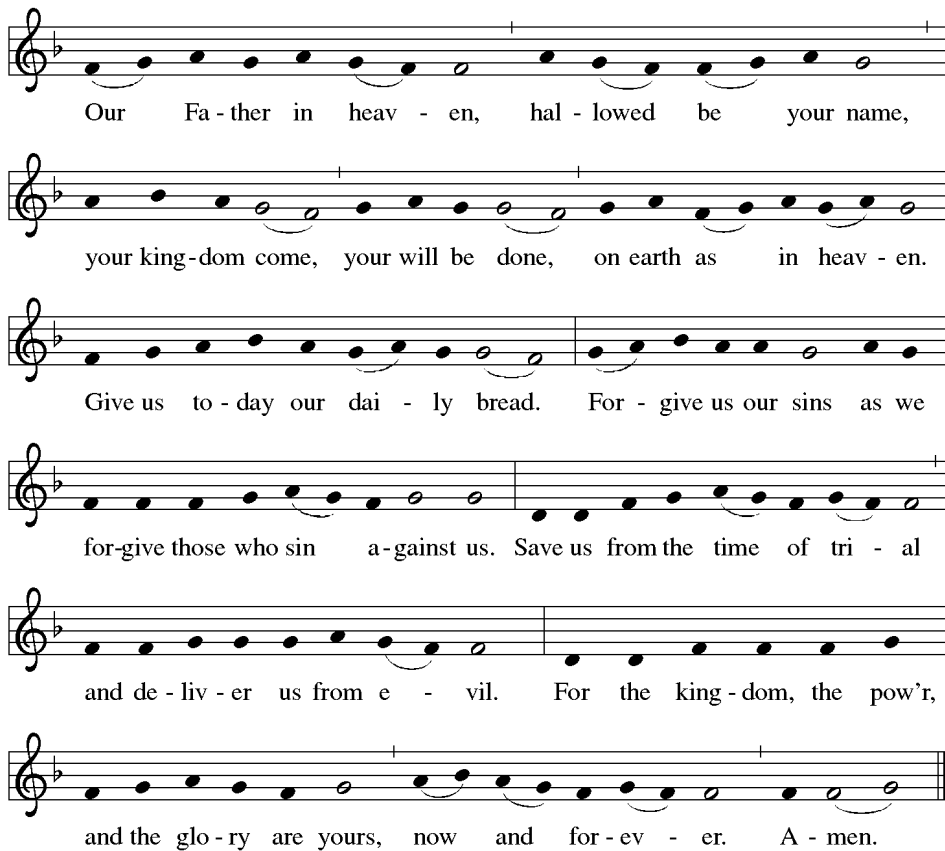
A Come, Holy Spirit!

P All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

A Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray: *All sing:*



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

L God fills the hungry with good things.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

A Thanks be to God!

Distribution of Holy Communion

*The Assembly is seated. Please come forward as the ushers direct, and as you are able.
See the inside front cover for instructions concerning Holy Communion.*

Communion Song

"Lamb of God" Hymnal 164

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy
 on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

Communion Song

"Let the Broken Ones Be Healed" [to be sung as a round]

A B
 Let the brok-en ones be healed. Let the lost be found and fed. Let the grace of God roll on. Let the
 C
 ri-ver rise and spread. Step in - to the stream with me. Let God's gra-cious pur-pose be!

The Assembly stands when directed by the Presiding Minister.

Blessing after Communion

P The body and blood of our + Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

A Amen.

Post-Communion Song

"Wait for the Lord" [repeat as directed] Hymnal 262

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff melody includes a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F#5, and a quarter note G5. The bass staff continues with accompaniment, ending with a double bar line.

Prayer after Communion

L Let us pray. Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

A Amen.

Sending: *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world ...*

Sending of Communion

P Let us pray. Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

A Amen.

Sending Song

"The King Shall Come" (printed on next page) Hymnal 260

Please turn as the cross passes you to face the doors through which you will be sent out in mission.

Blessing

P Go now and let the Lord steer you in the way of truth. Be on your guard so that you will not be caught up in the trivialities and anxieties of the world. Be alert at all times and pray for strength to escape the traps that would keep you from God.

And may God make you increase in love for one another;
May + Christ Jesus teach you how to live in God's ways;
and may the Holy Spirit strengthen your hearts in holiness,
as you ready yourselves for the coming of the Lord.

A Amen.

Dismissal

L Go in peace. Stay awake!

A Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Please stay for a time of fellowship immediately following the service.

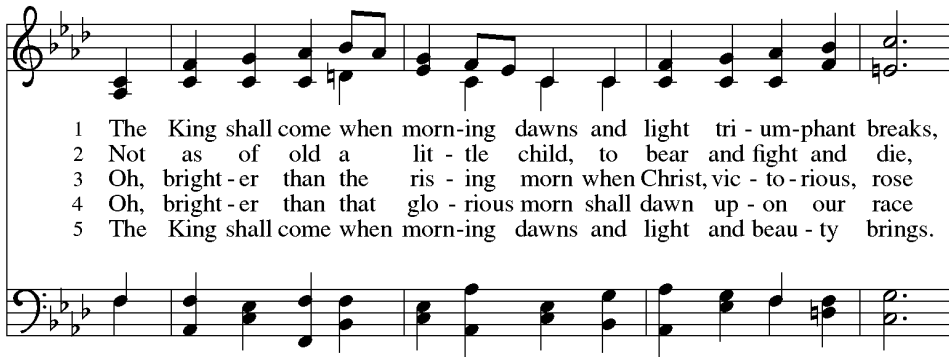
*Refreshments today are provided by **TBD**.*

Come enjoy one another's company and hear about all the opportunities for service and community!

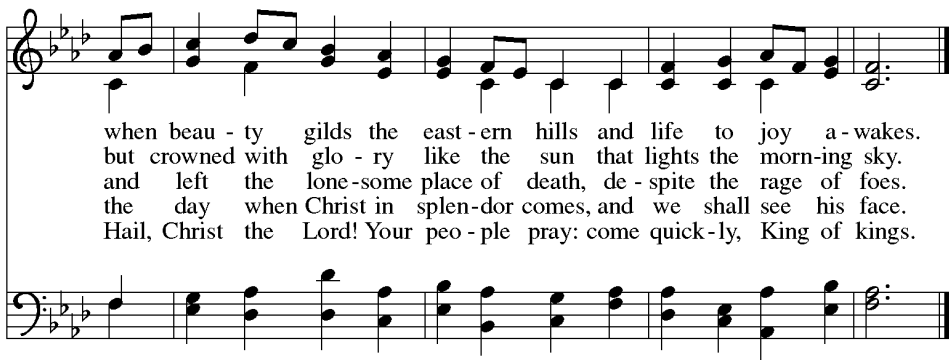
Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister Pr. Keith Fry
Assisting Minister Anne Heider
Acolyte Caroline Nakic
Lector Susan Ross
Communion Minister Terri Hummel
Music Director James Morehead
Organist Greg Hummel
Table Preparation Joanne Shearer
Communion Bread Audrey Moy
Ushers Marlene Chatain

The King Shall Come



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

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Waiting with Hope

Today we begin the season of Advent, a season of expectation, watching, and waiting for the coming birth of Christ. Waiting is often the last thing we want to do. Waiting requires trust; it requires acknowledging our lack of control; it requires restraint and delayed satisfaction. Waiting is *hard*. We much prefer certainty, control, and immediacy over the uncertainty and vulnerability of waiting.

In the gospel text for today, Jesus speaks of a time of great uncertainty, when even the celestial bodies will be unmoored from their orbits. He speaks of people waiting in great fearfulness for what these signs might portend—and then he indicates that all the chaos and tumult are actually signs that the kingdom of God is near. What are we to make of such a statement?

When Jesus describes chaos as a sign of God's reign, it is not because God's reign brings destruction. Rather, it is a sign because God chooses to be born in the middle of the tumult and uncertainty that is this world. When all seems lost and like our waiting is hopeless, God's kingdom comes. When our lives seem wildly uncertain and when waiting seems unbearable, our need for a savior *will* be fulfilled in Christ. As we prayerfully anticipate the birth of Jesus in a world that is unstable and broken, Jesus assures us that we can wait with true hope, not uncertainty and fear. Hope because God's promises far outlast everything in heaven and on earth. Hope because Jesus' love encompasses even the biggest storm we may wait through. Hope because God's reign brings us a completeness that we can anticipate with joy. Hope because the kingdom of God will always be far more surprising than we can imagine.

Upcoming Events

Wednesdays	Holden Evening Prayer	7:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 15	Farmers' Market	8:30 AM
Sunday, Dec. 16	Poinsettia Orders Due	10:30 AM
Monday, Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Service	9:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 30	Lessons & Carols	10:30 AM

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Keith Fry	Pastor
Sara Krentz.....	Congregation Council President
James Morehead	Music Director
Greg Hummel	Organist
Laurie Stivers	Associate Organist
Jane Kaihatsu.....	Parish Administrator

**Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Metropolitan Chicago Synod.
We've been worshipping God and serving the Evanston community since 1888!**