



The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve

**9:00 P.M. Worship with Eucharist
December 24, 2019**

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 on this holy night! 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 until 1:00 P.M. 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! Activity bags are available from the greeters. 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! There is no specific age requirement for Communion. If you would like your child to commune, please let the pastor know. At the direction of the usher, come forward if you are able, and kneel or stand 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 or near 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 ...*

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ Child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised ruler will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

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

Pre-Service Music

"Pastorals" *Bach, Franck, and Guilamant*

The Assembly stands when directed, as you are able, and faces the rear doorway.

Dialogue

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the World!

A **He is the Light no darkness can overcome!**

P At darkest night we gather to celebrate the great light of our salvation.

A **With the heavenly host we sing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven!"**

P In Christ, God's Word is made flesh and dwells among us.

A **With the shepherds we will tell of the wonders we have seen and heard!**



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Greeting

P This night Christ is born to us! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

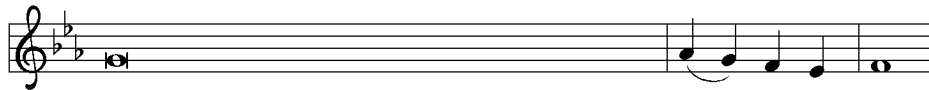
A And also with you!



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



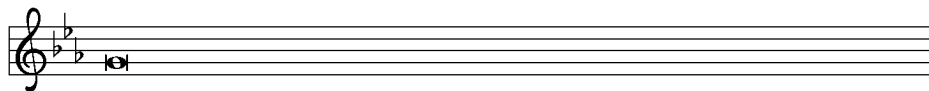
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

Song of Praise

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - ri - a

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.' The word 'Refrain' is written above the first staff. The score is divided into three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in the bass clef.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

Welcome

Choral Anthem

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" arr. Andrew Risinger

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging, angels singing, nowells ringing, tidings bringing,
Christ the Babe is Lord of all, Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new;
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow,
Christ the Babe was born for you! Christ the Babe was born for you.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 9:2-7

R A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

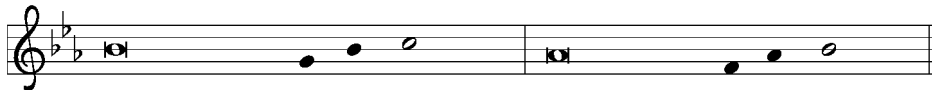
⁷His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

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

Tone:**Refrain:**

- ¹Sing to the Lord | a new song;
sing to the Lord, | all the earth.
- ²**Sing to the Lord, bless the name | of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**
- ³Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.
- ⁴**For great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods. R**
- ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have | made the heavens.
- ⁶**Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**
- ⁷Ascribe to the Lord, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord hon- | or and power.
- ⁸**Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the Lord. R**
- ⁹Worship the Lord in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the Lord, | all the earth.
- ¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: "The | Lord is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peo- |
ples with equity."**
- ¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.
- ¹²**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O Lord,
for you come to | judge the earth.**
- ¹³You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth. R

R A reading from the Letter to Titus.

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" [vv. 1 and 3 only] Hymnal 270

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

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

A Glory to you, O Lord!

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom God favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ!

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

The Assembly is seated.

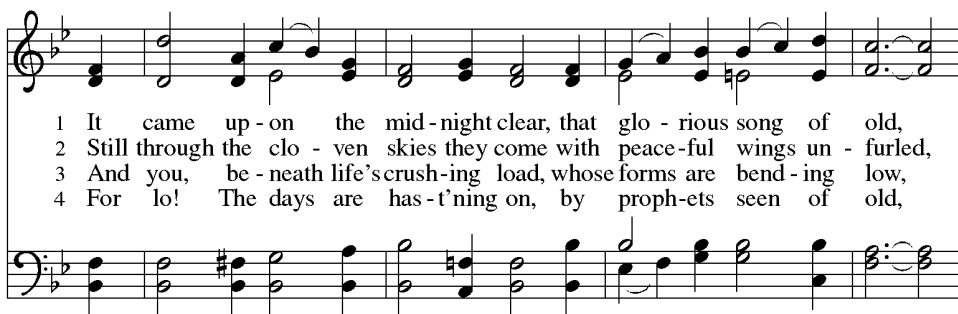
Sermon

Time of Silence

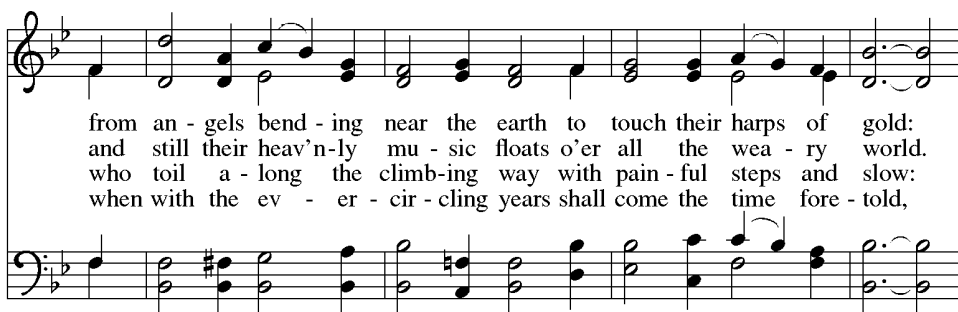
A bell will sound to signal a time of silence for reflection.

During this time, you may want to meditate on one word 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.

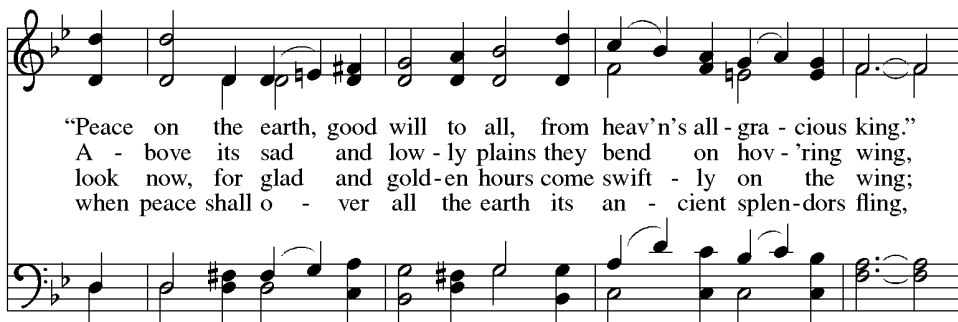
When the bell sounds a second time, the Assembly stands to respond to the Word with song.



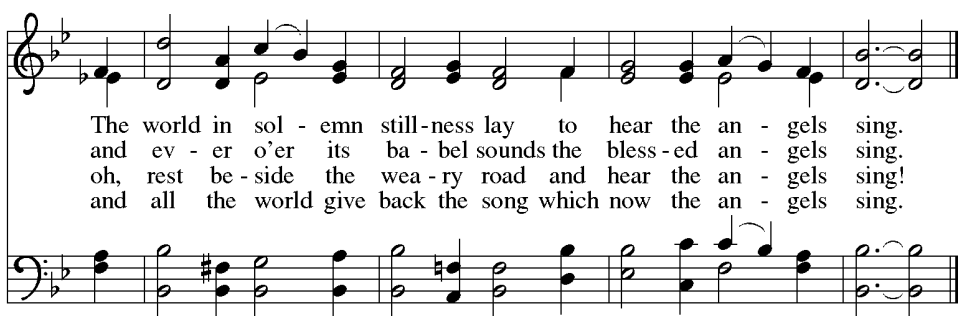
1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
 and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

The Nicene Creed

L With the whole People of God, let us confess 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 Gathered with all who seek the Christ child, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

L Wonderful counselor, on this holy night your church throughout the world celebrates the Word of God being born among us. Endow your church with a zeal for sharing your love and grace with all. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Lord of hosts, the heavens are glad, the earth rejoices, and the trees sing for joy at your coming. Grant us wisdom to care for your creation in ways that benefit all of your creatures. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Prince of peace, your grace has appeared and brings salvation to all. Bring healing to people and nations divided by violence, especially Israel and Palestine. Direct the leaders of the nations, so that in self-controlled, upright, and godly living, they may work toward peace. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Mighty God of mercy, you come among us as a vulnerable infant. Protect all in need: those without homes or caregivers, those who grieve, all who are hungry, and all who are ill, remembering especially Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Margaret Carlson, Babs Deacon, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Steven Hooper, Hal Larson, Ron Laudert, Richard Lewis, the Moy family, Elaine Nelson, Tom Rowan, Andy Sheer, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, Doris Strom, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Gracious God, we praise you for gathering us tonight to worship in holy splendor. Direct our worship, fellowship, and service, so that our lives and Christian witness may be pleasing to you. Hear us, O God.

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 Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Everlasting God, your steadfast love never ends. Thank you for revealing your faithfulness and love to us through the saints of every time and place, remembering especially the Blessed Martyr Stephen, the Blessed Apostle John, the Holy Innocents of Bethlehem, and all those saints dear to us who now enjoy the fullness of your presence. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

P Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

A And also with you.

Greet one another in the peace of the Risen 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

Dost Thou in a manger lie, who hast all created,
Stretching infant hands on high, Savior, long awaited?
If a monarch, where Thy state?
Where Thy court on Thee to wait? Royal purple where?
Here no regal pomp we see; Naught but need and penury;
why thus cradled here?

"For the world a love supreme brought me to this stable,
all creation to redeem, I alone am able.
By this lowly birth of mine, sinner, riches, shall be thine,
matchless gifts and free;
Willingly this yoke I take, and this sacrifice I make,
heaping joys for thee."

"Dost Thou in a Manger Lie" *Martha Jones Burford*

Christ, we raise with voices bold, laud and honor raising;
for these mercies manifold join the hosts in praising;
Father, glory be to Thee for Thy wondrous charity
of Thy Son, our Lord.
Better witness to Thy worth, purer sacrifice on earth,
angels' songs afford.

Presentation of the Gifts

"The First Noël"

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

The first Noël the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël!
Born is the King of Israel!

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
who has made heav'n and earth of naught
and with his blood salvation has wrought. *Refrain*

Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

A Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue *The Assembly sings the boldfaced responses.*

The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface *The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:*

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.
In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened
the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vis - ion of your glo - ry,

that be - holding the God made vis - i - ble,
 we may be drawn to love the God whom we can - not see.
 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:

Holy, Holy, Holy *The Assembly joins in singing:*

Hymnal, p. 108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed 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:



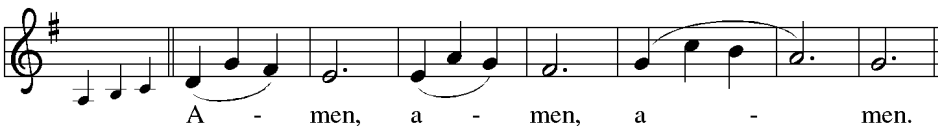
P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

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.



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 Love has come, God's love for all people.
Come and eat, for Christ invites you!

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 p. 112**



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 -



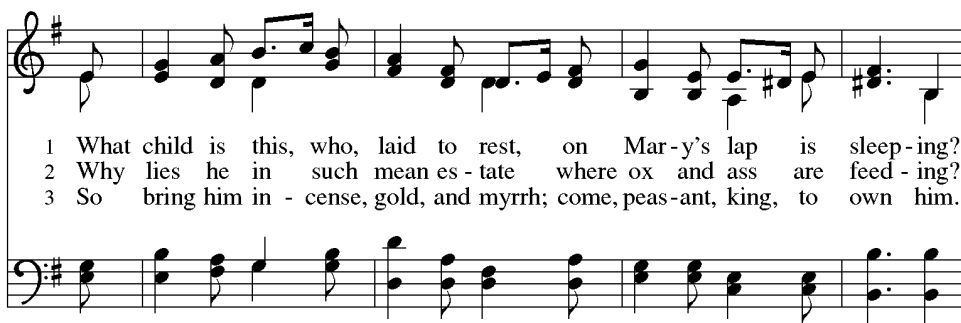
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Song

"Oh, Holy Night" *Adolphe Adam*
Ashlee Hardgrave, soloist

Communion Song

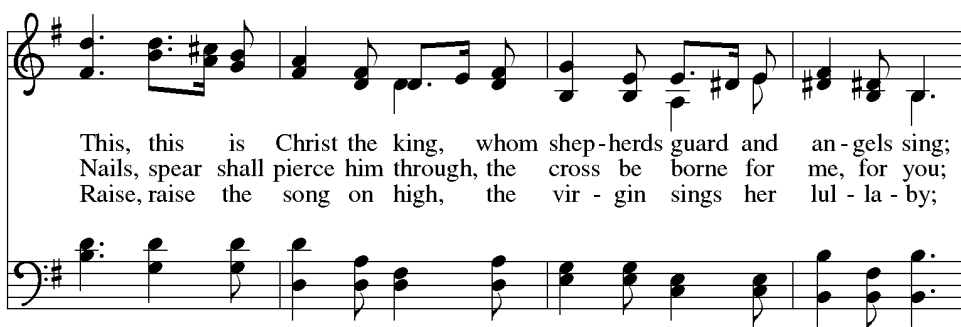
"What Child is This?" Hymnal 296



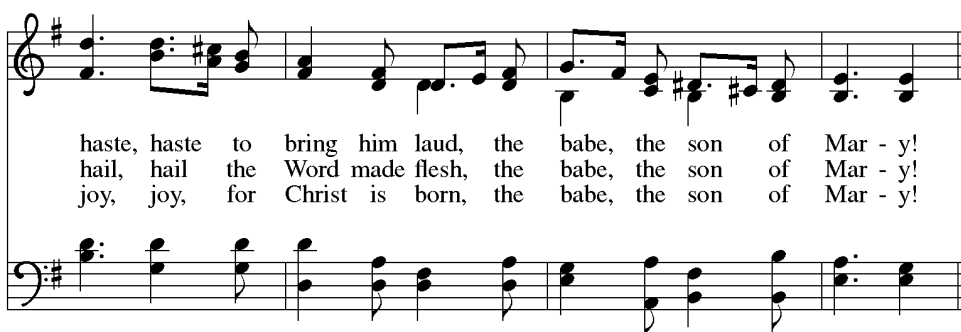
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

The Assembly stands when directed by the Presiding Minister.

Blessing after Communion

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

A Amen.



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Prayer after Communion

L Let us pray. Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

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

Carol

"Silent Night, Holy Night" Hymnal 281

The Presiding Minister lights a candle from the large candle that symbolizes Christ, the Light of the World.

The ministers light candles from his candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle.

You then pass your light to your neighbor. Lit candles should never be tilted, but **must** be held upright.

The carol will be sung first in German by the Choir. The Assembly then joins in singing all verses in English.

Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Blessing

P Go now, praising and glorifying God for all you have seen and heard. Rejoice in the Good News that God has come to dwell among us, and live in ways that show your thankfulness for God's mighty acts.

And may the God of grace increase your joy;
May + Christ Jesus be born as Savior within you;
and may the Spirit, the Wonderful Counselor,
make the Good News known to you and through you.

A Amen.

Sending Song

"Go, Tell it on the Mountain" **Hymnal 290**

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.



Dismissal

L Glory to God in the highest!

A And peace to God's people on Earth!

L Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

A Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Variations on "Vom himmel hoch, da komm ich her"

J.S. Bach

Serving in worship tonight...

Presiding Minister.....	The Rev. Keith Fry
Assisting Minister.....	Linda Edlund
Acolyte	Tyler Knohl
Lector	Susan Ross
Communion Minister	Terri Hummel
Organist	Greg Hummel
Music Director.....	James Morehead
Soloist.....	Ashlee Hardgrave
Table Preparation	Kim Miller
Communion Bread.....	Anne Heider
Ushers.....	Stephen Warner, Marlene Chatain

This Week's Commemorations

Stephen, Deacon and Martyr Thursday, December 26, 2019

Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

John, Apostle and Evangelist Friday, December 27, 2019

The son of Zebedee and brother of James, John was one of the twelve disciples and witness to the transfiguration. Tradition has named him also the writer of the Gospel of John, the three New Testament letters bearing his name, as well as Revelation, though scholars see these as being written by different authors.

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs Saturday, December 28, 2019

This day commemorates the young children killed by Herod in Bethlehem in his jealous attempt to murder the baby Jesus, a sobering reminder of the evil that led Christ to be born for our salvation.

Upcoming Events

Friday, Dec. 27	Community Warming Center	2:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 29	Worship with Eucharist, Lessons and Carols	10:30 AM
	Caroling to Shut-Ins Dinner to follow at the home of Laurie Stivers	2:30 PM
Saturday, Jan. 11	Indoor Farmers' Market	8:30 AM

Poinsettias at the altar are given by:

Edward L. Carlson	in memory of Edward & Ida Carlson (Grandparents) and Edward & Agnes Carlson (Parents)
Marlene & Jacques Chatain	in memory of Allan and Sandra Braa
Mesrop & Nancy Darian	
Pr. Keith Fry	in memory of The Rev. Norman and Jo Ann Fry; Evelyn Fry Aker
Anne Heider & Stephen Warner	in memory of Our Parents
Greg & Terri Hummel	to All of the Loved Ones who have gone before us
Jane Kaihatsu	in memory of Lynn Carson
Doris J. Kanter	Thanks Be to God
Mark & Mary Ann Kearns	to the Glory of God
Diane Keely	in memory of Charles Keely
Ronald Laudert	in memory of Mother, Evelen Laudert
Kit & Jim McCarthy	in memory of Our Parents-Howie & Eva and Johan & Eleanore
The McDaniel Family	in honor of Pr. Keith Fry, Jane Kaihatsu
Chuck & Kim Miller	Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!
John & Susan Ross	to the Glory of God
The Shearer Family	to the Glory of God

Places, Everyone!

“Places, everyone!” the director calls. Suddenly there is a last-minute frenzy of adjusting costumes and rehearsing lines. Such scenes may be familiar for communities reenacting the Christmas story this year. Maybe you experienced a similar rush getting dressed for this service, getting out the door, and finding a seat before worship began. As you participate in familiar Christmas traditions, you may also feel you are “taking your place” in a part you are accustomed to playing each December.

Yet, as we gather in Christian community today, we are invited beyond the familiar motions of this season into a deeper celebration of a God who came to take a place among us. Throughout his life, Jesus came to know our human experience fully. He especially sought out those who themselves felt they had no place in this world—the hurting, the sick, the poor, the socially outcast. At the end of his life, Jesus even took his place with us in our suffering through his death on the cross.

The gospel story told this Christmas Eve points to the life Jesus would go on to live. As all the people of the Roman world shuffle into their places to be counted, we encounter a young couple with no place left for them after a long journey. Yet God provides a place for people without one, gathering this little family into a stable and surrounding them with the unlikely support of some shepherds.

Today we celebrate the good news that God makes a place for each of us—even, and perhaps especially, when we feel we have no place or role to play in God’s story or amid the bustle of Christmastime. God invites us not just to play a role, but to bring our whole selves. Whatever we face, we are welcomed to take our place next to the newborn Savior and dwell with him in peace, comfort, and joy.

Immanuel’s Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Keith Fry.....	Pastor
Sara Krentz.....	Congregation President
Linda Edlund.....	Congregation Vice President
Susan Ross.....	Congregation Secretary
Tom Couch, Greg Hummel, Melisa Larson, Kevin McDaniel, Scott Romans, Erik Shearer, Jim Skelton, Grace Yarnoff.....	Congregation Council Members
Joe Simchak.....	Treasurer
Mary Ann Kearns.....	Financial Secretary
Elizabeth Stegner.....	Assistant Financial Secretary
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 worshiping God and serving the Evanston community since 1888!**