



Immanuel
Lutheran
of Evanston

The Third Sunday in Advent

**10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist
In-Person and via Zoom
December 12, 2021**

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.

Please keep your masks on during the worship service and when moving to and from your place in the Fellowship Hall during coffee hour. Announcements, celebrations, and time to socialize with one another will take place after worship during coffee hour in the fellowship hall. You're welcome to attend the coffee hour in-person, or via Zoom. After worship Scan this QR code with your smartphone camera to join the coffee hour via Zoom



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 is printed in this bulletin.

Receiving Holy Communion

We invite you to share with us in the sacramental meal because Christ invites you! There is no specific age requirement for Communion. For safety we have individually packaged communion with either wine or grape juice that you can pick up at the entrance of the sanctuary. We will commune all together in the pews at the designated time. Please deposit the cups and wrappers in the trash receptacles as you leave the sanctuary.

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

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

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

Prelude

Variations on Comfort, Comfort Ye My People
by G. Bohm

The Assembly stands when directed.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Diane Keely

As the candles are lighted, the Assembly sings v.3

Tif in Veldele, v.3 ELW 240



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Advent Wreath Prayer

L Let us pray. We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the candles on this wreath,
strengthen our hearts
as we await the Lord's coming in glory.
Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may serve our neighbors in need.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

A Amen.

Gathering

P The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who alone does wonders,
who lifts up the lowly,
who fills the hungry with good things.

A Amen.

P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P God, for whom we wait,

A in the presence of one another,

we confess our sin before you.

We fail in believing that your good news is for us.

We falter in our call to tend your creation.

We find our sense of self in material wealth.

We fear those different from ourselves.

We forget that we are your children

and turn away from your love.

Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.

P God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!

Through the power of the Holy Spirit,

† your sins are forgiven.

You are children of the Most High,

inheritors of the eternal promise,

and recipients of divine mercy.

God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

A Amen.

Gathering Song

"Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" (HISRAEL V'ORAITA) ELW 519



- 1 O - pen your ears, O faith-ful peo - ple, o - pen your ears and hear God's word.
- 2 They who have ears to hear the mes - sage, they who have ears, now let them hear;



O - pen your hearts, O roy - al priest-hood, God has come to you.
they who would learn the way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.

Refrain



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

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!

Kyrie Cantor



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men.

Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

P Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

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

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Zephaniah 3:14-20

R A reading from Zephaniah.

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing

¹⁸as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors at that time.

And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

²⁰At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

R Word of God, word of life.

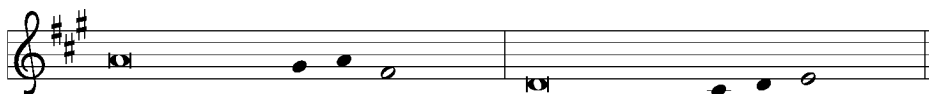
A Thanks be to God!

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6

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:

ELW Psalm Tone 3, 3 Sharps



Refrain:



In your midst is the Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not ¹ be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become ¹ my salvation.

³**With joy you ¹ will draw water
from the wells ¹ of salvation. R**

⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call ¹ on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name ¹ is
exalted.

⁵**Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done ¹ gloriously;
let this be known in ¹ all the earth.**

⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O ¹ royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy ¹ One of Israel. R

Reading from the New Testament

Philippians 4:4-7

R A reading from Philippians 4.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Repeat alleluia

Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ!

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.

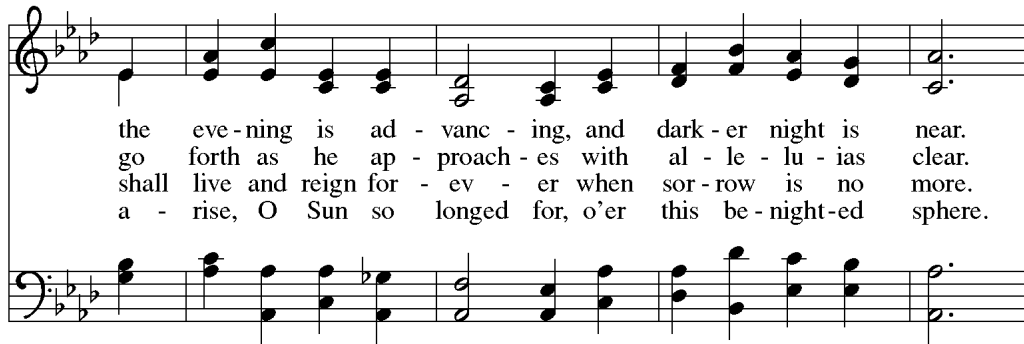
When the bell sounds a second time, the Assembly stands to respond to the Word with song.

Hymn of the Day

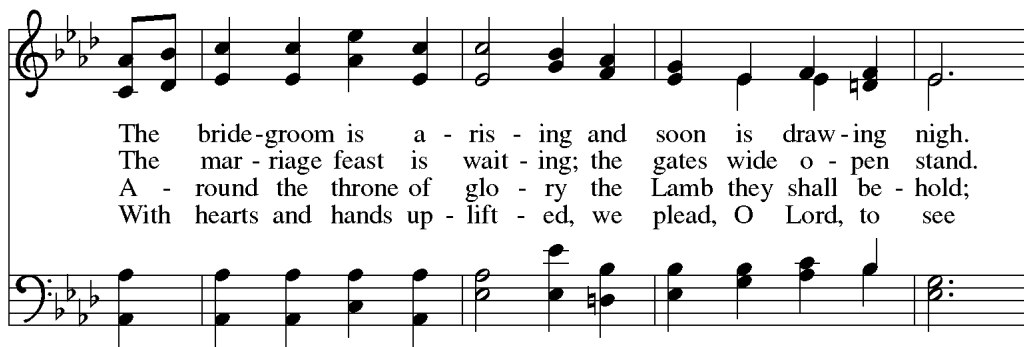
“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” (HAF TROMES LAMPA FARDIG) ELW 244



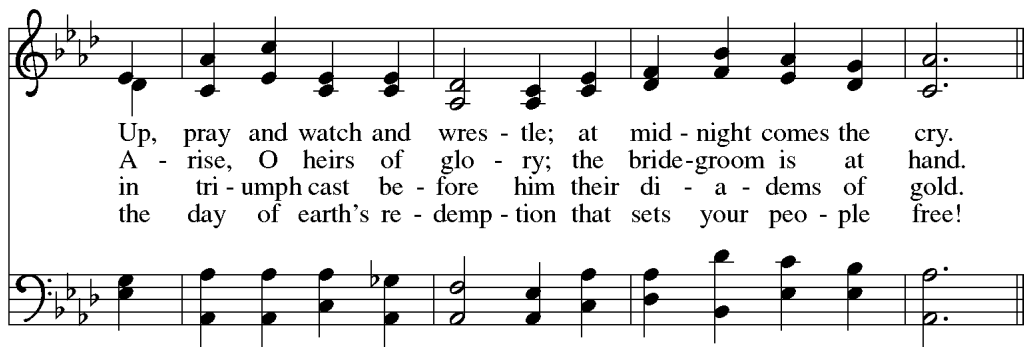
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

The Apostle's Creed

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

**A I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

L In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence. *pause*

L Holy God, renew your church and raise up leaders who announce your good news. Grant peace to congregations and seminarians in the midst of transition. Guide the work of candidacy and call committees. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Teaching God, send your guidance to our leaders of faith and justice. We pray for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, our pastor Mark, our president Grace, our council, and anti-racism task force. Hear us, O God,

A Your mercy is great.

L Creating God, your Spirit brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Breathe life into us, that we are inspired to live in harmony with one another and the planet. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Shepherding God, you lead your people in paths of righteousness. Raise up prophets in our own day who warn against captivity to greed and point us to the freedom found in generosity. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Nurturing God, you come near in times of worry and need. Cradle us in your arms, that we trust you and are not afraid. Attend to any who are hungry, imprisoned, or ill this day, especially Steve Andes, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Babs Deacon, Lucas Forzley, Jim Jung, Judith Kratochvil, the family of Kris Knohl, the family of Edgar Krentz, John and Nancy Lang, Veronica Repasz, Lorrie Roche, Darryl Simchak, the family of Leslie Thais, Renee Wessel, Grace and Alex, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. Grant them healing and wholeness. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Rejoicing God, you exult over us in singing. Enliven the song of this assembly and bless the ministry of church musicians. With instruments and dance, join our voices to the song of all creation. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

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 We give you thanks for your servants who showed us your goodness and grace, especially Lucy, martyr; John of the Cross, renewer of the church; and for Las Posadas (LLC). By the power of your Spirit, keep us steadfast in faith until we make our home with you. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

P God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

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 in an appropriate safe gesture as you speak peace to your neighbors.

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

Offering *An offering for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need. The offering will be collected. You scan this code with your smartphone camera to make your financial offering online.*



Offering Music

Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

By John W. Finney; Dana Barron, Flute

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.

The Bridegroom is arising,
and so, On He will draw nigh;
Up, watch in expectation!
At midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning,
replenish them with oil;
Look now for your salvation,
the end of sin and toil.

The marriage feast is waiting,
The gates wide open stand;
Rise up! Ye heirs of glory,
The bridegroom is at hand!

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise thou Sun so longed
For, above this darkened sphere!

With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption,
And ever live with Thee.

Presentation of the Gifts

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace (ososo, ososo)"

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

Ososö, ososö

The musical score is written in a two-staff system (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The first system of music covers the first four lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the next four lines. The music consists of a series of chords and single notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are: O - so - sö o - so - sö, pyong - hwa - üi - im - güm. 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 - sö. 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.

Offering Prayer

- L Let us pray.
L God of our waiting and watching,
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives
to the service of all your people.
Prepare the way before us
as we meet you in this simple meal,
through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

A 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:*

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.


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.
Come, Lord Jesus.

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.
Come, Holy Spirit.

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

The Lord's Prayer

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



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

P Come to Christ's banquet.

A Together we feast on God's gift of grace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

The Assembly is seated.

P This is the body of Christ, given for you.
All communing may partake of the bread

P This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.
All communing may drink of their cup.

The Assembly stands when directed by the Presiding Minister.

Table Dismissal

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen you, and keep you in God's grace.

A Amen.

Prayer after Communion

L Let us pray:
Most High God,
you have come among us at this table.
By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word,
sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,
through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

A Amen

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

Sending Song

"People, Look East" (BESACON) ELW 248

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new
of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming
trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Blessing

P The God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

A Amen.

Dismissal

L Go in peace. Christ is near.

A Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Variations on Comfort, Comfort Ye My People
by G. Bohm

Please stay for a time of fellowship immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall, as well as on Zoom. Due to Covid-19 precautions, there will not be refreshments. Zoom Participants, you may provide your own refreshments. Come enjoy one another's company and hear about all the opportunities for service and community!

**To join coffee hour via Zoom on a smartphone,
scan with your camera to get the link.**



Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Mark Sloss
Assisting Minister	Anne Heider
Cantor	Sara Krentz
Lector	Tyler Heyl
Organist	Greg Hummel
Music Director	James Morehead
Musician.....	Dana Barron
Table Preparation.....	Kathryn Skelton
Zoom Host.....	Grace Yarnoff
Audio-Visual Technicians.....	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel, Tyler Heyl, Mark Kearns
Ushers	Joe & Terri Simchak

CREDITS: Liturgy texts and music from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #32867. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Preface for Holy Communion adapted from laughingbird.net.

This Week's Commemorations

Lucy, martyr, died 304

Monday, December 13, 2021

Lucy was a young Christian of Sicily who was martyred during the persecutions under Emperor Diocletian. Her celebration became particularly important in Sweden and Norway, perhaps because the feast of Lucia (whose name means "light") originally fell on the shortest day of the year.

John of the Cross, renewer of the church, died 1591

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

John was a member of the Carmelite monastic order, and worked to reform it. His writings reflect a deep interest in mystical thought and meditation.

Las Posadas (LLC)

Thursday, December 16, 2021

This celebration, long popular in Mexico, takes its name from the "posadas," or lodgings, sought by Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem. Their search is reenacted in a neighborhood, unsuccessfully, until finally they are welcomed in, and a party commences.

Upcoming Events – for details see the weekly e-blast, *Immanuel Newsfeeds*, or the website Calendar at www.immanuelevanston.org.

Tuesday, Dec. 14	Midweek Adult Spiritual Formation	7:00 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 15	Lectio Divina Prayers	Noon
	Holden Evening Prayers	7:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Dec. 16	Wilmette Band Practice	7:30 pm
Sunday, Dec. 19-Advent 4	Feeding One's Faith Discussion	9:00 am
	Sunday Hybrid Worship	10:30 am
	Council Meeting	12:30 pm
	New Community Church Worship	1:00 pm

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss	Pastor
Grace Yarnoff.....	Congregation President
Melisa Larson.....	Congregation Vice President
Scott Romans.....	Congregation Secretary
Susan Ross.....	Congregation Treasurer
Dana Barron, Tom Couch, Linda Edlund, Bert Mount, Jim Skelton, Steve Warner.....	Congregation Council Members
Mary Ann Kearns.....	Financial Secretary
Elizabeth Stegner	Assistant Financial Secretary
James Morehead	Music Director
Greg Hummel	Organist
Laurie Stivers	Associate Organist
Christine Kraemer	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!**