

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist In-Person and via Zoom December 19, 2021

616 Lake St., Evanston, IL 60201 • 847-864-4464 • www.immanuelevanston.org E-mail: Church: immanuel@immanuelevanston.org • Pastor: pastor@immanuelevanston.org • Parish Administrator: <u>parish-admin@immanuelevanston.org</u>

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 ...

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

P: Presiding Minister L: Leader/Assisting Minister R: Reader A: Assembly

+ All may make the sign of the cross.

Prelude

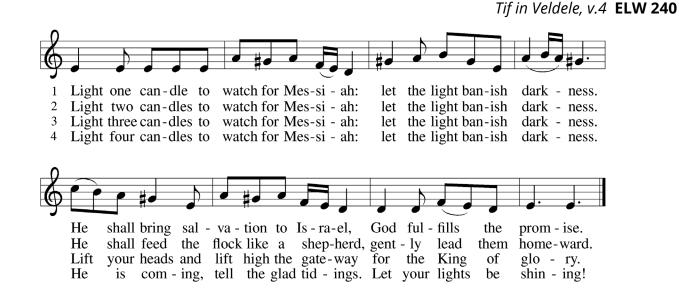
Variations Today's Hymns

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

As the candles are lighted, the Assembly sings v.4

The Assembly stands when directed.

Sara Mauk



Advent Wreath Prayer

L Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

In your Son, Emmanuel,

you have shown us your light

and saved us from the power of sin.

Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.

Increase our longing for your presence,

that at the celebration of your Son's birth

his Spirit might dwell anew in our midst,

for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

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.

- 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.
- A Amen.

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (VENI EMMANUEL) **ELW 257** No verse 3 or 7

0 Ο come, O come, Em - man u - el, and ran - som cap - tive 1 2 come, O Wis - dom all things 0 from on high, em - brac - ing O come, O come, O 3 Lord of might, your tribes on as to 4 O come, O Branch of Jes free your own from Sa - tan's se, • Ó Is ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ile here ex stay; far and nigh: in strengthand beau - ty come and Si nai's height an - cient times you the law in gave tyr an - ny; from depths of hell your peo ple save, Refrain 0 un - til the Son of God ap - pear. guide teach us your will and our way. Re-joice! Re-joice! in cloud, and maj - es and awe. ty, the grave. give them vic - t'ry and o'er shall come to you, O Em - man u - el Is ra - el. 5 O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Refrain 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near. Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,

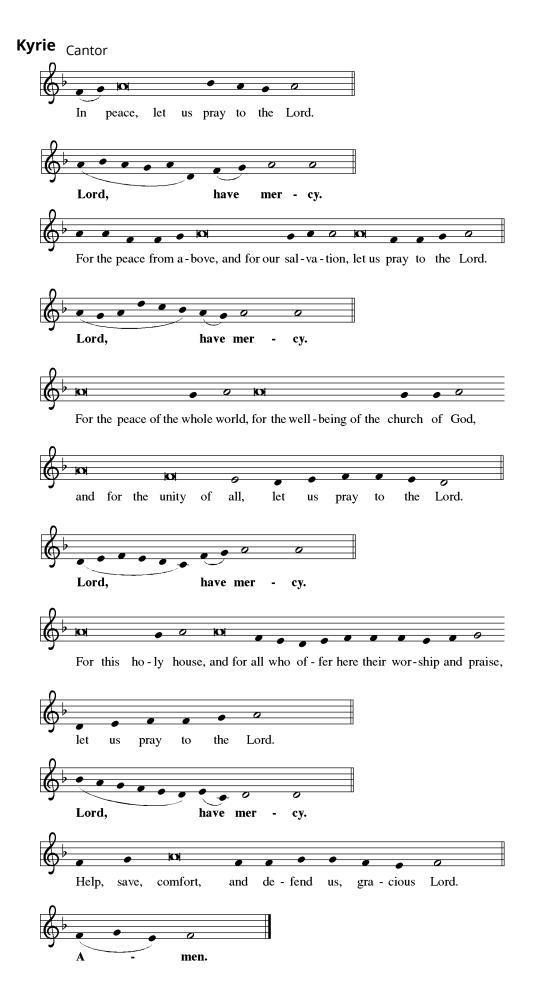
7 O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one: refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*

and death's dark shadow put to flight. Refrain

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

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!



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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father 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

R	A reading fr	om Micah.
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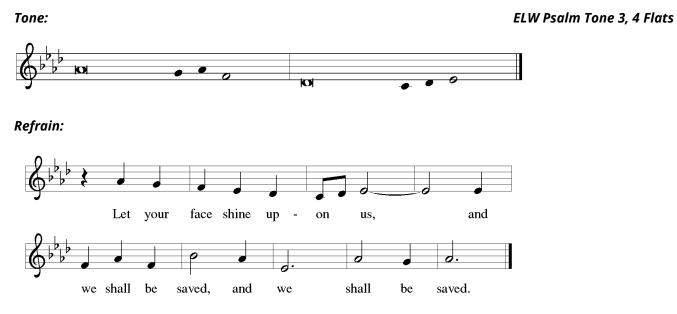
²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.
⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;
⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

- R Word of God, word of life.
- A Thanks be to God!

Micah 5:2-5a

Psalm 80:1-7

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."



¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹ like a flock;

shine forth, you that are enthroned up- $^{\rm |}$ on the cherubim.

- ²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh, stir up your strength and ¹ come to help us. R
- ³Restore [|] us, O God;

let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved.

⁴O LORD[|] God of hosts,

how long will your anger fume when your | people pray?

⁵You have fed them with the ¹ bread of tears;

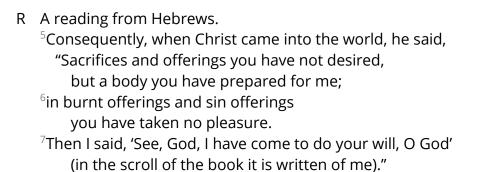
you have given them bowls of [|] tears to drink.

⁶You have made us the derision [|] of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh [|] us to scorn.

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<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O <sup>|</sup> God of hosts;
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let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. **R**

Reading from the New Testament



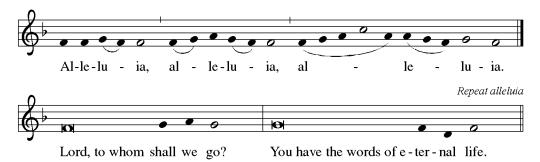
Hebrews 10:5-10

⁸When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

- R Word of God, word of life.
- A Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Please turn the page, where we will sing the "Magnificat."

"My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness" (KINGSFOLD) ELW 251



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.



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 Nurturing God, you give us life and care for our every need. Use the church's gifts and ministries for your service, bringing your word to all who seek your transforming grace. 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 antiracism task force. Hear us, O God,

A Your mercy is great.

L Creator God, you proclaim your boundless love for all that you have made. Provide support and care for all recovering from recent tornado damage. Guide our efforts to renew barren lands, polluted waters, and melting ice caps. Make us servants of your creation that brings forth abundant life. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Righteous God, you bring down the mighty and lift up the lowly. Strengthen those who seek justice. Bless the work of community organizers, activists, journalists, and all who call our attention to imbalances of power. Hear us, O God.

A Your mercy is great.

L Compassionate God, you proclaim your love and mercy. Show your lovingkindness to teen parents and those who are pregnant. Comfort any struggling with infertility and those who await test results, are in treatment and hospice care, and others in need, especially Steve Andes, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Babs Deacon, Lucas Forzley, the family of Dianna Golphin, Jim Jung, Judith Kratochvil, John and Nancy Lang, Veronica Repasz, Lorrie Roche, Darryl Simchak, Renee Wessel, Grace and Alex, 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, you fill the hungry with good things. Bless the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Guide us to share your bounty with those who hunger or live in poverty. 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 Faithful God, you stir up the hearts of those who love you. We give you thanks for those who, like Mary, were courageous in their witness especially Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church. Give us such courage until that day when you fulfill all things. 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

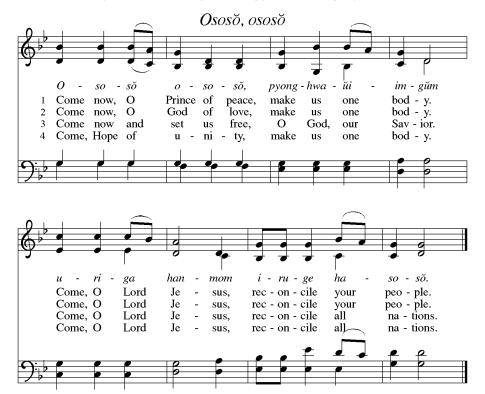
Dixit Maria ad angelum By Hans Leo Hassler

Dixit Maria ad angelum: Ecce ancilla Domini, fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum.

Mary said to the angel: Here I am, handmaid of the Lord— let it be done to me according to your word..

Presentation of the Gifts

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

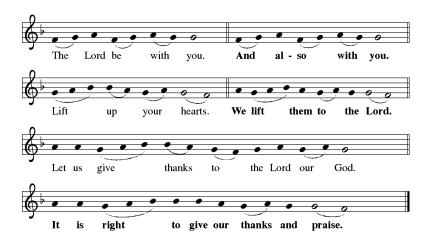


Offering Prayer

- 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.

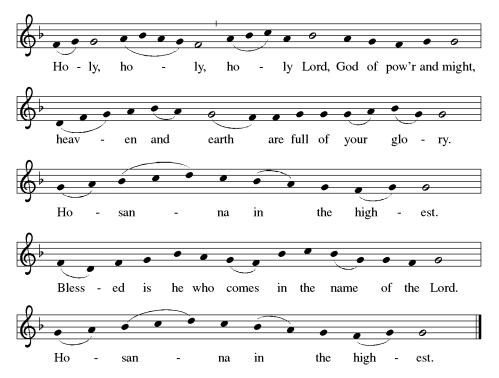
The Great Thanksgiving

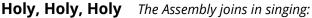
Dialogue The Assembly sings the boldfaced responses.



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:





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.

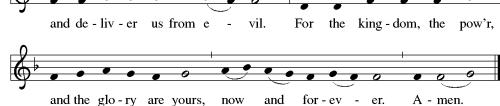
With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

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: 0 Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name, 0 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 0 for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al • • • . . .



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.

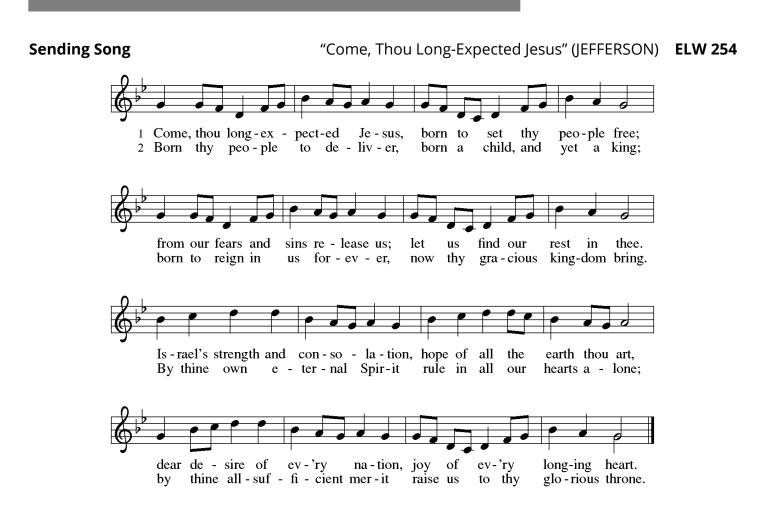
Table Dismissal

- 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 ...



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

Veni, Emmanuel Arranged by Robert J Powell

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	Linda Edlund
Cantor	James Morehead
Lector	Mary Ann Kearns
Organist	Laurie Stivers
	James Morehead
Table Preparation	Kathryn Skelton
Zoom Host	Grace Yarnoff
Audio-Visual Technicians	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel, Tyler Heyl, Mark Kearns
	Bert Mount & Jim Rakowsky

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This Week's Commemorations

Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, died 1552 Monday, December 20, 2021

Born to an impoverished nobleman, Katie eventually took vows as a nun, but around age twenty-four she and several other nuns who were influenced by the writings of Martin Luther left the convent. Six children were born to Katie and Martin

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

Tuesday, Dec. 21	Midweek Adult Spiritual Formation	7:00 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 22	Lectio Divina Prayers	Noon
	Holden Evening Prayers	7:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Friday, Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	9:00 pm
Saturday, Dec. 25	Blessed Christmas!	No service
Sunday, Dec. 26 - Lessons & Carols	Feeding One's Faith Discussion	9:00 am
	Sunday Hybrid Worship	10:30 am
	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	
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!