



Immanuel
Lutheran
of Evanston

The Second Sunday of Christmas

**10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist
January 2, 2022**

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 to worship today via Zoom!

About Our Worship Today

In order to maintain safety and include singing in our worship, only worship leaders and choir will be present in the sanctuary. Please remain muted until you get to the part where you will be invited to unmute and participate in some parts of the liturgy, as marked by this symbol.  = UNMUTE.

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. If you would like to participate in Holy Communion, you are invited to prepare a small bit of bread of any sort, and wine or juice if they are accessible to you, creating sacred space.

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

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

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

+ All may make the sign of the cross.

Pre-Service Music

Selections of Christmas chorales from JS Bach's Orgelbuchlein

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 sends the word with angels,
who is made flesh among all peoples,
and who breathes peace on all the earth.

A Amen.

P In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P Holy God,

A 🔊 (UNMUTE) **we confess our sin before you.**

We replace compassion with competition.

We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.

We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.

We have not put on love in harmony with you.

Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.

**Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed,
may reflect your love born among us. Amen.**

P I bring you good news of great joy for all people:

God has come among us

in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.

† In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace.

A Amen.

1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
 2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
 3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -

heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
 life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
 yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove

faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
 cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
 God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to

we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
 world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
 all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Greeting

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

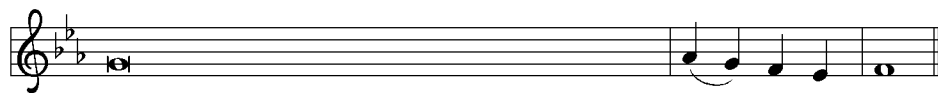
A 🗣️ **And also with you!**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



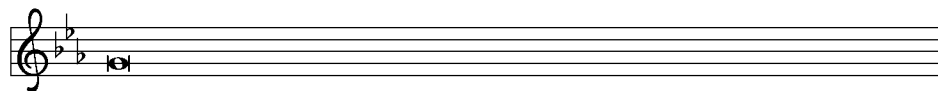
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



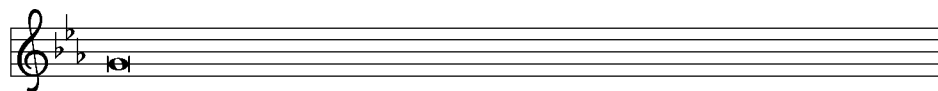
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever..

A Amen.

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

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures:

Jeremiah 31:7-14

R A reading from Jeremiah.

⁷Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness,

R A reading from Ephesians.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

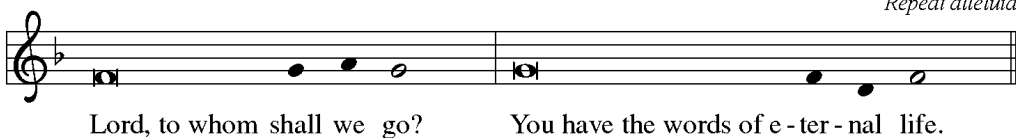
R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation



Repeat alleluia



Gospel

John 1: [1-9] 10-18

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

[¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.] ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,

¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'")

¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ!

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

"Cold December Flies Away" **ELW 299**



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.
2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.
3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders
All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.
In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en
And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the
light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est
birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.
hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.
spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

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 the Responses

L Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

L You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille, and technology. Make your church a place where all methods of communication are celebrated. Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

L You come to us in wisdom to lift 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. Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

L Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

L Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

L You adopt us as your beloved ones. Accompany parents and children navigating the adoption process, especially those in the foster system. Sustain those struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss. Tenderly embrace all in need, especially, Steve Andes, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Marvin Cohen, Babs Deacon, Lucas Forzley, Jim Jung, Judith Kratochvil, John and Nancy Lang, Veronica Repasz, Lorrie Roche, John Ross, Darryl Simchak, Lloyd Stivers, Grace and Alex, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

L You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in this congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces, or communities. As the seasons and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges. Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

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

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

L Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

L We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service, especially Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, whom we commemorate today. Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God,

A receive our prayer.

P Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

A Amen.

Peace

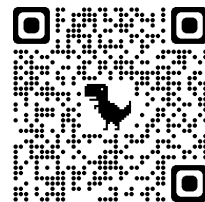
P The peace of Christ be with you always.

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.

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. You scan this code with your smartphone camera to make your financial offering online.*



Offering Music

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Offering Prayer

P Let us pray.
Gracious God,
your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.
As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,
prepare us to receive the grace and truth
you offer at this table
and renew in us the song of your salvation,
in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue


P The Lord be with you.

A  **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

A  **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

A  **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

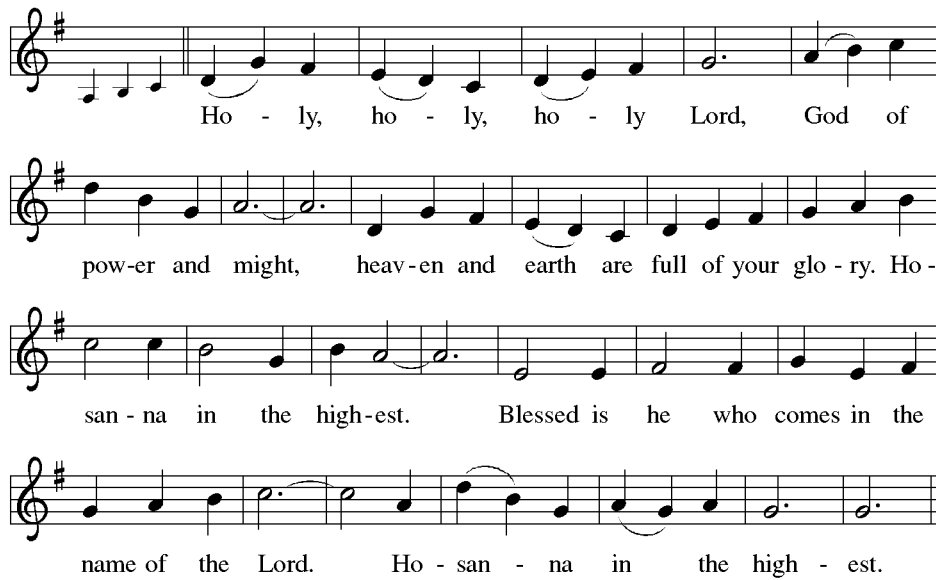
Preface *The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:*

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.
In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,

we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
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:*

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:

A  **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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

A  **Come, Lord Jesus!**

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

A  **Come, Holy Spirit!**

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

A  **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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



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

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

P In Christ's manger, at Christ's table,
come, see what God makes known for you!

A 🗨️ **Thanks be to God!**

Distribution of Holy Communion

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.

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.

Prayer after Communion

L Let us pray. We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,
God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love,
strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.

A Amen.

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

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;



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.

Refrain



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, † the Word made flesh!

A Amen.

Dismissal

L Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior!

A 🗣️ **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Selections of Christmas chorales from JS Bach's Orgelbuchlein

Serving in worship today...

Presiding Minister The Rev. Mark Sloss
Assisting Minister Linda Edlund
Cantor Sara Krentz
Lectors Dana Barron
Organist Greg Hummel
Music Director James Morehead
Table Preparation Kathryn Skelton
Zoom Host Grace Yarnoff
Audio-Visual Technicians Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel, Tyler Heyl, Mark Kearns

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This Week's Commemorations

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872

Sunday, January 2, 2022

A nineteenth-century German Lutheran pastor, Loehe worked to enliven the church with the eucharist at its center, from which would flow evangelism and social ministry. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and the Ukraine.

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

Tuesday, Jan. 4	Midweek Adult Spiritual Formation	7:00 pm
Wednesday, Jan. 5	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, Jan. 6	Daytime Quilters	9:00 am
	Epiphany of Our Lord	
Sunday, Jan. 9	Feeding Our Faith Discussion	9:00 am
	Sunday Virtual Worship	10:30 am

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!**