

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist December 18, 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 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.

Masks are now optional during worship service. Masks are optional 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. 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. The liturgy is printed in this bulletin. If you're joining us via Zoom, 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. For safety we have individually packaged communion with either wine or grape juice that you can pick up at the entrance of the sanctuary. The pastor will say "The body of Christ given for you and the blood of Christ shed for you" following the singing of the Communion Song. Please deposit the cups and wrappers in the trash receptacles as you leave the sanctuary.

The other option is to come forward to receive the bread from the Pastor and wine or grape juice from the Assisting Minister. The glasses will be pre-poured, with the grape juice in the inner circle and wine in the outer circle. Each person will take their own glass from the tray. The Assisting Minister and Pastor will remain masked during the distribution. Please keep in mind proper physical distance from other worshippers in coming forward to consume the elements. Empty glasses can be deposited in trays on the front pews. This will be a continuous communion, standing to receive the elements.

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

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

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

Prelude

Variations on "O Come, Emmanuel" by Daniel Pinkham and "Savior of the Nations, Come" BWV 659 by J.S. Bach

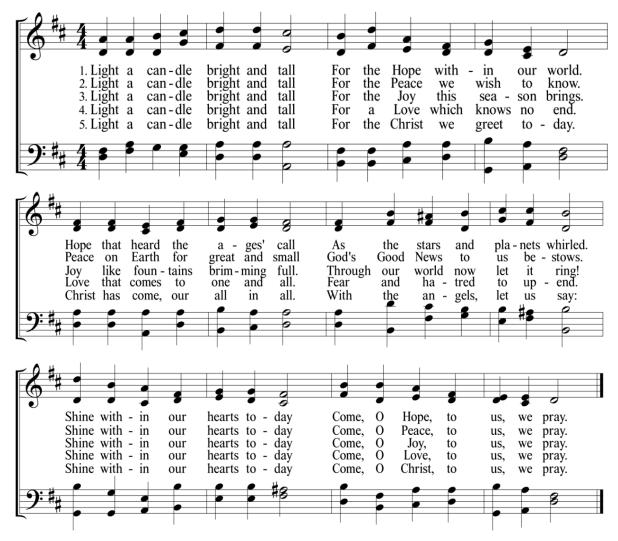


Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Sunday School Children, Laurie Stivers

As the candle is lighted, the Assembly sings v.4

"Light a Candle, Bright and Tall", v. 4



Advent Wreath Prayer

L Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence

in the lowly ones of this earth.

Enlighten us with your grace,

that we may sing of your advent among us

in the Word made flesh.

Grant this through Christ our Lord,

whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

A Amen.

Light four candles.

Gathering

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

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

Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
- A

 Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.
- P Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God of new beginnings,
- A we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths.
 We prepare for war instead of peace.
 We dishonor one another and your creation.
 Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us.
 Amen.
- P People of God,
 a new thing is growing in our midst,
 a tender branch,
 a living sign.
 By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.
 You have put on + Christ,
 and your sins have been washed away.
 Rejoice in the way of the Lord.
- A 🔘 Amen.

Gathering Song

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (JEFFERSON) **ELW 254**



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



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



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



Greeting.

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

Kyrie

Help, save,

comfort,

men.



de - fend

us,

gra - cious

and

Prayer of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- A **Q** And also with you.
- P Let us pray...

Pause for a moment of silence...

P Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, 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

Isaiah 7:10-16

R A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

R Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God!

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

ELW Psalm Tone 1, 2 Sharps

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:



= Please use your mask when singing.

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹ like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned up- ¹ on the cherubim.

²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh,

stir up your strength and | come to help us.

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? R

⁵You have fed them with the [|] 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.

⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we I shall be saved.

¹⁷Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand, the one you have made so strong | for yourself.

¹⁸And so will we never turn a- ¹ way from you; give us life, that we may call up- ¹ on your name.

¹⁹Restore us, O Lord | God of hosts;

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

Reading from the New Testament

Romans 1:1-7

R A reading from Romans.

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to lesus Christ,

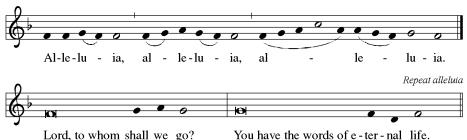
⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

R Word of God, word of life.

A **N** Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation





Gospel Matthew 1:18-25

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ!

 $\stackrel{ ext{ ext{$. }}}{ ext{ iny }}$ The Alleluia of the Gospel Acclamation is sung once again. The Assembly is then seated.

Sermon

Time of Silence

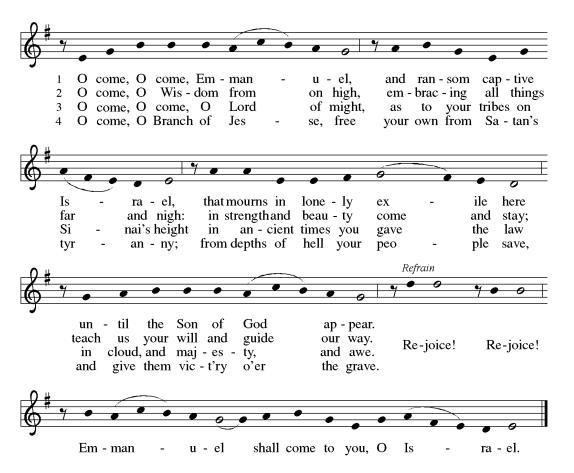
A bell will sound to signal a time of silence for reflection.

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





- 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, and death's dark shadow put to flight. Refrain
- 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
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Refrain

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 (a) the Responses

L As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

(brief pause)

L God our shepherd, let your Spirit move with power throughout the church. Give discernment and wisdom to our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. Take away our fear, so that we serve and love, confident that you are guiding us. God, in your mercy,

A 🐧 hear our prayer.

L God our teacher, you impart the meaning of service in our church leaders. We pray for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, our pastor Mark, our president Dana, our council, and our justice ministries who guide and instruct our communities. God, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L God our source, awaken us to the beauty of the earth and the marvelous variety of life. Unite humankind in repairing and caring for your creation. Protect creatures and habitats in peril due to rising seas and warming temperatures. God, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L God our vision, raise up leaders in every nation who dream of freedom and justice for all people. We pray for the work of international organizations that promote peace and human rights, especially Amnesty International. God, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L God our helper, come to the aid of all who cry out to you. Shelter migrants, refugees, and those fleeing war and famine. Bring relief to individuals and families experiencing hunger, homelessness, or impoverishment. Comfort any who are isolated or lonely. God, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L God our Emmanuel, you are with us in our life together. We give you thanks for gathering us in worship and fellowship, and we remember those who cannot be present. Watch over those who travel. Heal the sick and speed their recovery, especially Steve Andes, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Lucas Forzley, John Hancko, Marcie Heyl, Jim Jung, the family of Sue Ellen Knohl, Judith Kratochvil, John & Nancy Lang, the family of George McVey, Merle Shearer, Darryl Simchak, George Swierczynski, and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...].. Strengthen and protect health care workers, rescue teams, crisis counselors, and all who risk themselves to keep others safe. God, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

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

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

L God in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

L God our hope, you bring life out of death, and you promise to be our God forever. Shine upon the faithful who now rest in the fulfillment of your promise, especially Katharina von Bora Luther, and bring us also into your blessed reign of peace. God, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

P God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

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/Anthem

"Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine" Arr. by Norman Luboff

Joseph dearest, Joseph ,mine, help me cradle the Child divine, God reward thee and all that's thine in Paradise, so prays the Virgin Mary.

Gladly, dear one, lady mine, help I cradle this Child of Thine. God's own light on us both shall shine in Paradise, as prays the Mother Mary.

He came among us at Christmastide, at Christmastide in Bethlehem. Men shall bring Him from far and wide love's diadem.

Jesu, Jesu. Lo, He comes and love, and saves, and frees us. Peace to all that have good will, God, who Heaven and earth doth fill, Comes to turn us away from ill, lise so still within the crib of Mary.

This Week's Commemorations

Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, died 1552 Tuesday, December 20, 2022

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.

From sundaysandseasons.com.



The Assembly stands and sings **Verse 1** as the gifts are brought forward.



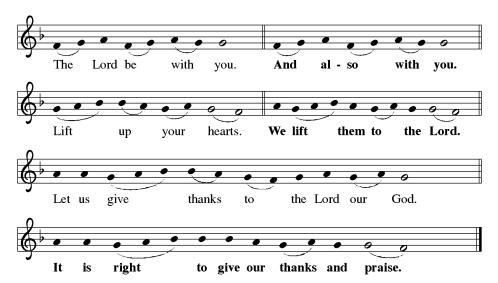
Offering Prayer

- L Let us pray.
- L Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

A Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue The Assembly sings the boldfaced responses.

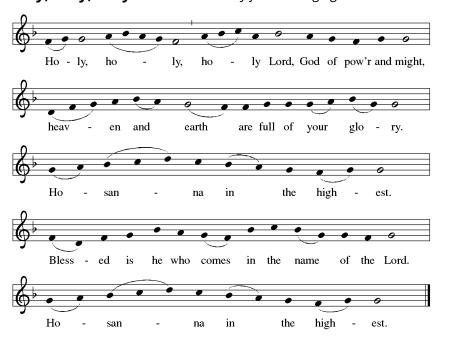


Preface The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy The Assembly joins in singing:



S 162

S 161

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.

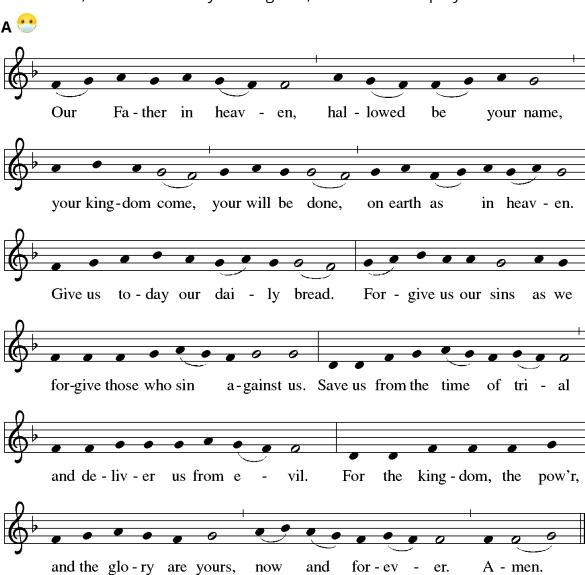
Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

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

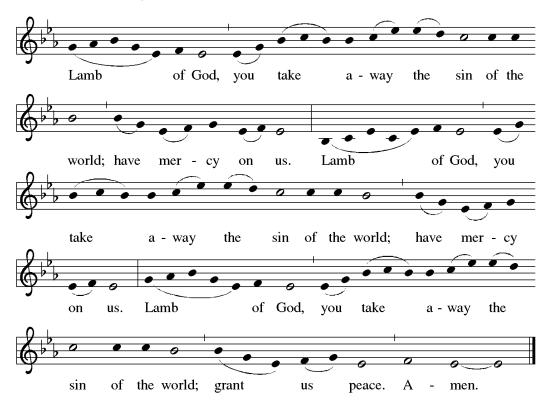


The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

- P Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you..

The Assembly is seated.





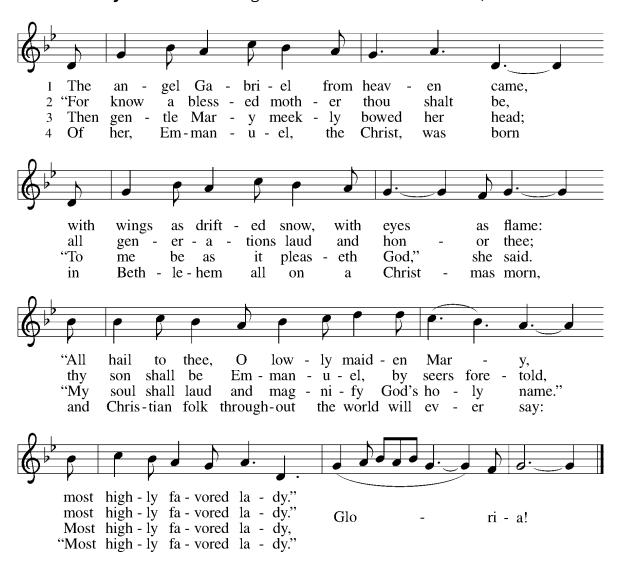
Distribution of Holy Communion

For those who are communing with the packets or online, the pastor will say "The body of Christ given for you and the blood of Christ shed for you".

Those who wish, please come forward as the ushers direct, to receive the bread from the Pastor and wine or grape juice from the Assisting Minister. The glasses will be pre-poured, with the grape juice in the inner circle and wine in the outer circle. Each person will take their own glass from the tray. The Assisting Minister and Pastor will remain masked during the distribution. Please keep in mind proper physical distance from other worshippers in coming forward to consume the elements. Empty glasses can be deposited in trays on the front pews. This will be a continuous communion, standing to receive the elements.

- P This is the body of Christ, given for you.

 All communing remotely or with individual packets may partake of the bread.
- P This is the blood of Christ, shed for you. *All communing remotely or with individual packets may drink of their cup.*



The Assembly stands as directed.

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. Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

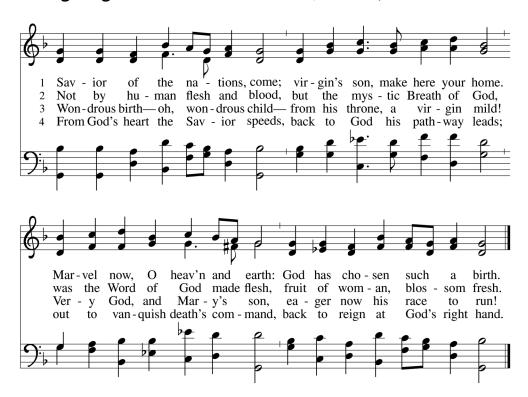
Blessing

- P God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,

 + bless you now and forever.

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

Sending Song ** "Savior of the Nations, Come" (NUN KOMM < DER HEIDEN HEILAND) ELW 263



- 5 Now your manger, shining bright, hallows night with newborn light. Night cannot this light subdue; let our faith shine ever new.
- 6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, virgin's son, incarnate Word!
 To the holy Trinity praise we sing eternally!

Dismissal

- L Go in peace. Christ is near.
- A

 Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Savior of the Nations, Come" BWV 661 By J. S. Bach

Please stay for a time of fellowship immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall. You may remove your mask when eating or drinking and please continue to social distance.

Refreshments today are hosted by the Chatains.

Come enjoy one another's company and this opportunity for extended fellowship!!



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	
Lector	
Acolyte	Kit McCarthy
Organist	
Music Director	
Table Preparation	Kit McCarthy
Zoom Host	Jim McCarthy
Audio-Visual Technicians	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel
Ushers	Marlene Chatain & Nicolai Schousboe

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Upcoming Events – for details see the weekly e-blast, *Immanuel Newsfeeds*, or the website Calendar at www.immanuelevanston.org. Worship services can be attended either in person or online.

Sunday, December 18	Memorial Service for Sue Ellen Knohl	1:00 pm
	Council Meeting	TBD
Monday, December 19	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
Tuesday, December 20	Midweek Adult Bible Study	7:00 pm
Wednesday, December 21	Group Spiritual Direction	10:00 am
	Midweek Advent Evening Prayer	7:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, December 22	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Saturday, December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	9:00 am
Sunday, December 25	Sunday Worship	10:30 am
Christmas Day		
	New Community Church	1:00 pm

Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

The Rev. Mark Sloss	Pastor
Dana Barron	Congregation President
Bert Mount	
Steve Warner	Congregation Secretary
Susan Ross	Congregation Treasurer
Diane Keely, Michael Kloster, Lisa Larson, Jim Skelton, Grace Yarnoff	Congregation Council Members
Mary Ann Kearns	Financial Secretary
Elizabeth Stegner	Assistant Financial Secretary
James Morehead	Music Director
Christine Kraemer	
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!