

The First Sunday of Christmas

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist January 1, 2023

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. $\frac{1}{2}$ = 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 ...

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the "holy innocents" of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.

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

Prelude "Walking in the air" by Howard Blake, "He whom Shepherds Once Came Praising" by Helmut Walcha, and "In dulci jubilo" by Franz Liszt

The Assembly stands when directed.

Gathering

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

Confession and Forgiveness

- A 🔮 Amen.
- P Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

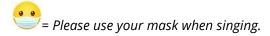
P God of life,

A
[●] you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

 P Hear the good news:
 We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
 In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.
 Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

A B Amen.



Gathering Song



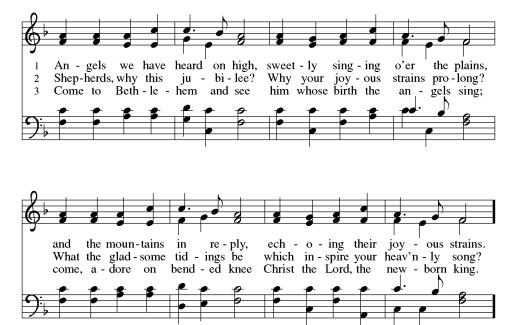
Greeting.

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
- A 🛛 🚇 And also with you!

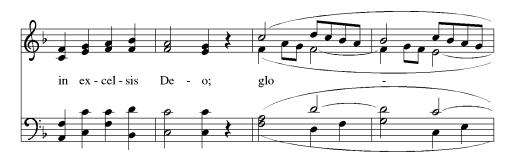
Hymn of Praise 😁

"Angels We Have Heard on High" (GLORIA)

ELW 289









Prayer of the Day

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

Pause for a moment of silence...

- P O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, 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

R A reading from Isaiah.

⁷I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.
⁸For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their savior

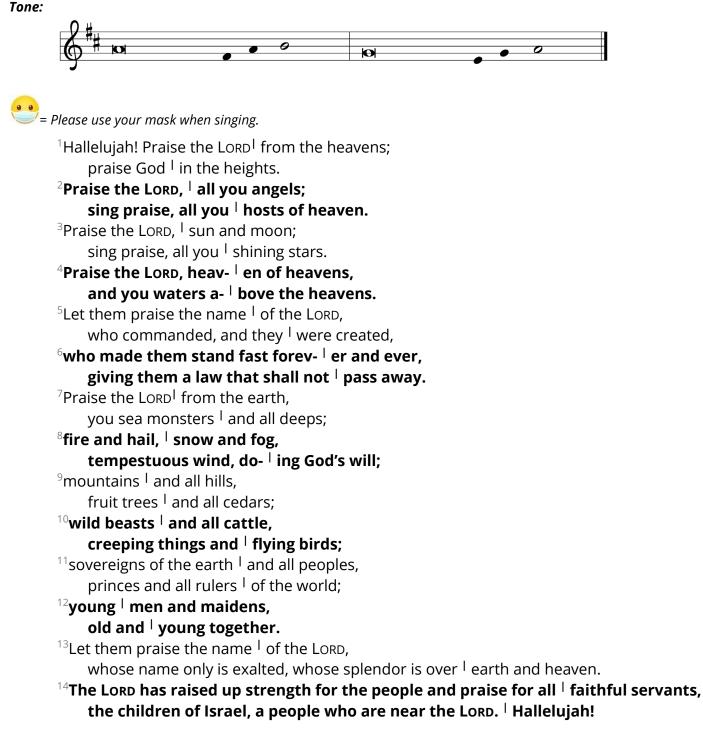
⁹in all their distress.
It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

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

Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalm 148

The organ will play the tone. The right side of the Assembly sings the lightface verses to the tone; the left side of the Assembly sings boldface verses.



Reading from the New Testament

Hebrews 2:10-18

R A reading from Hebrews.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

¹³And again,

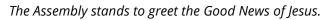
"I will put my trust in him."

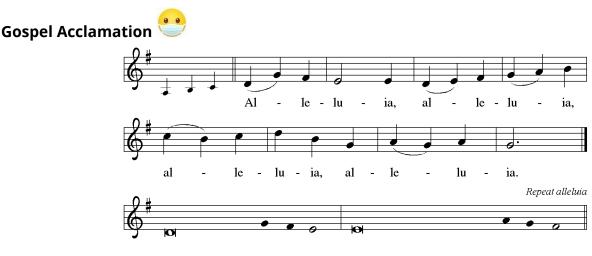
And again,

"Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

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





Let the peace of Christ rule | in your hearts, * and let the word of Christ dwell, | in you richly.

Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

A Glory to you, O Lord!

¹³Now after [the wise men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah,

wailing and loud lamentation,

Rachel weeping for her children;

she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- A Praise to you, O Christ!

 ${}^{\circ\circ}$ 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.

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1 "	'From heav'ı	n a - bove to earth I come to bear good	
2 "	'To you	this night is born a child of Mar - y,	
3 "	'This is	the Christ, God's Son most high, who hears your	
	Insert addition	nal stanzas as desired.	
12		- est Je - sus, ho - ly child, pre-pare a	
	My heart		
14 '	"Glo - ry	to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to	
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5	news to	ev - 'ry home! Glad tid - ings of great joy I	
	cho - sen	vir - gin mild; this new - born child of low - ly	
	sad and	bit - ter cry, who will him - self your Sav - ior	
		·	
	bed, soft,	1	
	long - er	si - lence keeps; I too must sing with joy - ful	
	us the	Son has giv'n." With an - gels sing in pi - ous	
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	bring	to all the world, and glad - ly sing:	
	birth	shall be the joy of all the earth.	
	be	and from all sin will set you free."	
		·	
	heart,	that you and I may nev - er part.	
	tongue	the sweet - est an - cient cra - dle - song:	
	mirth	a glad new year to all the earth!	

The Nicene Creed

- L With the whole Church, let us profess 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 With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

(brief pause)

L Merciful God, broaden the church's hospitality and welcome. Open our hearts to any in need of refuge and help, especially those who are persecuted. Prosper the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. God of grace,

A 🎍 hear our prayer.

L Sustaining God, guide our church leaders as they move throughout our faith community. 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 of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L Life-giving God, restore the health of the soil, the seas, and the air. Increase the joy and praise of all living things. In the coming year strengthen local, national, and international efforts to prevent further harm to the environment. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L Liberating God, deliver your people from cruel oppression. Increase justice in every nation and keep the dream of freedom alive. In this new year bring the blessing of peace between Russia and Ukraine, and put an end to violent conflict throughout the world. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L Uplifting God, raise all who are bowed down by trouble and need, especially individuals and families living in poverty. Protect and nurture all children. Sustain those who parent, teach, and care for the young. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L Abiding God, accompany this community in the coming year. Increase our love for one another and the neighbors we serve. Be with all who are ill or distressed in any way, especially Steve Andes, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Lucas Forzley, John Hancko, 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 [...].. Enrich our worship and deepen our faith. Sustain all who minister in your name. God of grace,

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 of grace,
- A hear our prayer.
- L Loving God, the holy innocents who perish in every generation are safe in your keeping. We give you thanks and praise for the all the faithful who have gone before us into everlasting life with you, especially Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe. God of grace,
- A hear our prayer.
- P Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.
- 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 ...

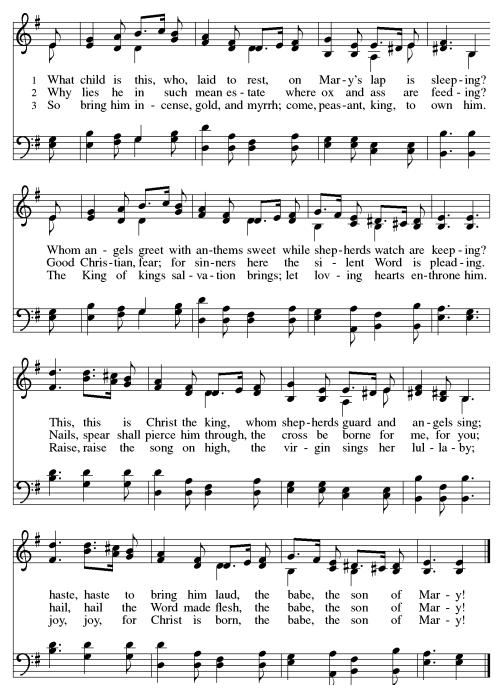
Offering An offering for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need. You scan this code with your smartphone camera to make your financial offering online.



Offertory Music

"Two variations on "A child is born in Bethlehem" by Rebecca Te Velde Presentation of the Gifts 😁

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

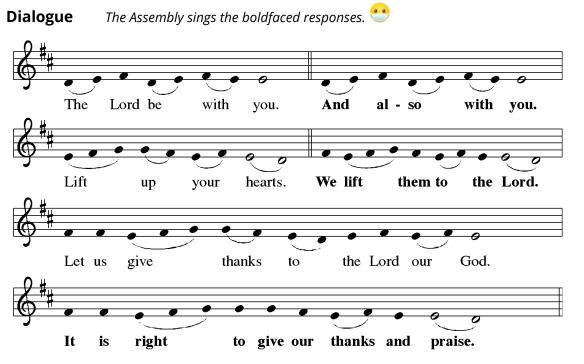


Offering Prayer

- L Let us pray.
- receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
 Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration.
 Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

A Amen.

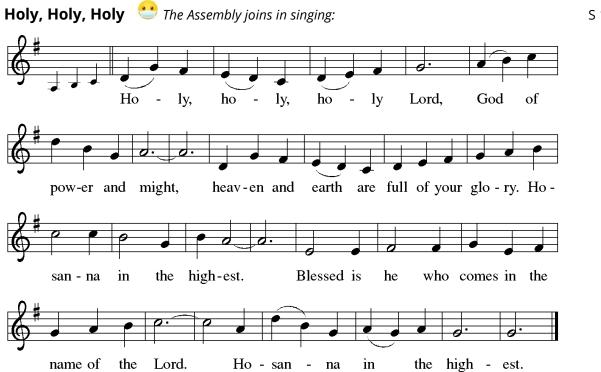
The Great Thanksgiving



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:



S 162

S 107

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.

A 🔮 Amen

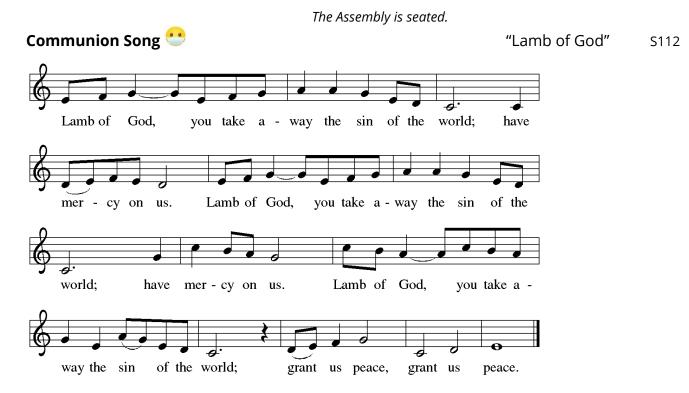
The Lord's Prayer

- P Together as one body, we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:
- A Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come, your will be done

 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

- P Glory to God in the highest!
- A 🛛 We come to the table of peace.

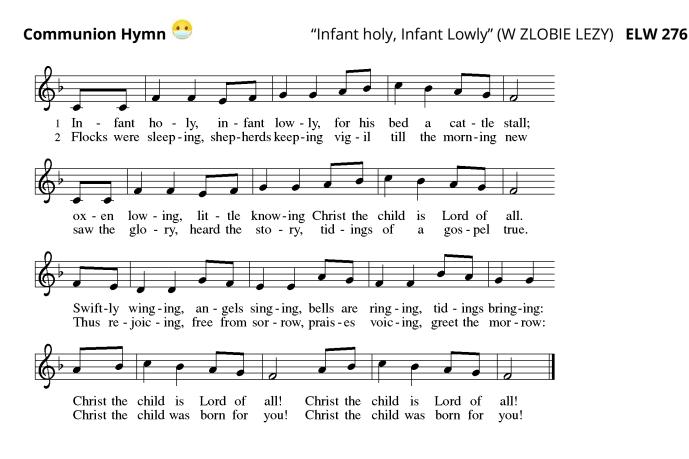


Distribution of Holy Communion

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.
- L God our redeemer,

you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A Amen.

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

Blessing

- P God bless you and keep you,
 + Jesus grant you grace and truth,
 and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
 now and forever.
- A 🔮 Amen.





Dismissal

- L Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
- A Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" By Johann Pachelbel

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 Anne Heider & Steve Warner. 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	Anne Heider
Lector	
Acolyte	Elora Kloster
Organist	Christine Kraemer
Music Director	
Table Preparation	Kathryn Skelton
Zoom Host	Jim McCarthy
Audio-Visual Technicians	Tom Couch, Kevin McDaniel
Ushers	Nicolai Schousboe, Marlene Chatain

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

Monday, January 2	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
Tuesday, January 3	Midweek Adult Bible Study	7:00 pm
Wednesday, January 4	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday, January 5	Daytime Quilters	9:00 am
	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Saturday, January 7	Indoor Farmers' Market (4.5 hours)	8:00 am
Sunday, January 8	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday School	9:30 am
	Sunday Worship	10:30 am
	"Generations" Confirmation Class at Grace Lutheran	1:00 pm

This Week's Commemorations

Name of Jesus

Sunday, January 1, 2023

By Jewish law, every baby boy was circumcised and named on the eighth day of life, so on the eighth day of Christmas the church celebrates this event in Jesus' life. The keeping of the covenant as well as Jesus' name are signs of God's salvation given to us through him.

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872 Monday, January 2, 2023

Loehe was a pastor in nineteenth-century Germany. Loehe's chief concern was that a congregation find its life in the holy communion, and from that source evangelism and social ministries would flow. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and Ukraine.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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	
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!