



## **The Second Sunday of Advent**

**10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist  
December 8, 2024**

# 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.**

## 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 ushers. 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 worshipping 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. There are two options: You may 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. Empty glasses can be deposited in trays on the front pews. This will be a continuous communion, standing to receive the elements. The other option is 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.

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

*Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."*

*✝ All may make the sign of the cross.*

**Prelude** "Savior of the Nations, Come" BWV 659 by J.S. Bach, "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" by Alec Rowley, and "Cold December Flies Away" by Norberto Guinaldo

### Confession and Forgiveness

*The Assembly stands as able.*

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

**A** 🗣 **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God of mercy,

**A we confess that we have sinned.**

**We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.**

**We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

P God of might,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have turned away from our neighbors.**

**We have trusted false promises.**

P God in our midst,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We plead: come to us.**

**Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

**Amen.**

P A righteous branch springs forth:  
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,  
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
receive the grace and forgiveness of God  
through ✝ Christ Jesus,  
whose day draws near.

**A** 🗣 **Amen.**

*You may reverence the cross as it passes you.*



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor  
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!  
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:  
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;  
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co\_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el  
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the  
 “A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el”; she con -  
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most  
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -  
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how  
 ceived him, “God with us,” our broth - er, whose birth re -  
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All  
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.  
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.  
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.  
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!  
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

**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!**

Assisting minister



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

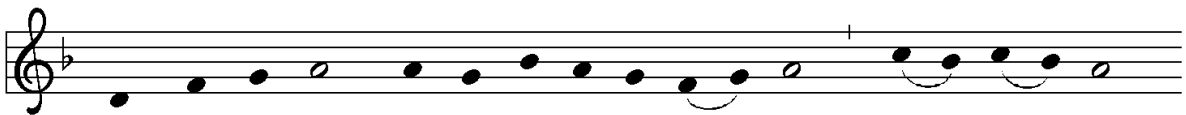
All



Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor -



ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, O Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have



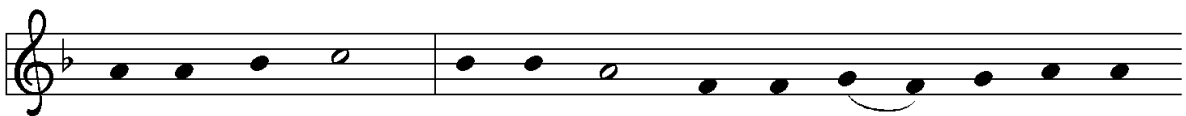
mer-cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the



Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone



are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**Advent Wreath Prayer**

L We praise you, O God, for this circle of light  
 that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.  
 As we light the candles on this wreath,  
 kindle within us the fire of your Spirit,  
 that we may be light shining in the darkness.  
 Enlighten us with your grace,  
 that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us.  
 Grant this through Christ our Lord,  
 whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**A Amen.**

*The second candle is lit.*

"As the Dark Awaits the Dawn" (LUCENT)

**ELW 261**

*While the candle is lit, the Assembly sings Verse 2*

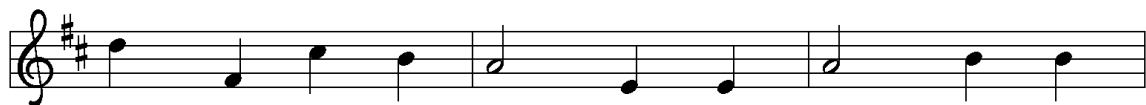
→  
 Sing verse 2 only



1 As the dark a - waits the dawn,  
 2 As the blue ex - pec - tant hour  
 3 As the moon re - flects the sun  
 4 Shine your fu - ture on this place,



so we a - wait your light. O Star of  
 be - fore the sil - v'ring skies, we long to  
 un - til the night's de - crease, may we your  
 en - light - en ev - 'ry guest, that through us



prom - ise, scat - ter night, lov - ing bright, lov - ing  
 see your day a - rise, whole and wise, whole and  
 heal - ing light re - lease, liv - ing peace, liv - ing  
 stream your ho - li - ness, bright and blest, bright and



bright, till shades of fear are gone.  
 wise, O lu - cent Morn - ing Star.  
 peace, un - to your ho - ly dawn.  
 blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace.

## 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 Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; 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.

**Malachi 3:1-4**

R A reading from Malachi.

<sup>1</sup> See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup> he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years."

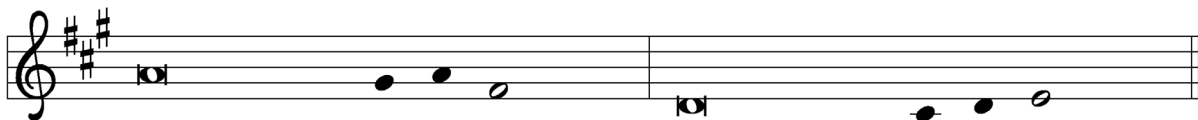
R The Word of the Lord. Or, Word of God, word of life.

**A Thanks be to God!**

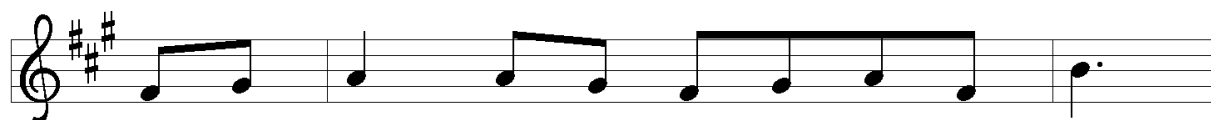
*The organ will play the tone, and then the refrain, and then the Assembly will sing the refrain through. The right side of the Assembly sings the lightface verses to the tone; the left side of the Assembly sings boldface verses.*

*All sing the refrain where indicated by "R."*

**Tone:**



**Refrain:**



In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God



the dawn from on high will break up - on us.

<sup>68</sup> Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and | set them free.

<sup>69</sup> **You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior,  
born of the house of your | servant David. R**

<sup>70</sup> Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us | from our enemies,  
<sup>71</sup> from the hands of | all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup> **to show mercy | to our forebears,  
and to remember your | holy covenant.**

<sup>73</sup> This was the oath you swore to our | father Abraham:  
<sup>74</sup> to set us free from the hands of our | enemies,

**free to worship you | without fear,  
<sup>75</sup> holy and righteous before you, all the days | of our life. R**

<sup>76</sup> And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,

<sup>77</sup> **to give God's people knowledge | of salvation  
by the forgiveness | of their sins.**

<sup>78</sup> In the tender compassion | of our God  
the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,

<sup>79</sup> **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- | ow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the | way of peace. R**



R A reading from Philippians.

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup> constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup> because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God’s grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup> to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup> having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

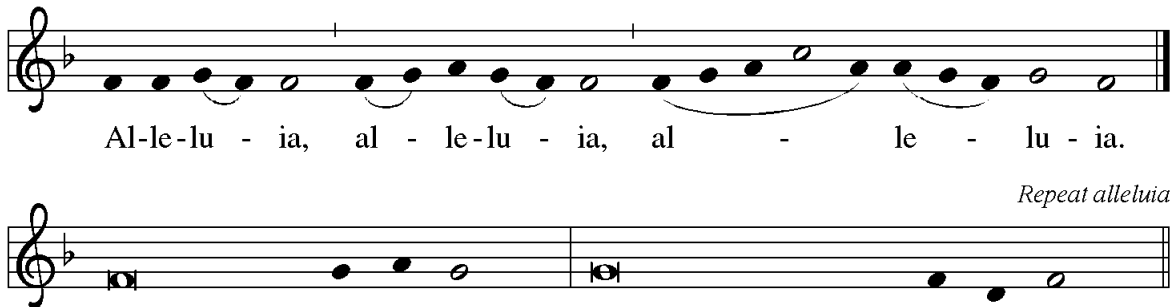
R The Word of the Lord. Or, Word of God, word of life.

A  **Thanks be to God!**

*The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

S160a



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

*Repeat alleluia*

**Prepare the way | of the Lord\* All flesh shall see the salva-| tion of God.**

**Gospel**

**Luke 3:1-6**

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

A **Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>1</sup> In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup> during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

<sup>3</sup> He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup> as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;  
6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**A Praise to you, O Christ!**

*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.*

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

*Refrain*

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

## 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 As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

*(brief pause)*

L Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people, and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy,

**A 🎙 receive our prayer.**

L Inspiring God, may our community and leaders always seek the ways of justice and fairness. We pray for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, our pastor Mark, our president Michael, our council, our justice & equity ministry, and all who guide and instruct our communities. Lord in your mercy,

**A receive our prayer.**

L Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made, and guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats. Lord, in your mercy,

**A receive our prayer.**

L Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict. Lord, in your mercy,

**A receive our prayer.**

L Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering, especially Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Marlene Chatain, the Family of Alice Graf, Dori Jacobson-Wenzel, Jim Jung, Mark Kraemer, Nancy Lang, Elaine Nelson, Kathy Roderer, Joe Simchak, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. Lord, in your mercy,

**A receive our prayer.**

L Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence. Enrich our seasonal preparations, and bless the efforts by worship committees, music ensembles, staff, clergy, and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead. Lord, in your mercy,

**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 Lord in your mercy,

**A receive our prayer.**

L Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you, especially Lucy, John. Guide us in deep gratitude for their lives, and allow us to learn from their faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,

**A receive our prayer.**

P Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**A Amen.**

## Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

**A  And also with you.**

*Greet one another in the peace of Christ, saying "Peace be with you,"  
"The peace of the Lord," or similar words.*

*The Assembly is seated.*

**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.*

**Offering Music**

"Veni Emmanuel"  
By Zoltan Kodaly

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Veni, veni, Emmanuel<br/>captivum solve Israel,<br/>qui gemit in exsilio,<br/>privatus Dei Filio.</p> <p>R: Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel<br/>nascetur pro te, Israel!</p> <p>2 Veni, O Jesse virgula,<br/>ex hostis tuos ungula,<br/>de spectu tuos tartari<br/>educ et antro barathri.</p> <p>3 Veni, veni O Oriens,<br/>solare nos adveniens,<br/>noctis depelle nebulas,<br/>dirasque mortis tenebras.</p> <p>4 Veni, Clavis Davidica,<br/>regna reclude caelica,<br/>fac iter tutum superum,<br/>et claude vias inferum</p> <p>5 Veni, veni, Adonai,<br/>qui populo in Sinai<br/>legem dedisti vertice<br/>in maiestate gloriae.</p> | <p>1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,<br/>And ransom captive Israel,<br/>That mourns in lonely exile here,<br/>Until the Son of God appear.<br/>Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel<br/>Shall come to thee, O Israel.</p> <p>2. O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free<br/>Thine own from Satan's tyranny;<br/>From depths of hell Thy people save,<br/>And give them victory o'er the grave.</p> <p>3. O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high,<br/>And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;<br/>Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,<br/>And death's dark shadows put to flight.</p> <p>4. O come, Thou Key of David, come.<br/>And open wide our heav'nly home;<br/>Make safe the way that leads on high,<br/>And close the path to misery.</p> <p>5. O come, Adonai, Lord of might,<br/>Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,<br/>In ancient times didst give the law<br/>In cloud and majesty and awe.</p> |
|---|---|

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



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.  
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

**Offering Prayer**

- L Let us pray.
- L Creator God,  
you made the whole world,  
even the farthest stars,  
and you draw near to feed us.  
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.  
Strengthen us with this food  
that we may live in expectation  
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**A Amen.**

# The Great Thanksgiving

## Dialogue

S161

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

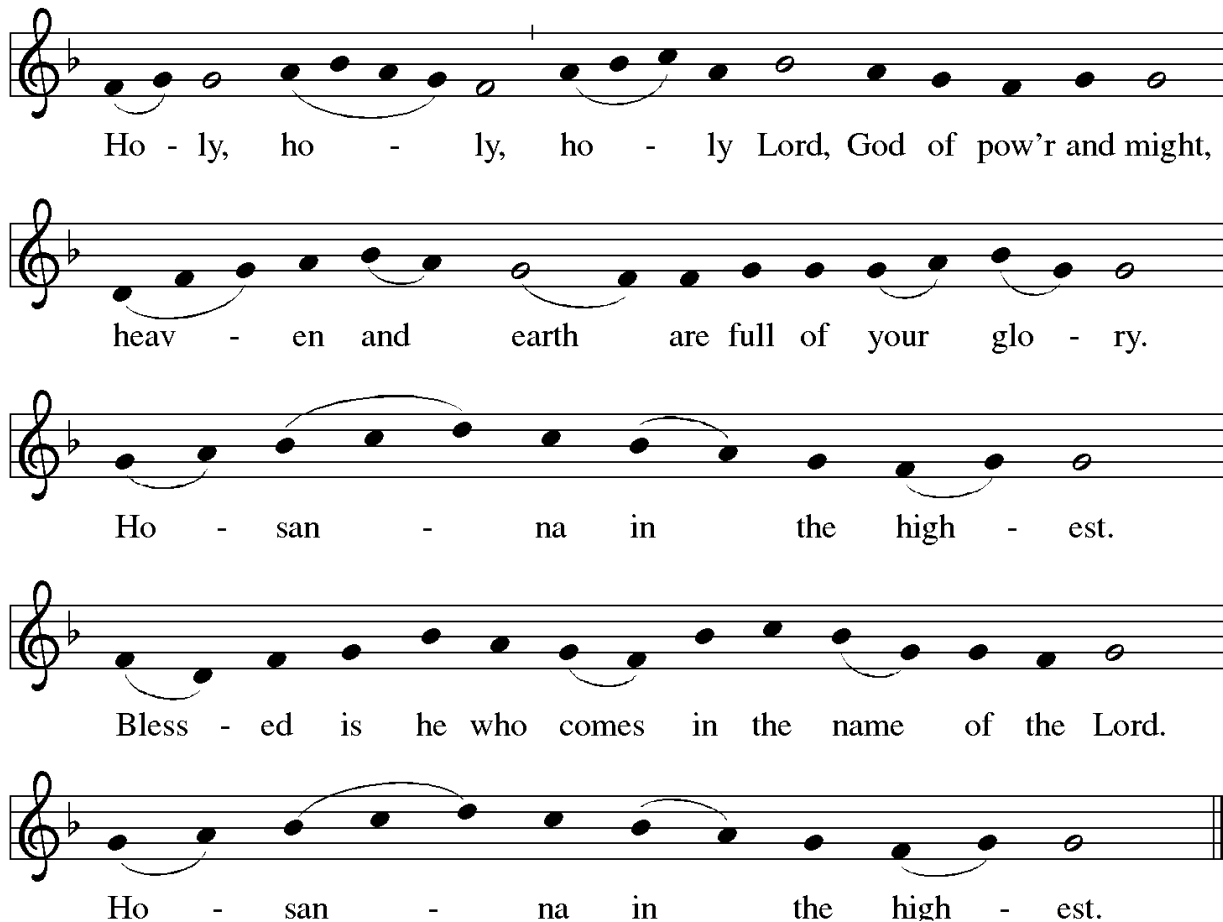
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### **Preface** *The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:*

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.  
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:





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



**A**

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

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.**

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.**

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**



A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

## The Lord's Prayer

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

A

S163

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 musical score consists of six staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are written in a simple, melodic style with stems pointing upwards. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music concludes with a double bar line at the end of the sixth staff.

## The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

P God feeds us with tender mercy.

A  We come to the table with open hearts

*The Assembly is seated.*

The image shows a musical score for the Communion Song 'Lamb of God'. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a focus on the words 'Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.' The score ends with 'A - men.'.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
 take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy  
 on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

### 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 assemble around the rail to receive communion. Those who are able, you may kneel. You will 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. 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.*

*When you receive the elements, you may respond by saying, "Amen."*

Communion Hymn

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (HYFRYDOL) ELW 631

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

*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...  
Generous God,  
we thank you for the gift of life,  
for the bread of salvation.  
We thank you for coming among us,  
for leading us into peace.  
We thank you for showering us with mercy,  
for sending us into the world.  
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us  
as we feed the hungry in your name.

**A Amen.**

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

---

### **Blessing**

P God of endings and beginnings,  
God in the darkness and the light,  
God, our hope for the journey,  
✠ bless and keep you now and forever.

**A**  **Amen.**

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us  
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 way for God with - in, and let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

## Dismissal

L Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

A  **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” by Herbert Murrill

*Please stay for a time of fellowship and announcements immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall.*

*Today's refreshments are hosted by Kirsten Brown & Jared Peck.*

*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 ..... Chris Djuric  
Lector ..... Kathryn Skelton  
Acolyte..... Elora Kloster  
Organist ..... Christine Kraemer  
Music Director.....James Morehead  
Table Preparation..... Kathryn Skelton  
Zoom Host..... Bert Mount  
Audio-Visual Technician..... Kevin McDaniel  
Ushers ..... Nicolai Schousboe  
Counter ..... Michael Kloster

CREDITS: Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.



## This week's commemorations....

### Lucy, martyr, died 304

#### Friday, December 13, 2024

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

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

#### Saturday, December 14, 2024

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

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

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

Sunday, Dec. 8	Sherman Gardens Apt. Holiday Party	3:00 pm
----------------	------------------------------------	---------

#### **2nd Sunday of Advent**

Tuesday, Dec. 10	Midweek Spiritual Gathering	2:00 pm
------------------	-----------------------------	---------

Wednesday, Dec. 11	Group Spiritual Direction	10:00 am
--------------------	---------------------------	----------

FA Meeting	6:30 pm
------------	---------

Midweek Advent Prayers	7:00 pm
------------------------	---------

Choir Practice	7:30 pm
----------------	---------

Thursday, Dec. 12	Wilmette Band Rehearsal	7:30 pm
-------------------	-------------------------	---------

Saturday, Dec. 14	Trombone Choir Rehearsal	10:00 am
-------------------	--------------------------	----------

Caroling & Cocoa	2:30 pm
------------------	---------

Sunday, Dec. 15	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
-----------------	-------------------	---------

<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>	Sunday Worship	10:30 am
-----------------------------	----------------	----------

New Community Church	1:00 pm
----------------------	---------

New Community Church Holiday	3:00 pm
------------------------------	---------

Outreach Party	
----------------	--

## **Immanuel's Staff and Leadership**

The Rev. Mark Sloss .....	Pastor
Michael Kloster .....	Congregation President
Terri Simchak .....	Congregation Vice President
Dana Barron .....	Congregation Secretary
Susan Ross .....	Congregation Treasurer
Greg Hummel, Diane Keely, Jerry Larson, Kit McCarthy, Steve Warner .....	Congregation Council Members
Laurie Stivers .....	Financial Secretary
James Morehead .....	Music Director
Christine Kraemer .....	Organist
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!**