



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:30 A.M.

**Worship with Eucharist
December 21, 2025**

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 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: Those who wish, please come forward as the ushers direct. 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 acolyte will collect the empty glass.

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 ...*

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 "The King Shall Come" by David P. Dahl and
Little Partita on "Fling Wide the Door" by J.N. David

The Assembly stands when directed and turns toward the font.

Confession and Forgiveness

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,
whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

A 🗣️ **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Long-expected God,

A 🗣️ **we confess that we look to ourselves
for the peace and security only you can provide.
We reach for swords and spears,
reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.
We become impatient while waiting
and weary of keeping awake.
Free us from self-reliance,
and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.
Increase our trust in God's timing,
and awaken us to your advent among us,
that we may abound in the hope you have promised.
Amen.**

P God judges us not as we deserve,
but according to God's own righteousness.

✙ You are freed and forgiven,
saved by grace,
and ready to welcome the Savior!

A 🗣️ **Amen.**

You may reverence the cross as it passes you.



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
 2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
 3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
 4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
 gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
 king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
 wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
 scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
 hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
 on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly

Continued on the next page...

to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
 to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
 Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
 Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We

praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
 wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
 a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
 praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Greeting

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

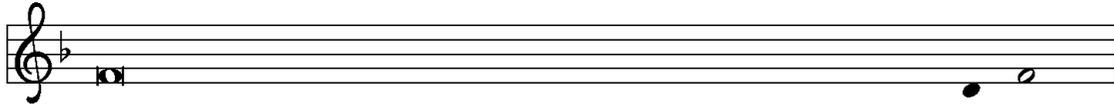
A 🎤 **And also with you!**

Kyrie

S138



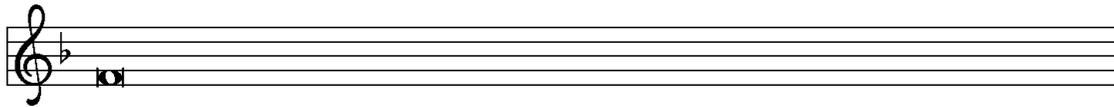
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



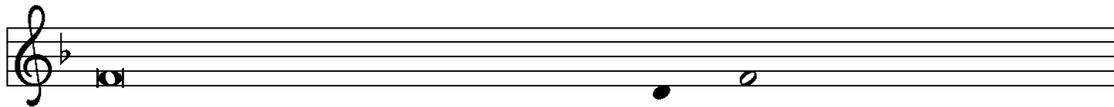
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



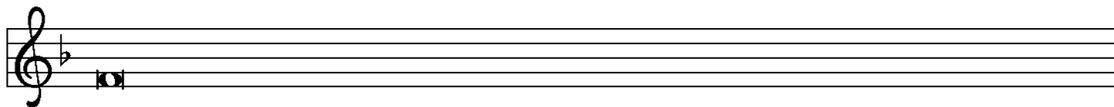
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



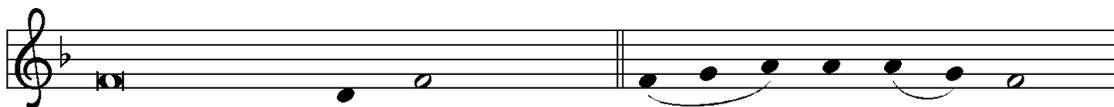
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



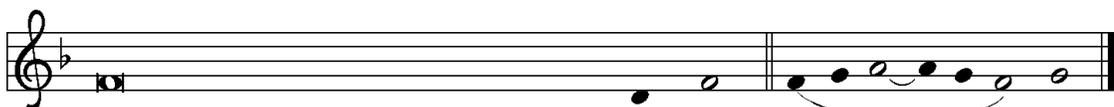
Lord, have mer - cy.



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 defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Advent Wreath Prayer

L 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.

The first, second, third, and fourth candles are lit.

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace" (OSOSO)

ELW 247

While the candles are lit, the Assembly sings Verse 4

O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm
 1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

Sing verse 4 only

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

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 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.

Presentation of the Bible

A Bible will be presented to Bryden Brown.

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

Reading from the First Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-16

R A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹“Ask 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, or The Word of the Lord.

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:



Let your face shine up - on us, and we shall be saved.

- ¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹ like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- ¹ on the cherubim.
- ²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and ¹ come to help us.**
- ³Restore ¹ us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.
- ⁴**O LORD ¹ God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your ¹ people pray? R**
- ⁵You have fed them with the ¹ bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of ¹ tears to drink.
- ⁶**You have made us the derision ¹ of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh ¹ us to scorn.**
- ⁷Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.
- ¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at ¹ your right hand,
the one you have made so strong ¹ 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.
- ¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved. R**

Reading from the Second Lesson

Romans 1:1-7

R A reading from Romans.

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

A 🎤 **Thanks be to God!**

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

S142a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

¹⁸ Now 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 pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But 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. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

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

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 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

"That Boy-Child of Mary" (BLANTYRE)

ELW 293



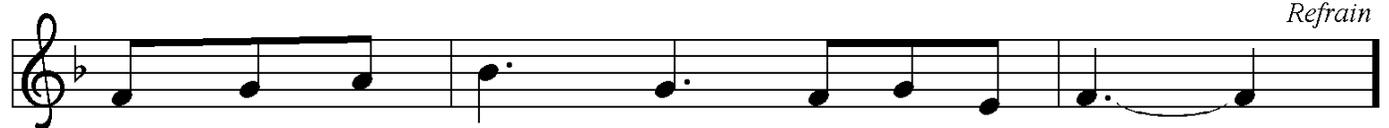
That boy - child of Mar - y was born in a sta - ble,



a man - ger his cra - dle in Beth - le - hem.



- 1 What shall we call him, child of the man - ger?
- 2 His name is Je - sus, God ev - er with us,
- 3 How can he save us, how can he help us,
- 4 Gift of the Fa - ther, to hu - man moth - er,



What name is giv - en in Beth - le - hem?
God giv - en for us in Beth - le - hem.
born here a - mong us in Beth - le - hem?
makes him our broth - er in Beth - le - hem.

5 One with the Father,
he is our Savior,
heaven-sent helper
in Bethlehem.

6 Gladly we praise him,
love and adore him,
give ourselves to him
in Bethlehem.

The Apostle's Creed

L With the whole Church, let us profess our faith.

**A I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the ✝ resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

L In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

(brief pause)

L In the anticipation of these days, prepare our hearts for your arrival. Stir our spirits through the gifts of artists, musicians, poets, and preachers, as together we proclaim your advent among us. God of grace,

A 🕊 hear our prayer.

L We delight in the service of our communities and seek ways to offer compassion and care for all. We pray for our bishops Yehiel and Wayne, our pastor Mark, our president Michael, our council, our justice ministries and all who guide and instruct our communities. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L The earth breaks forth in singing as it heralds the Messiah's coming. Fill our hearts with wonder as we join heaven and nature in announcing this holy birth. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L You send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Lead us in work for justice and care for the common good. May we meet the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us, come to our aid. Uphold all who are anxious, who know the challenges of

depression, or who are ill, especially Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Tom Couch, Jim Jung, Nancy Lang, Elaine Nelson, Shirley Patrick, Joseph Sloss, Laurie Stivers, Steve Warner, Marina Yarnoff, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts... God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

L Surround expectant parents and those suffering from infant loss with communities of support. Bless young children and new parents. Guide us in ways that provide safety for all children and those who care for them. 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 We give thanks for all who have treasured the gospel and lived in faithful service, especially Stephen and John. Strengthen our earthly journeys until, at the last, your face shines upon us and we are held in your in love. God of grace,

A hear our prayer.

P Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

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 Anthem

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" By Ian Higginson

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appears,
Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel,
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O Come, thou Rod of Jesse, free,
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave;

Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel,
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-Spring,
Come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here,
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight;

Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel,
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery;
Rejoice! rejoice!
Emmanuel,
shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Assembly stands and sings Verses 7 & 8 as the gifts are brought forward.



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far - and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
 and open wide our heav'nly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 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*



Sing verses 7 & 8 only

Offering Prayer

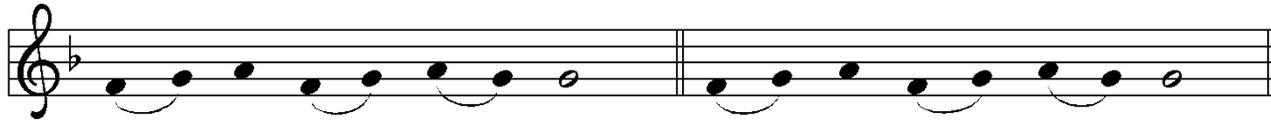
L Let us pray.
 L Nourishing God,
 you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.
 Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,
 that we may rejoice and be for the world
 signs of your kingdom come.

A Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

S144a



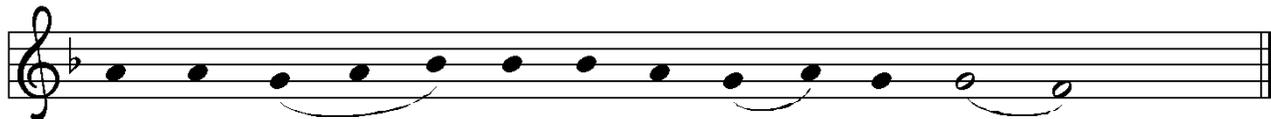
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



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



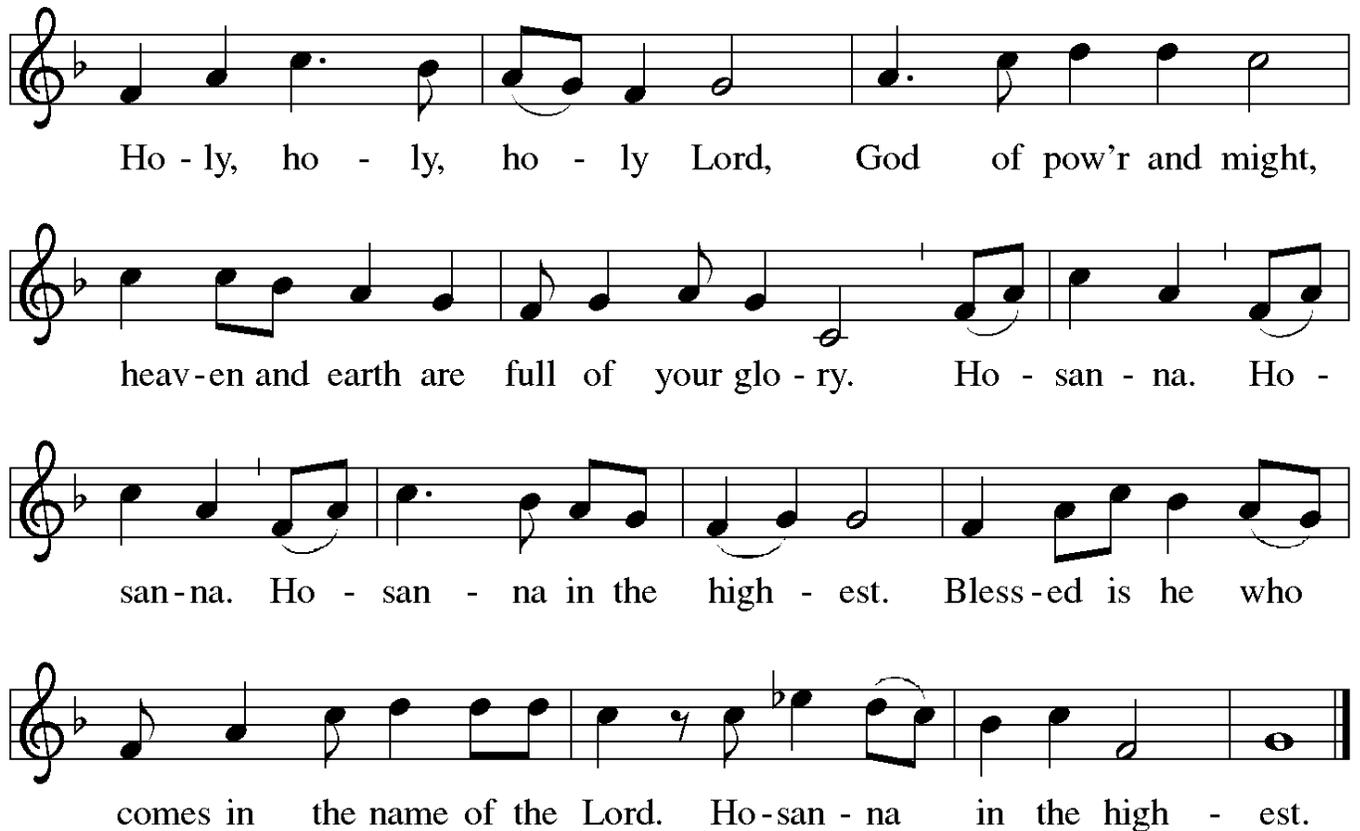
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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.
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:



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. Ho -
san-na. 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.

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



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

The Lord's Prayer

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

**A Our Loving God in heaven, Father and Mother of us all,
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 Here is life. Immanuel. God is with us.

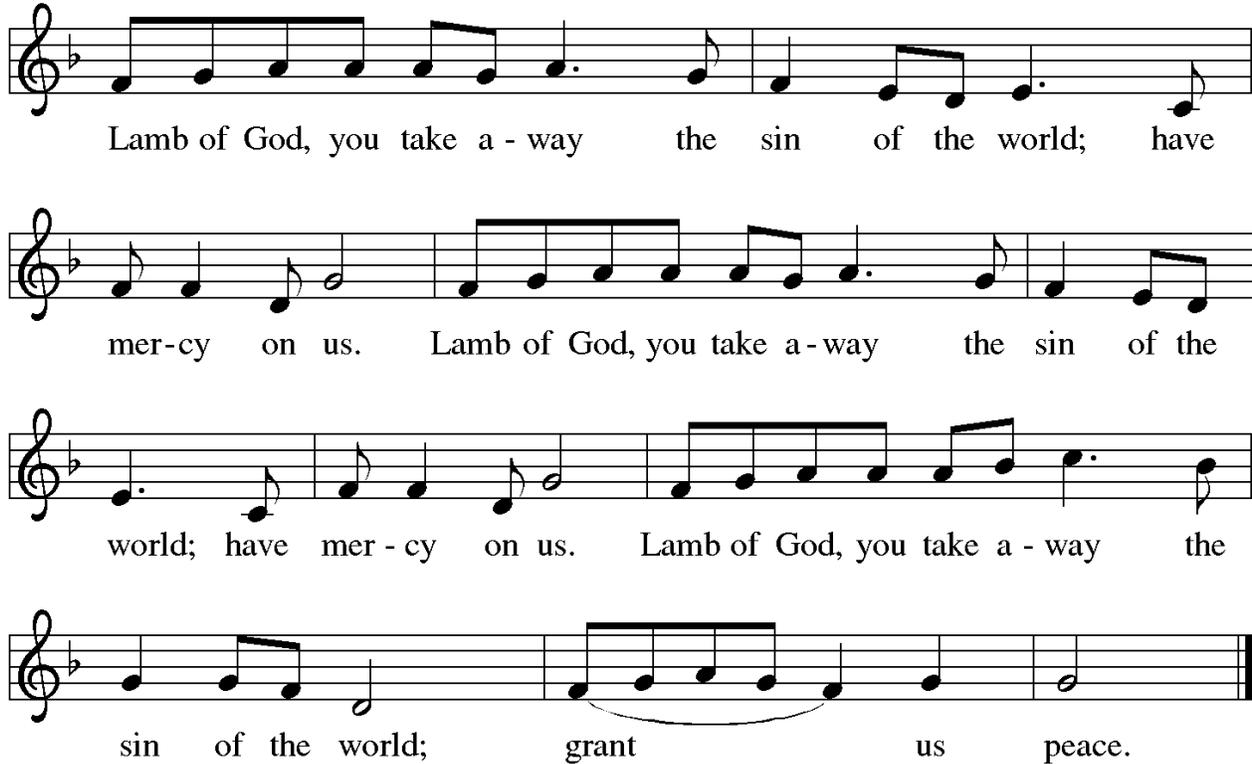
A  **We come to receive what God has promised.**

The Assembly is seated.

Communion Song

Lamb of God

S146



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.

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 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 will be collected by the Acolyte. This will be a continuous communion.

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

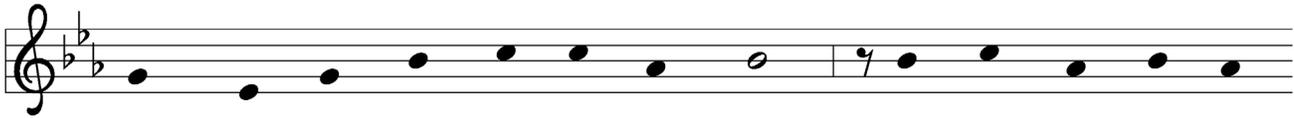
All communing remotely or with individual packets may partake of the bread.

P This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

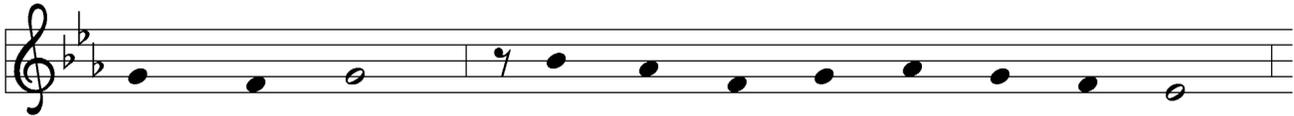
All communing remotely or with individual packets may drink of their cup.

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

The Assembly sings the hymn.



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -
 2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in
 3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all
 4 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e -
 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,
 splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child
 hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 ter - nal day; de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you hear us when we call.
 of Mar - y, bless - ed moth - er mild.
 like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.
 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

The Assembly stands as directed.

Blessing after Communion

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
A Amen.

Prayer after Communion

L Let us pray...
 God our host,
 at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.
 Send us forth, eager to share the feast,
 welcome the stranger,
 and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

A Amen.

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

Blessing

P May God who comes among us,
 Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
 grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
 and good news to share today and always.

A 🗣 **Amen.**

This week's commemorations...

Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

Friday, December 26, 2025

Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

John, Apostle and Evangelist

Saturday, December 27, 2025

The son of Zebedee and brother of James, John was one of the twelve disciples and witness to the transfiguration. Tradition has named him also the writer of the Gospel of John, the three New Testament letters bearing his name, as well as Revelation.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Sending Song

"The King Shall Come" (CONSOLATION)

ELW 260



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.



Dismissal

L Go in peace. Keep awake.

A **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“Carillon on “People, Look East” by Rebecca te Velde

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

Today’s refreshments are hosted by the Brown-Peck Family.

Come enjoy one another’s company and learn what’s happening in and throughout the Immanuel congregation!!

**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 Kit McCarthy
- Lector Greg Hummel
- Acolyte Elora Kloster
- Organist..... Christine Kraemer
- Music Director James Morehead
- Table Preparation Barbara Huffman
- Zoom Host Jim McCarthy
- Audio-Visual Technician Kevin McDaniel
- Ushers Nicholai Schousboe
- Counters..... Greg Hummel

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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, Dec. 21	New Community Church	1:00 pm
	New Community Church Event	3:00 pm
Monday, Dec. 22	Tai-chi Class	6:30 am
Tuesday, Dec. 23	Tai-Chi Class	9:30 am
	Midweek Group Bible Study	2:00 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 24	Tai-chi Class	6:30 am
	FA Meeting	6:30 pm
	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	9:00 pm
Thursday, Dec. 25	<i>Merry Christmas!</i>	
Friday, Dec. 26	Tai-chi Class	6:30 am
Sunday, Dec. 28-Lessons & Carols	Feeding Our Faith	9:00 am
	Sunday Worship	10:30 am
	New Community Church	1:00 pm

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, Jerry Larson, Kit McCarthy, Laura McDaniel, 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!