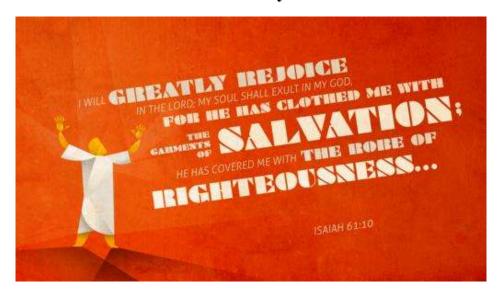
Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

December 13, 2020 The Third Sunday in Advent



"I will greatly rejoice in the LORD..." (Isaiah 61:10)

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Rev. J. Philipp Augustine, Pastor

Welcome to Immanuel! We ask all members and guests to please check in with the attendance person as you wait to be seated in the CLC. We hope you are blessed by God's grace in the worship service. Members, please inform the church office of needed prayers and visits.

Today's bulletin is dedicated to the glory of God in loving memory of James "Jamie" Luckstein, son of Don and Becky Luckstein, who was born on September 13, 1977 and died on December 4, 2002. May God comfort and strengthen all those who are missing loved ones during the holiday season. We take comfort in our loving God who gave us the greatest gift in His Son, Jesus, who came to conquer darkness and death by the light of His cross and joyous resurrection. Therefore, we can rejoice in our Savior who comes "to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit" (Is 61:3)

Liturgy: Setting One

Sermon: "True Joy in Jesus" from Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

Hymns: 345 - Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

349 - Hark the Glad Sound

Pianist: Barb Lutringer

Elders/Ushers: 8:00 am: Jim Larson, Robert Lambrecht

10:00 am: Chris Stelling, Don Luckstein

Altar Duty December: Don & Becky Luckstein & Lisa Hoekstra

Busy Bags: Will be available once COVID19 concerns are past.

Our Mission

Immanuel Lutheran Church exists to spread the Gospel in its truth and purity through Word and Sacraments in accordance with the Confession of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. Immanuel Lutheran School exists to share the Gospel, so children become disciples of Jesus.

Holy Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may proclaim His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked to first speak with the pastor.

For our communicants: gluten-free host is available along with grape juice in the center of the individual cups for those who have allergies or sensitivities to those respective elements. Please request it as you approach the pastor or the elder.

OUR OFFERING OF WORSHIP:

Sunday, December 6: 106 Souls

OUR OFFERING OF MATERIAL GIFTS:

Sunday, December 6: \$10,896.40

OUR OFFERING OF PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

<u>Those known to be hospitalized</u> – The office is unaware of anyone hospitalized at this time. For any prayer requests wanted on the Congregational Prayer Chain, or in public worship services, call the church office (534-3700) or Barb Larson (251-2138) or E-mail office@immanuelplainview.org

God's richest blessing on those celebrating birthdays this week:

December 13: Sue Lamprecht, Justine Landin (Timm)

December 14: James Ohm, Jasmine Timm December 15: Carter Kautz, Larry Hoiland

December 16: Rvan Lamprecht, Michael Krusmark

December 17: Jackson Neumann

December 19: Peighton Prigge, Jameson Prigge, Julie Stoning



Finding new Stephen Ministry Leaders is the next step for growing our congregation's Stephen Ministry. Right now, we are praying for the individuals God is calling to serve as Stephen Leaders. Please include this need in your prayers. God answers our prayers because He is faithful. More info on Leadership training can be found at www.stephenministries.org/LTC. With the COVID19 pandemic around for some time yet, Leadership training is now available online in a 5 or 10 week course. We are praying to sign you up for the next available cohort in February 2021! For more information or questions, contact Becky Luckstein (534-2236 or 951-1716) or Pastor Augustine (884-7390).



What do the candles on the Advent wreath mean?

The use of candles in general is to remind us of Christ, who is the light of the world. The season of Advent took its shape that we see in our worship life today around the end of the 6th century. The Church established a four-week time of preparation for Christmas. Thus, the four candles we find in the wreath.

Over time, various traditions and symbols were attached to each of the candles. The Advent wreath tradition we follow is that the first candle represents "Hope", the second candle "Peace", the third (pink) candle is "Joy", and fourth candle is "Love". Many wreaths also include a white candle in the middle that is lit on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day when we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

What about that pink candle?

The pink candle (Joy; week 3) marks a change in focus from our preparation for Christ's return to remembering His first coming among us as a baby in Bethlehem. We often hear the word "rejoice" in our worship as part of the appointed readings or in the hymns.