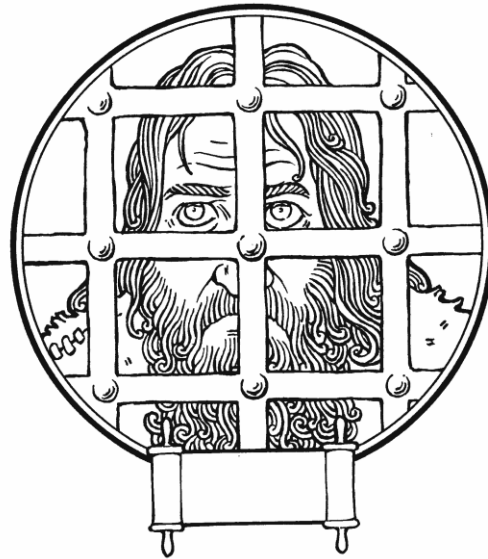


**Welcome to**  
**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
*A Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*

**December 11, 2022**  
**Third Sunday in Advent**



*Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ,  
he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall  
we look for another?" (Matt 11:2-3).*

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Rev. J. Philipp Augustine, Pastor

**Welcome to Immanuel!** We ask everyone to please fill out a white postcard-sized Communication/Communion Card, which has been placed at the entrances. Offerings can be put in the marked grey baskets.

>> **Guests**, please fill out the card with your name and address. Place in the offering basket, hand to an usher or elder, or drop in the basket as you come forward for Holy Communion. If desiring to commune, please visit with the pastor (see Communion statement below) and note your home congregation. We hope you have enjoyed our worship service, and we invite you to join us again soon.

>> **Members**, please fill out the Communion Card to inform the church office of your attendance today and any needed prayers and visits.

### **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.

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 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.

**Busy Bags:** Available at the entrance are 'Busy Bags' = activity bags of color crayons/books, for any child. Borrow and use them for the service and return them to their hook for the next time!

**Liturgy:** Setting Four, page 203

**Sermon:** "Rejoicing in the Freedom of Christ" – Matthew 11:2-15

### **Hymns:**

- 515 - Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers
- 345 - Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding
- 334 - O Lord, How Shall I Meet You
- 346 - When All the World Was Cursed
- 349 - Hark the Glad Sound

**Organist:** Barb Lutringer

**Elders/Ushers** 8:00 am: Mark Bartsh, Jim Larson  
10:15 am: Bob Walkes, Don Luckstein

**Acolyte/cross bearer** 8:00 am: Brielle Staudacher  
10:15 am: Jax Mussell

**Altar Duty December:** Don & Becky Luckstein, Tom & Lisa Hoekstra

OUR OFFERING OF WORSHIP  
Sunday, December 4: 129

OUR OFFERING OF MATERIAL GIFTS  
Wednesday, November 30: \$250.00  
Sunday, December 4: Unified: \$8,026.00

OUR OFFERING OF PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

**Those known to be hospitalized** *No one 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](mailto:office@immanuelplainview.org)

**God's richest blessing on those celebrating birthdays this week:**  
*December 11: Ethan Neumann, MiKadyn Welti, Marcy Standinger*  
*December 12: Debra Bigelow, Brianne Dohrn*  
*December 13: Susan Lamprecht*  
*December 15: Larry Hoiland*  
*December 16: Ryan Lamprecht*  
*December 17: Jackson Neumann*

# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



## What is the Advent wreath?

The Advent wreath is the circle of candles (and/or evergreen branches) that you see in the sanctuary during the season of Advent.

Some Advent wreaths hang from the ceiling of the sanctuary while others are placed on a floor stand. Either way, the Advent wreath is one of the many beautiful things you'll see around the church during Advent.

## How do we use the advent wreath?

It used to be that the Advent wreath was used in the home to help count the four weeks of Advent. Now you can find them in homes as well as in the church sanctuary. Each Sunday in Advent, a new candle on the wreath is lit. For example, during the first week in Advent, only one candle is lit. During the second week in Advent, two candles are lit. We do this to remember and prepare for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!



**Parents:** Before or after the Divine Service, allow your children to walk up to get a better look at the Advent wreath. Remind them to be reverent in God's holy places. During this Advent season, try utilizing an Advent wreath at home with family devotions. If you are unsure how to get started, ask your pastor for help.



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