# Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

# December 25, 2022 The Nativity of Our Lord



"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us..." (John 1:14a).

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Rev. J. Philipp Augustine, Pastor

*Welcome to Immanuel!* We ask <u>everyone</u> 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.

- >> <u>Guests</u>, 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.
- >> <u>Members</u>, 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: Divine Service Setting Three, page 184

**Sermon:** "The Word is Born!" – John 1:1-14

Hymns: 379 - O Come, All Ye Faithful

384 - Of the Father's Love Begotten

624 - The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

621 - Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

387 - Joy to the World

**Organist:** Barb Lutringer

Elders/Ushers 9:30 am: Mark Bartsh, Bob Walkes, Don Luckstein

Acolyte/cross bearer: Bryson Boettcher

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

Altar Duty January: Debra Eggenberger, Becky Luckstein

#### **OUR OFFERING OF WORSHIP**

Sunday, December 18th: 209

#### **OUR OFFERING OF MATERIAL GIFTS**

Sunday, December 18th: Unified: \$23,775.00

#### 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

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

December 25: Kim Zabel, Mary Lamprecht

December 26: Jax Mussell

December 27: David Smith, Nancy Irish

December 28: Luke Lamprecht, Kris Gernes

December 29: Kennedy Standinger

December 30: David Heddlesten, Roger Irish

December 31: Brenda Bennett



# What is The Festival of the Nativity of our Lord?

The Festival of the Nativity of our Lord is the traditional way of saying Christmas Day. December 25 is one of the most important festival days in the Church Year. This is the day that we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus!

# Why do we do the things we do at Christmas?

Many of the things that we

do at Christmas have their beginnings with

the Romans. Early Christians soon saw some of these things as outward reminders of Christmas and began to use them in their own celebrations. For example, when we give and receive presents, we can remember the greatest gift that has ever been given, our Lord Jesus! After all, today we celebrate Jesus' birthday, and He is the real reason for the season!



**Parents:** What a great way to spend Christmas! Thanks be to God that you have brought your children to hear the wonderful Good News of Jesus today! When you go home, be sure to remind your children that Jesus is the best present we could ever have. He gave up His life so that we might have eternal life. What a great message to share!



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