

*Behold, the Lord shall come and all His saints with Him;
and in that day the Light shall be great. Hallelujah!*

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Third Saturday in Advent
Church Phone: 812-867-5088 December 16, 2023 --- 5:30 pm

Opening Prayer /// **Opening Hymn:** *“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”* 345

Invocation: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C:** *Amen.*

P: O Lord, open my lips.	C: <i>And my mouth will declare Your praise.</i>
P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;	C: <i>Make haste to help me, O Lord.</i>
P: Behold, the days are coming, saith the Lord	C: <i>I will raise to David a righteous Branch</i>
P: A King shall reign and prosper	C: <i>He shall execute justice on the earth</i>
P: This is His name whereby He shall be called	C: <i>The Lord our Righteousness</i>
P: Prepare Ye the way of the Lord	C: <i>Make His paths straight</i>
P: This is the day the Lord has made	C: <i>Let us rejoice and be glad in it</i>

Psalmody: *Psalm 126*

P: When the Lord brought back the captives to Zion, we were like men who dreamed. **C:** *Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy.*

P: Then it was said among the nations, **C:** *“The Lord has done great things for them.”*

P: The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. **C:** *Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like streams in the Negev.*

P: Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. **C:** *He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him.*

All: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Collect: Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C:** *Amen.*

Hymn: *“Arise, O Christian People”* 354

O.T. Lesson: *Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11* /// **Epistle Lesson:** *1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24*

Duet: *“As Shepherds Kept Their Lonely Vigil”*

Holy Gospel: *John 1: 6-8, 19-28*

Hymn: *“When All the World Was Cursed”* 346

Children’s Sermon /// **Sermon** /// **Confession of Faith:** *Nicene Creed (back of Hymnal)*

Offering brought to the Altar

Prayers: The families of Oxley, Teri Jo, Harper and Dylan; Parker, Bob, Karen, and (Scheffel, Kristen, Justin, Alivia and Jay); Parker, Mitch, Danae and Hallie.

Lord's Prayer (back of hymnal)

Confession of Sins

C: *Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.*

Absolution: Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Admonition to Communicants: I exhort you in Christ, that you give attention to the Testament of Christ in true faith, and above all take to heart the Words with which Christ presents His body and blood to us for forgiveness. That you take note of, and give thanks for, the boundless love that He showed us when He saved us from the wrath of God, sin, death, and hell by His blood; and that you then externally receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a guarantee and pledge. Let us then in His name, according to His command, and with His own Words administer and receive His Sacrament.

Blessing of Elements /// **Distribution**

Hymn: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" 359 vs. 1-3

Closing Collect: *Heavenly Father, You grant us Your Spirit to open our eyes and enlighten our minds to serve You and fellow believers; lead us by Your Spirit to enable us to witness of Your love, live according to Your will, bring Your Word of life to others, rejoice in the goodness You have showered upon us, and reflect Your love in how we reach out to others; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Benediction

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Rev. Mark Moog, Pastor
Karen Whitehead, Organist

WHAT THE SCRIPTURES TEACH CONCERNING THE LORD'S SUPPER

In I Corinthians 11 the Holy Spirit led Paul to write, "This is my body" and "This cup is the new covenant in my blood" to explain the spiritual truth of the Supper: Christ is truly present in His body and blood in the bread and wine. This is a mystery, a Heavenly gift; one we can only understand in faith. Paul further says, "Therefore whoever eats the bread and drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord" and, "let a man examine himself...for he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly." There is no doubt from our Lord's Word, we are receiving His body and blood. The Father offers us forgiveness, unity of faith, strengthening of faith, etc.; it is never our right, we approach His altar only by His invitation. If you are visiting we ask that you please speak with the Pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper. We strive to lovingly carry out our responsibility to ensure the supper remains a blessing for all, never a curse. May His richest blessing be upon you all.

THIS WEEK

TONIGHT: Worship w/HC 5:30 pm
TOMORROW: Worship w/HC 8 am, SS 9:10 am, Worship w/HC 10:15 am
TUESDAY: Confirmation 6 pm
WEDNESDAY: Advent Meal 6:10 m, Advent Worship 7 pm
THURSDAY: Bible Study 9:30 am and 6 pm
Next SATURDAY: Worship w/HC 5:30 pm (normal time)
Next SUNDAY: **Worship 9:45 am w/Confirmation & High School Youth, Worship w/HC 6:00 pm with Choir Participation and Worship w/HC 10:00 pm Candle-Light Service**

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE: Sat, Dec 9: 49 LS: 39 ; Sun, Dec 3: 8 am: 44; 10:15 am: 174; Mid-Week Advent 1: 79

Member Prayer List: Next Saturday and Sunday we will be praying for the families of Parsons, Katy and Zappa; Patterson, Julie, Matt, Garrett, Wyatt and Lydia; and Paul, Doris, Mike and Samantha.

THANK YOU'S:

I would like to thank everyone for the many Thanksgiving Cards I received. I loved them all! I have moved to a new residence and would love to have visits from you. I miss coming to church and my church family. Blessings, Midge My new address is: Midge Hamby, Melrose Assisted Living, Apt 213, 7101 US Hwy 41 N, Evansville IN 47725

I would like to thank everyone for their Thanksgiving Cards I received. They were appreciated so much. Joyce Frazier

Bobbie appreciates all the cards she received during Thanksgiving. Thank you for thinking of her. Bill and Bobbie Christie

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER CALENDAR EVENTS

Mid-Week Advent Meal: December 20 begin at 6:10 pm

Mid-Week Advent Worship: December at 7 pm

Saturday, December 23 Worship Service w/HC at 5:30 pm (normal time)

Sunday, December 24 there will **ONE Service at 9:45 am** in the morning which will involve *Confirmation & High School Youth* participation; and **two services** in the evening at

6:00 pm with **Choir Participation w/HC** and **10:00 pm** **Candle- Light Service w/HC**

Monday, December 25 at 9:30 am **Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion**

Sunday, December 31 at 7 pm **New Year's Eve Service w/HC**