

LIFE SERVICE 2024
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Life is a Divine Gift – Life is Created by the Will of our Triune God
January 20-21, 2024

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn: *Tune 461 “God in His Brilliance”*

God in His brilliance created man He formed the body with His hands.
He breathed life and gave a soul Man was creation’s pinnacle.

Life is so precious in His eyes He brings new life as we baptize
He touches heart and soul and mind He grants new hope to all mankind.

He sustains life through grace alone Bound to the Cross where He atoned.
The life of all who fell to sin He shed His blood gave life with-in.

God sanctified life on the Cross Made life so precious by His loss
Each child He forms with His own hands His miracles of life He plans.

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

Opening Litany:

P: The Lord spoke and life came into being **C: He spoke and the earth teemed with life.**

P: He made all things to produce after their own kind **C: He set in place His own rule.**

P: God made all things by His Will **C: He left nothing to chance, but it was of His brilliance.**

P: To make man, the Lord Himself personally formed him **C: He made man in His own image.**

P: He formed him of the dust of the ground **C: He personally breathed life into him.**

P: God made male and female **C: Adam and Eve were His “special” creations.**

P: God told them: be fruitful and multiply **C: He gave them the gift, to have children.**

P: Each child born is a special creation **C: Each life is precious in the eyes of the Lord.**

Lesson: *Jeremiah 1: 4-8 “Now the Word of the Lord came to me saying, “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” But the Lord said to me, Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’; for to all whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord.”*

Confession: *I confess to God Almighty, that I have sinned in thought, word and deed, I have failed to hold true to Your Commandments, I have failed to witness of the faith I possess, I have failed to stand up for Your principles and morals, and I have failed to hold the You before the world as I should. Forgive me, for Your sake, and cleanse me of all my sin. I am a poor miserable sinner!*

Absolution: Almighty God, has given me the privilege to announce to you His grace, You have given me the privilege of standing in the Office of the Ministry, and this day, in the Lord's place and by His command; I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Psalmody: *Psalm 32*

P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven C: *Who sin is covered.*

P: Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity C: *And in whose spirit there is no deceit.*

P: For when I kept silent C: *My bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.*

P: For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; C: *My strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.*

P: I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity C: *I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.*

P: Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found; C: *Surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach Him.*

P: You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; C: *You surrounded me with shouts of deliverance.*

P: I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; C: *I will counsel you with my eye upon you.*

P: Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, C: *Which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.*

P: Many are the sorrows of the wicked, C: *But the steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.*

P: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice O righteous, C: *And shout for joy, all you upright in heart!*

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.*

P: The Lord be with you! C: *And also with you!*

Collect: Heavenly Father, You alone Created life by the speaking of the Word and by Your own hands. Life is never random or does not come about by chance, but life is always a product of Your divine will and the wonder of Your love for all mankind. Lead us Lord as Your people to honor Your name, honor Your Sanctity of Life, honor the lives You give us, and honor our bodies by using them in a manner that is always pleasing to You. Guide us Lord to praise Your name and to value the gift of life as You have given us the right to do. May Your loving Spirit enlighten and bless us and lead us to reflect well the importance You give to every life on this earth. We pray this in our Loving Savior's name. **C: Amen.**

Lesson: Genesis 4: 1 *“Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord.” (From the first child after the fall, Eve makes it very clear it was the Lord's blessing that enabled her to bear a son. He was a child of grace and a child of the will of the Father.)*

Hymn: “Father Welcomes” 605

O. T. Lesson: *Psalm 139: 13-16 For You formed my inward parts; You knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in Your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.*

Epistle Lesson: *I Corinthians 15: 20-28 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at His coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For God has put all things in subjection under His feet.”*

But when it says, “All things are put in subjection,” it is plain that He is expected who put all things in subjection under Him. When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subjected to Him who put all things in subjection under Him, that God may be all in all.

Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 19: 13-15 Then children were brought to Him that He might lay His hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.” And He laid His hand on them and went away.*

Confession of Faith: *Nicene Creed (back of Hymnal)*

Hymn: “*O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth*” 834 (Tune 810)

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Offerings brought to the Altar

Prayers: The families of Schlensker, Charlotte; Schneider, Marilyn; and Schultz, Daryl, Candy and Alex.

Lord’s Prayer

Blessing of the Elements:

Distribution

Distribution Hymns: 475, 477, 535 (tune 408), 642 (tune 527)

Closing Hymn: “*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*” 709

Closing Collect: *Gracious Lord, You created life by the speaking of Your Word, You crowned Your creation with the gift of Adam and Eve. You placed all things as gifts before them and granted them the ability to bring “new life” into the world through the unity You provided to them. Lead us Lord to honor Your creation, lead us to rejoice and marvel at the wonder of being ones who were given life; and lead us to be thankful that we could experience the blessings You have placed before us. Guide us all Lord to honor life, grant value as You desire, and witness well of the importance You grant to all those who are conceived in this world. Touch us Lord with Your Spirit and open our hearts to love and cherish others as You cherish us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen!*

Benediction

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Kirk Horstmeyer, Pastor
Organists

Beth Vance-Saturday, Sunday: 8 am Karen Whitehead, 10:15 am Mary Burgeson

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

SATURDAY: Worship 5:30 pm
SUNDAY: Worship at w/HC 8:00 am, SS 9:10 am, Worship w/HC 10:15 am
TUESDAY: Confirmation 6:00 pm
THURSDAY: Bible Study 9:30 am and 6 pm
Next SATURDAY: Confirmation 9:30 am, Worship w/HC 5:30
Next SUNDAY: Worship 8 am, SS 9:10 am, Worship 10:15 am, Voter's Meeting

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE: Sat, Jan 13:54 LS: 32; Sun, Jan 14: 8am: 45; 10:15 am: 48

Member Prayer List: Next Saturday and Sunday we will be praying for the families of Schutz, Bart and Lori; Seay, Janet; and Shirley, David and Teri.

VOTER'S MEETING: Will be Sunday, January 28th following the 10:15 am service. All members encouraged to attend.

THANK YOU: I would like to thank everyone for the Christmas Cards. They were a blessing to receive and helped me a lot. God Bless, Joyce Fraizer

NOTICE FROM ELDERS: Carpets in the sanctuary and Educational building have been cleaned. In an effort to keep the carpet and the rest of the sanctuary clean, we are asking everyone to refrain from bringing food and beverages, other than water, into the sanctuary during services. We understand it may be necessary to use food as an incentive to encourage children to behave, which is fine. We just ask parents to do the best they can to clean up crumbs and other leftovers.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH PART-TIME JOB OPPORTUNITY:

Immanuel Lutheran Church is looking for a Technology and Volunteer Coordinator. The position is part time. The basic roles are to research and make recommendations on keeping the church's technology services and needs up to date, implementing technology services, assisting to keep the church website and social media accounts up to date, develop and maintain an electronic data base of church members, assisting the pastor and boards with coordination of volunteer efforts, coordinating new member services, assisting shut ins and other distressed members as determined by the Congregation, and assisting the pastor with other necessary duties. Anyone interested may contact any member of the Board of Elders: Warren Korff, Mike Lousignont, John Miles, or Stu Hoffherr.

