

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

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH** Second Saturday in Advent  
Church Phone: 812-867-5088 --- December 9, 2023 --- 5:30 pm

**Opening Prayer** /// **Opening Hymn:** “O Blessed Spring” 595

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

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

**Psalmody:** *Psalm 85*

P: Lord, You were favorable to Your land, O Lord; You restored the fortunes of Jacob. **C:** *You forgave the iniquity of Your people and covered all their sin.*

P: You withdrew all Your wrath; You turned from Your hot anger. **C:** *Restore us again, O God of our Salvation, and put away Your indignation toward us!*

P: Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong Your anger through all generations? **C:** *Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?*

P: Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us Your salvation. **C:** *Let me hear what God the Lord will speak; for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints – but let them not turn back.*

P: Surely His salvation is near those who fear Him, that His glory may dwell in our land. **C:** *Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.*

P: Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky. **C:** *The Lord will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.*

P: Righteousness will go before Him **C:** *And make His footsteps a way.*

**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:** Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You and with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C:** Amen.

**Hymn:** “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me” 722

**O.T. Lesson:** *Isaiah 40: 1-11* /// **Epistle Lesson:** *2 Peter 3: 8-14*

**Holy Gospel:** *Mark 1: 1-8* /// **Hymn:** “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” 344

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

## Offering brought to the Altar

**Prayers:** The families of Nicholson, Carl and Maretta; O'Brien, Christian and Caleb; and O'Neal, Zach, Brittney and Kinleigh.

**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:** "On What Has Now Been Sown" 921

**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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**Kirk Horstmeyer, Pastor**  
**Beth Vance, 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 8 am, SS 9:10 am, Worship 10:15 am-Children's Christmas Service  
**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:** Confirmation 9:30 am, Worship w/HC 5:30 pm  
**Next SUNDAY:** Worship w/HC 8 am, SS 9:10 am, Worship w/HC 10:15 am

**WEEKLY ATTENDANCE:** Sat, Dec 2: 45 LS: 37 ; Sun, Dec 3: 8 am: 57 LS: 44;; 10:15 am: 64 LS: 48

**Member Prayer List:** Next Saturday and Sunday we will be praying for the families of Oxley, Teri Jo, Harper and Dylan; Parker, Bob, Karen (Scheffel, Kristen, Justin, Alivia and Jay); Parker, Mitch, Danae and Hallie.

## **THANK YOU'S:**

*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 Meals:** December 13 & 20 begin at 6:10 pm

**Mid-Week Advent Worship:** December 13 & 20 at 7 pm

**Children's Sunday School Christmas Program:** December 10 during the 10:15 am service

**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 and 10:00 pm Candle- Light Service**

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