

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

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH 3rd Sunday in Advent
Church Phone: 867-5088 — December 17, 2023 – 8 a.m.

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>

Confession and Absolution: pg. 184-185 /// **The Introit:** *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.*

Gloria Patri: Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to the God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, Great Jehovah Three in One! Glory, Glory, While eternal ages run. (LSB 506)

Kyrie: Have mercy on Your people, Lord. Have mercy Christ, Our King (LSB 733) Renew us by Your mercy, Lord; Accept the prayers we bring.

P: The Lord be with you. **C:** *And with your spirit.*

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* /// **Confession of Faith:** *Nicene Creed (back of hymnal)*

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

Children’s Sermon /// **Sermon**

Confessional Hymn: *“In God We Believe”* (802)

In God we believe: the Creator whose pow’r In mercy has brought us renewal this hour
In Jesus, the Savior, our hope is secure True God and True Man once the cross He endured

God’s Spirit at work in our lives we confess: With power and truth the church now He does bless
As saints, God’s forgiven, one day we shall then Be living in glory forever. Amen.

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*) /// **Blessing of Elements** /// **Distribution**

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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Kirk Horstmeyer , Pastor
Matthew Wilson, 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

TODAY: 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