

*Welcome to
Immanuel Lutheran Church*

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

December 20, 2020



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Sunday Schedule:
Sunday School on Zoom at 9:00AM
Online Worship 10:00AM
Outdoor Worship 11:30AM
Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm via Zoom Refuge
For Junior High & High School
Call church office for contact information.

Welcome!

Wherever you are on-line, we welcome you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ! We are united as a people of God in worship as a Body of Christ, the Church. We wish we could be together physically in our beautiful sanctuary, but the pandemic has forced us to be creative as our team has gone to great lengths to bring us together, technologically. May God grant you safety and protection during these unprecedented times. Please share our worship opportunities with your family and friends and those who don't know the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Order of Worship

Prelude

Laurel Jacobsen

Ringing the Bells *Calling the community of Easton to worship*

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. With your great might, give us your help, that whatever is hindered by our sins may be speedily accomplished by your grace; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Gelasian Sacramentary, 7th Century)

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Please Stand as you are able

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew 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.

Pastor: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Please be seated

Pastor: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Pastor: Let us pray...

Prayer of The Day

Gracious God, the Alpha and Omega, our beginning and our end, may your Spirit kindle in us patience and peace as we wait for the coming of your Son, and the humility and boldness to proclaim his reign. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Reading of the Word

The First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

1Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, 2the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a

house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." 3Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." 4But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: 5Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? 6I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. 7Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" 8Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; 9and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. 10And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 11from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. 16Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 89:1-5

¹I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

²I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

³You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David:

⁴"I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations."

⁵Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.

The Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

25Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith — 27to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

The Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 1st Chapter

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

26In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." 29But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. 30The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. 33He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." 34Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" 35The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. 36And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. 37For nothing will be impossible with God." 38Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

The Children's Sermon

Pastor Taylor

Please stand as you are able for the confession of the Apostles Creed.

Confession of Faith

Leader: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Offerings may be delivered to the church via mail or drop off. Donations are accepted online at our website: immanueleaston.com.

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

All: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen!

Please be seated.

Announcements

Dismissal

P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God! (Sung) Amen, Amen, Amen!

Postlude

Laurel Jacobsen

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Announcements & Opportunities to Serve

The Flowers on the altar this morning are presented by the Bennetts and Reynolds families for glory and honor to God and in memory of their father, Roy Johansen's birthday.

Prayer Focus for the Week Focus on God loving us so much he sent his son. John 3:16 NIV. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, so that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Christmas Eve Service will be online only this year. Please check your emails for the link on December 23rd.

Pastor Taylor leads an outdoor Worship Service at 11:30AM on Sunday mornings. The Service of the Word, is shorter than our recorded Worship Service yet offers a time of reading scripture and meditation as well as a time to be together in person for worship and communion. Please govern yourself according to all pandemic safety precautions.

Amazon Smiles Program offers portions of your purchases donated to Immanuel. When you shop on Amazon instead of going to amazon.com go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2737287> and our church will receive a small percent of your purchase.

Prayers of the church

For Christ's Church: *Eternal God, we thank You for Your Church through which the gospel of Jesus Christ has been manifest in every age.*

Members and their families serving in the military: Joey Brewer, Henry Clark, Michael Hansen, Caleb Hathaway, Scott Linger, Matt Ward, & Matthew Tigchelaar.

Those unable to travel about: Olga Hansen, Marilyn Iversen, Art & Marian Olesen, Phyllis Petersen, & Howard Nielsen.

Those in need of healing: Those in need of healing Marilyn Bell, Sandy Britter, Luanne Byrd, Eli Cisneros, Gaye Cissel, Geoff Cooper, Pastor Gary Gould, Dennis Haugh, Jenny Lee Hodges, Judy Hooper, Florence Johnston, Sam Navaro, Gil Nagel, Glenn & Marilyn Nielsen, The Perez Family, Sr., Christie Pettitt, Chuck Phillips, Sr., Virginia Pilegard, Aslak Syse, Timm Trickett, Joe Wozniczka & Joni Zingarelli.

For those morning the loss of loved ones: The family of Margie Zingarelli, *Betty Jensen's sister*

For people dealing with loneliness and depression caused by these pandemic precautions. For those battling the Coronavirus and the health care providers tending to those in need.