



THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

— JOY —

IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • DECEMBER 11, 2022

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Who We Seek to Be

In our love for Christ and guided by God's Word we seek to be a community of

Joyful Worship, thoughtfully centered in the wonder and wisdom of the living God and celebrating the diversity of the body of Christ.

Loving Fellowship, encouraging and serving one another in the unifying love of the Holy Spirit.

Life-changing Learning, biblically-based preaching and teaching to equip children, youth, and adults to grow in their relationship with God.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE: *Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light
Of the Father's Love Begotten*

J. S. Bach arr. by Berry
arr. By Rodriguez
ALETHEA FUNCK

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

ANNETTE LAPLACA

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

THE LONEY FAMILY

SONG: *Love's Pure Light*

"*Gesù Bambino*"
Music: Pietro Yon

Words and Arranged by
JOEL RANEY

O come, O come, Em - man - u -
el, and end this gloom of night. Bring
hope to the world, bring peace to the
earth, and fill us with love's pure light.

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Leader: In this season of Advent, we celebrate with joyful hearts.

All: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

Leader: We count our blessings, and give thanks for God's goodness and grace.

All: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

Leader: We strive to search for the good in neighbors near and far.

All: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

Leader: We remember that God has promised us full and joyful lives.

All: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

CANDLE LIGHTING

SONG: *Love's Pure Light* (see previous page)

* INVOCATION

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN: *Once in Royal David's City*

HYMN 225

(Choir sings verses 1 & 2, congregation joins on verses 3, 4, 5)

WE ARE RENEWED BY GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Please be seated)*

GABY SOSA

Leader: If we look at our own lives,

All: We must confess the mixture of giving and selfishness, our waiting on the Lord turned to an endless rush, our missing the mark of Advent.

Leader: We need forgiveness for our frantic ways and misplaced efforts. But we are grateful that we can trust in God,

All: Who still brings salvation, who still supplies us strength, who hears our songs of gratitude, who accepts our joyful praise.

Leader: Let us draw water from the wells of salvation. Let us proclaim his greatness with all our being.

All: His saving deeds support our lives. His greatness still astounds us. The Holy One of Israel is among us.

Based on Isaiah 12

** Congregation stands*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The good news of this Advent season is forgiveness of sin and new life. Let us commit our lives to Christ's way of hope and peace. Thanks be to the Advent God, who comes among us, setting us free to love and serve.

from *The Worship Sourcebook*

* ACCLAMATION

All: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

(Please share God's peace with those around you.)

JESSE TREE

Dennis J. Newman

Jes-se Tree, Jes-se Tree, sign of God's fi - del-i - ty, that

5 he will love e - ter-nal - ly the prom-ise made to

9 pro-phets like I-sai - ah, and Ruth, a wom-an wise, and Dan-iel in the den, and to

12 John who bap-tized, who wait-ed for the com-ing of Em-man - u - el.

(Children 3 years through 2nd grade are dismissed to go downstairs to continue their worship.)

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

THE BIDDING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.

Genesis 3:8-19

READER: DAN TREIER

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR: *O Come, Redeemer of the Earth*

Brian Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth,
and manifest Your virgin birth.
Let ev'ry age in wonder fall:
such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will
but of the Spirit, You are still
the Word of God in flesh arrayed,
the promised fruit to man displayed.

O, Morning Star, come end our night.
Cast out our sin and shed Your light.
The darkness of our mortal state
with endless beams illuminate!

All praise, eternal Son, above
whose advent shows Your matchless love,
whom with the Father, we adore,
and Holy Ghost forever more. Amen.

SECOND LESSON: God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.

Isaiah 40:1-8

READER: EMILY STIER

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

* HYMN: *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

HYMN 197

THIRD LESSON: The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

Isaiah 35:1-6

READER: BILL SHAFFER

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Duet: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HOWARD WHITAKER
STEVE WALL

FOURTH LESSON: The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.

Micah 5:2-4

READER: DANIEL DIETLIN

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

arr. Dan Forest

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King
and peace to all the earth.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray,
cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Immanuel!

FIFTH LESSON: The angel Gabriel salutes the Virgin Mary.

Luke 1:26-35, 38

READER: BECKY EGGIMANN

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

German Carol
Howard Whitaker

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright,
Amid the cold of winter
When half-gone was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
She bore to men a Savior
When half-gone was the night.

SIXTH LESSON: Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Luke 2:1, 3-7

READER: SCOTT SOSA

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

* CAROL: *What Child Is This?*

HYMN 213

SEVENTH LESSON: The shepherds go to the manger.

Luke 2:8-20

READER: SAMANTHA DURBIN

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR: *All My Heart This Night Rejoices*

Z. Randall Stroope

All my heart, all this night rejoices,
As I hear far and near sweetest angel voices,
"Gloria, gloria in excess Deo!"
All the air, and everywhere, "Gloria!"

Come, let us all both great and small sing "Gloria!"
Hail the star where hope is burning, "Gloria!"
Who with love is yearning, ever yearning, "Gloria!"

Come and dwell in glory forever and ever.
Far on high in joy that can alter never.
Dwell in the house of Love forever, "Gloria!"

EIGHTH LESSON: The Wise Men are led to Jesus by the star.

Matthew 2:1-11

READER: COLIN HOLMAN

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

OFFERING

Poem: *O Rex Gentium*

Malcolm Guite
AMY VAUTIN

O King of our desire whom we despise,
King of the nations never on the throne,
Unfound foundation, cast-off cornerstone,
Rejected joiner, making many one,
You have no form or beauty for our eyes,
A King who comes to give away his crown,
A King within our rags of flesh and bone.
We pierce the flesh that pierces our disguise,
For we ourselves are found in you alone.
Come to us now and find in us your throne,
O King within the child within the clay,
O hidden King who shapes us in the play
Of all creation. Shape us for the day
Your coming Kingdom comes into its own.

NINTH LESSON: John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

John 1:1-14

READER: GEORGE GARRISON

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR: *Up! Good Christian Folk, and Listen*

Melody from *Piae Cantiones*
Arr. G. R. Woodward

Ding-dong, ding:
Ding-a-dong-a-ding:
Ding-dong, ding-dong:
Ding-a-dong-ding.

Up! good Christen folk, and listen
How the merry church bells ring,
And from steeple
Bid good people
Come adore the new-born King:

Tell the story how from glory
God came down at Christmastide,
Bringing gladness,
Chasing sadness,
Show'ring blessings far and wide.

Born of mother, blest o'er other,
Ex Maria Virgine,
In a stable
('Tis no fable),
Christus natus hodie.

* CAROL: *See, Amid the Winter's Snow* (Choir only on verses 3 and 4.)

HYMN 199

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE: *In Dulci Jubilo*

TODAY

Sign up this morning for the All-Church Supper and Do-It-Yourslef Pageant

Sunday, December 18, 5:00 p.m. Look for a member of the Social Team at the table in the narthex.

If you are in need of prayer, [elder Gaby Sosa](#) will be at the front of the sanctuary following the service.

Musicians and other participants: Mary Hopper, John Zimmerman, Alethea Funck, Sophie Dietlin, Howard Whitaker, Steve Wall, Amy Vautin

Thanks to our artists: The Nativity display at the front of the sanctuary is made from repurposed church bulletins.

The Advent readings are from "We Wait in Hope," words and music by Joel Raney.

1:00 - 1:00 p.m.

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Food Pantry

Youth Group

(Dinner and white-elephant gift exchange)

THIS WEEK

Tuesday

9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Women's Bible Study (childcare)

Food pantry open

Men's Book Group

Women's Bible Study

COMING

December 18

5:00 p.m.

December 21

11-1, 2-4, 6-8

December 24

6:00 p.m.

December 25

10:30 a.m.

All-Church Supper and Do-It-Yourself Pageant

Open Sanctuary for Prayer

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Christmas Day worship

IN IMMANUEL AND BEYOND

YEAR-END GIVING

'Tis the season for fund raising appeals. The good news is that year-to-date giving for Immanuel is ahead of our projections. That leaves just over \$72,000 in December to meet our budget goal of \$808,600. To count toward the current budget and your own 2022 tax records, remember that the last offering will be Christmas Day. Any donations brought to the church office must be received by Friday, December 30. Donations sent by mail must be postmarked by December 31. (If you bank online be aware that there is often a delay before the bank mails your check).

SNOW CAMP 2023 Mark Your Calendar and reserve your spot!

A group from Immanuel will be spending the Martin Luther King weekend at Honey Rock Camp in northern Wisconsin. We head up Friday January 13 and leave Monday morning Jan 16.

There will be cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, tubing, a sleigh ride and horseback riding in the snow if the weather cooperates! Many more activities as well. Some just like to sit by a roaring fire with hot cocoa and a good book, knitting or maybe a jigsaw puzzle. On Sunday morning we'll have a group hymn sing. We hope you will join us for a time of refreshment in the beautiful woods of northern Wisconsin. For more information, contact John Burch <burch.jr@att.net>. All are welcome. Cost is \$186 for adults and teens, \$93 for children under 13. That covers three nights and seven meals from Saturday breakfast to Monday breakfast with a late Friday snack on arrival.

ELDERS

*Katherine Anderson (Clerk of Session), Dan Balzer, Ron Netzel, Carl Pickard,
Sheroll Ritchie, Leon Sinclair, Gaby Sosa, Steve Westfall, Ken Wolgemuth*

DEACONS

*Phebe Balzer, Becky Eggimann, Seth Ehom (Chair), Debby France, Dee Netzel,
Tom Nguyen, Katie Pickard, Jack Swanson, Amy Treier, Rebecca Williams*

STAFF

*George A. Garrison, Senior Pastor; Annette LaPlaca, Minister of Congregational Life;
Alva Steffler, Minister of Congregational Care; Mary Hopper, Minister of Music;
Annika Durbin, Children's Minister; Anna and Scott Scheidt, Ministers to Youth;
Barbara Lawrence, Church Secretary; Frank Lawrence, Church Sexton*