

# The Nativity Of Our Lord

*December 24, 2020*



Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

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**“WELCOME TO IMMANUEL”  
INSIDE, OUTSIDE, AND ONLINE WORSHIP**

*Note that our guidelines will evolve over time as restrictions increase or decrease.  
Thank you for your faithful flexibility as we worship our beloved Lord and Savior!*

**INSIDE**

- Please practice social-distancing. Save important conversations and visiting for outside where it is safer.
- Masks are required inside and advisable outside.  
Pick up your bulletin on the table inside and put your offering (or pledge) in the offering plate.
- Let the usher know if you have a preference where you would like to sit. They will try to seat you based on your group size and your preference.
- Talk as little as possible and only in a soft voice.
- Only the worship leaders sing and speak out. Hum the songs if you feel so led.
- Communion cups/wafers are already set up in the pews. Put the used cups back in the wooden holder when you are finished.
- The usher will dismiss you.
- Inside worship is inevitably different than before the pandemic. For the best experience, you may want to view it as a more reflective time enjoyed in a beautiful, sacred space where you can listen, share in communion, and attend to God.

**OUTSIDE**

- Safer than inside worship, outside worship doesn't require masks in your vehicle—although masks are advisable when interacting with others like the usher who brings you:
  - ◇ Your bulletin.
  - ◇ Your combined communion cup & wafer.
  - ◇ An offering box to put your offering (or pledge card).

- Please turn your car radio to this radio station:

FM 90.9

- Feel free to sing and join in as loudly as you want during worship. Take home the used communion cups and dispose of them.
- Outside worship reminds us of the fun and comradery of the summer parking-lot worship. It is a way of worshipping more closely with others while staying safe in our vehicle. Like the inside worship, communion is offered.

### **ONLINE**

- The safest and most convenient worship experience, online worship involves just a few steps:
  - ◇ If you wish to celebrate communion, prepare ahead of time bread or cracker, as well as juice or wine.
  - ◇ Go to [www.immanlutheran.org](http://www.immanlutheran.org) on your computer, smartphone, tablet, etc.
  - ◇ View or print out the bulletin before watching the service. You may also request to have a paper bulletin mailed to you each week.
  - ◇ Click on the video link and worship!
- Online worship is the safest and most convenient worship experience. It is recommended for the most vulnerable. Although missing the social element of worshipping together inside or outside, the online worship can in some ways feel the most “normal.”

**Welcome to Worship!**  
**We are a “Church Together”**

God calls us to be a church together as we find ourselves physically separated, but spiritually united as one community of God. Whether you are a visitor or longtime member, you are welcome to join us in worshipping Jesus Christ.

**Offerings may be mailed to the office:**

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
1865 14th Avenue  
Greeley, CO 80631

**Contact the Office and Pastor:**

Office phones (970-352-3003) will be monitored during office hours and messages responded to in a reasonable manner. For the safety of everyone during this pandemic, we have been advised to not have in-person meetings or visits. If you have a pastoral concern, either call the office and leave a message to set up a time to converse with Pastor Daren, or if urgent, text or call Pastor Daren at 760-814-5171.

# Thursday, December 24, 2020

## Christmas Eve

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
Love from the beginning,  
Word made flesh,  
Breath of heaven. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another,  
trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

Merciful God,  
**we confess that we are not perfect.**  
**We have said and done things we regret.**  
**We have tried to earn your redeeming grace,**  
**while denying it to others.**  
**We have resisted your call**  
**to be your voice in the world.**  
**Forgive us, loving God.**  
**Give us your righteousness,**  
**the strength to put aside our failures,**  
**and the courage to try again. Amen.**

Dear people of God, hear the good news:  
Christ the Savior is born!  
You are loved and forgiven  
in the name of † Jesus, who has come among us.  
You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved,  
because God's love is given to you  
as the most precious gift of all.  
Rejoice in this love and share it with the world. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## **O Come, All Ye Faithful**

ELW 283

1 O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him,  
born the king of angels:

### *Refrain*

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

## **PRAYER**

**Almighty God, you made this world shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.**

**READING: Micah 5:2-5a** *The King Will Come from Bethlehem*

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5</sup>and he shall be the one of peace.

**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

ELW 279

1 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.

**READING: Luke 2:1-7** *The Birth of Jesus*

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**Away in a Manger**

ELW 277

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

**READING: Luke 2:8-16** *The Shepherds and the Angels*

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

## Children's Message

### Sermon

#### Go Tell It on the Mountain *verses 1, 2*

ELW 290

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

## RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Glory to God in the highest,

**and peace to God's people on earth.**

Blessed are you, Prince of peace.

You rule the earth with truth and justice.

**Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

Blessed are you, Son of Mary.

You share humanity.

**Have mercy on the sick, the dying,**

**and all who suffer.**

Blessed are you, Son of God.

You dwell among us as the Word made of flesh.

**Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament  
that we may bear your light to all the world.**

## Meal

**Offering**

*"Laudamus Te"*

From "Gloria" by Antonio Vivaldi  
PageDuet by Julie Elmquist & Marcia

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

## **COMMUNION**

*After all have communed:*

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

### **Silent Night, Holy Night!**

ELW 281

- 1 Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2 Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!
- 3 Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from your holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

## **BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,  
the obedience of Joseph,  
the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the determination of the magi,  
and the peace of the Christ child.  
Almighty God, Father + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

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### Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Daren Erisman  
Organist: Stan Elmquist  
Vocalists: Julie Elmquist & Marcia Hutton