

First Sunday of Christmas

December 27, 2020



Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

1865 14TH AVE

GREELEY CO 80631

Email: office@immanlutheran.org

Website: immanlutheran.org

Phone: 970.352.3003

Rev. Dr. Daren Erisman

Phone: 760.814.5171

**“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 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.

Sunday, December 27, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: O Come, All Ye Faithful *verses 1-3*

- | | |
|--|---|
| 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: | 2 The highest, most holy,
light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father
now in flesh appearing! <i>Refrain</i> |
|--|---|

Refrain

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

- 3 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest: *Refrain*

READING: Matthew 1:18-23

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

HYMN: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *verse 1*

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

HYMN: What Child Is This *verse 1*

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

READING: Luke 2:15-20

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

HYMN: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing *verse 1*

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

HYMN: The First Noel *verses 1-2*

1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields
as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their
sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so
deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and
night.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Night and day, all creation praises you, O God. Strengthen your church across nations, denominations, and traditions. Fill us with wisdom and unify our proclamation of your forgiveness and mercy.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

All creation is holy to you, O God. You cause the earth to bring forth its shoots and gardens to spring up. Protect hibernating animals and frozen lands that wait earnestly for longer days of awakening and growth.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send the spirit of your Son into our hearts, O God. Come quickly to hearts that race with fear, hearts that break with grief, and hearts that long for wholeness. Reveal your power to heal and to save.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let us depart in peace, O God, according to your word. For all your saints, we give you thanks. Prepare our salvation in the sight of all your witnesses of every time and place.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering:

In the Bleak Midwinter



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
3 What . . . can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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**

READING: Matthew 2:1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 8:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

Pastor Daren Erisman

Office: 352-3003, Cell: 760-814-5171, email: reverisman@gmail.com

In this time of COVID19, Please feel free to make appointments with Pastor Daren by calling or emailing him at the above phone numbers or email address.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 27, 2020

Sunday, January 3 10:30 am Holy Communion—Second Sunday of Christmas

- It's not too late to turn in your pledge for 2021. Mail your pledge to the church office or place in the offering plate. Your pledge helps council develop a budget for 2021. Thank you for supporting the programs at Immanuel.

VOLUNTEERS

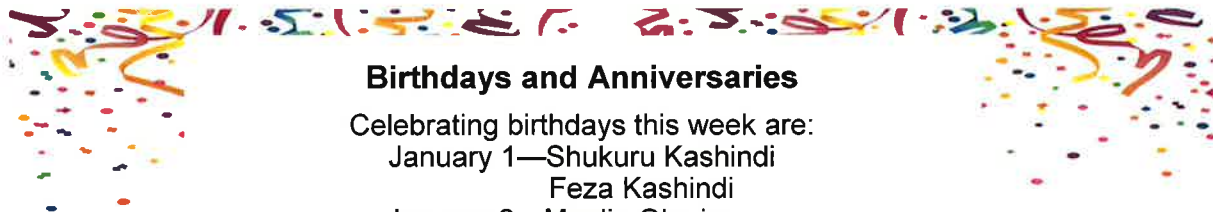
	<u>Sunday, December 27</u>	<u>Sunday, January 3</u>
Greeter:	Julie Elmquist	
Assisting Minister:	Janet Willis	
Communion Setup:	Cindy Thompson	Cindy Thompson
Tellers:	Janet Crespin	Marvin & Connie Deines
Ushers:	TBD	TBD

Worship will be held inside with COVID restrictions, outside in the parking lot via FM and live streaming online. Please choose a way to worship that is best for you and your family.



Dick Hay Roma Arithson
Susan Truchses Rodger Arithson
LaVina Schmahl
Family and Friends dealing with COVID

Immanuel's ASAP team has been and STILL IS keeping you in prayer.
If you have concerns or praises for the team,
contact Pastor in the church office or any member of the prayer team.
Roma Arithson, Dianna Fuller, Diane Felipe, Shirley Marine, Don Peterson, Janet Willis



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Celebrating birthdays this week are:

January 1—Shukuru Kashindi
Feza Kashindi

January 2—Maelie Olguin

Anniversaries this week are:

January 1—Jack & Ila Mae Larson

**Your Immanuel Council is aware of the rising COVID numbers
and will be monitoring the situation.**

Council is ready to comply with any health mandates that may be issued.

Meanwhile, you have the option to worship in person, in the parking lot or on-line.

Inside, social distancing is designed to exceed the 6 feet distancing recommendation, masks must be worn at all times, and congregational responses and singing will be strongly discouraged.

In the parking lot, you will tune in to an FM station to hear and participate in worship. Communion will be provided for those worshipping in the parking lot. And, on-line, the worship service will be live-streamed. You will be able to worship at home at the same time with those worshipping inside the church and in the parking lot.

Thank you for responsibly choosing the worship option each week that will work best for you and your Immanuel family members during this health crisis.

The Youth still have **calendars and note pads** available. If you would like to purchase one, two or ten, contact Amy Herold.
970.978.0870 or email: herold_amy@hotmail.com

Lap Quilts for Indoor Services



If you chose not to bring your own blanket for services, we have lap quilts you can purchase for \$10.00/each.

If you would like a bigger quilt or a fleece blanket, shop our sewing display room off the Fellowship Hall.

All items are for sale. Proceeds are used to purchase supplies, participate in Immanuel projects and assist in paying for repairs.

Immanuel Sewing Group

Any questions? Call Bev Peterson at 970.324.0106



ANNUAL REPORT

Please submit all items for the Annual Report to
Denise in WORD format to
office@immanlutheran.org
by Thursday, December 31, 2020.

If you have information that needs to be added to the weekly update, please contact Denise in the church office at 352-3003 or email to: office@immanlutheran.org.

