

# Second Sunday of Christmas

*January 3, 2021*



Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

1865 14TH AVE

GREELEY CO 80631

*Email:* [office@immanlutheran.org](mailto:office@immanlutheran.org)

*Website:* [immanlutheran.org](http://immanlutheran.org)

*Phone:* 970.352.3003

**“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.

**Sunday, January 3, 2021**  
**Second Sunday of Christmas**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of goodness and lovingkindness,

**we confess that we have sinned against you  
and our neighbors.**

**We have turned away from your invitation to new life.**

**We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden.**

**In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins,**

**those we know and those known only to you,**

**for the sake of the one who came to live among us,**

**Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Hear the good news of peace and salvation!

God forgives us all our sins,

not through our own work,

but through † Jesus Christ, made known to all people.

With all who come to the manger,

rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

**Amen.**

## **THE GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
“Save, O LORD, your people,  
the remnant of Israel.”

<sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame,  
those with child and those in labor, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back,  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

- <sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,  
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."  
<sup>11</sup>For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.  
<sup>12</sup>They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,  
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,  
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,  
and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
their life shall become like a watered garden,  
and they shall never languish again.  
<sup>13</sup>Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.  
I will turn their mourning into joy,  
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.  
<sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 147:12-20**

- <sup>12</sup>Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;  
praise your God, O Zion,  
<sup>13</sup>**who has strengthened the bars of your gates  
and has blessed your children within you.**  
<sup>14</sup>God has established peace on your borders  
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.  
<sup>15</sup>**God sends out a command to the earth,  
a word that runs very swiftly.**  
<sup>16</sup>God gives snow like wool,  
scattering frost like ashes.  
<sup>17</sup>**God scatters hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand against God's cold?**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the waters flow.

<sup>19</sup>**God declares the word to Jacob,  
statutes and judgments to Israel.**

<sup>20</sup>The LORD has not done so to any other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

### **SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Children's Message**



## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia.**

### **GOSPEL: John 1:10-18**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Homily**

**Hymn of the Day: Love Has Come** (ELW 292) *verses 1 & 3*



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

**Amen**

## **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.

You bring together heaven and earth. All creation testifies to your splendor. Hold the ecosystems of this earth in delicate balance, from coastlands to farmlands, forests to wetlands, deserts to rainforests. Show us new ways to live in harmony with the world around us.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You come to us in the beauty of darkness and of light. Bring justice and reconciliation to communities divided by oppressions and misuse of power. Guide us to speak holy words of advocacy and truth. Help us to honor your image in one another.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You turn our mourning into joy. We give thanks for those who have died in faith. With all the saints, give us our inheritance in Christ. In the fullness of time, gather us all together in your mercy.

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.**

## **Meal**

### **Offering**

#### **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.**

## **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**

## **Sending**

Purpose and Mission Statements:

**Immanuel is called to proclaim the life, death and resurrection of Christ; to provide places and opportunities for worship and fellowship; and to be the spirit of Christ in the world.**

**Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry gathers in Christ's name to share God's love, to ask questions, to grow in faith, to respect and nurture our differences, and to serve others.**

Blessing

**Sending Hymn: Once in Royal David's City** (ELW 269) *verses 1 & 2*



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,  
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;  
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:  
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;  
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;  
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.  
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.  
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

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Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Daren Erisman  
Organist: Stan Elmquist



**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](mailto: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 JANUARY 3, 2021**

Sunday, January 3	10:30 am	Holy Communion—Second Sunday of Christmas
Monday, January 4		Common Sense Cleaning-Church Building
Tuesday, January 5	9:00 am	Sewing & Lunch
Sunday, January 10	10:30 am	Holy Communion—Baptism of Our Lord


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**VOLUNTEERS**

	<b><u>Sunday, January 3</u></b>	<b><u>Sunday, January 10</u></b>
Greeter:	Julie Elmquist	Janet Willis
Assisting Minister:	Marcia Hutton	Julie Elmquist
Communion Setup:	Cindy Thompson	Cindy Thompson
Teller:	Marvin & Connie Deines	Bev Peterson, Brenda Turnwall
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.

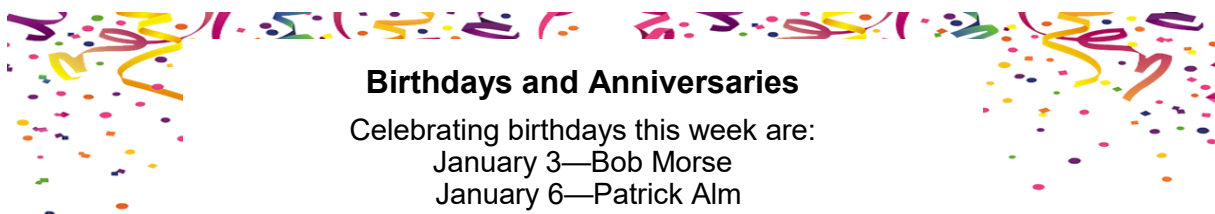
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Dick Hay                      Roma Arithson  
Susan Truchses              Rodger Arithson  
LaVina Schmahl  
Family and Friends dealing with COVID

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

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### **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Celebrating birthdays this week are:

January 3—Bob Morse

January 6—Patrick Alm

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### **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.

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## 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*

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## ANNUAL REPORT



If you haven't submitted your items for the Annual Report to Denise, Please do so in WORD format to [office@immanlutheran.org](mailto:office@immanlutheran.org)

Immediately.

Thank you!!

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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](mailto:herold_amy@hotmail.com)

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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](mailto:office@immanlutheran.org).