



Immanuel

Give. Real. Grace.

Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1850 Union Street, Niskayuna, New York 12309
office@immanuelniskayuna.org | Office Phone 518-346-1958
www.immanuelniskayuna.org

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Second Sunday in Advent

December 4, 2022

WELCOME! We are glad that you're here with us today. Whether you've been at Immanuel for a while or if this is your first time, we want you to know that you have a place here.

If you are currently looking for a church home or would like to know more about Immanuel, please don't hesitate to ask what we are all about and how you can be a part of the amazing things that God is doing. God's blessings on your worship today...and welcome to our table!

Welcome and Announcements

Making the sign of the cross at the beginning of worship is a tradition shared by many Christians for hundreds of years. Feel free to join in this tradition as you start your worship this morning.

381 Let Our Gladness Have No End *sts. 1, ref, 2-3*

1 Let our gladness have no end, alleluia!
For to earth did Christ descend, alleluia! Refrain

ref On this day God gave us
Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.

2 Prophesied in days of old, alleluia!
God has sent Him as foretold, alleluia! Refrain

3 See, the loveliest blooming rose, alleluia!
From the branch of Jesse grows, alleluia! Refrain

Text: Bohemian, 15th cent.; (sts. 1, ref, 3): tr. unknown, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Vincent Pisek, 1859-1930
Text: Public domain

Service of Light

Stand

L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C the light no darkness can overcome.

L Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C and the day is almost over.

L Let Your light scatter the darkness
C and illumine Your Church.

Thanksgiving for Light

- L** We praise and thank You, O God, for You are without beginning and without end. Through Christ You are the creator and preserver of the whole world; but above all, You are His God and Father, the giver of the Spirit, and the ruler of all that is, seen and unseen. You made the day for the works of light and the night for the refreshment of our weakness. O loving Lord and source of all that is good, mercifully accept our evening sacrifice of praise. As You have conducted us through the day and brought us to night's beginning, keep us now in Christ; grant us a peaceful evening and a night free from sin; and at the end bring us to everlasting life through Christ, our Lord; through Him be glory, honor, and power to You in the Holy Spirit now and always and forever and ever.
- C** Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- P** Beloved in the Lord, as we continue the season of Advent, let this wreath remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and to lead us into the light of His glorious kingdom. As the prophet Isaiah says, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined."

The Advent Wreath is lit

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Asking God's Forgiveness

Words of Encouragement

- P** Brothers and sisters in Christ! Let us draw near with honesty and humility and confess our sins unto God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Confession of Sins *LSB 213*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

We take a moment to reflect on our need for God's forgiveness in our lives

Declaration of Grace *LSB 151*

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

381 Let Our Gladness Have No End *sts. 4, ref*

4 Into flesh is made the Word, alleluia!
He, our refuge and our Lord, alleluia! Refrain

ref On this day God gave us
Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.

Text: Bohemian, 15th cent.; tr. unknown, alt.
Text: Public domain

The Lord's Table

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Prayer

C Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation we come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let us find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of our souls and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Preparing for Communion

The Bible teaches us that we need to examine ourselves before coming to the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:23-31). Please examine yourself with these five questions:

- 1) **Are you sorry for your sins?** (1 John 1:8)
- 2) **Are you a baptized Christian?** (Mark 16:16)

- 3) **Do you believe that Jesus is your Savior who forgives you all your sins?** (1 Timothy 1:15)
- 4) **Do you believe that Christ's Body and Blood are truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine given to you in the Lord's Supper by the power of God's Word of promise?** (Matthew 26:26-28)
- 5) **Are you determined to live a holy life?** (Ephesians 2:10)

If you answered "No" or "Unsure" to any of these questions, please speak to the Pastor before attending the Lord's Supper. (1 Corinthians 11:27,29)

Distribution

The center of each tray of wine will include a few cups of white grape juice.

350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

- 1 Come, Thou precious Ransom, come,
Only hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world!
Open are to Thee all portals.
Come, Thy beauty let us see;
Anxiously we wait for Thee.
- 2 Enter now my waiting heart,
Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart,
Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine
When Thou art my guest divine!

3 My hosannas and my palms
Graciously receive, I pray Thee;
Evermore, as best I can,
Savior, I will homage pay Thee,
And in faith I will embrace,
Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.

4 Hail! Hosanna, David's Son!
Jesus, hear our supplication!
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown,
Bring us blessing and salvation,
That forever we may sing:
Hail! Hosanna to our King.

Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Text: Public domain

Service of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1–10

- ¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
- ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
- ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
- ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,

and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

⁹They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle *Romans 15:4–13*

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

¹⁰And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

¹²And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel *Matthew 3:1–12*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles’ Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come 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.**

Sit

Children's Message

Children are dismissed to the Fellowship Hall for Children's Church.

Prayer of the Day

Message

584 Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing

- 1 Faith and truth and life bestowing,
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing,
Scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, Your Word receiving,
Like a barren field be found,
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,
Shallow earth or stony ground.
- 2 May the Spirit's pow'r unceasing
Bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing,
Bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in Scripture, song, and story,
Savior, may Your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold Your glory
Give us ears to hear Your Word.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926
Text: © 1997 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn

Prayer of the Church

The Pastor or an assistant asks for specific prayer requests from the congregation.

Stand

After each prayer, the following is spoken in response:

Prayer Response

- A** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

Offering will be received as we exit worship this morning

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV[®] Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version[®]), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.