## Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church Service of the Word Sunday, December 6, 2020 Second Sunday of Advent

**Announcements** 

**Confession and Forgiveness** 

Canticle of Praise "Glory to God" pg. 204

Greeting

**Prayer of the Day** 

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" #240 vs. 2

**Advent prayer** 

Opening Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" # 254

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Gospel Acclamation pg. 205

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Pulpit Hymn "On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand" # 437

Sermon Rev. Dr. Niveen Ibrahim Sarras Hymn of the Day

"Light Dawns on a Weary World" # 726

### **Prayers of Intercession**

God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need. After each petition, please respond with "Your mercy is great." Faithful God, you teach us to wait for you with faithfulness and patience. Sustain and support us in our doubts and questions. Nurture our faith as we discern and enact your mission. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

Steadfast God, you never tire of seeking justice. Where people suffer from discrimination, judgment, and injustice, speak words of truth and comfort. Lead us toward a world where faithfulness will sprout underfoot and righteousness rain down from above. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Leading God, you ask us to make uneven ground smooth. Make even the disparities between your people. Sustain and support people with physical and intellectual disabilities. Accompany disability advocates who work for a world accessible to all. Teach us to celebrate the great diversity in our midst. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

Tender God, you know sorrow and joy alike. We pray for those in our families and congregation who are not joyful in this holiday season. Comfort those who grieve, be a companion to all who are lonely,

tend those who are sick or struggling with depression, and gather all people in your healing embrace. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

Lord we lift up before you all who are in need of your help. We pray especially for Thelma, Esther, Kathrine-Sylvia, Abber, Jezel, Joelle, Odeh, April, Brieanna, Alice, Charissa, Scott, Phyllis, Mary, Ashley, Laura, David, Sara, Jeff, Edie, Joan, Jamie & Mike, Ted, Pastor Mark (Dixie Burk's Brother), Maggie Westaby, and Sonya. We also pray for our sister Parish Lobatha in South Africa asking you to sustain them in this difficult time. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

Eternal God, we give thanks for the saints who have prepared your way in the wilderness and taught us to continue their faithful work (*especially Norm Winterhoff*). Make their generous lives an example for all. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray...

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory "Come Now, O Prince of Peace" #247

**Offertory Prayer** 

**Blessing** 

Closing Hymn "Fling Wide the Door" # 259

**Dismissal** 

Prayer Concerns: Thelma, Esther, Kathrine-Sylvia, Abber, Jezel, Joelle, Odeh, Norm, April, Brieanna, Alice, Charissa, Scott, Phyllis, Mary, Ashley, Laura, David, Sara, Jeff, Edie, Joan and Norm, Jamie & Mike, Ted, Pastor Mark (Dixie Burk's Brother), Maggie Westaby, Pat Stolen, and Sonya (Jackie's Sister-in-Law).

**Our Sister Church** is the Lobatla Parish. The address is: c/o Justice Pule, P.O. Box 160, Motswedi 2870, Republic of South Africa.



**Holy Communion** is now available at ILC. This table is located by the front office. Each package contains the Body of Christ and a prayer. Pastor Niveen has blessed each one. All the packages were assembled using the highest sanitizing measures.

**Secured Mailbox:** There is one installed next to the church office. It is on the outside the building on the wall. You are encouraged to drop your offering there.

# **NEWS**

Because several of you received the Holy Communion smashed in the mail, <u>the church office will</u> <u>stop mailing the Holy Communion</u>. So, you have two options: either to pick up your Holy Communion from church or to call the church office asking or it to be sent it to you.

Sunday 29, 2020 at 10:00 am: Zoom Adult Forum for Advent season. We will study Radical Reconciliation: Beyond Political Pietism and Christian by Allan Boesak and Curtiss Paul DeYoung.

Pastor Sarras will send you zoom link. You simply click on zoom link to join the meeting.

This book calls for reconciliation in society that is radical, that goes to the roots. Too many initiatives for reconciliation, fail to remove the weeds of injustice at the roots, and thus stop short of completing the work required. Such political arrangements usually favor the rich and powerful, but deprive the powerless of justice and dignity. This is a form of political pietism, and when Christians refuse to name this situation for what it is, they are practicing Christian quietism. True reconciliation is radical.

We are looking for 1 item for ILC: A 24" or 30" circular rug for the Gathering room to go under the plant as watering has caused a stain in the carpeting, if you have one you could donate.

- Please remember to mail your Gift Giving Card to the church.
- Mitten Tree: The Mitten Tree is set up. It will available through the end of January. You may bring donations of mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and sweaters to put under the tree. The items collected will be taken to the Neighbor's Place. Please contact Janci for additional information.
- Pastor's Lip Balm is once again available. Each one is created using only organic ingredients. Only \$2 for each lip balm. Proceeds from the sale of the lip balm will go toward the Genesis Fund.
- Olive Oil is Here! Canaan Fair Trade olive oil is available in the church office. The 500 ml bottles are available in the church office for \$15.00. The purchase of this excellent olive oil supports the Palestinian farmers who are part of the cooperative. In addition to using it for your own purposes, it also makes a wonderful gift to give someone!
- Wednesday, December 2, 2020: Digital Advent Service.
- In-Person Worship Service <u>has been suspended until further notice</u>. The following ILC services and ministries will continue to be online, via telephone and Spectrum TV:
  - Our Facebook Page: @ILCWausau
  - Our YouTube Channel: Search "Immanuel Lutheran Church of Wausau Wisconsin, Inc." on Sunday afternoon.
  - Our Website: <a href="http://www.immanuelwausau.org">http://www.immanuelwausau.org</a> (Click on Video Gallery)
  - Spectrum TV Cable Channel 980 at 11AM Sunday, 5:45 PM Tuesday & 9:15 AM Thursday or online: Wausau Area Access Media: waam.viebit.com (Left side, scroll to Immanuel Lutheran.)
  - **Dial-a-Sermon is Live. Dial 1-715-200-9495.** Pastor Niveen's weekly sermon is now available on any telephone.