

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

**Celebrating the
Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 10, 2017
9:00 a.m.**



Welcome to Our Guests - We are so glad to have YOU worship with us. Your presence here is very special to us. It is our hope that your faith will be strengthened and your life enriched as you join us in worship. You are always welcome at Immanuel! Please sign our Guest Book, and join us again soon.

Communion Services - All those who are baptized and believe that Christ is present are welcome to commune. If you do not wish to receive communion but wish to receive a blessing, please come forward during the distribution of communion. If you are unable to come forward during distribution and wish to receive communion, please let the usher know and the pastor will come to your seat.

Nursery Available - The location is through the gathering area towards the altar end of the sanctuary. Please talk with an usher if you need assistance.

Service of the Word

Prelude “Fling Wide the Door”
“Fling Wide the Door”
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Kickstat
Drischner
Hopson

Announcements

Greeting

Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: One with the communion of saints in all times and places, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

A.M.: O God, you search us out and know us, and all that we are is open to you.

We confess that we have sinned:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we scoff at those who await your return,
and live as though you were never here:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we long for your coming to change the world,
and yet are unwilling to change even our own hearts:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we do not make straight paths for justice,
nor offer a welcome when you come as a stranger:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we dismiss prophets and angels
and refuse to nourish your seed within us:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we reduce our preparation for your coming
to reckless expense and trivialities:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

We turn to you,

O God of infinite mercy;

We renounce evil;

We claim your love;

We choose to be made whole.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the

Son, and of the Holy Spirit one God.

Amen.

Children Sermon

P: Advent is also a time of preparation. We decorate, shop, and bake to get ready for Christmas. But the most important, we prepare ourselves for Jesus to come, by reading his story, by praying and singing, and by sharing with others.

We light the second candle to remind us to prepare.

The candle is lit by a child.

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

A.M.: A reading from Mark 1: “The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord make his paths straight.’”

P: Let us pray: God of peace, we look forward to the time when the earth is full of your glory, when righteousness is at home and peace reigns in all the world, may we prepare for that day by working together for justice and peace.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise

pg. 140

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.

Opening Hymn “Fling Wide the Door”

#259

First Reading Isaiah 40:1-11 (*Bible in pew*)

pg. 581

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God’s people in Babylon is over. The Lord will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for his sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of the Lord.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Reading Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Hymnal

Assisting Minister will be odd number and the congregation will be even number.

Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-15a (*Bible in pew*)

pg. 988

This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia!”

pg. 142

Holy Gospel Mark 1:1-8 (*Bible in the pew*)

pg. 812

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus’ birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. Amen.

Pulpit Hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #257 vss. 1-4

Sermon Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras

Hymn of the Day “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #257 vss. 5-8

**Blessing of Members Who Researched for the Presentation
Television**

Apostles’ Creed

Back of Hymnal

A.M.: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

A.M.: Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Lord’s Prayer

Sharing of Peace

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

Offering “Prepare the Royal Highway”

Cassler

Offertory “He Came Down”

#253 vss. 3-4

Offertory Prayer

A.M.: Let us pray together in unison.

Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.

Blessing

May Christ, the Son of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God, Father, Son, and the

Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn “Prepare the Royal Highway”

#264

Dismissal

A.M.: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

I will and I ask God to help me.

Postlude “Prepare the Royal Highway”

Cherwien

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Members who researched for the Presentation Television are Vern and Joanne Diestelhorst, Bob Henning, Jack Klein, Jerry and Judy Nickolai, and Jamie Rice-Heckendorf. Thank you for your time.

Prayer Concerns: Thelma Bursik, Neil Coakley, Joella Corado (Maggie Westaby’s cousin), Arlene Dopkins, Jerrilynn Duxbury, Betty Jane Kettunen, Esther Osterby, Barb Peterson, Dolores Riege, Pam (Rodney Riese’s wife), Dina Sarras, Kathrine Sylvia Sarras, Dale Westaby, Norm Winterhoff, April Winters (Jamie Rice-Heckendorf’s niece), Justin Nickolai, and the Spoehr family as they travel to California to bring Kira home.

Year end giving deadline. Member contributions for the 2017 tax year must be received in the church office by December 28th at noon or placed in the offering plate on December 31, 2017.

The younger youth will be viewing a movie today from 11:30-1:30. See Maggie Westaby or Pastor for details.

Advent Wednesday worship services - Worship services will be held December 13th and 20th at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm. The service at 1:00 pm will be held in the Shalom Chapel; this is near the old preschool area. The doors by the west parking lot side of the church and east doors of the old preschool area will be open for your convenience.

December 13th - 6:00 pm service will be held in the sanctuary.

Christmas Eve Morning Service will be 9:00 am - 4th Sunday of Advent.

Christmas Eve service will be at 4:00 pm.

Christmas Day Service will be at 9:00 am with communion.

Advent Adult Forum - Today at 10:30 am. In the light of ISIS attack on lower Manhattan, Pastor Niveen invites you to attend the final Adult Forum discussing ISIS ideology. You are going to learn about ISIS apocalyptic beliefs and the role of ideology and eschatology in the Islamic State. You will have a chance to understand ISIS urgent need to establish the Caliphate and why they are promoting their theology of rape.

January newsletter items deadline is December 18.

Info from Social Concerns:

- 1. Our Reverse Advent began** December 3rd for the Neighbors Place. Please take a bag from bench located by office on your way out. Add an item per day through Christmas Eve and return them to church by December 24th and they will be delivered after Christmas.
- 2. Please bring holiday cookies, (no nuts)** and small Candies for our elderly and home-bound basket deliveries. We will be packaging on December 16th to be delivered on December 17th.
- 3. Please see that our Holiday Mitten Tree** is up and we are collecting mittens, scarves, and hats for those who need them. They will be delivered as our tree fills up throughout our winter season. Thank You, Social Concerns

The flower chart for 2018 is on the table in the Narthex. Please sign up for your favorite Sunday.

Good Gifts - Looking for the perfect gift this Christmas? Good Gifts are back! Please look over the ornaments on the tree in the Gathering Room. Pick out yours and leave your payment in the office. Make checks payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church and in the memo line put "Good Gifts". All proceeds will support ELCA Global Mission efforts here and abroad. The ornaments may be purchased for the special person who has everything already, given to a grandchild whom you will help to learn about giving to others, gifted in recognition of a special event or birthday, presented in memory of a loved one or purchased just because you believe in doing the work of the church, providing help where it is needed – a gift that will keep on giving.

Christmas potluck for all women of ILC - A Christmas potluck will be Thursday, December 14th at 11:30 am. Come and enjoy good food and fun. You are welcome to invite a friend to come with you. Under the direction of Judy Kort, we will join together in singing our favorite Christmas carols. Thank you, Judy.

Sarah Circle will have a Bible Study after the potluck on December 14th.

Candles and Carols Program will be Sunday, December 17th. The Sunday school children will perform along with the choir.

Endowment fund - Immanuel's Endowment Committee is accepting grant requests through December 31, 2017. The Endowment Committee oversees the ILC Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund is a permanent invested fund, and a portion of the earnings on the Fund each year may be distributed "for religious purposes which enhance congregational life at Immanuel". The Fund may not be used for normal operating expenses. Preliminary indications are that we may have a total of about \$4,200 available to distribute this year. Grant requests are evaluated and awarded at the discretion of the Endowment Committee. Grant request forms are available in the church office. For further information you may call Bob Reinertson at (715) 551-6231.

Sharing God's Light - It's not too late to get your donations in for the GWCS bible fundraiser. The Life Recovery Bibles cost \$15.00 each. The Lord is My Light ribbons are set up in The Gathering Room to sponsor funding for the bibles. Contributions of any amount will be appreciated. Donations are tax deductible and the sponsorship ribbon is yours to take home as a special thank you for helping to share God's Light. Make checks payable to Greater Wausau Christian Services. Please write "BIBLE FUND" on memo line. Your checks may be sent or turned into Immanuel Lutheran Church Office. Please contact Janci Treutel at 715-355-5719 with any questions.

2018 Pledges - It is not too late. You can still turn in your 2018 Pledge Cards and Commitment to serve forms. You may drop them in the offering plate, mail them or stop in and give them to the church office. The pledges are used to help us plan our 2018 budget for ILC. If you turned in your info, **Thank you!**

Presentation volunteers needed - We are looking for volunteers to help prepare the presentations (on the tv screen in church) for Sunday worship services. This information is done thru Microsoft Office PowerPoint. This can be done from your home or at church on the computer. Most of the work will be a copy and paste, but it takes time to prepare the presentation during the week. We also need people each week to run the presentation during the worship service. Please sign up in the Narthex if you are interested in helping. There will be training.

Holiday Cheerleaders. Forest Park Village needs your help to deck the halls and to write with/for seniors who wish to send personalized cards to friends and family during the holiday season. Volunteer decorators and writers are needed through January 8, 2018. Scheduling is flexible. Contact Frances at 715-845-1214 x322 or FrancesS@Homme.org.

The flowers on the Altar today are given to the Glory of God as we wait and prepare together this advent season.

Coffee fellowship today will be hosted by Doug and Nancy Helling.

Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. Address is: c/o Moruti (Pastor) Rev. T. J. Diti-bane, P.O. Box 160, Motswedi, 2870, Republic of South Africa

630 Adams St, Wausau WI 54403 715-842-3644

Office email: Info@immanuelwausau.org Website - www.immanuelwausau.org

Like us on Facebook: Immanuel Lutheran Church Wausau

Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras - Pastor@immanuelwausau.org

Pastor Hours: Monday: 10:30-11am and 1:30-2pm, Tuesday: 10:30-11am,

Wednesday: Visiting homebound parishioners, Thursday: 1:30-2pm

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, Friday 9 to noon

Worship Service at 9:00 am on Sunday

Advent Worship Services at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm on Wednesday

Attendance For 12/3/17: 85 12/6/17: 1:00 pm: 7 6:00 pm: 10

SERVING US TODAY:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Worship Leader | Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras |
| Assisting Minister | Bob Reinertson |
| Ministers | All Members of Immanuel |
| Organist | Adele Bluhm |
| Reader | Rick Lohr |
| Head Usher | Bob Doede |
| Greeters | Don and Dwala Smail |
| Nursery | Dixie Burk |
| Video Recorder | Jamie Rice-Heckendorf |
| Presentation Manager | Jerry Nickolai |
| Altar Guild | Dan & Holly Westaby |
| Contact Person | Jamie Rice-Heckendorf |

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Sun. Dec. 10 | Second Sunday of Advent |
| | 9:00a Worship Service, Recognition of TV Presentation Team |
| | 10:15a Sunday School |
| | 10:15a Coffee Fellowship |
| | 10:30a Advent Adult Forum |
| | 11:30-1:30p Younger Youth Viewing Movie |
| Mon. Dec. 11 | ----- |
| Tues. Dec. 12 | 5:30p Handbell Practice |
| | 5:45p TV Worship Service CH 98 & 980 |
| Wed. Dec. 13 | 1:00p Advent Communion Worship Service in Shalom Chapel |
| | 6:00p Advent Communion Worship Service in Shalom Chapel |
| Thurs. Dec. 14 | 7:30a Men's Discussion Group |
| | 9:15a TV Worship Service CH 98 & 980 |
| | 11:30a All Women of ILC Christmas Potluck |
| | Sarah Circle Meeting After Potluck |
| Fri. Dec. 15 | 9-noon Church Office Open |
| Sat. Dec. 16 | ----- |
| Sun. Dec. 17 | Third Sunday of Advent, Candles and Carols |
| | 8:15a Choir Practice |
| | 9:00a Communion Worship Service, Choir and Sunday School Program |
| | 10:15a Sunday School |
| | 10:15a Coffee Fellowship |
| | 10:30a Choir Practice |