

**Welcome to
Immanuel Lutheran Church**

**Celebrating the
Third Sunday of Advent
Carols and Candles and Children Program
Sunday, December 17, 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.

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.

Candles and Carols

**Prelude “Angels We Have Heard On High”
“Jesu, Joy Of Man’s Desiring”**

**Traditional
J. S. Bach**

Announcements

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who comes to wake us from sleep,
who leads us into the light of grace.

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us prepare the way of the Lord
by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: God of all time,
**we confess that we have not prepared
for your merciful reign among us.
We ignore our neighbors in need
and fail in the labor of justice and peace.
In your mercy forgive us.
Grant us wisdom to welcome your light
and to seek the things that will endure
until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

P: Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven
and all things are made new.
Rejoice in this good news!

Amen.

Lighting Advent Candles

A.M.: This is the third Sunday of Advent. We’re glad that Christmas is getting closer.

P: The first candle reminds us to wait. *The first candle is lit.*

P: The second candle reminds us to prepare. *The second candle is lit.*

A.M.: As we wait and get ready, we are thankful that God promises to come and be with us. We light the third candle in joy for the promises of God.

The third candle is lit.

Hymn “Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”

#240 vs. 3

A.M.: From Luke 2: “Do not be afraid, for I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.”

P: Let us pray: Faithful God, we are glad for your promises to us. We trust that the time is coming when all people will experience comfort, wholeness and liberty. May we do our part to bring your good news of great joy to all.

Amen.

Choir “Glory Hallelujah”

Prayer

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children process with candles as congregation sings.

Hymn “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

#282 vs. 1

Children’s Program “The Christmas Story”

Part 1: The Stable - Isaiah 9:26

“This Little Light of Mine”

sung by the children

Part 2: The Donkey - Zachariah 9:9

“The Friendly Beasts”

sung by the children

Part 3: Mary - Luke 1:26-31

“What Child Is This”

#296 vs. 1

Part 4: Joseph - Matthew 1:18-21

“God Is So Good”

sung by the children

Part 5: Innkeeper - Luke 2:6

“Away in a Manager”

sung by the children

Part 6: The Shepherds - Luke 2:8-12
"The First Noel" #300 vs. 1

Part 7: An Angel Choir - Luke 2:13-14
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #270 vs. 1

Part 8: The Star - Matthew 2:1-2
"Silent Night, Holy Night!" #281 vs. 1

Part 9: Wise Men - Matthew 2:10-11
"Angels, from the Realms of Glory" #275 vs. 1

Part 10: God's Children
"Bells Are Ringing" sung by the children

Part 11: Baby Jesus - Luke 2:16-18
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #279 vs. 1-2
Children go sit with their parents.

A.M.: Prayers of Intercession
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

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

Offering "Do You Hear What I Hear" Regney and Shayne
Offertory "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus" #254

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.

Holy Communion
Great Thanksgiving pg. 144

Holy, Holy, Holy pg. 144

The Institution of the Holy Communion

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup...We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit...Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours...one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

A.M.: Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you. Share in the feast of salvation.

Lamb of God

pg. 146

Distribution

All are welcome at the Lord's table. We believe Christ is truly present in the bread and the wine, that is his body and blood are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. 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. Wine and grape juice are available as well as gluten free wafers upon request.

Communion Hymn "Each Winter As the Year Grows Older"

#252

Prayer After Communion

A.M.: God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

Closing Hymn "Joy to the World"

#267

Choir Anthem "Deck the Halls"

Dismissal

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

I will and I ask God to help me.

Postlude "Caroling, Caroling"

Alfred Burt

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS014524. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Thank you parents for bringing your children today and each Sunday to Sunday school.

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), and Justin Nickolai.

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.

January 2018 newsletter items due in church office tomorrow, Monday, December 18th.

Advent Wednesday worship services - Worship service will be held December 20th at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm in the Shalom Chapel.

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.

1. **Our Reverse Advent began** 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. **Holiday cookies, (no nuts)** and small candies for our elderly and homebound baskets will be delivered today.
3. **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.

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.

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 evaluat-

ed 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.

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 to the church, or stop in and give them to the church office. **Thank you** to everyone who already completed their cards. The pledges are used to help us plan our 2018 budget for ILC.

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. Contact Janci Treutel at 715-355-5719 with any questions.

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.

Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. Address is: c/o Moruti (Pastor) Rev. T. J. Ditibane, 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, December 20th

The flowers on the Altar today are given by Ron & Jo Beckman in thanksgiving for our Immanuel family and 51 years of marriage.

Coffee fellowship today will be hosted by Karen Spoehr and Linda Swenson.

SERVING US TODAY:

Worship Leader	Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras
Assisting Minister	Mary McDonell
Ministers	All Members of Immanuel
Pianist	Marino Taylor
Choir Director	Kay Pope
Communion Assistants	Mary McDonell, Maria Wierzba, Vern Diestelhorst
Acolyte	Layne Heffner
Head Usher	Mike Schwede
Greeters	Al & Vonnie Solomonson
Nursery	Patti Busche
Video Recorder	Floyd Hallberg
Altar Guild	Dan & Holly Westaby
Contact Person	Jamie Rice-Heckendorf

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Third Sunday of Advent

Sun.	Dec. 17	8:15a	Choir Practice
		9:00a	Carols & Candles Worship Service with Communion, Choir, and Children Program
		10:15a	Coffee Fellowship
		10:30a	Choir Practice
Mon.	Dec. 18		Deadline for January Newsletter Articles
Tues.	Dec. 19	5:30p	Handbell Practice
		5:45p	TV Worship Service CH 980
		6:00p	Executive Committee
		6:35p	Council Meeting
Wed.	Dec. 20	1:00p	Advent Communion Worship Service in Shalom Chapel
		6:00p	Advent Communion Worship Service in Shalom Chapel
Thurs.	Dec. 21	7:30a	Men's Discussion Group
		9:15a	TV Worship Service CH 980
		5:00p	Sons of Norway in Fellowship Hall
Fri.	Dec. 22	9-noon	Church Office Open
Sat.	Dec. 23		-----
Sun.	Dec. 24		Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00a	Worship Service, Handbells Choir No Sunday School
10:15a	Coffee Fellowship
4:00p	Christmas Eve Worship Service
9:00a	Christmas Day Worship Service in Shalom Chapel

Attendance For 12/10/17: 79 12/13/17: 1:00 pm: 6