

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

**Celebrating the
First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 3, 2017
9:00 a.m.**



Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 am to 3:00 pm and Friday 9 to noon
Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras - Pastor@immanuelwausau.org
Office email: Info@immanuelwausau.org Website - www.immanuelwausau.org
630 Adams St, Wausau WI 54403 715-842-3644
Like us on Facebook: Immanuel Lutheran Church Wausau
Worship Service at 9:00 am on Sunday
Advent Worship Services at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm on Wednesday

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.

Holy Communion

Prelude

“Waiting for Messiah”

Robert Thygeron

“Lost in the Night”

Traditional

Announcements

Greeting

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

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.

Holy God of Advent, you come near to us, yet we continue to seal our hearts with indifference to a suffering world. You approach us with bundles of mercy to kindle our hope, but we continue to build our lives with the bricks of bitterness. You draw near, longing to embrace us, but we fold our arms, closing ourselves off from those all around us. God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

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.

P: Advent reminds us that we are waiting for God to come to us, God in the form of the baby Jesus, who lived and died and rose for us. We wait for God, who will come again in a new and surprising way. We light the first candle to remind us to wait.

The candle is lit by a child.

Hymn

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”

#240 vs. 1

A.M.: From Luke 12, “Be dressed and ready for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them.”

P: Let us pray: God, in whom we hope, we wait for your coming to us once again. Strengthen us as we wait, so that we will not lack any spiritual gift. Help us to stay awake to the signs of your coming.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

#244 vss. 1, 2, 4

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9 (Bible in pew)

pg. 606

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Hymnal

Children’s Sermon

Choir

“The King Shall Come”

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia!”

pg. 142

Holy Gospel

Mark 13:24-37 (Bible in the pew)

pg. 826

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In today's reading, Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. Amen.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras

Hymn of the Day "Canticle of the Turning"

#723

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 "Change My Heart Oh God"

Eddie Espinosa

Offertory "He Came Down"

#253 vss. 1-2

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

The Institution of the Holy Communion

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

Communion Hymns "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

#490

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

#254

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

“My Lord, What a Morning”

#438

Dismissal

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

I will and I ask God to help me.

Postlude

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

Traditional

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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, Karen Spoehr, Kira Spoehr, Dale Westaby, Norm Winterhoff, April Winters (Jamie Rice-Heckendorf’s niece), and Justin Nickolai

Today is “Noisy Offering”. Social Concerns uses the money to help feed the needy in our area.

Advent Wednesday worship services - Worship services will be held December 6th, 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 6th - 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 and December 10th at 10:30 am. In the light of ISIS attack on lower Manhattan, Pastor Niveen invites you to attend two Adult Forums 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.

Info from Social Concerns:

- 1. Our Reverse Advent begins today** 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 homebound 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

Altar Guild Christmas party will be December 5th starting at 6:00 pm. Contact Dwala Smail with questions.

The younger youth will be watching a movie on December 10th. Contact Maggie or Pastor Niveen for details.

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.

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 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 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.

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.

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

The flowers on the Altar today are given by Bob and Sue Doede to the glory of God for his many blessings.

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

Coffee fellowship today will be hosted by Tom and Mary McDonell.

SERVING US TODAY:

Worship Leader	Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras
Assisting Minister	Kristin Kallio
Ministers	All Members of Immanuel
Pianist	Marino Taylor
Choir Director	Kay Pope
Communion Assistant	Kristin Kallio
Acolyte	Olivia Hulstrom
Reader	Doug Helling
Head Usher	Bruce Knox
Greeters	Joan Winterhoff and Linda Swenson
Nursery	Jamie Rice-Heckendorf
Video Recorder	Bob Henning
Presentation Manager	Jerry Nickolai
Altar Guild	Dan & Holly Westaby
Contact Person	Jamie Rice-Heckendorf

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun. Dec. 03	First Sunday of Advent
	8:15a Choir Practice
	9:00a Communion Worship Service, Choir, Noisy Offering
	10:15a Sunday School
	10:15a Coffee Fellowship
	10:30a Choir Practice
	10:30a Advent Adult Forum
Mon. Dec. 04	-----
Tues. Dec. 05	5:30p Handbell Practice
	5:45p TV Worship Service CH 98 & 980
	6:00p Altar Guild Christmas Party Potluck in Fellowship Hall
Wed. Dec. 06	1:00p Advent Worship Service in Shalom Chapel
	6:00p Advent Worship Service in Sanctuary
Thurs. Dec. 07	7:30a Men's Discussion Group
	9:15a TV Worship Service CH 98 & 980
Fri. Dec. 08	9-noon Church Office Open
Sat. Dec. 09	-----
Sun. Dec. 10	Second Sunday of Advent
	9:00a Worship Service
	10:15a Sunday School
	10:15a Fellowship
	10:30a Advent Adult Forum

Attendance For 11/26/17: 69