

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

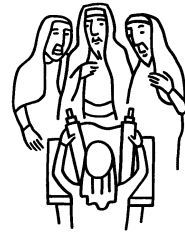
630 Adams St Wausau, WI 54403

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<http://www.immanuelwausau.org>

Sunday, December 29, 2024

First Sunday of Christmas, Year C



Please welcome Kathy Robinson as she leads us in Worship today.

Prelude

Announcements

Introduction

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God “to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God,” who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” It is Christmas, still.

Please stand if able.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God-with-us,

C: we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

P: God of might,

C: we confess that we have turned away
those seeking shelter,
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.
We have made power and wealth our idols,
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.
We have overlooked the shepherds,
expecting good news in prettier packaging.
Too often, we have valued violence
instead of your peace.
Turn us from our ways to your ways.
Grant us the grace to begin again.
Free us from all that keeps us bound,
and forgive our sin,
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.
Amen.

P: Hear the good news and rejoice!
You are God's chosen ones,
holy and beloved,
✠ forgiven in Christ,
and freed to respond in joy.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Once in Royal David's City”

#269

Greeting: “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all” (2 Corinthians 13:14).

C: And also, with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your

Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

¹⁸ Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰ Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

R: Word of God. Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 148

R: Please read responsively to Psalm 148

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD ¹ from the heavens;
praise God ¹ in the heights.

² **Praise the LORD, ¹ all you angels;
sing praise, all you ¹ hosts of heaven.**

³ Praise the LORD, ¹ sun and moon;
sing praise, all you ¹ shining stars.

⁴ **Praise the LORD, heav- ¹ en of heavens,
and you waters a- ¹ bove the heavens.**

⁵ Let them praise the name ¹ of the LORD,
who commanded, and they ¹ were created,

⁶ **who made them stand fast forev- ¹ er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not ¹ pass away. R**

⁷ Praise the LORD ¹ from the earth,
you sea monsters ¹ and all deeps;

⁸ **fire and hail, ¹ snow and fog,**

tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;
⁹ mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;
¹⁰ **wild beasts | and all cattle,**
creeping things and | flying birds;
¹¹ sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;
¹² **young | men and maidens,**
old and | young together. R
¹³ Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.
¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for**
all | faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near
the LORD. | Hallelujah! R

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

R: Word of God. Word of life. C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

“Alleluia”

pg. 142

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴¹ Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹ He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Pulpit Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#283

Sermon

Kathy Robinson

Silence for reflection.

Hymn of the Day

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

#288

Please stand if able.

Apostles' Creed

See the yellow sheet in the back of your hymnal.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also, with you.**

P: I invite you to share the Peace however you feel comfortable.

Please be seated for the Prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

Read by our Lector today:

Al Solomonson

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

After "God of grace," please respond with "receive our prayer."

A brief silence.

Offertory Hymn

"What Feast of Love"

#487

The usher will bring up the offering plate.

Please stand if able.

Offering Prayer

P: God of heaven and earth,

from the beginning, you have called forth life,
in which you take delight.

The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.

Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day.

Amen.

Blessing

The God of love,

Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,

lavish you with grace,

illumine your path,

and increase your joy,

today and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

#290

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Attendance on 12/22/2024: 31

Prayer Concerns: Judi McGill and Bob Henning for medical challenges. Leora Mitchell, Joan Winterhoff, Mary Ann Klinker, Frank Lewitzke. (For updates, please contact the ILC Office)

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Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. Pastor Elijah Lekwate. Email for Justice Pule: pulejustice74@gmail.com

Volunteers needed to Host Coffee Hours. The sign-up sheet is in the kitchen.

Serving us Today

Leader: Kathy Robinson

Organist/Pianist: Karen Z.

Reader: Al Solomonson

Usher: Dan Westaby

Altar Guild: Kathy Knox, Joanne Distelhorst, Pattie Bricko and Holly Westaby

The mitten tree is set up in the Narthex. You may bring donations of mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and sweaters to put on or under the tree.

The Men’s Discussion Group meets Thursdays at 7:30 am, in the Koinonia room. New participants are always welcome.

Strong Bones Senior Exercise Group meets every Tuesday and Thursday in the old Nursery at 10:30 am. The class is open to anyone wishing to improve balance and maintain strength to prevent falls. New faces are happily welcome.

Food Pantry Donations for the Neighbors' Place

Place your items on the black cart next to the pew near the Gathering Room and they will be delivered to the Neighbors' Place.