

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 24, 2023

10:30 am



We welcome you to Immanuel. As we worship together let us rejoice in the love that God has shown us in Jesus Christ and share that love with each other.

Immanuel Lutheran Church Staff

Leah Stolte-Doerfler - Pastor

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Deborah Butler - Keyboardist

Marta Hazekamp - Choir Director

Creighton Helms - Sunday School Coordinator

Bill Howell & Andrew Bush - Custodians

Tria Brockamp & Courtney Goode - Office Managers

Office Information

Hours: Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am-12:00 pm, 1:00-3:00 pm

office@immanuelsilverton.org / 503-873-8656

www.immanuelsilverton.org

Today's Service Participants:

Pastor: Leah Stolte-Doerfler

Piano: Deborah Butler

Musicians/Song Leaders: Patty Leach, Patty MacInnes, Mary Miller, Jim Brueckner and Barb Richter

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Today's hymns are projected on the wall.

Please stand as you are able where the asterisk () appears.*

Prelude "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" ELW #240

PL **Welcome**

*PL **Mission Statement:** Our mission is to welcome, accept and encourage all people as we follow Jesus.

Gathering

*Call to Worship

PL The Christ child comes,

C We await the birth.

PL Throw off distractions and allow the chaos to settle.

C We watch for the signs and listen to the messengers.

PL Stand on tiptoe...

C Shout and sing...

PL Something new is on the way,

C Come, oh come Emmanuel!

***Opening Song** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" ELW #254

*Greeting

PL Siblings in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

*PL **Prayer of the Day** (prayed by all)

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Choir "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Word

A First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you." But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever. (NRSV)

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

A Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen. (NRSV)

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation** *"From Heaven Above" vs. 1*

ELW #268

***PL** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

***PL Gospel: Luke 1:37-55**

For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." (NRSV)

***PL** The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Kid's Time

Pastor Leah Stolte-Doerfler

Song of the Day *"Canticle of the Turning" vs. 1 & 4* ELW #723

Affirmation of Faith

- A We believe in the coming of the kingdom of God.
C It is a kingdom that will have no end.
A It is a kingdom in which God's purposes will be fully realized.
C It is a kingdom that has already begun.
A It is marked by small acts of kindness, love and generosity.
C It is hidden, quiet and works in ways we often do not recognize.
A This kingdom will reunite what has been separated and restore what has been broken.
C We pray for this kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

***The Prayers**

- A With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration. *A brief silence.*
You promise mercy to Abraham and Sarah and their descendants forever. Bring your church into thoughtful, caring, and collaborative relationship with those of other faiths. Strengthen our shared values, that we work together in caring for our world. Merciful God,
C receive our prayer.
A As fields and crops lie dormant, bless them with holy rest. Prepare them to thrive, that they provide abundant food in due season. Protect animals who hibernate and provide for all who scavenge for food in the lean season. Merciful God,
C receive our prayer.
A You raise up the lowly and cast down the arrogant. Teach humility to all in positions of authority. Break down systems of oppression, especially systems that perpetuate inequity and exclusion. Do not allow wealth, power, or pride to become idols that obscure your call to justice. Merciful God,
C receive our prayer.
A Look with favor upon all who cry out to you. Accompany with tenderness all who are afraid or ill. Rescue all who experience abuse or who live under threat of violence, especially refugees, immigrants,

and asylum-seekers in search of a safe and stable home. Merciful God,

- C receive our prayer.**
A You are pleased to make your home among us. Make our homecomings joyful as we gather with friends, families, and chosen families in celebration. Grant safety to all who travel. Sustain the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services and other ministries that assist in setting up new homes. Merciful God,
C receive our prayer.
A Blessed are you for Mary and all your servants in every generation who lived according to your promise of mercy. Strengthen us by their example until the revelation of your glory is made known. Merciful God,
C receive our prayer.
A Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.
C Amen.

MEAL

Offering

PL ***Offertory Prayer** (read by all)
God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

PL ***Words of Institution**

PL ***The Lord's Prayer** (prayed by all)
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Communion of Christ's People

Communion Song *"Come, Emmanuel"* S&S #137

After all have communed:

PL May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

PL **Post-Communion Prayer** (prayed by all)

Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SENDING

***Sending Song** *"People Look East" vs. 1,3,4* ELW #248

*Blessing

PL The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ ✠ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit remain upon you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

*Dismissal

PL Go in peace. Keep awake.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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Welcome to Immanuel! We are so glad you worshiped with us today!

December Worship Schedule

Dec. 24 Advent 4 at 10:30 am

Christmas Eve Service at 8 pm

Dec. 31 Grandma's Living Room at 10:30 am {no 8:30 service}

Immanuel's office will be closed December 25 - January 1.

End of Year Giving

Any year-end gifts to be included in the 2023 tax year must be received in the office or made online by December 31st. Thank you!

Seeking Sunday School Volunteers!

Winter 2024 (January - March) will be a study on Traditions and Symbolism. Topics include the Cross, the Luther Rose, the Triquetra, Ichthys, the Dove, Communion, Baptism and more.

Want to teach only Pre K-3rd grade OR 4th-6th grade? Not a problem - no prep needed, all lessons are prepared for you.

Want to help but not teach? Not a problem - we need people to help with activities and just be there for the kids!

Want more information? Ready to help? Sign up in the lobby, talk to Creighton on a Sunday, or email ilcsilvertonss@gmail.com.

Tamale Sale

Frozen (but freshly made) tamales for sale! Pick up today from the kitchen. Options: vegetarian (cheese & pepper), chicken & mole sauce, chicken & green salsa or chicken & red salsa.

\$15 per half dozen (6)

Esther Circle - Thursday, January 4 at 9:30 am

All women are invited for social time and Bible study in the Fireside Room. For more info, contact Linda Groah at danlindagroah@gmail.com or call/text 503-551-6920.

Kitchen Cleaning - Monday, January 8

Begin at 9 am and plan on an hour or two. All welcome! Many hands make light work for all. Thank you!

Want to stay up to date on events? Contact the office to subscribe to our weekly emails.