



**December 27 & 28, 2020**

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**Pastors:** Rev. Dr. Ralph Blumenberg  
Rev. Philip E. Bloch  
Rev. James A. Rodriguez, Jr.

**Vicar:** Sem. William Fredstrom

**Ministry Leaders:**

**Music:** Mr. Paul Scheiderer

**Youth:** Mr. Matt Nieman

**Children:** Mrs. Patti Miller

**School:** 812-522-1301

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**Principal:** Dr. Todd Behmlander

**Faculty:**

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Mrs. Jordan Spieker  
Mrs. Tracy Stam  
Mrs. Julie Tracey  
Mrs. Kelley Whitson





## THE 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 27 & 28, 2020

**Welcome to worship!** Welcome: Stores have been busy these days after Christmas with return lines exchanging what was initially given for a different gift or correct sized item. How different for us when it comes to the Gift of the Christ Child, Jesus our Savior! He truly is the Gift above all others that we would never think of returning!

A **Nursery** is available below the entrance on Walnut St. and a Comfort Room is in the Atrium. The Nursery is not staffed at this time.

**All Sunday School classes, Adult Bible Classes and Adult Information Class are suspended at this time.**

**Cell Phones:** *Please remember to silence cell phones and electronics during worship.*

**Holy Communion will be** offered at the **9:00 & 7:00** services. If you are not a confirmed member of the Lutheran Church, please contact an Elder or Pastor before Communing. An usher will dismiss your row to move forward to the person serving the bread, and then to the person serving the individual cup. You may then dispose of the cup and return by the center aisle.

**Hearing devices** are available from an usher.

<b>+ DIVINE SERVICE I, Page 151 +</b>
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**THE PRELUDE:** "In Dulci Jubilo" – D. Buxtehude

**THE HYMN:** "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

**Hymn 367**

- 1 Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth. *Refrain*

*Refrain* Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King.

- 2 Shepherds in the field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the Infant Light. *Refrain*

- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations, Ye have seen His natal star. *Refrain*

- 4 Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear. *Refrain*

- △ 5 All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising To the eternal Three in One. *Refrain*

### THE INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

### THE CONFESSION

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son,**

**Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

#### **THE ABSOLUTION**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**

#### **THE KYRIE**

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord. **C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord. **C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord. **C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C Amen.**

#### **THE HYMN OF PRAISE: "This is the Feast of Victory!"**

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

#### **THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY: (we pray together)**

**O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

#### **THE WORD OF THE MONTH: (we speak together) The Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14**

#### **THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 61:10-62:3 (page 789)**

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

**L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.**

#### **THE EPISTLE READING: Galatians 4:4-7 (page 1238)**

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are

sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

**THE ALLELUIA AND VERSE:** C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

**THE GOSPEL READING:** Luke 2:22-40 (page 1090) C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to You, O Christ**

**THE HYMN:** "Let All Together Praise Our God"

**Hymn 389**

- 1 Let all together praise our God Before His glorious throne;  
Today He opens heav'n again To give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
- 2 He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne, Is born an infant small,  
And in a manger, poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall, Lies in a humble stall.
- 3 Within an earthborn form He hides His all-creating light;  
To serve us all He humbly cloaks The splendor of His might, The splendor of His might.
- 4 He undertakes a great exchange, Puts on our human frame,  
And in return gives us His realm, His glory, and His name, His glory, and His name.
- 5 He is a servant, I a lord: How great a mystery!  
How strong the tender Christ Child's love! No truer friend than He, No truer friend than He.
- 6 He is the key and He the door To blessèd paradise;  
The angel bars the way no more. To God our praises rise, To God our praises rise.

△ 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed, Lord Jesus, we adore  
And praise to God the Father yield And Spirit evermore; We praise You evermore.

**THE SERMON:** "No Returns!"

**THE NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**THE PRAYERS**

**THE PRAYERS**

**+++ 9:00 and 7:00 THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

P The Lord be with you. C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary... evermore praising You and saying:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, LORD'S PRAYER AND WORD'S OF OUR LORD**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. C Amen.

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Before 1<sup>st</sup> Distribution: "What Child is This?" & "Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming"*

**Hymns: 624, 392, 937, 374, 643**

**624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born**

1 The infant Priest was holy born For us unholy and forlorn;  
From fleshly temple forth came He, Anointed from eternity.

2 This great High Priest in human flesh Was icon of God's righteousness.  
His hallowed touch brought sanctity; His hand removed impurity.

3 The holy Lamb undaunted came To God's own altar lit with flame;  
While weeping angels hid their eyes, This Priest became a sacrifice.

4 But death would not the victor be Of Him who hung upon the tree.  
He leads us to the Holy Place Within the veil, before God's face.

- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the rail on bended knee  
Our hungry mouths from Him receive The bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat, A priestly food and priestly meat;  
On sin-parched lips the chalice pours His quenching blood that life restores.
- 7 With cherubim and seraphim Our voices join the endless hymn,  
And "Holy, holy, holy" sing To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

### **392 God Loves Me Dearly**

- 1 God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation,  
God loves me dearly, Loves even me. Refrain

ref Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly, God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

- 2 I was in slav'ry, Sin, death, and darkness;  
God's love was working To make me free. Refrain
- 3 He sent forth Jesus, My dear Redeemer,  
He sent forth Jesus And set me free. Refrain
- 4 Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer;  
Jesus, my Savior, Paid all I owed. Refrain
- 5 Now I will praise You, O Love Eternal;  
Now I will praise You All my life long. Refrain

### **937 Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace**

- 1 Lord, bid Your servant go in peace, Your word is now fulfilled.  
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, This child so long foretold.
- 2 This is the Savior of the world, The Gentiles' promised light,  
God's glory dwelling in our midst, The joy of Israel.
- D3 With saints of old, with saints to come, To You we lift our voice;  
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest Be honor, love, and praise.

### **374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child**

- 1 Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;  
There He lay, the Undefined, To the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His favor.
- 2 Angels sang about His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;  
Heaven's star shone brightly forth Glory all around Him.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels singing;  
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ringing.

- 3 Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;  
He is still the Undefined But no more a stranger.  
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;  
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glory!

### 643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

- 1 Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from His dwelling take leave. The Supper is ended.  
O now be extended The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all. His grace did invite us,  
His love shall unite us To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.
- 2 With praise and thanksgiving To God ever-living,  
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face. Our faith ever sharing,  
In love ever caring, Embracing His children of each tribe and race.  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living  
With praise and thanksgiving Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

#### Nunc Dimittis

- C O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace, For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming  
grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill, The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.  
All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son, All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.

#### THE POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

#### THE BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you... C **Amen.**

#### THE CLOSING HYMN: "Let Us All With Gladsome Voice"

Hymn 390

- 1 Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,  
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.
- 2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sadness,  
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in gladness.
- 3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a wonder?  
Therefore praise God evermore Here on earth and yonder.
- 4 Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, Be Thou ever near us.  
Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us.

#### THE POSTLUDE: "Angels We Have Heard on High" – R.B. Farlee

**Preacher:** Pastor Bloch **Liturgist:** Pastor Rodriguez

**Lector:** Vicar Fredstrom **Organist:** Paul Scheiderer **Vocalist:** Blake Hackman

*Pastor Blumenberg is visiting family today*

*Immanuel's mission is to connect people to the life, calling, and community of Christ. Founded in 1870,  
Immanuel is a member of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. We believe the Bible is God's inspired Word and that we are saved by grace,  
through faith in Jesus Christ, who died for our sins. Please take a brochure from the Information Center, or visit us on-line at  
[www.immanuelseymour.com](http://www.immanuelseymour.com)*