



**He has helped His servant  
Israel,  
in remembrance of His mercy,  
as He spoke to our fathers,  
to Abraham and to his offspring  
forever."**

**Luke 1:54**

Advent Worship  
December 21, 2022  
4:30 & 7:00 pm  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Seymour, IN

**Welcome to Worship!** How often we forget things! Keys, wallet, phone. Tonight Mary reminds us that while we may forget, God doesn't! God not only doesn't forget to forgive us, He also remembers that we will need His forgiveness as long as we're here on earth. The only thing God forgets is our sins because of Jesus. How blessed are we!

<b>+++ VESPERS, Page 229 +++</b>
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**THE PRELUDE: 4:30** "Savior of the Nations, Come" -Walter Pelz

**7:00** "A Christmas Prelude" -Charles Callahan

**THE HYMN: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

**Hymn 338**

- 1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.
- 2 Born Thy people to deliver; Born a child and yet a king!  
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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**THE OPENING RESPONSES: page 229**

**L** O Lord, open my lips,

**C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.

**L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

**C** make haste to help me, O Lord

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

**THE FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:5-16**

And now the Lord says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him—for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—he says: "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end

of the earth." Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you." Thus says the Lord: "In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages, saying to the prisoners, 'Come out,' to those who are in darkness, 'Appear.' They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. And I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways shall be raised up. Behold, these shall come from afar, and behold, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene." Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted. But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me." "Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us. C: **Thanks be to God!**

**THE SECOND READING: Philippians 3:12-21**

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. Only let us hold true to what we have attained. Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us. C: **Thanks be to God.**

**THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 1:54-55**

[Mary said] He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever."

L: O Lord, have mercy on us. C: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE RESPONSORY FOR ADVENT, page 230

L Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

L In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

THE HYMN: "Savior of the Nations, Come"

Hymn 332

1 Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here Your home!  
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.

2 Not by human flesh and blood, By the Spirit of our God,  
Was the Word of God made flesh — Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet remained a virgin mild.  
In her womb this truth was shown: God was there upon His throne.

4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and kingly hall;  
God of God, yet fully man, His heroic course began.

5 God the Father was His source, Back to God He ran His course.  
Into hell His road went down, Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son Who in flesh the vict'ry won.  
By Your mighty pow'r make whole All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.

△8 Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity.

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THE SERMON: "He Remembers"

THE CANTICLE: "My Soul Rejoices"

Hymn 933

- 1 My soul rejoices, My spirit voices – Sing the greatness of the Lord!  
For God my Savior Has shown me favor – Sing the greatness of the Lord!  
With praise and blessing, Join in confessing God, who is solely Mighty and holy –  
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!  
His mercy surely Shall rest securely On all who fear Him,  
Love and revere Him – O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
- 2 His arm now baring, His strength declaring – Sing the greatness of the Lord!  
The proud He scatters, Their rule He shatters – Sing the greatness of the Lord!  
Oppression halted; The meek exalted. Full are the hungry; Empty, the wealthy –  
O sing the greatness of God the Lord! Here is the token All that was spoken  
To Abr'ham's offspring God is fulfilling – O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

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## THE KYRIE, page 233

**C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C 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 BENDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

**L Let us bless the Lord.**

**C Thanks be to God.**

**L The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.**

**C Amen.**

## THE CLOSING HYMN: "Now the Light Has Gone Away" Hymn 887

- 1 Now the light has gone away; Father, listen while I pray,  
Asking Thee to watch and keep And to send me quiet sleep.
- 2 Jesus, Savior, wash away All that has been wrong today;  
Help me ev'ry day to be Good and gentle, more like Thee.

- 3 Let my near and dear ones be Always near and dear to Thee;  
O bring me and all I love To Thy happy home above.
- 4 Now my evening praise I give; Thou didst die that I might live.  
All my blessings come from Thee; Oh, how good Thou art to me!
- 5 Thou, my best and kindest Friend, Thou wilt love me to the end.  
Let me love Thee more and more, Always better than before.

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**THE POSTLUDE: "The King Shall Come" -Michael Burkhardt**

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**Preacher:** James A. Rodriguez, Jr. **Lector:** Will Fredstrom

**Liturgists:** Vicar Case Farney, Pastor Ralph Blomenberg, Pastor Philip E. Bloch

**Organist:** Mr. Paul Scheiderer

**Special Services for this Christmas Week:**

Join us this week for the following services, which will also be broadcast live and available by streaming:

**Saturday, 12-24, 7:00 p.m.** ILS children will present the Christmas service. All are welcome!

**Saturday, 12-24, 10:30 p.m.:** Candlelight service with Communion

**Sunday, 12-25, Christmas Day,** worship at 9 and 11:15, with Communion at 9.

**Monday, 12-26, 7:00 p.m.** Christmas Monday worship with Communion

**4:30 pm - Elders:** Joe Bullard, Steve Bobb **Audio:** Emma Wichman

**7:00 pm - Elders:** Carl Emily **Acolyte:** Samuel Lorenz **Ushers:** Larry Stahl, Robert Allman, Randy 'Dude' Dittmer, Dennis Klinge, Karl Anderson **Counting:** Craig Moore, Luke Nolting, Brian Rohr, Mark Nolting, Chad Cooper, Parker Wiethoff **Audio/Video:** Andrew Bell, Walter Batman

*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).*