

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 22 & 23, 2019

Welcome to Worship! Christmas is only days away and excitement and anticipation fill the air! For Joseph in our Gospel reading, however, his thoughts are conflicted and filled with shame and remorse. That is until God intervened and showed Joseph His mercy in sending His beloved Son to save His people from their sins. The account of Joseph is an example to us of God's faithfulness and Joseph's obedience and response in faith!

First time guests: Please stop by the Welcome Center for a travel mug and gifts!

We love children! If your child gets fussy, please take him/her to the Comfort Place in the Atrium. You can hear the service there and allow others to hear as well.

A **Staffed Nursery** is available at **9:00 A.M.** beneath the narthex.

Sunday School Classes and Adult Bible Classes will resume January 12.

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

Holy Communion will be offered at **9:00A.M.** If you are not a confirmed member of the Lutheran church, please contact an Elder or Pastor before Communing. The Common Cup is served to those who do not take an individual cup. Gluten-free wafers are available. Wine with alcohol removed is in the center of the tray.

Large Print bulletins and **Hearing devices** are available from an usher.

+ DIVINE SERVICE I, Page 151 +

THE PRELUDE: 9:00: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

11:15 and 7:00: "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending" – Karl Osterland

THE OPENING HYMN: "Lift Up Your Head, Ye Mighty Gates" **Hymn 341**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION: Page 151

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (We sing Hymn 350, verse 4)

THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY: (We pray together) **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

THE WORD OF THE MONTH: (We speak together) **May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Romans 15:13**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 7:10-17 (Page 572)

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

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

THE EPISTLE READING: Romans 1:1-7 (Page 939)

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

THE ALLELUIA and VERSE: Page 156

THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 1:18-25 (Page 807) C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall

conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

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

THE HYMN: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Hymn 357

THE SERMON: "Following the Son's Footsteps"

THE CREED: 9:00/7:00 NICENE (page 158) 11:00 Apostles' (page 159)

THE OFFERING: (Please register Attendance and Communion)

THE MUSICAL OFFERING: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" – Marilyn Biery

THE PRAYERS

+++9:00/7:00 HOLY COMMUNION: Pages 160-166;

9:00: Before 1st Distribution: "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"

Hymns: 354, 623, 342, 352, 636

THE BENEDICTION: Pages 166

THE CLOSING HYMN: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Hymn 338

THE POSTLUDE: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" – Paul Manz

Preacher: Pastor Bloch Liturgists: Pastor Blumenberg & Pastor Rodriguez

Lector: Vicar Ronchetto Organist: Mr. Paul Scheiderer 9:00 Soloist: Charlie Tungate

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.

Wishing you all a very blessed Christmas!

We praise God for the gift of Christ and for each one of you!

Pastor Blumenberg, Pastor Bloch, Pastor Rodriguez, Vicar Ronchetto

*Paul Scheiderer, Matt Nieman, Lisa Robertson, Holly Foster, Jacquie Bryant, Patti Miller,
Mike Patmore, and Tom Isaacs*

December 22 & 23, 2019

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Rev. Philip E. Bloch
Rev. James A. Rodriguez, Jr.

Vicar: Sem. Kyle Ronchetto

Ministry Leaders:

Music: Mr. Paul Scheiderer

Youth: Mr. Matt Nieman

Children: Mrs. Patti Miller

Child Care: Mrs. Ashley Pence

School: 812-522-1301

www.immanuelsschool.org

Principal: Dr. Todd Behmlander

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