

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

December 25, 2019

Welcome to Worship! Merry Christmas! On this day it can be easy to look at the baby in the manger and the sweet scene with the animals and shepherds, but this is no ordinary baby. Our Gospel reminds us that this baby is the almighty God who created the universe and comes to cleanse us of our sins.

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

A Staffed Nursery is available at **9:00 A.M.** and a Comfort Room is in the Atrium.

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

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

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

+ DIVINE SERVICE III, Page 184 +

THE PRELUDE: "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" - Donald Busarow

THE HYMN: "Joy to the World"

Hymn 387

THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION: Page 184

THE HYMN OF PRAISE: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hymn 380

THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY: (We pray together) **Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You 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 52:7-10** (Page 613)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns. "The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

THE EPISTLE READING: **Hebrews 1:1-6** (Page 1001)

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

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

THE ALLELUIA AND VERSE, Page 190

THE GOSPEL: **Luke 2:1-20** (Page 857) **C: Glory to You, O Lord!**

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord. C: (sing) Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

THE NICENE CREED: Page 191

THE HYMN: "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Hymn 367

THE SERMON: "Not Just a Baby"

THE OFFERING: (Please register Attendance and Communion)

THE MUSICAL OFFERING: "Away in a Manger" - Walter Peltz

THE OFFERTORY: "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God", Pages 192-193

THE PRAYERS

+++ HOLY COMMUNION: Pages 194-202;

1st Distribution Hymn: Of the Father's Love Begotten (choir verse 3 alone)

Distribution Hymns: 386, 384, 358

THE BENEDICTION: Page 202

THE CLOSING HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Hymn 361

Please take time after the closing hymn to greet and introduce yourself to those around you.

THE POSTLUDE: "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" - F.W. Marburg

A pastor will be available after the service in the chapel to take prayer requests or notes for care.

Preacher: Vicar Ronchetto **Liturgists:** Pastor Bloch & Pastor Rodriguez

Lector: Pastor Blomenberg **Organist:** Mr. Paul Scheiderer

Special Music: Handbell Choir, Adult Choir, Woodwinds

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A blessed Christmas to each of you!

Special thanks to all who added beauty to our church through the gift of poinsettias. They provide a fitting reminder of loved ones and the Love that came to us in Christ.

The church office will be closed Wednesday, December 25 and Wednesday, January 1.

Join us for New Year's Eve worship Tuesday, 12/31, at 7 pm.

Christmas Day Broadcast is sponsored in loving memory of Earl Goecker, by Hulda.

Christmas Day Altar Flowers are sponsored in memory of loved ones, by Janet Cooper & Beckie & Jerry Anderson and families.

Christmas Day Chapel Altar Flowers are sponsored in memory of our parents, Melvin & Emy Lou Wischmeier and Delbert Kilgas, by Brent & Sandy Kilgas

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.

December 25, 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.immanuelschool.org

Principal: Dr. Todd Behmlander

Faculty:

Mrs. Julia Bell
Mrs. Martha Bloch
Mrs. Melissa Brown
Mrs. Heather Dyer
Mrs. Charlotte Elkins
Mrs. Trisha Engel
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