



Sermon: "According to Plan" Matthew 2:13-23  
Saturday, December 27 and Sunday, December 28, 2025  
Immanuel Lutheran Church & School  
Okawville, Illinois 62271  
*The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

## WELCOME TO IMMANUEL

*We gather on the Lord's Day knowing that "Christ being raised from the dead will never die again" (Romans 6:9). Welcome, visitors who have joined us today. If we can help in any way, please call: Church 618-243-6216 or School 618-243-6142.*

Pastor Eric Wood  
Phone: 618-243-2846

Email: [myhomeontherange@juno.com](mailto:myhomeontherange@juno.com)

Principal Kelli Borrenpohl  
Phone: 618-243-6142

Email: [principal@immanuelokawville.org](mailto:principal@immanuelokawville.org)

Immanuel Website: [Immanuelokawville.org](http://Immanuelokawville.org)  
Saturday: 17 Communed: 14 Sunday: 74 Communed: 45  
Bible Class: 8 Sunday School: 25

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

*Prayer concerns to be included in our public prayers may be shared with Pastor Wood and/or the church office. Prayers may be for particular individuals or concerning wider issues. Let us pray!*

- All members of Immanuel including:
  - At home - Adeline Blumhorst, Bill Durham, Norbert Hasheider, Kellee Helbig, Janet Lange, Linda Schuetz, Jackie Schwankhaus, Stanley Schwankhaus, Crystal Strasburg, Mike Strasburg
  - At Brightly in Mascoutah - Leonard Hemminghaus
  - At Evercare of Breese - Lois Rabenort
  - At Bethesda Gardens in Loveland, Colorado - Carol Wennemann
- Non-members: Lisa Arbogast-Eilers, an ILS graduate; Crystal Hasheider, wife of Matt Hasheider; Deborah Hasheider, cousin-in-law of several of our members; Tim Schnitker, son-in-law of Sharon Storck.
- That the Lord would continue to provide for his work in this place through generous giving, willing workers, and wise stewardship.
- The staff, faculty, and students of Immanuel Lutheran School
- The educational mission of Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School
- All who work or study in West Washington County Schools
- John Trinklein, second-year student at Concordia Seminary
- Reverend Rafael & Deaconess Jamielynn Flores, serving in Chile
- The mission work of the Southern Illinois District, including...
  - ...all congregations, schools, and district leaders
  - ...rural and small-town congregational support
  - ...urban ministry (neighborhood renewal and Unity school) in East St. Louis
  - ...campus ministry and international student outreach at SIU-C and SIU-E
  - ...prison and jail ministry in many locations
  - ...partnership with seminary in Dominican Republic
  - ...disaster response ministry (LERT)
  - ...Advocates for Life

# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

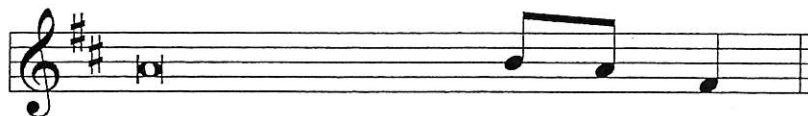
## Order of Service - Matins

### 370 What Child Is This (Sunday)

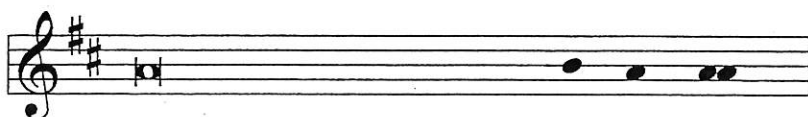
*Stand*



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



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



**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Psalmody

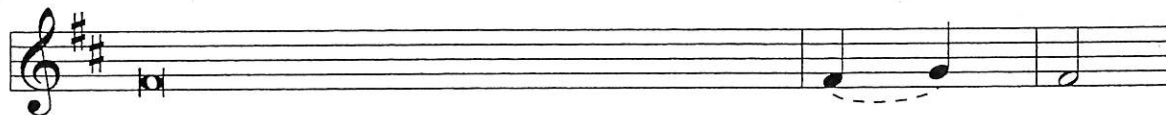


**L** Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



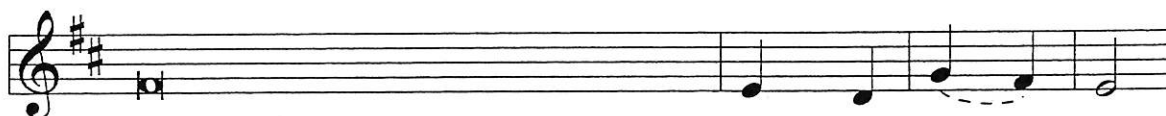
**C** O come, let us wor-ship Him.

## Venite



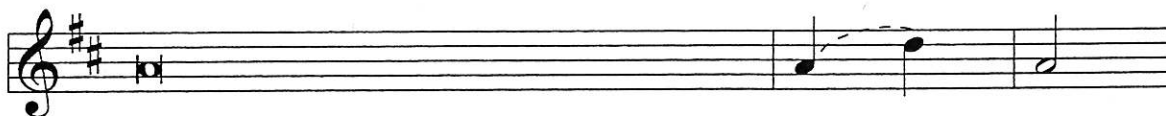
**C** 1 O come, let us sing . . . . . to the Lord,  
2 For the Lord is a . . . . . great God  
3 The sea is His, for He . . . . . made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son

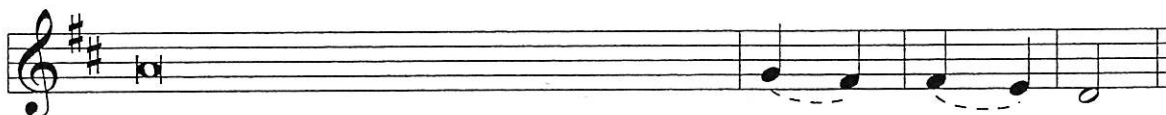


1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion.  
2 and a great . . . . . king a-bove all gods.  
3 and His hand . . . . . formed the dry land.

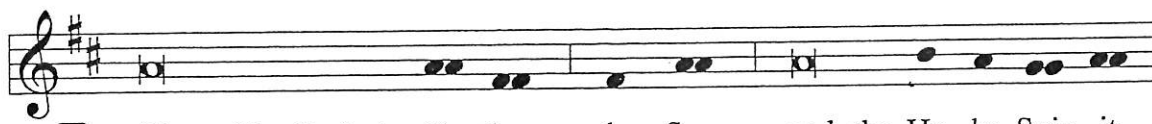
5 and to the . . . . . Ho-ly Spir-it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks-giv-ing,  
2 The deep places of the earth are . . . . . in His hand;  
3 O come, let us worship and . . . . . bow down,  
4 For He . . . . . is our God,  
5 as it was in the be-gin-ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to . . . . . Him with songs of praise.  
2 the strength of the hills is . . . . . His al-so.  
3 let us kneel before the . . . . . Lord, our mak-er.  
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.  
5 is now, and will be for ev-er. A-men.



**L** Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir - it.



**C** O come, let us wor - ship Him.

## Psalm 111 (Congregation sings antiphon & Gloria Patri)

**Refrain: "Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King!"**

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,\*  
in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

<sup>2</sup>Great are the works | of the LORD,\*  
studied by all who de- | light in them.

<sup>3</sup>Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,\*  
and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

<sup>4</sup>He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;\*  
the LORD is gracious and | merciful. **Refrain**

<sup>5</sup>He provides food for those who | fear him,\*  
he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

<sup>6</sup>He has shown his people the power | of his works,\*  
in giving them the inheritance of the | nations.

<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just,\*  
all his precepts are | trustworthy;

<sup>8</sup>they are established forever and | ever,\*  
to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness. **Refrain**

<sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.\*  
Holy and awesome | is his name!

<sup>10</sup>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.\*  
His praise endures for- | ever! **Refrain**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen. Refrain**

# Readings

## Old Testament

## Isaiah 63:7-14

<sup>7</sup>I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD,  
the praises of the LORD,  
according to all that the LORD has granted us,  
and the great goodness to the house of Israel  
that he has granted them according to his compassion,  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.  
<sup>8</sup>For he said, "Surely they are my people,  
children who will not deal falsely."  
And he became their Savior.  
<sup>9</sup>In all their affliction he was afflicted,  
and the angel of his presence saved them;  
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;  
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.  
<sup>10</sup>But they rebelled  
and grieved his Holy Spirit;  
therefore he turned to be their enemy,  
and himself fought against them.  
<sup>11</sup>Then he remembered the days of old,  
of Moses and his people.  
Where is he who brought them up out of the sea  
with the shepherds of his flock?  
Where is he who put in the midst of them  
his Holy Spirit,  
<sup>12</sup>who caused his glorious arm  
to go at the right hand of Moses,  
who divided the waters before them  
to make for himself an everlasting name,  
<sup>13</sup>who led them through the depths?  
Like a horse in the desert,  
they did not stumble.  
<sup>14</sup>Like livestock that go down into the valley,  
the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest.  
So you led your people,  
to make for yourself a glorious name.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

**Galatians 4:4–7**

<sup>4</sup>When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Stand

## Gospel

**Matthew 2:13–23**

<sup>13</sup>When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

<sup>16</sup>Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

<sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup>“A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

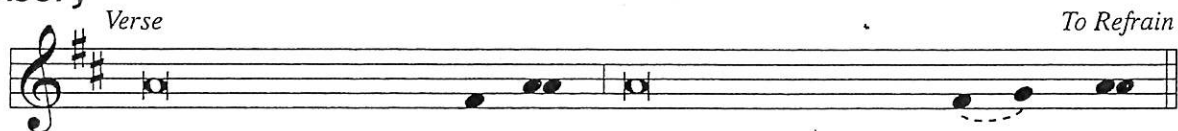
<sup>19</sup>But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, <sup>20</sup>saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” <sup>21</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.



## Responsory



- L** 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.  
 2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.  
 3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



- C** Lord, I love  
 the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

*Sit*

## Children's Message (Sunday)

### 389 Let All Together Praise Our God

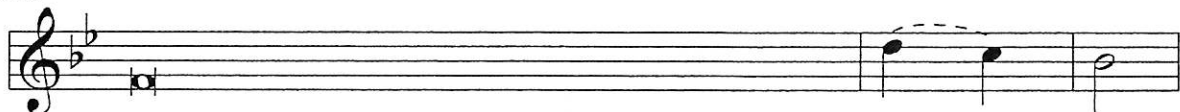
Sermon "According to Plan"

Matthew 2:13-23

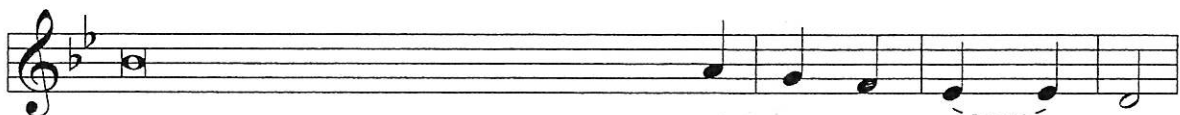
## Canticle

*Stand*

### Te Deum

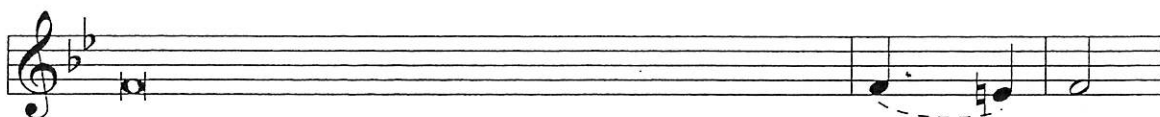


- C** 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.  
 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of . . . . . Sab - a - oth;  
 3 The noble army of martyrs . . . . . praise You.

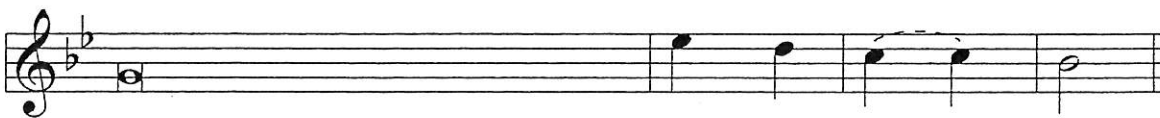


- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.  
 2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.  
 3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:

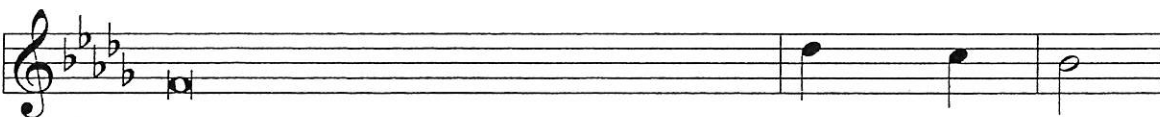




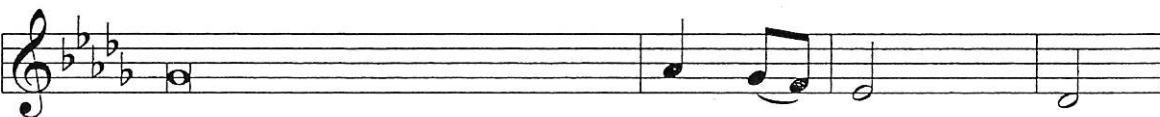
- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.  
2 The glorious company of the apostles . . . . . praise— You.  
3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;  
4 You are the king of glory, . . . . . O— Christ;



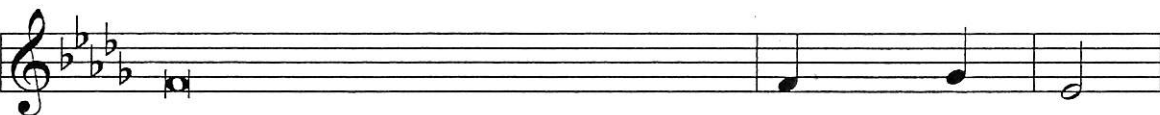
- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:  
2 The goodly fellowship of the . . . . . proph-ets praise— You.  
3 also the Holy . . . . . Ghost, the Com-fort - er.  
4 You are the everlasting Son . . . . . of the Fa - ther.



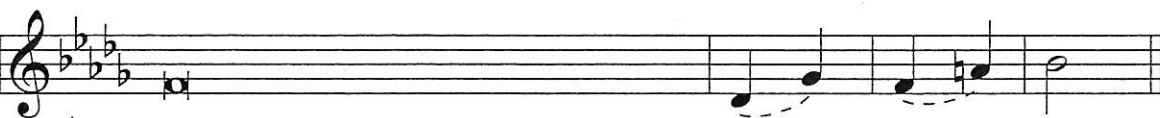
- 5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,  
6 You sit at the right . . . . . hand of God



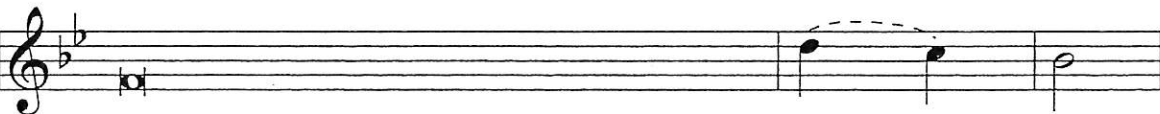
- 5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.  
6 in the glory . . . . . of the Fa - ther.



- 5 When You had overcome the . . . . . sharpness of death,  
6 We believe that . . . . . You will come



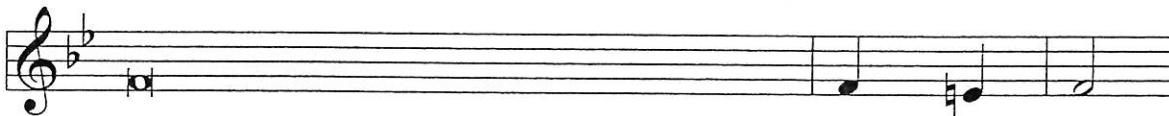
- 5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.  
6 to . . . . . be— our— judge.



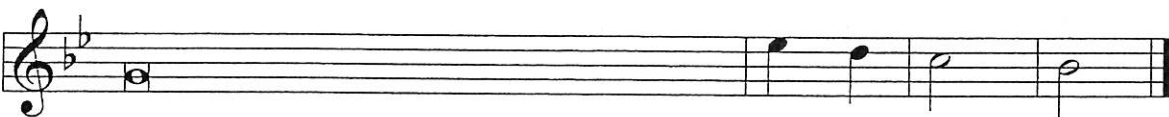
- 7 We therefore pray You to help Your . . . . . ser - vants,  
8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.  
9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out— sin.



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.  
8 Govern them and lift . . . . them up for - ev - er.  
9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on us.



7 Make them to be numbered . . . . . with Your saints  
8 Day by day we . . . . . magni - fy You.  
9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.



7 in glory . . . . . ev - er - last - ing.  
8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.  
9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

*Sit*

Offering

## Prayer

*Kneel/Stand*

Kyrie



**C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

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.

## Collects



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**C** And let my cry come to You.

## Collect of the Day

**L** 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.

**C** Amen.

## Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving

### Collect for Peace (Saturday)

**L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, Give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

### Collect for Grace (Sunday)

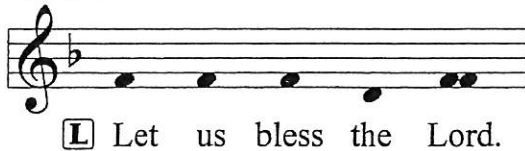
**L** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty

power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

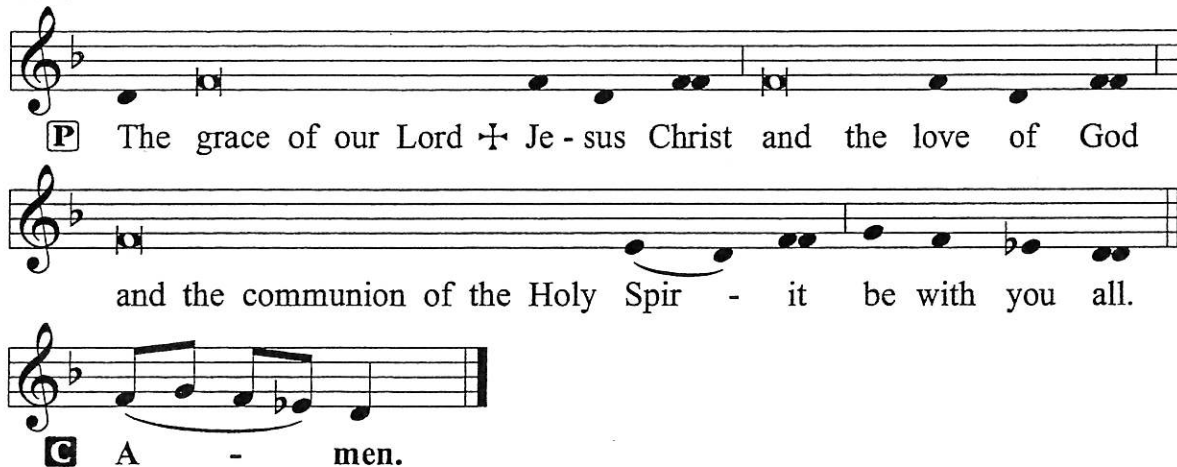


*Stand*

## Benedicamus



## Benediction



## 725 Children of the Heavenly Father (Sunday)

### Acknowledgments

Matins from Lutheran Service Book

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Pastor:	Eric Wood
Pianist: (Saturday)	Sophia Wood
Organist: (Sunday)	Sharon Krueger
Acolytes: (Saturday)	Markus Lautenschlaeger
(Sunday)	Collins Schumacher
Readers: (Saturday)	
(Sunday)	Carolyn Rennegarbe

**Birthdays:** 28<sup>th</sup> Paisley Heyde, 30<sup>th</sup> Melanie Borrenpohl, Dennis Maschhoff, Jane Hasheider, Charlotte Durham, 1<sup>st</sup> Amber Jacobs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Savanna Meyer, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sharon Frederking, Mason Meyer

**December Ushers** – Saturday –  
 Sunday – Mark Schneider and Dennis Pruehsner

**Saturday service** at 5:30 p.m.

**Bible Class** at 9:00 a.m. Bible class topic is "Ask, Seek, Knock".

**Sunday Service** at 10:00 a.m.

**Extra copies of the December newsletter** are available on the table in the narthex. Please feel free to take one for yourself or someone else.

## SCHOOL NEWS

**Christmas Break** is Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> – Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Immanuel Wee Care** is looking for a daycare worker to help a few days or more per week. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Cheri Kurtz at 618-243-6161.

**You can help the school financially by doing the following:** **Shop With Raiseright** – For complete information visit [www.shopwithraiseright.com](http://www.shopwithraiseright.com) Checks payable to ILS PTL. Go to [smile.amazon.com/ch37-0916756](http://smile.amazon.com/ch37-0916756) and Amazon donates to Immanuel Lutheran Church and School Okawville. Participate in the **Kroger Community Rewards** program. Join **Casey's Rewards** today and donate to our school. This is for instore, online or at the pump purchases.

## GENERAL NOTES

**Life Thoughts in the Church Year: Holy Innocents** – The devil hates little children because he hates the Christ child, who was promised to crush his head (Genesis 3:15). Sadly, his influence can still be seen today in those who, like Herod, see little children as a threat to their authority and aim for their destruction (Matthew 2:16). As we weep with Rachel and her children (Jeremiah 31:15), we also rejoice that by sparing His only-begotten Son from Herod's wrath, God has provided eternal salvation for all the holy innocents—past, present and future—that they too might join in the heavenly song around the throne of God (Revelation 14:3).

**Life Quotes:** "Look back at how God changed you. Look ahead to what God promises for you. The future looks bright when you're connected to the crucified and risen Lord Jesus. May the Lord continue to strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life." *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**Stewardship:** Galatians 4:4 – "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law." Jesus was born under the law so that He might fulfill the law in our place. His perfect righteousness is credited to us. And it is this free forgiveness of sins and this crediting of righteousness that sets us free to follow our Lord in godly living. Since we are freed from the law's condemnation, we are freed from any mercenary attitudes. Now that the Lord has shown His love to us in saving us, we freely show our thanks to Him in generosity, humility and kindness.

**Lutheran programs on Radio & TV on Sundays** – 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. 850 AM Radio KFUEO Lutheran Worship from a Lutheran church; 9:00 a.m. 104.7 FM Rev. Mueller, New Minden Bible Study; 10:30 a.m. TV Station "TCT" "Lutheran Worship." These are not a replacement for being in church and Bible class. These are for times when we are unable to attend in person.



## COMMUNITY NOTES

**Lay Leader Training:** send your lay leaders to gain skills and expertise at our Lay Leader Training! These workshops will cover areas that assist youth leaders, school boards, Sunday school teachers/superintendents, trustees, treasurers, evangelism committee members, and congregational presidents in carrying out their assigned duties. The day begins with Matins at 9am and wraps up at 2pm. Lunch is provided as part of registration. Find more information and registration at [sidlcms.org/events](http://sidlcms.org/events) Save the date today: Saturday, January 17th, 2026 (Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 1300 Beltline Rd. Collinsville, IL 62234) and Saturday, February 7th, 2026 (Trinity Lutheran Church 201 S. Pleasant Ave Centralia, IL 62801). *Immanuel lay leaders are encouraged to attend February 7<sup>th</sup> in Centralia, after new leaders are elected and installed.*

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The offerings for Wednesday, December 10, Saturday, December 13, Sunday, December 14, Wednesday, December 17, Saturday, December 20, and Sunday, December 21 were as follows: Current \$965.00, Home Use \$4,449.00, Loose \$219.00, Advent \$101.00, and Christmas Day \$4125.00.

Expenses for the week: \$1,741.45

Loan Balance: \$45,000.00

### Thrivent Choice

Immanuel Lutheran Church received \$255.00 and Immanuel Lutheran School received \$42.00 from "Thrivent Choice Dollars" designations in December. Thank you to everyone who directed their "Thrivent Choice Dollars" to Immanuel. If you have not contacted Thrivent Choice Recently, please call 800-847-4836 to see if Thrivent has money set aside for you to designate to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Immanuel Lutheran School or another designation of your choice. Money is available through the Thrivent Choice Program. This is not a donation coming out of your investment.

**Reminder:** Bunker's Restaurant (Golf Course) will give 10% to Immanuel Lutheran Church if you show your bulletin from church when eating on Sundays. Thank you for your support!! RBM Golf Course