

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Immanuel Welcomes You!

We give thanks to God that you're here with us today as we receive the gifts that our Lord gives in mercy and grace. Whether this is your first time as our guest or you are regularly worshipping among us, God is here for you and welcomes you in as His own. If you are in need of a church home or have questions about our congregation, please stop by the Connection Center (Belvidere Campus) or speak with one of the pastors or any of our ushers.

### Celebrating the Lord's Supper

More than just bread and wine, Holy Communion is the very body and blood of Christ. Those who partake should do so spiritually prepared (1 Corinthians 11:28): Am I sorry for my sin? Do I believe Jesus is my only Savior truly present in this meal? Will I, with the help of God, live a life that pleases Him?

Participation in this meal is also an expression of unity with this church as a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. If you are not communing but still desire to receive a blessing, please fold your arms across your chest when you come forward. The Lord Jesus has something for us all. The center ring of individual cups contains non-alcoholic wine, and gluten-free wafers are available for those in need. Please indicate this to those distributing the sacrament as you come forward.

### Restrooms

Located just behind the Sanctuary, follow the long hallway and turn left at your first opportunity. An usher would be happy to direct you.

### Campus Guidelines for Face Coverings

In order to care for the people who come to our campus here at Immanuel, including our guests, members, church and school staff, students, and ILS families, we're asking that everyone wear a face covering inside the building. This policy covers all events on our campus, including worship services and small group meetings. Please cover coughs, use social distancing, and stay home if you are feeling unwell.

For the time being, this is one of the best ways that we can help to reduce the risk of our congregation and school becoming a point of infection for our community. Thank you for your assistance!

### For Families with Young Children

Worship is for people of all ages, and we are so glad to have you and your children (with all their wiggles, noises, and questions) joining us! Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them." Encourage your children to follow along with the icons on the screens (they'll match up with the "Order of Service" in their children's bulletins) and shake their egg shakers when they see the egg icon. Help them find the sanctuary star and read together the description on the back of their insert.

We aren't worried about a little noise or activity, but if your child does need to leave worship, feel free to step out into the Narthex or hallway (we can't open our Nursery or Quiet Room right now under current public health restrictions). But please, hurry back - we don't want you or your little ones to miss out on all God is doing in worship!

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO CHRIST FOR LIFE

# CONNECTOR

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 5-6, 2020

## THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL

SAT	6 PM	Worship — <i>Heritage</i> (Hymns + Pipe Organ)
SUN	8 AM	Worship — <i>Heritage</i> (Hymns + Pipe Organ)
	9:15	Worship — <i>Bridge</i> (Teaching + Musical variety)
	9:30	Worship at North (30 person max)
	10:15	Bible Study (Sanctuary)
	11:15	Worship — <i>Horizon</i> (Praise Team + Less formal)
WED	11 AM	Mini Service (50 person max)

\*Christ for Kids is currently **NOT** meeting in-person but take-home resources are available as you leave church.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 15 ILS Christmas Program (streamed)

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

ISAIAH 13:9-13, 19, 14:1 |  
2 PETER 3:8-14 | MARK 1:1-8



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## FACILITY GUIDELINES

To help do our part in reducing the possibility of spreading COVID-19, we're **temporarily suspending onsite (non-worship) meetings** on our campus through the end of the year. We're reaching out to any groups who have scheduled meetings, shifting them to virtual options. Please contact the Church Office if you have any questions.

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### Comfort Dog Calendars

2021 "Best of Kye and Bekah Calendars" are on sale beginning this weekend. Order forms are available at the Connection Center or in The Main Thing. Orders will **ONLY** be accepted these two (2) ways. Calendars ordered will be available for pickup on December 12th/13th and 19th/20th. Limited quantities available.

**NO PURCHASES WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE NARTHEX OR CHURCH OFFICE.**

## FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

### Electronic Giving

Thank you for your faithful support of our ministry in the gospel here at Immanuel. If you'd like to make your offering online, you're welcome to do so via our website or by using this QR code.



### 2021 Offering Envelopes

Your offering envelopes for the new year ahead have arrived. Please pick up your box of envelopes **BEFORE** going into the Sanctuary.

## CHRISTMAS EVE AND DAY WORSHIP

Join us for Christmas Eve and Day worship!

11 am worship with Holy Communion

4 pm 45-minute family-friendly worship

6 pm candlelight worship with Holy Communion

8 pm candlelight worship with Holy Communion (live-streamed)

10 pm candlelight worship with Holy Communion

Christmas morning worship will be at 9 and 10:30 am with Holy Communion.



**Isaiah 13:9-13, 19, 14:1**

Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the land a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it. For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be dark at its rising, and the moon will not shed its light. I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will put an end to the pomp of the arrogant, and lay low the pompous pride of the ruthless. I will make people more rare than fine gold, and mankind than the gold of Ophir. Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, and the earth will be shaken out of its place, at the wrath of the LORD of hosts in the day of his fierce anger. And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the splendor and pomp of the Chaldeans, will be like Sodom and Gomorrah when God overthrew them. For the LORD will have compassion on Jacob and will again choose Israel, and will set them in their own land, and sojourners will join them and will attach themselves to the house of Jacob.

**2 Peter 3:8-14**

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

**Mark 1:1-8**

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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 INFO@IMMANUELBELVIDERE.ORG

**MUSIC**

**December Hymn of the Month**

"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns" highlights the essence of the Advent season: Christ came as a child to save us from our sin, and someday He will return. Advent is a time in the church year when we not only look to the past to celebrate Christ's first coming, but also look to the future in anticipation of His second coming; indeed, the "morning" referenced in the first line of the hymn is not Christmas morning, but rather it is that coming day when Christ will return and finally bring all His beloved to Himself. May God be with us as we celebrate his first coming and await His second!

John Brownlie (1857-1925) wrote the text for this hymn. He was a minister in the Scottish Free Church and was prolific not only as an author of hymns but also as a translator, primarily translating hymn texts from Greek and Latin into English. The author of the tune is unknown but authorship is attributed to Elkanah Kelsey Dare (1782-1826), a Methodist minister. This tune has been matched with many other texts, including "What Hope! An Eden Prophesied" in our own Lutheran Service Book.

**SANCTUARY STAFF**

The Sanctuary Staff would like to thank the ladies who helped make the new decorations for the Christmas tree in the Narthex. Thank you to all the individuals who helped decorate the Sanctuary and the Narthex for Christmas. A special thank you to the members who generously donated the new trees for the altar.

**IMMANUEL NORTH**

**Thanksgiving Meals Update**

Thanks be to God, through cooperation with the Social Workers in the North Boone School District and the Empowering Boone Food Pantry – and an anonymous donation – we were able to provide 27 Thanksgiving dinners to families in need!

**Live Nativity Float Tour**

On December 19th, beginning at 5 pm, the float will tour the Poplar Grove neighborhoods.

**Men's Wednesday Bible Study**

Due to Illinois Tier 3 Mitigation recommendations, the Bible Class has been cancelled until further notice.

**North Worship**

To sign-up for 9:30 am worship at North, please register on-line or by calling Pastor Wagner at (815) 871-6051. To insure a spot, please do so by 3 pm on Saturday.

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Last Weekend's Attendance: 197      On-Line Attendance: 582

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

**For God's Gracious Care**

Linda Dixon, Buck Hodge, Bob Schwarzkopf, Ernie & Gloria Mowers, Kathy Gaupp, Anne Wetzel, Marian Lambert, Ed & Ellen Anderson, Julia Markworth, Phoebe Ladewig, Nancy Schultz, Gary Anderson, Ashley, Bonnie, Oscar Johnson, Janice Ebel, all residents & staff at community care centers

**Deaths**

Kristine Mays

Joyce Lynch (mother of Mark Henderson)

**New Members**

Please welcome to Immanuel Robert Dix and Jeff Gathman who will be received as new members at the 9:15 am worship service today.

Jan & Darlyne Jurgens were welcomed as new members at the 11 am worship service on Wednesday, November 25th.

**For Note-taking**

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**CONNECTION CARD**

DECEMBER 5-6 2020

**I would like more information about:**

- Becoming a part of the community here at Immanuel
- Immanuel Lutheran School
- Sponsoring the bulletin / altar flowers
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- My offering was given electronically
- Other (Please Specify)

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