

First Sunday in Advent

December 1, 2019

THEME: We ready ourselves for Christ's coming with watchfulness and repentance.

HYMN 2: "Savior of the Nations, Come"

SERVICE OF THE WORD – Page 38

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 2:1-5 (EHV)

With prophetic foresight Isaiah describes the peace the Lord will send through the Messiah. This peace will extend to all nations through the gospel and will find its ultimate consummation at the return of Christ.

2:1 This is the message that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

This will take place in the latter days: The mountain of the LORD's house will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it like a river.

Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. Then he will instruct us about his ways, and we will walk in his paths." For from Zion the law will go out, and the LORD's word will go out from Jerusalem.

He will judge between the nations, and he will mediate for many peoples. Then they will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they learn war anymore.

O house of Jacob, come, and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 18 (p.69) (sung in unison)

The grace of God is the security of the church. No enemy will remove believers from God's "right hand."

SECOND LESSON: Romans 13:11-14 (EHV)

The return of Christ at the end of time calls believers to practice patient vigilance as they live out their faith in the "daylight" of sanctification.

13:11 And do this since you understand the present time. It is already the hour for you to wake up from sleep, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is almost over, and the day is drawing near. So let us put away the deeds of darkness and put on the weapons of light. Let us walk decently as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual sin and wild living, not in strife and jealousy. Instead, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not give any thought to satisfying the desires of your sinful flesh.

VERSE OF THE DAY: Alleluia. The one who testifies about these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! Alleluia. (Revelation 22:20)

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44 (EHV) (sermon text) (Please Stand)

The return of the Lord Jesus calls for readiness at all times. Believers should note the ordinariness of the times before his return and not be lulled into complacency, for "as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man." The Lord will come suddenly and unexpectedly!

24:36 "No one know when that day and hour will be, no the angels of heaven, not even the Son, but only the Father 37 Just as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be when the Son of Man returns. 38 In fact, in the days before the flood people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the very day that Noah entered the ark. 39 And they did not realize what was coming until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man returns.

40 "At that time two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. 41 Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. 45 So be alert, because you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. 43 But understand this: If the master of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. 44 You also need to be ready for this reason: The Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect him."

HYMN 220: "O'er the Distant Mountains Breaking"

SERMON THEME: You'd Better Watch Out

1. Watch out for complacency
2. Watch out for unbelief
3. Watch out for carelessness

APOSTLES' CREED – Page 41

OFFERING HYMN 485 Verses 1 & 2: "We Give Thee but Thine Own" (Please Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN 7: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

BENEDICTION

HYMN 472: "Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray"

SILENT PRAYER & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Serving Us Today ~ December 1, 2019

Organist: Marjean Schroeder-Oaks

Ushers: Karl Luft, Jim Daubert, Marty Waite & Tom Gregory

Altar Guild: Rachel Freerking, Kay Kohfeldt & Edie Nieman



The Flowers Adorning Our Altar have been sponsored by Pastor, in memory of his sister Beth who would have turned 66 on December 11.

Altar Guild and Usher Sign-up Sheets for 2020 are located in our Fellowship Hall. ANY confirmed member is welcome and encouraged to join our team. It's easy to do, please give it a try!

Immanuel's Budget and Election Meeting will be held December 8 following our Worship Service. A copy of the proposed 2020 budget can be obtained on our Guest Registry desk. If you are interested in serving on our Church Council, please speak to Marty Waite or Pastor Seelman.

Advent Envelopes: Additional Advent offering envelopes are available in the entranceway of our church. Please remember to write your name or envelope number on the front so you can be appropriately credited. Thank you!

2020 OCM Cards Have Been Ordered and can be obtained from Ruth Reiter *hopefully next Sunday*. Proceeds assist the WLA bus fund. Thank you!

Gifts for the Parkview Program are due Friday.

Our Sunday School Children's Christmas Practices will be on Saturday, December 14 and December 21 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Their Christmas party will also be on December 21 from noon to 1:00 p.m.

A Big Thank You to the Dedicated Members and Guests who decorated our church for Christmas yesterday. Once again, it looks beautiful! Well done. ☺

Church Council Members will meet briefly tomorrow evening at 6:30 p.m. in our conference room.

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GIFTS		THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL	
Needed per week	\$3,379.00	Office Hours	Tues. Weds & Thurs. 8:00 a.m. -Noon
Budget Rec'd 11-24-19	\$12,048.35		
Budget Need to date	\$158,813.00	Today	10:00 a.m. Adult Doctrine Study
Budget Rec'd to date	\$145,527.06	Today	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
		Monday	6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting
		Tuesday	9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
		Wednesday	5:30 p.m. Soup Supper
		Wednesday	6:30 p.m. Advent Service
		Wednesday	7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Attendance 11-24-19	78	Thursday	7:30 p.m. Dartball
Sunday Doctrine Study	13	Sunday	9:00 a.m. Communion Service
Sunday School	3	Sunday	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Soup Supper	25	Sunday	10:00 a.m. Budget & Election Meeting
Thanksgiving Attendance	51		

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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