

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020



Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

1865 14TH AVE

GREELEY CO 80631

Email: office@immanlutheran.org

Website: immanlutheran.org

Phone: 970.352.3003

Rev. Dr. Daren Erisman

Phone: 760.814.5171

**“WELCOME TO IMMANUEL”
INSIDE, OUTSIDE, AND ONLINE WORSHIP**

*Note that our guidelines will evolve over time as restrictions increase or decrease.
Thank you for your faithful flexibility as we worship our beloved Lord and Savior!*

INSIDE

- Please practice social-distancing. Save important conversations and visiting for outside where it is safer.

- Masks are required inside and advisable outside.
Pick up your bulletin on the table inside and put your offering (or pledge) in the offering plate.
- Let the usher know if you have a preference where you would like to sit. They will try to seat you based on your group size and your preference.
- Talk as little as possible and only in a soft voice.
- Only the worship leaders sing and speak out. Hum the songs if you feel so led.
- Communion cups/wafers are already set up in the pews. Put the used cups back in the wooden holder when you are finished.
- The usher will dismiss you.

- Inside worship is inevitably different than before the pandemic. For the best experience, you may want to view it as a more reflective time enjoyed in a beautiful, sacred space where you can listen, share in communion, and attend to God.

OUTSIDE

- Safer than inside worship, outside worship doesn't require masks in your vehicle—although masks are advisable when interacting with others like the usher who brings you:
 - ◇ Your bulletin.
 - ◇ Your combined communion cup & wafer.
 - ◇ An offering box to put your offering (or pledge card).

- Please turn your car radio to this radio station:

FM 90.9

- Feel free to sing and join in as loudly as you want during worship. Take home the used communion cups and dispose of them.
- Outside worship reminds us of the fun and comradery of the summer parking-lot worship. It is a way of worshipping more closely with others while staying safe in our vehicle. Like the inside worship, communion is offered.

ONLINE

- The safest and most convenient worship experience, online worship involves just a few steps:
 - ◇ If you wish to celebrate communion, prepare ahead of time bread or cracker, as well as juice or wine.
 - ◇ Go to www.immanlutheran.org on your computer, smartphone, tablet, etc.
 - ◇ View or print out the bulletin before watching the service. You may also request to have a paper bulletin mailed to you each week.
 - ◇ Click on the video link and worship!
- Online worship is the safest and most convenient worship experience. It is recommended for the most vulnerable. Although missing the social element of worshipping together inside or outside, the online worship can in some ways feel the most “normal.”

Welcome to Worship!
We are a “Church Together”

God calls us to be a church together as we find ourselves physically separated, but spiritually united as one community of God. Whether you are a visitor or longtime member, you are welcome to join us in worshiping Jesus Christ. You might do this by:

- Using this bulletin as a devotional.
- Watch and follow the worship video on our website at www.immanlutheran.org.

Offerings may be mailed to the office:

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1865 14th Avenue
Greeley, CO 80631

Contact the Office and Pastor:

Office phones (970-352-3003) will be monitored during office hours and messages responded to in a reasonable manner. For the safety of everyone during this pandemic, we have been advised to not have in-person meetings or visits. If you have a pastoral concern, either call the office and leave a message to set up a time to converse with Pastor Daren, or if urgent, text or call Pastor Daren at 760-814-5171.

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah *vs 2*



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who was in the beginning,
who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mer-
cy.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God of goodness and loving kindness,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
and our neighbors.**

**We have turned away from your invitation to new life.
We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden.
In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins,
those we know and those known only to you,
for the sake of the one who came to live among us,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Hear the good news of peace and salvation!
God forgives us all our sins,
not through our own work,
but through ✚ Jesus Christ, made known to all people.
With all who come to the manger,
rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

Amen.

THE GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make
straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it
together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are
grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows
upon it; surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand
forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his
arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

²**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their
hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

Hymn of the Day: Rejoice, Rejoice Believers *Verses 1, 4*



1 Re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - ti - ence their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.
Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of power and might, comfort your people and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

Faithful God, you teach us to wait for you with faithfulness and patience. Sustain and support us in our doubts and questions. Nurture our faith as we discern and enact your mission.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Leading God, you ask us to make uneven ground smooth. Make even the disparities between your people. Sustain and support people with physical and intellectual disabilities. Accompany disability advocates who work for a world accessible to all. Teach us to celebrate the great diversity in our midst.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Tender God, you know sorrow and joy alike. We pray for those in our families and congregation who are not joyful in this holiday season. Comfort those who grieve, be a companion to all who are lonely, tend those who are sick or struggling with depression, and gather all people in your healing embrace.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Meal

Offering

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

LORD'S PRAYER

**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**

Communion

After all have communed:

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

Prayer after Communion:

Let us pray:

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Purpose and Mission Statements:

Immanuel is called to proclaim the life, death and resurrection of Christ; to provide places and opportunities for worship and fellowship; and to be the spirit of Christ in the world.

Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry gathers in Christ's name to share God's love, to ask questions, to grow in faith, to respect and nurture our differences, and to serve others.

Blessing

Sending Hymn: Blessed Be the God of Israel



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might-y arm
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Daren Erisman

Pianist: Marcia Hutton

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 8:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

Pastor Daren Erisman

Office: 352-3003, Cell: 760-814-5171, email: reverisman@gmail.com

In this time of COVID19, Please feel free to make appointments with Pastor Daren by calling or emailing him at the above phone numbers or email address.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

*Thursday, December 24 – 2:00 pm Inside Service
4:00 pm Outside Service*

WEEK OF DECEMBER 6, 2020

Sunday, December 6	10:30 am	Second Sunday of Advent
Monday, December 7		Common Sense Cleaning Church Building
Tuesday, December 8		Men's Weekly Coffee is <u>discontinued</u> until COVID-19 risks diminish
	6:30 pm	Council & Committees

- It's not too late to turn in your pledge for 2021. Mail your pledge to the church office or place in the offering plate. Your pledge helps council develop a budget for 2021. Thank you for supporting the programs at Immanuel.

VOLUNTEERS


Sunday, December 6

Greeter: Julie Elmquist
 Assisting Minister: Janet Willis
 Communion Setup: Cindy Thompson
 Tellers: Marvin & Connie Deines
 Ushers: Cindy & Ron Thompson

Sunday, December 13

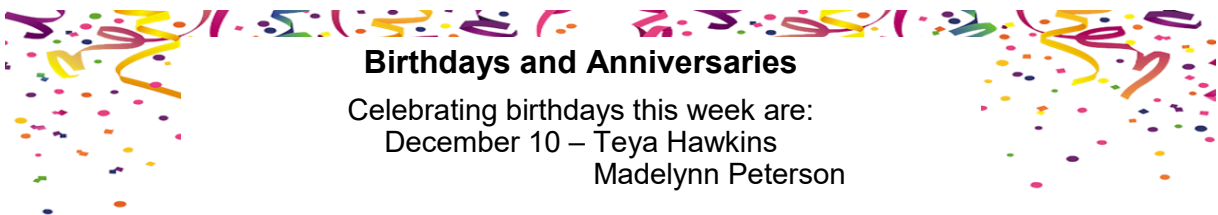
Julie Elmquist
 Marcia Hutton
 Cindy Thompson
 Bev Peterson, Brenda Turnwall
 TBD

Starting November 29, worship will be held inside with COVID restrictions, outside in the parking lot via FM and live streaming online. Please choose a way to worship that is best for you and your family.



Dick Hay Roma Arithson
 Susan Truchses Rodger Arithson
 Shirley Marine LaVina Schmahl
 Family and Friends dealing with COVID

Immanuel's ASAP team has been and STILL IS keeping you in prayer.
If you have concerns or praises for the team,
contact Pastor in the church office or any member of the prayer team.
Roma Arithson, Dianna Fuller, Diane Felipe, Shirley Marine, Don Peterson, Janet Willis



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Celebrating birthdays this week are:

December 10 – Teya Hawkins
Madelynn Peterson

Anniversaries this week are:

December 12—Lelyn & Jacqui Larson

Immanuel's Youth are selling Wall Calendars & Magnetic Notepads!



2021 Wall Calendars: \$10

Magnetic Notepads: \$5



All orders can be paid for and picked up at Immanuel on

Sunday, December 6 from 10am-12pm.

Or, if you are unable to pick up your order, contactless porch delivery
will be available for an additional \$3.00 fee!

Your support is truly appreciated! Thank you!

**Your Immanuel Council is aware of the rising COVID numbers
and will be monitoring the situation.**

Council is ready to comply with any health mandates that may be issued.

As of November 29, 2020, you have the option to worship in person, in the parking lot or on-line.

Inside, social distancing is designed to exceed the 6 feet distancing recommendation, masks must be worn at all times, and congregational responses and singing will be strongly discouraged.

In the parking lot, you will tune in to an FM station to hear and participate in worship. Communion will be provided for those worshipping in the parking lot. And, on-line, the worship service will be live-streamed. You will be able to worship at home at the same time with those worshipping inside the church and in the parking lot.

Thank you for responsibly choosing the worship option each week that will work best for you and your Immanuel family members during this health crisis.

Lap Quilts for Indoor Services



If you chose not to bring your own blanket for services, we have lap quilts you can purchase for \$10.00/each.

If you would like a bigger quilt or a fleece blanket, shop our sewing display room off the Fellowship Hall.

All items are for sale. Proceeds are used to purchase supplies, participate in Immanuel projects and assist in paying for repairs.

Immanuel Sewing Group

Any questions? Call Bev Peterson at 970.324.0106

Immanuel Giving Tree

In an effort to keep everyone safe this year, Immanuel will be collecting monetary donations through **Friday, December 18, 2020**.

The collected funds will be used to benefit local families in need. If you are able to help, please note on your donation that funds are for the ***Giving Tree***.

Please send contributions to:
Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1865 14th Ave, Greeley, CO 80631



If you have information that needs to be added to the weekly update, please contact Denise in the church office at 352-3003 or email to office@immanlutheran.org.