

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7**

But now thus says the LORD,  
 he who created you, O Jacob,  
 he who formed you, O Israel:  
 Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
 I have called you by name, you are mine.  
<sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will  
 be with you;  
 and through the rivers, they shall not  
 overwhelm you;  
 when you walk through fire you shall not  
 be burned,  
 and the flame shall not consume you.  
<sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God,  
 the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.  
 I give Egypt as your ransom,  
 Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.  
<sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight,  
 and honored, and I love you,  
 I give people in return for you,  
 nations in exchange for your life.  
<sup>5</sup>Do not fear, for I am with you;  
 I will bring your offspring from the east,  
 and from the west I will gather you;  
<sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, "Give them up,"  
 and to the south, "Do not withhold;"  
 bring my sons from far away  
 and my daughters from the end of  
 the earth—  
<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,  
 whom I created for my glory,  
 whom I formed and made."

**Psalm 29****SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17**

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup>The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup>(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup>Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

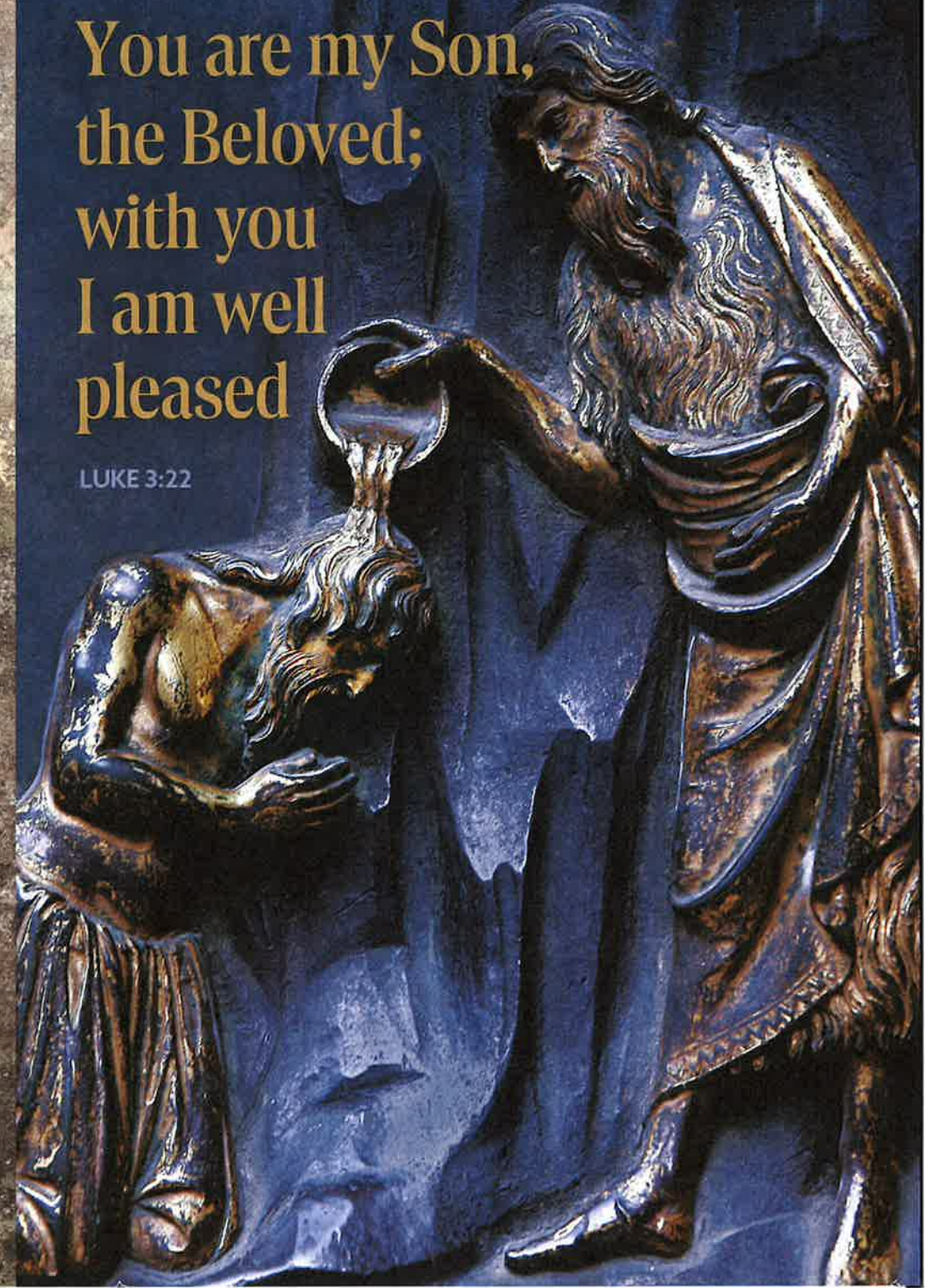
**GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

You are my Son,  
 the Beloved;  
 with you  
 I am well  
 pleased

LUKE 3:22



# Immanuel Lutheran Church

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*Our mission is to invite people to know Jesus Christ so that we may all share God's love.*

**Welcome to Worship at Immanuel** - We are delighted to have friends and family joining us for worship as we celebrate the Christ Child. May the gift of His birth give us hope for things to come going forward into the new year.

**Prayer before Worship:** Heavenly Father, we thank you for the blessings we receive each day. Open our hearts to receive the love you send through your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Prayer Requests:** We welcome requests of prayers for our members, friends and families throughout our communities and beyond. Anyone is welcome to leave a note on the desk in the office or contact the pastor.

**Offering envelopes are located and available on the table in the entry.**  
Please designate how you would like to have your offering used if for anything other than general funds.

**The Lord's Supper**, (offered on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month) the Eucharist, or Holy Communion is a means of God's grace whereby the real presence of Christ is offered. All are welcome to receive Communion at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

**We have Children's Bulletins** for those who wish to enhance the worship experience for the kids. They can be found each week on the table with the regular Sunday Bulletins.

Newsletter, bulletin, and member information or changes may be sent to  
[ckwilson1983@gmail.com](mailto:ckwilson1983@gmail.com) or [immanuelcolfax@hotmail.com](mailto:immanuelcolfax@hotmail.com)

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This Week at Immanuel 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship

## Sunday, January 12, 2025

WORSHIP LEADER: JIM GERBER, SAM

Lay Reader: Dennis Greipentrog

Greeters: Dan & Tracy Harms

Ushers/Acolytes: Ty Harms. Alec Harper

Organist: Cindy Wilson

## Sunday, January 19, 2025

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR NATHAN FEIG

Lay Reader: Dan Harms

Greeters: Ron & Deb Jaskowiak

Ushers/Acolytes: Elton & Spring Mau

Communion: Erin Ifft, Eli Petersen

Organist: Kimberly Petersen

**Please include the following people in our prayers:**

Virginia Winterland, Gary Kessinger, Lucy McKinley, Cheryl Poppe, Robert Ruff, Jeannie Weber, Tim Dawson, Von Becker's Parents - Bob & Judy Logan, Nancy Lasser, Lori Becker (sister-in-law of Von Becker), and Daviney Steidinger-Reynolds (a student at Ridgeview)

## *Announcements*

**Today we welcome Jim Gerber as our worship leader.** We are grateful for him and many others who serve our synod as SAMs and pulpit supply in our congregations.

**Sunday School resumes January 12 at 9:30 am.** That was today, in case you missed it.

**The Annual Meeting** will take place on February 16, 2025 after worship. Everyone is encouraged to attend. **Annual Reports are requested to be turned in by Sunday, February 2, 2025 or sooner if possible.**

**Offering Statements can be found in the mailboxes by the front entrance.**

**LWR Quilts** - We will begin knotting quilts on Tuesdays, January 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-3:00 p.m. If you can thread a needle, we would love to have your help! No other sewing skills are needed.

**If you want to help by sewing a quilt top, there are packages of quilt squares in the parish hall. Please use ½" seams with a short, sturdy stitch and press seams open or to one side.**

# Baptism of Our Lord

January 12, 2025

*Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.*

PRELUDE / ANNOUNCEMENTS

## *Gathering*

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*\*Congregation may remain seated or stand as you are able*

\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the worship leader begins -*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector,  
our wellspring of life.

**C: Amen.**

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us  
confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

**C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:

*"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine."*

*In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.*

**C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

***Brightest and Best of the Stars***

ELW 303

\*GREETING *\*Please stand as you are able*

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

**C: And also with you.**

\*KYRIE

ELW page 138

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. *(sung) C: Lord, have mercy.*

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW page 140

All: Refrain ~ *This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

Women: *Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be  
people of God.* Refrain

Men: *Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.*  
Refrain

All: *Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:*

*Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

Refrain

All: *For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.* Refrain

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.** *Congregation may be seated.*

*Word*

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

back of bulletin

*Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.*

After the reading . . . L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 29

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

**The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**The Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the Lord bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.  
And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

**The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

O Lord, give strength to your people; give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.

READING

Acts 8:14-17

back of bulletin

*Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.*

After the reading . . . L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW page 142

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

\*GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

back of bulletin

*The Gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.*

After the reading: P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**  
*Congregation may be seated.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Jim Gerber, SAM

HYMN OF THE DAY

**Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized**

ELW 304

APOSTLES' CREED

ELW page 104

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power  
of the Holy Spirit, and was born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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.**

\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*Each petition will conclude with:* P: God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **C: Amen.**

\*LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

WE GATHER OUR OFFERING

\*OFFERING SONG *Please stand as you are able.*

ELW 186

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

\*OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray... God of Grace,

**C: your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the  
seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our  
hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.  
Amen.**

*Sending*

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

BLESSING

P: The Spirit of the triune God † bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion,  
and send you in love.

**C: Amen.**

\*HYMN

**Songs of Thankfulness and Praise**

ELW 310

\*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE