

This Week at Immanuel    9:00 am - Worship    10:00 am - Sunday School

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**Sunday, January 4, 2026**

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR AMY ZEITLOW

Lay Reader: Amy Winterland

Greeters: Kent & Rebecca Casson

Ushers/Acolytes: Jerry & Suzie Kukuck

Communion: Angie Kratochvil, Rebecca C.

Organist: Cindy Wilson

**Sunday, January 11, 2026**

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR JEFF HENDRICKS

Lay Reader: Dee Winterland

Greeters: Norman & Karen Harms

Ushers/Acolytes: Eli & Ktelyn Petersen

Communion: na

Organist: Kimberly Petersen

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

Lois Barker, Cheryl Poppe, Jeannie Weber, Bob & Nancy Lasser, Judy Logan, Kevin and Chad Allen (family members of Von Becker), Cindy Harris, and Rebecca Casson, Kris Barnett, Betty Petersen.

*Announcements*

**Today we welcome Pastor Amy Zeittlow to lead our worship. She is an Assistant to the Bishop in our Synod. Please give her a warm welcome.**

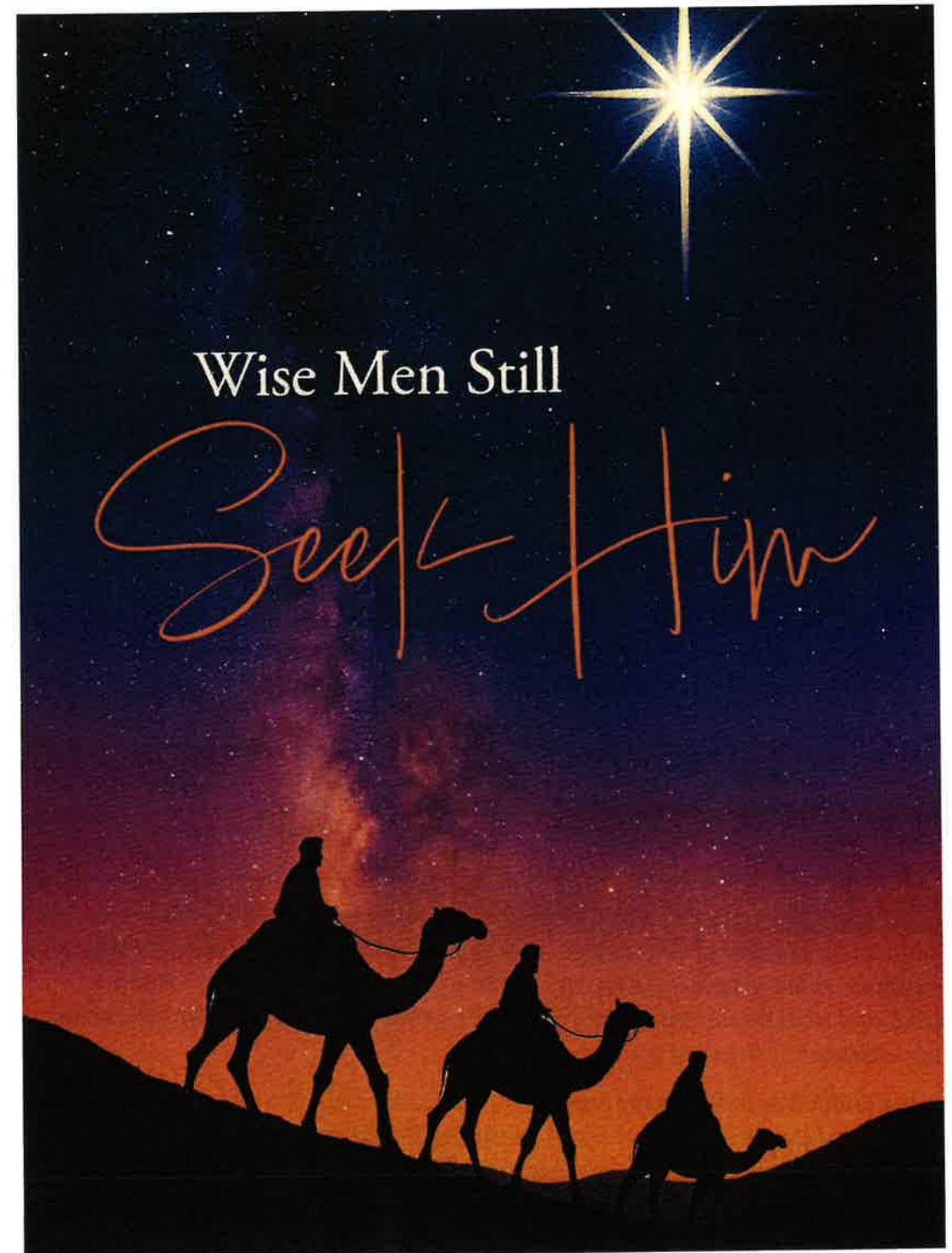
**There is no Sunday School today.** Classes will resume next Sunday, January 11.

**Please mark your calendars for our Annual Meeting of the Congregation to take place February 15, 2026 after worship.**

**LWR Quilts** - There is a box in the parish hall of pre-cut packages of quilt squares that can be sewn into quilt tops. These will help us prepare for quilting next year. Please use 1/2" seam, a tight/short stitch, and do not make a cross pattern.

**We are back to knotting quilt tops!** We will be meeting on Tuesdays, January 13 and 27th from 1:00-3:30 p.m. We would love to have some new faces join us! It's easy and the company is great! 😊 Please let Dee Winterland know if you plan to attend so if we need to cancel due to weather or illness, she can let you know in advance.

*May you continue in the glow of Christmas and journey on into a joyous, healthy, and happy New Year!*



# 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're so glad you're here! There are many good reasons to come to church, but the best one is to worship and thank God for His amazing love — shown through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That's what our church is all about.

**Prayer before Worship:** Lord, remind us that every new beginning starts with your grace. Renew our faith, restore our peace, and help us live as your people of light and hope. 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. **There is also a prayer box with cards to use on the table under the mailboxes for prayer requests.**

**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> Sunday of the month) the Eucharist, or Holy Communion is a means of God's grace whereby the real presence of Christ is offered. *If you would rather receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, please come forward and cross your arms to your shoulders as indication of wanting a blessing. All are welcome at the Lord's table.*

**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.

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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)

## Second Sunday of Christmas

January 4, 2026

*Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.*

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, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior,  
Prince of Peace.

**C: Amen.**

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Reconciling God,

**C: we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair.**

**We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.**

P: God's grace upon grace flows over you. † Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

**C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

**Love Has Come**

ELW 292

\*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 have filled all the earth with the light of your  
incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do,  
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 60:1-6

printed below

<sup>1</sup> Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples,  
but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

<sup>3</sup> Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in  
their nurses' arms.

<sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

<sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

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

PSALM

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

**That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills,  
in righteousness.

**Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor,  
and crush the oppressor.**

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation  
to another.

**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers  
that water the earth.**

In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance  
of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings  
of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.  
**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed,  
and those who have no helper.**  
He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.  
**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious  
is their blood in his sight.**

READING Ephesians 3:1-12 printed below

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you gentiles, <sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

Matthew 2:1-12

printed below

*The Gospel is announced:*

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

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Amy Zeittlow

HYMN OF THE DAY

***We Three Kings of Orient Are***

WOV 646

\*APOSTLE'S 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 INTERCESION

P: Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

After each petition: P: Hear us, O God, C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. C: **Amen.**

WE GATHER OUR OFFERING

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

ELW 182

*Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.*

*Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.*

*Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now.*

*Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

\*OFFERING PRAYER

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

C: **great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*Meal*

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(spoken)*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

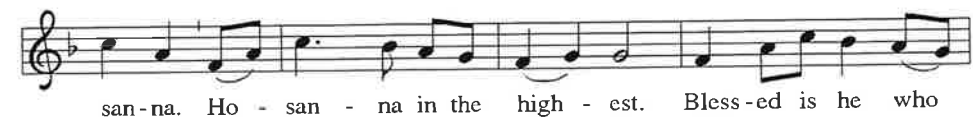
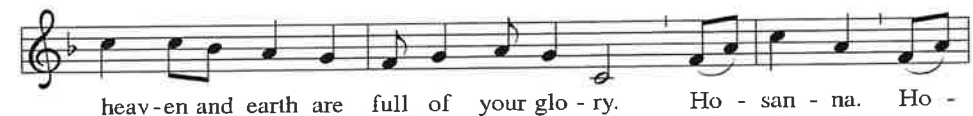
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**  
P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **C: Come, Lord Jesus.**  
P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth. **V C: Come, Holy Spirit.**  
P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!  
*Congregation may be seated.*

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All are invited to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table. The inner circle of cups contain grape juice, the rest are wine. Please follow the directions of the ushers.*

COMMUNION HYMNS

***Lamb of God  
Holy Child within the Manger***

ELW, page 146  
WOV 638

*After all have returned to their places, please stand as you are able.*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you  
and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift  
and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to  
discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives,  
through Christ born in us.  
**C: Amen.**

*Sending*

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

BLESSING

P: The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter,  
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.  
**C: Amen.**

\*HYMN

***Go Tell it on the Mountain***

ELW 290

\*DISMISSAL

P: Glory to God in the highest! **C: And peace to God's people on earth!**  
P: Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE