

**IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Manitowoc, Wisconsin



**Children's Christmas Service**  
December 22, 2023 (9:00am)  
December 24, 2023 (8 & 10:30am)

## Welcome

Thanks for being here! We truly pray that today you find the warmth of our Christian hospitality, the powerful truth of God's Word and the peace-giving assurance of his promises. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. We hope you worship with us again!

### If Immanuel Is New to You:

**Relax.** At Immanuel, our worship is designed to praise God and enrich faith. We aim to make the service clear and appropriately reverent. For your convenience, the service is printed for you here as well as displayed on our screens.

**Restrooms** are located in the lobby, just to the right of the elevator.

**Make yourself at home.** You don't have to rush off after the service today. Light refreshments are typically provided in our lobby after the 8:00 am service. If you are comfortable, feel free to follow up with one of our Pastors - we'd be honored if you would take the time to introduce yourself!

**Don't feel obligated.** Our members give financial offerings to the Lord as an expression of thanks and praise for his amazing love. Please know that you are our guests and we're simply happy you've come to hear about Jesus and his Word today. You're not expected to give an offering; it's your choice.

**Cell phones.** To remove as many distractions as possible from worshiping God today, we kindly ask that you silence your phone before the service.

**Questions?** If you'd like to know more about our church or our beliefs, or have questions about our PreK thru 8th grade school, our pastors or principal would love to help. Feel free to contact them at any time (*their contact info is included on the announcement insert*). You may also browse the information counter in our lobby for magazines, brochures and devotional resources.

***Please refrain from flash photography and applause during the service. Thank You.***

**What a Story!**  
**A Children's Christmas Service**

**Preservice Music:**

- **Piano students:** Banning Abbey, Deacon DeVries, Aiden Reis, Aaliyah Reis, Ayla Nelson, Talan Panske, EJ Gamez, Hayden Svatek, Patience Stuebs, Peyton Ott, Parker Ullman, Ella Freemyer, Lorelei Abbey, Eliana Gags, Elena Seal.
- **Instruments:** 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Recorders – “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” K-3 Colored Bells – “Still,” Grades 5-6 Chimes – “We Three Kings,” Grades 7-8 Chimes – “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”
- **Hochmuth family:** “Angels We Have Heard on High”

**Opening Hymn (Congregation and Children)**

**O Come, All Ye Faithful (CW 354)**

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!**  
**O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!**  
**Come and behold him, born the King of angels: *(Refrain)***

*(Refrain)*

**O come, let us adore him,**  
**O come, let us adore him,**  
**O come, let us adore him,**  
**Christ the Lord!**

**God from true God, and Light from Light eternal,**  
**born of a virgin, to earth he comes!**  
**Only-begotten Son of God the Father: *(Refrain)***

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,**  
**sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!**  
**Glory to God, all glory in the highest: *(Refrain)***

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;**  
**Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n!**  
**Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *(Refrain)***

## Pastor's Message

### Preschool: Recitation and "In a Little Stable"

## INTRODUCTION

### 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades - Narration

#### Song by Children: (3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades)

#### Joy in Judea

There was **joy** in Judea in that little town when Jesus Christ was born.  
There was **joy** in Judea in that little town, yes it was on that Christmas morn.

There was **hope** in Judea when the star shone down on a manger filled with hay.  
There was **hope** in Judea when the star shone down upon the place where Jesus lay.

There was peace and the promise of goodwill to men when the shepherds heard the angels sing.  
And the song of salvation spread thru Bethlehem: sweet Mary birthed a King!

There was **love** in Judea when the shepherds found the mother and her child.  
There was **love** in Judea when the shepherds found this little Babe so undefiled.

## PART 1: THE BIRTH OF JESUS FORETOLD

### 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grades - Narration

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Recitation

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times (Micah 5:2).

The Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and

will call him Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14).

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6).

### **5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grades - Narration**

**Song by Children: 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades**

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

The prophets told us long ago a star would come from Jacob.  
This child would be born in Bethlehem, and he would come to save us.

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

The angel said to Mary, that she would have a Son.  
His name would be called Emmanuel, God's gift from Heav'n send down.

## **PART 2: AN ANGEL'S STARTLING MESSAGE**

### **7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades - Narration**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Recitation**

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on



**Of her Immanuel, the Christ, was born  
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,  
“Most highly favored maiden.” Gloria!**

### **PART 3: A BABY IS BORN**

#### **7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades - Narration**

##### **1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Recitation**

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

##### **Kindergarten - Recitation**

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them (Luke 2:1-7).

#### **Song by Children: K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

#### **Away in a Manger**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
and take us to heaven to live with you there.

## **PART 4: UNEXPECTED GUESTS**

### **5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grades - Narration**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Grades - Recitation**

There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Recitation**

“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

### **Kindergarten - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Recitation**

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

### **3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Grades - Recitation**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told (Luke 2:8-20).



Go, tell it on the mountain. Over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ was born!

While shepherds kept their watching, O'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold thro'out the heavens, There shone a holy light.  
*(Refrain)*

Down in a lowly manger, The humble Christ was born,  
And brought us God's salvation, That blessed Christmas morn.  
*(Refrain)*

**5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades - Narration**

**5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grades - Recitation**

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: " 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.' " Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route (Matthew 2:1-12).

**Song by Children: (K-4<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

**Follow the Star**

A long time ago in a land far away, A new star appeared bright and clear.  
The wise men who saw it knew just what it meant: That Jesus the Savior was here.

Follow the star, follow the star, Bright in the heavens its guidance is offering.  
Shining above, sign of God's love, Show us the way to our infant King. *(Refrain)*

And so they returned to their land far away, Their hearts full of wonder and joy:  
They knew they had worshipped the Savior of all, When kneeling before that small  
boy.  
*(Refrain)*

**PART 5: CONCLUSION**

**7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades - Narration**

**Offering of Thanks to Jesus** (Junior Choir sings during offering)

**African Noel**

**Prayer and Benediction by Pastor**

**Song by the Children: (K-8<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Glory, Glory! To the newborn King!

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies; with th'angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!" *(Refrain)*

*(Refrain)*

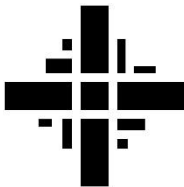
Oh, Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Glory, Glory! To the newborn King!

Hail, the heav'nly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
*(Refrain)*



**6:00pm Candlelight Worship**  
**9:00am Christmas Day Worship (Adult Choir)**



# IMMANUEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

*Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church  
is a family glorifying God, growing in faith,  
and leading others to Christ.*

Worship Schedule:  
Thursdays at 6:30 PM  
Sundays at 8 AM & 10:30 AM

[www.ilutheran.org](http://www.ilutheran.org)

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