

**IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Manitowoc, Wisconsin



**Children's Christmas Service**  
December 22, 2017 (1pm) | December 24, 2017 (8 & 10:30am)



## WELCOME

In the name of our Lord Jesus, welcome to one and all! We pray that here at Immanuel you will find the warmth of Christian hospitality, the abiding truth of God's Word and the quiet assurance of peace in Christ. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. Come worship with us again!

**TODAY'S FOCUS:** This year we have been celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation by which a gracious God restored the pure gospel to his church. Today we hear the familiar account of our Savior's birth with a Reformation flavor. During that time the truth of the gospel was often expressed using five *solas* (Latin for "alone"): Scripture Alone, Faith Alone, Grace Alone, Christ Alone and To God Alone be the Glory. The baby lying in the manger reminds us once again that we are not saved by what we do, but by God's grace alone through faith in Jesus Christ alone which we learn about in Scripture alone. And for this God alone deserves all the glory. Let us give him our full attention as the children share the good news in Word and song and as we respond with prayer and praise. Glory to God in the highest!

## FOR VISITORS

- **Friendship Register:** Please fill out the Friendship Register at the end of each pew.
- **Cell Phones:** Out of respect for our Lord and your fellow worshipers, please silence your cell phone.
- **Restrooms:** The main restrooms are located down the hall to your left.
- **Offering:** Please do not feel obligated to contribute when the offering plates are passed. We understand that you may want to know more about Immanuel's ministry before you support it with your gifts. However, if you are moved to give, you are welcome to do so.
- **Contact:** Our pastor and principal are always happy to serve you. Please feel free to contact them (contact info with announcements).

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

# A “Sola” Christmas

## A Children’s Christmas Service Focusing on the “Solos” of the Reformation

Processional Hymn 55

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,  
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him, Born the King of angels.

*Refrain:*

Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, 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*

**Invocation:**

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

**Responsive Reading** (*Psalm 96, selected verses*):

**M:** Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**C:** **Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.**

**M:** Declare his glory among the nations,

**C:** **his marvelous deeds among all peoples.**

**M:** Ascribe to the LORD, all you families of nations,

**C:** **ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**

**M:** Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness;

**C:** **tremble before him, all the earth.**

**M:** Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;

**C:** **let the sea resound, and all that is in it.**

**M:** Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes,

**C:** **he comes to judge the earth.**

**M:** He will judge the world in righteousness

**C:** **and the peoples in his faithfulness.**

**Pastor:** Preschool Introduction

**Preschool**

In a Little Stable

Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;  
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.  
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!

Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to thee.  
Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;  
Through thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,  
Draw me unto thee! Draw me unto thee!

Now through his Son doth shine The Father's grace divine.  
Death o'er us had reigned Through sin and vanity;  
He for us obtained Eternal joy on high.  
May we praise him there! May we praise him there!

### **Introduction by Pastor**

#### **Narration:**

We all know how important a solid foundation is for a building. A building with a weak foundation may stand for a time, but eventually it will topple. Today, we once again hear the account of the birth of Jesus. Why do we set aside time to do this every year? The answer is that this is an important brick in the foundation of our faith. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 3:11, "No one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ." As we close out the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we are reminded how God used Martin Luther to restore to the church the true teachings of Scripture. Luther summarized those teachings in five short statements: By Scripture Alone, By Faith Alone, Through Christ Alone, To God's Glory Alone, and By Grace Alone. These phrases form the foundation of the Lutheran Church, and because they are rooted in Scripture, they form the foundation of the Christian faith.

## **Part One: By Scripture Alone (*Sola Scriptura*)**

### **Narration:**

Part one of our service is titled, “By Scripture Alone.” Only in the Bible, God’s inspired word, do we hear the truths about creation, the fall into sin, God’s continual promise of a Savior from sin; and the fulfillment of that promise in the perfect life, suffering, death, and resurrection of his son Jesus. God inspired the Old Testament writers to show why our Savior from sin was needed. The New Testament writers were inspired by God to record how Jesus did everything necessary to redeem us from sin. God tells us through his disciple Peter how this inspiration took place:

### **Recitation (Gr. 7&8):**

Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things. For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (*2 Peter 1:20, 21*)

### **Narration:**

How do we know for sure that the baby whose birth we are celebrating truly is our Savior? We know because Scripture tells us. That news can be found nowhere else but in God’s Word. God gave his people prophecies—pictures of coming events—so they would recognize the Messiah when he came. In the book of Genesis, after Adam and Eve had fallen into sin, God promised for the first time that he would send his son to be our Savior:

### **Recitation (Gr. 7&8):**

“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.” (*Genesis 3:15*)

### **Narration:**

The prophet Isaiah foretold of our Savior’s special birth:

**Recitation (Gr. 7&8):**

“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*)

**Narration:**

The prophet Micah revealed more details about our Savior’s birth:

**Recitation (Gr. 7&8):**

“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*)

**Narration:**

The prophet Jeremiah told God’s people that the Savior would come from the family of David:

**Recitation (Gr. 7&8):**

“‘The days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.’” (*Jeremiah 33:14-16*)

**Congregational Hymn 47, st. 1-3**

Behold a Branch is Growing

Behold, a Branch is growing Of loveliest form and grace,  
As prophets sang, foreknowing; It springs from Jesse’s race  
And bears one little flow’r In midst of coldest winter,  
At deepest midnight hour.

Isaiah had foretold it In words of promise sure,  
And Mary’s arms enfold it, A virgin meek and pure.  
Through God’s eternal will This child to her is given  
At midnight calm and still.

The shepherds heard the story Proclaimed by angels bright,  
How Christ, the Lord of glory, Was born on earth this night.  
To Bethlehem they sped And in the manger found him,  
As angel heralds said.

### **Part Two: By Faith Alone (*Sola Fide*)**

#### **Narration:**

Part two of our service has the title, “By Faith Alone.” In the 11th chapter of the letter to the Hebrews, we find a definition for faith:

#### **Recitation (Gr. 5&6):**

Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.  
(*Hebrews 11:1*)

#### **Narration:**

When we receive unsettling news, our reaction might be to doubt the truth of this news. Today, we see Mary as an example of strong faith as she reacts to some potentially startling news:

#### **Recitation (Gr. 5&6):**

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.”

“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her. (*Luke 1:26-38*)

**Song**

Wexford Carol/Magnificat (*Jr. Choir*)

### **Part Three: Through Christ Alone (*Solus Christus*)**

**Narration:**

“Through Christ Alone” is the title of the third part of our service. Mary was chosen by God to give birth to the Savior. Mary was not special in and of herself, but by faith—a gift of the Holy Spirit—she trusted God and his Word. Many people today say they have faith, but too often it is in someone or something that provides no lasting foundation. Scripture tells us that there is only one sure foundation for our faith—Jesus Christ.

**Congregational Hymn 752 st. 1-3**

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found.  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone—who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones he came to save.  
Till on that cross, as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev’ry sin on him was laid.  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory,  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am his and he is mine—  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

**Narration:**

Jesus Christ, himself, tells us that he is the only way to heaven:

**Recitation (Gr. 5&6):**

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (*John 14:6*)

**Narration:** God's Word reminds us that Christ Jesus is the only path to salvation:

**Recitation: (Gr. 5&6):**

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved. (*Acts 4:12*)

**Narration:**

Thousands of years after making the first promise of a Savior, God kept his promise, and sent the Messiah. Listen again to those familiar words proclaiming the birth of Jesus:

**Recitation: (Gr. 3&4):**

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 his 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. 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 room for them in the inn. *(Luke 2:1-7)*

**Song**

Unto Us a Child is Born *(K-8)*

**Offering**

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.

**Part Four: To God Alone Be the Glory *(Soli Deo Gloria)***

**Narration:**

Part Four of our service is entitled, "To God Alone Be the Glory." God alone deserves the glory for our salvation. He alone saves us from our sin. Matthew, the author of the first book of the Bible's New Testament, records the angel's instructions to Joseph concerning the special child:

**Recitation (Gr. 7&8):**

"You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."  
*(Matthew 1:21)*

**Narration:**

We have no part in saving ourselves. The Bible tells us we are saved through Christ alone. So, we give God alone all the glory in thankfulness for sending his Son to save us. Yes, today we see a humble baby in a manger; but the apostle Paul reminds us in his letter to the Philippians of the glory and honor Jesus deserves:

**Recitation (Gr. 7&8):**

God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *(Philippians 2:9-11)*

**Narration:**

The angels served as a good example for us when they praised God after telling the shepherds the news of our Savior’s birth:

**Recitation (Gr. K-2):**

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, “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.”

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.” (*Luke 2:8-14*)

**Song**Glory to God (*K-2*)**Part Five: By Grace Alone (*Sola Gratia*)****Narration:**

“By Grace Alone” is the title of part five in our service. In the next few days, many of us will be opening our Christmas gifts. What have we done to earn those gifts? The answer is nothing. The moment we do something to earn them, they are no longer gifts. Out of love for us, God gave the most precious gift on that first Christmas—the Savior who lived a perfect life and suffered and died to pay for our sins. Our sinful nature wants nothing to do with God and his precious gift. Despite that fact, God still loves us. God’s love is undeserved. That is GRACE! The apostle Paul reminds us:

**Recitation (Grades 3&4):**

It is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. (*Ephesians 2:8,9*)

**Narration:**

After you have opened your gifts, do you keep quiet about them? Do you tell your friends and family about what you have received? When the shepherds saw God's gift to the world, they did not keep the great news to themselves. They spread the word so that others could experience God's grace, too!

**Recitation (Grades 3&4):**

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 2:15-20)*

**Song**

To Shepherds as They Watched by Night (CW 53, st. 1,2,6)  
*(Grades 3&4)*

**Responsive Prayer**

**M:** God our Wonderful Counselor, in your Word you reveal to us who you are and what we are.

**C:** **Through your Scriptures alone you show us that you are righteous and we are not. You show us that you are love and that we are forgiven.**

**M:** Mighty God, you provide us with certain hope and redeem us from our sin.

**C:** **Through faith alone we hold to your promises, and through Christ alone we receive salvation.**

**M:** Everlasting Father, you rule the universe, the church, and the hearts of your people.

**C:** **To you alone belongs all glory and praise!**

**M:** Prince of Peace, your love covers us and fills us and moves us.

**C:** **Through grace alone we receive new life and eternal hope.**

**M:** Faithful God, move us to rejoice in our salvation and to share eagerly this Good News with others.

**C:** **Help us to live for you through Scripture alone, by faith alone, in Christ alone, under grace alone, and to your glory alone. Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**C:** **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### **Closing**

#### **Pastor:**

We have heard the amazing message of God's love in sending His Son to be our Savior. God has blessed us with the opportunity to be reminded of the five "solas" of our salvation: By Scripture Alone, By Faith Alone, Through Christ Alone, To God Alone Be the Glory, and By Grace Alone. Hearing this wonderful news compels us to do something more: share this good news with the world. Our children will sing of our responsibility to share God's message of salvation.

#### **Song**

Go Tell It on the Mountain (K-8)

#### **Announcements**

#### **Benediction**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.



### **Accompanist**

**Friday:** Joel Putz, Darci Matzke, Mary Hochmuth, Natalie Hochmuth

**Sunday:** Ann Wilson, Rachel Winter, Mary Hochmuth, Natalie Hochmuth

### **Pre-Service Music - Piano Students**

**Grades 5 & 6:** Maren Dewane, Emily Uhlhorn, Lola Souphanthavong, Jaelynn DeVries

**Grades 7 & 8:** Josie Sims, Madeline Oswald, Amelie Doneff, Ryan Dewane, Luke Nikolai

### **Piano Teachers**

Mrs. Ardis Haag, Mrs. Jane Lepich

### **Faculty & Staff**

Pastor Daniel Sims

Mr. David Wilson, Principal; 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mr. Guy Gast, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mrs. Karen Kehl, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mrs. Betsy Nikolai, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mr. Joel Putz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Mrs. Kristen Washuleski, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Mrs. Rachel Uhlhorn, Kindergarten

Ms. Bethany Ehlert, Pre-K

Mrs. Brenda Smith, Preschool Aide; Wrap Around Care

Mrs. Peggy Brandalise, Wrap Around Care

Mrs. Gail Kolar, Wrap Around Care

Mrs. Deb Menges, Secretary

Mrs. Gaye Klein, Finance

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Rodewald, Custodians

**Worship Christ, the Newborn King!**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

“The Light Has Dawned”

Sunday, December 24, 7:00 PM

**Christmas Day Worship**

“Profound Lowliness and Great Glory”

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM

**New Year’s Eve Worship**

Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 8 & 10:30 AM



