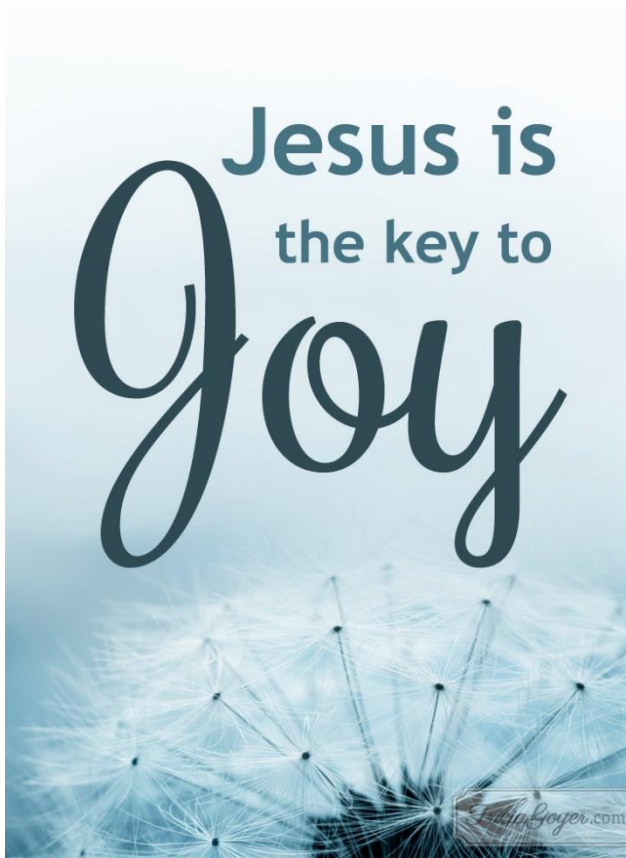


# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! *Zephaniah 3:14*

December 15, 2018  
5:00 p.m.

**WELCOME TO  
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
(Immanuel means “God with us”)

**AS WE GATHER**

“Rejoice in the Lord always!” may seem like quite the daunting task in today’s world. Yes, there are moments of joy, but there are also moments of tragedy and devastation. It is not possible to be always joyful. But rejoicing is not a task that we have to add to our to-do list. And we are not called to rejoice in everything always. We are called to rejoice in the Lord always. The God who rejoices over us with gladness and calms us with His love brings us into a relationship with Him that is filled with rejoicing at His presence and providence.

**A Few FYI'S as You Worship with Us.**

- **Attendance/Prayer cards**, please fill out and give to an elder/usher or place in the offering plate so that we may be better equipped to serve you.
- **Busy Bags** are available in the Narthex for those with little busy hands. Please help yourself.
- **Children bulletins** are available from the ushers.
- **Assisted Listening Devices** are also available from an Elder or Usher.
- **Grace Space** is available up by the pulpit for little children. Please supervise your children when they are using Grace Space.



## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

“The Advent of Our King”

LSB 331

### INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is coming soon!

**People: He is coming soon indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always!

**People: For He will rejoice over us with gladness.**

Leader: Again, I say, rejoice!

**People: He will quiet us with His love.**

Leader: Steadfast love and faithfulness meet.

**People: Righteousness and peace kiss each other.**

Leader: In Christ, the blind receive their sight, the lame walk,

**People: the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear.**

Leader: In Christ, the dead are raised up,

**People: and the poor have the good news preached to them.**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is coming soon!

**People: He is coming soon indeed! Alleluia!**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader On the four Sundays in Advent, we light a new candle each week. We mark the four candles with these four words: hope, peace, joy, and love.  
Jesus Christ is the hope of the nations.

**People: We wait for the Lord, and in His Word we have hope.**

Leader: Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace.

**People: We wait for the Lord, and in His Word we have rest.**

Leader: Jesus Christ is the source of all joy.

**People: We wait for the Lord, and in His Word we rejoice.**

## HYMN

“The King Shall Come to Bring Us Joy”

tune of LSB 348

The King shall come to bring us joy,  
To silence all our hate.  
He comes in power to destroy  
Both sin and Satan’s weight.

We light this candle and rejoice  
That God has sent His Son!  
We pray and praise and raise our voice  
With thanks for all He’s done.

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## ✠ WORD ✠

## FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14–20

(p. 672, ESV) (p.935, NIV)

*(The Lord will rejoice over you with gladness.)*

## SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4–7

(p. 842, ESV) (p. 1163, NIV)

*(Rejoice in the Lord always.)*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 7:18–28

(p. 737, ESV) (p.1022, NIV)

*“The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them.”*

### HYMN OF THE DAY

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

LSB 347

### MESSAGE

“Finding Joy”

Pastor Donald Antor

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: rejoice in the Lord always!

People: **Again I will say, rejoice!**

**OFFERING** *(Gifts for the Mission and Ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church and School are received.)*

### LORD'S PRAYER

*Luke 11:2-4*

**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 sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin 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.

### **BENEDICTION**

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: **Amen.**

### **HYMN**

“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”

LSB 352 Stz. 1-4

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Jim Vyhanek, organist

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES & EVENTS**

### **Service of Remembrance**

**December 16 at 4:00 p.m.**

### **Wednesday Advent Worship Services**

**December 19**

**1:15 p.m. Chapel**

**7:00 p.m. Worship with Immanuel School Students**

### **Christmas Eve Worship Services**

**3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 11:00 p.m.**

### **Christmas Day Worship**

**10:00 a.m.**

### **New Year's Eve Worship**

**5:00 p.m.**

***Please join our "Explore God Series" beginning January 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>.***

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