



Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church
Immanuel Lutheran School &
Children of Grace Preschool
20882 Walden Ave. Hutchinson, MN 55350

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
JANUARY 5, 2020

HYMN - 54 “Where Shepherds Lately Knelt”

We follow the Common Service beginning on page 15.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST LESSON - Isaiah 61:10—62:3

¹⁰ I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

¹ For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem’s sake I will not remain quiet, till her righteousness shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. ² The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow. ³ You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

PSALM 148 on page 121

SECOND LESSON - Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

VERSE OF THE DAY - Psalm 98:3

Alleluia. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL - John 1:14-18

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵ John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’” ¹⁶ From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known.

APOSTLES’ CREED

HYMN - 34 “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”

SERMON - Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18

“God Chose Us”

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN - 751 “Word of God, When All Was Silent” *(back page)*

BLESSING

HYMN - 59 “Christ the Lord to Us Is Born”

Today’s bulletins and Altar flowers are in memory of
Dawn Nass
from her family.

~~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~~

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Serving today at Immanuel:

Organist: Jane Vacek **Elder:** Kori Leske

Video Taping: Nolan Hoff

Power Point: Mike Heine **Altar Guild:** Jorunn Kastens & Julie Thompson
Ushers: Jeremy Prieve, Michael Thompson, Joshua Prieve, Alex Prieve, Chuck Nisse, Kyle Podratz, Brad Duesterhoeft

Contacts

Pastor Eugene DeVries 320-587-6138 pastor@immanuelhutch.com

Principal Brian Gephart 320-587-8945

ilschool@hutchtel.net School office 320-587-4858

Broadcasting Mondays at 10:00 am & Sundays at 9 pm

on Nuvera channel 10 or Mediacom channel 107.3

Please note on our web site you will find the following: www.immanuelhutch.com

Monthly Calendar (under calendar) Weekly Bulletins (under service)

“Like” us on Facebook



~~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~~

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The Nominating Committee will be meeting soon to begin the process to fill the ballots for the following positions at the next Congregational/Voter’s meeting scheduled for **January 21st**. Please consider giving of your time and talents when called upon.

- Vice-Chairman
- Delegate
- Treasurer
- Trustee (3 year term)
- Elder (3 year term)
- Finance (3 year term)
- Cemetery Board (3 year term)

The Holy Scriptures have defined God pleasing ways in which women may serve their Lord. The Immanuel Ladies’ Auxiliary is made up of all women in our congregation. The Ladies Executive Board is asking for volunteers to be on the ballot at the **January 15th meeting** for the following:

- Vice President
- Director (3 year term)
- Secretary/Treasurer

Please contact Janel Radunz if you have questions or would like to volunteer to serve as Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer or Director.

The Vice President serves as vice president in assisting the President for one year and then moves into the office of President for one year. The President directs 2 meetings per year and consults with the Executive Committee to ensure that the condition and cleanliness of the kitchen and basement are adequate for use.

*The 3 Directors oversee church improvements when contacted by the church council. They also rotate duties communicating with members hosting a catered event and initiate the annual cleaning of the church kitchen and basement. **Thank you.***

Living in God’s Grace this Week

Today, Sunday:	9:00	a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00	a.m.	Worship Service
	11:00	a.m.	Help take down the decorations
Monday:	6:30	p.m.	Bible Study at ILC
	7:00	p.m.	Choir
Tuesday:	2:00	p.m.	Bible Study at Grace
	7:00	p.m.	Bible Study at Grace
Wednesday:	4:15	p.m.	Confirmation
	7:00	p.m.	Ladies Aid
	7:00	p.m.	Council
	8:00	p.m.	School Board
Sunday:	9:00	a.m.	Sunday School
	9:45	a.m.	Hymn Sing
	10:00	a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion
	11:15	a.m.	Elder’s Meeting
	2:00	p.m.	Fellowship Committee Meeting
	6:30	p.m.	GILL at Grace Lutheran

Upcoming Annual Meetings

January 21st – Annual Voter’s Meeting/Congregational Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Everyone invited to attend.

January 15th – Ladies Annual Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

~~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~~

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Please help! If you could stay after church today (January 5) to assist taking down the Christmas decorations, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

CALLING ALL GROUPS!



The deadline for any and all inclusions in the 2019 Annual Report is Sunday, February 2nd. Please place in mail box #75 or send to Julie Thompson at juliethompson@mchsi.com. Thank you!



G.I.L.L.

Grace and Immanuel Luther League
Grace Lutheran Church
Sunday, January 12 & 19 at 6:30 p.m.



Weather Closings

Winter weather will soon be with us again. On Sundays with questionable weather, worship cancellations will be announced on KDUZ -1260 AM radio. During the week, Pastor's policy is this: if Hutchinson Public Schools are closed for the day, evening events at both Immanuel and Zion will also be postponed on that day.



New Member Welcome – Sunday, January 19th. Treats served by the Fellowship Committee in the church basement after church.

Everyone Welcome!!



Christmas Gift Bags – After the holidays, if you have extra Christmas Gift Bags (new and/or used) that you don't know what to do with...please save for Belle Plaine. This make gift wrapping so much easier for all of the gifts that are given to the residents. Thank you! Please connect with Sharon Smith regarding this.



Immanuel will have a hymn sing before worship on Sunday, January 12 starting about 15 minutes before the service begins, the elder for that Sunday will ask for people to suggest hymns for the congregation to sing.

~~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~~

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Kindergarten through 8th Grade
Children of Grace Pre-School

ilschool@hutchtel.net

<https://www.facebook.com/immanuel.lutheran.school.hutchinson>



School Calendar of Events:

January 9 – Basketball at Gaylord

January 10 – Hot Lunch – Clark/Heldt

The school has a variety of fundraising options to help the school with various activities...won't you help?



SCRIP A current list of the gift cards available thru the school is posted on the bulletin board. You pay the face value of the card and the school receives the % listed. We also carry Cash wise/Coborns (\$25, \$50, \$100) which does not show on this list. The money earned provides your children with their field trips throughout the year. Remember the cards are available all year long. Thank you for your support of our School and Pre School. Karen Kohls

- General Mills - BoxTops - Thru October 2019
- NEW: [coca.com/give](https://www.coca.com/give) – for Coke products, enter the code
- Country Hearth - Loaves4Learning
- Ink Cartridges – There is a collection box in the entryway.
- School Mall Fundraiser - www.SchoolMall.com
- Amazon Fundraiser - www.smile.amazon.com
- Cash Wise Points– enroll at www.cashwise.com



A complete listing with details is on the table in the entry way by the school display. Thank you for your help.



The school is looking for Latchkey **sub** caregivers for before and after school. We do have caregivers that stepped forward to help full time. If anyone can help out as a sub, they can contact Barbara DeVries home 320-587-6138 or email devriesfamilyinbox@gmail.com

Immanuel Lutheran School and Children of Grace Preschool

Financial Development Plan

Rationale

The school has been the focus of Immanuel's ministry for 100 years. It's not the only thing we do. But it has been the main focus of our time, talents, and treasure. We have received significant blessings from this effort. Our children have received a strong foundation in Christian teaching. Many have gone on to excel in high school and college. Many have become spiritual leaders in our congregation. New families joining our congregation in the past few years have mentioned the school as their main reason for joining Immanuel.

In order for the school to continue its ministry, it needs a functional facility. The current building has served us well but falls short in several areas: having enough space for current and future class sizes, restroom facilities, storage space, recreation and physical education space, office space, and access control. In addition, though the current building is maintained, it has the appearance of age. This puts off families who are comparing us to the public school system.

Challenges

The tuition model makes it difficult for some families to choose Christian education.

Continued growth in class size may require adding staff, which puts additional stress on the budget.

New facilities require significant capital expenditure. A significantly larger building would cost more to operate, offsetting potential maintenance savings.

Advantages

Our sister church Grace joined us supporting the school directly. We have potential partners in St. Paul, Litchfield and St. John's, Glencoe. Several families from St. Paul are already sending students.

Both Immanuel and Grace own our property and buildings outright. We have no significant debt.

We have time to plan and set goals and milestones. Beginning now will make a new building possible down the road.

We have a significant number of non-WELS students. We are the only Lutheran elementary school in the area.

Cost: \$2,000,000

Actions

- Immanuel and Grace incorporate stewardship emphasis into their yearly worship plans. Look at the blessings God has given through this ministry.
- School hosts a planning giving seminar to talk about designated gifts. Invite Immanuel, Grace, Zion, St. Peter, St. Paul. This seminar helps people understand the options for planned giving through their estate.

Attendance does not obligate anyone to support the school. But that option is available.

- Engage Jeff Davis from Cornerstone Consulting Ministry for a free initial consultation.
- Submit Antioch grant application. (Deadlines in July and October.)
- Establish an Endowment Fund to support the ongoing needs of the school.

Goals

- 1) Support community needs - (preschool, daycare, gym space)
- 2) Increase community awareness with a new building and available gym space - (sports camps, tournaments, open gyms)
- 3) Become a better-fitted outreach arm of Immanuel and Grace (look attractive, look like a school)
- 4) Update and have a modernized building to better support students learning and have adequate workspace.
- 5) Have enough room to grow and support growth
- 6) Eliminate renting sports facilities

The big question is how can we do all this? How can we take on such a big project when we're already struggling? In 1 Samuel 14, God's people faced a similar situation. Their enemies were camped all around them. And every night their army got smaller as soldiers deserted and ran away. In other words, they were stuck. They didn't dare attack. And they couldn't just walk away. One day, Jonathan decided to try something. He and his armor bearer decided to go over to the enemy outpost. And Jonathan said, "Perhaps the Lord will act on our behalf. Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few." He didn't have a command from God or a promise of success. But his faith moved him to try something a little risky and see what God would provide.

Our school ministry feels stuck. We feel afraid to take on such a big project as building a new school. But we can't just walk away. Yet God is still able to do great things, whether by many or by few. Let's step forward in faith and see if the Lord will act on our behalf. He has richly blessed our efforts up to now. Those who have attended our school in the past continue to reap a harvest of righteousness and peace, the blessings that come from faith. Our school gives us the chance to share God's Word every day. It lets us equip our children for a bright future in this life and the life to come. Previous generations had less than we do. But they stepped forward in faith so that our church steeple could be seen for miles around. Perhaps God will let us be the generation that does the same thing for the school. Lift up your eyes to the hills; where does our help come from? Our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.



Choice Dollars[®]

Do you have Choice Dollars[®] available? Have you directed them? You can direct to thousands of organizations enrolled in the program - **including Immanuel Lutheran Church and School!**

I encourage you to consider directing your Choice Dollars® to Immanuel Lutheran Church or School. Doing so helps us continue our important ministry of strengthening communities and changing lives! Otherwise your Choice Dollars® will be directed by Thrivent. You can do this by logging into your account on line at <https://www.thrivent.com/>

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