



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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DECEMBER 13, 2020

CHOIR – “Will You Come to the Manger”

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LESSON – Isaiah 61:1-3,10-11

¹ The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, ² to proclaim the year of the LORD'S favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

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.

PSALM 71

M: In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge;

C: let me never be put to shame.

M: Rescue me and deliver me in your righteousness;

C: turn your ear to me and save me.

M: Be my rock of refuge to which I can always go;

C: for you are my rock and my fortress.

M: Since my youth, O God, you have taught me,

C: and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

M: Even when I am old and gray,

C: do not forsake me, O God.

M: till I declare your power to the next generation,

C: your might to all who are to come.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GOSPEL – John 1:6-8,19-28

⁶ There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

¹⁹ Now this was John's testimony when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. ²⁰ He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Christ." ²¹ They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." ²² Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³ John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the desert, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"

²⁴ Now some Pharisees who had been sent ²⁵ questioned him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶ "I baptize with water," John replied, "but among you stands one you do not know. ²⁷ He is the one who comes after me, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie." ²⁸ This all happened at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

APOSTLES' CREED

HYMN - 14 "Arise, O Christian People"

SERMON – Isaiah 61:1-3,10-11

"Count the Gifts"

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN – 86 "The Only Son from Heaven"

~~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~~

(Page 1 – December 13, 2020)

OFFERING - Offerings may be placed in the plate as you leave the sanctuary.

HOLY COMMUNION – We invite those who agree with the teachings of this church and of the WELS to partake of the true body and blood of Jesus Christ.

Holy Communion will be distributed in the back of the sanctuary as you leave. If you do not desire to receive the sacrament, you may be dismissed during hymn 303.

Communicants, please remain seated until dismissed. Ushers will dismiss from back to front. Please pause in front of the elder to receive the bread in your hand. Then pause in front of pastor to take an individual cup from the tray.

OFFERING - Offerings may be placed in the plate as you leave the sanctuary.

Serving today at Immanuel:

Organist: Jane Vacek **Elder:** Steve Plamann

Video Taping: Nolan Hoff

Power Point: Mike Heine **Altar Guild:** Betty Henke and Donna Telecky

Ushers: Kori Leske, Jay Mackedanz, Steve Wendorff, Mike Yerks, Craig Kohls, Carl Horrmann, Tom Schlueter, Lucas Plamann

Contacts

Pastor Eugene DeVries 320-587-6138 pastor@immanuelhutch.com
Principal Brian Gephart 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 ILS' NEW web site: www.hutchinsonlutherschool.com

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

"Like" us on Facebook



~~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~~

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Living in God's Grace this Week

Today, Sunday:	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion Door Offering for Christmas Bags
	11:00 a.m.	Elder's Meeting
Monday:	6:30 p.m.	Choir
	6:30 p.m.	PTF
	7:30 p.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday:	4:15 p.m.	Confirmation
Saturday:	9:00 a.m.	Children's Christmas Eve Practice
Sunday:	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion

Children's Christmas Practice

Saturday, December 19 from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

The children will have a **Christmas Party** on December 19 following practice from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

If you would like to send a "thinking of you" or "Merry Christmas" card to Ralph Wendorff.

His new address is:

**Estates at Excelsior
515 Division St
Excelsior, MN 55331**



A Door Offering – Will be held **TODAY, December 13th** for the children's candy bags that will be handed out on Christmas Eve.



Christmas Cards

The Ladies' Aid has Christmas cards available for sale. They are sold by the box and are in the church library. They also have an assortment of birthday and many other general greeting cards.



Weather Closings

Winter weather will soon be with us again. On days with questionable weather, meetings and/or worship cancellations will be announced on KDUZ -1260 AM radio and on the website: www.immanuelhutch.com

~~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~~

(Page 3 – December 13, 2020)



Say **Merry Christmas** with a small gift... Our MLC Adopt a Student, Emily Ash, is practice teaching at Divine Savior Academy in Doral, Florida until December 18th. After the Christmas break, in 2021, she will be practice teaching again at a different location. We would like to send Emily a Christmas gift to help with her travels and living expenses. Anyone wishing to contribute can place their donation into the Christmas box in the entry

designated for Emily. We will send the gift after December 13.

Use Scrip as Christmas gifts. Place orders by December 13 and the cards will be delivered by the 20th. As always, local cards are on hand after that date for last minute gifts. Proceeds are used for School trips and transportation during the school year. There are lists of retail stores in the entry on the school table. **Contact Karen Kohls.**

What is SCRIP? Scrip fundraising is a no-selling program that allows families to raise money for our school. Scrip is just another way to pay for everyday purchases using gift cards in place of cash, checks, or credit cards. You purchase gift cards from our school at face value and our Scrip Coordinator orders those cards at a reduced price, which is an instant rebate for our school!

Christmas Services Schedule

Christmas Eve

Zion at 3:00 p.m.

Immanuel at 5:30 p.m. Children's Service
For the Parents and Grandparents

Immanuel at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day

Zion at 8:45 a.m.

Immanuel at 10 a.m.

New Year's Eve at Joint Service at Immanuel at 7:00 p.m.

No New Year's Day Service



2021 Directory

The Church Directory will be updated for 2021, if you have a change in address and/or phone, please let Julie Thompson know. Also, if you would like your email address included. Either place the information in box #75 or send it to her via email at juliethompson@mchsi.com. Thank you!

The Advent Wreath

Advent, which begins the Church's liturgical year encompasses the four Sundays and weekdays leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation for our hearts and minds for the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas.

The use of the wreath and candles during Advent are a longstanding Catholic tradition that was originally adopted by Christians in the Middle Ages as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas.

The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, which is made of various evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ.

Even the individual evergreens that make up the wreath have their own meanings that can be adapted to our faith. The laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering. The pine, holly, and yew signify immortality and the cedar signifies strength and healing. The pine cones that decorate the wreath symbolize life and resurrection. The wreath as a whole is meant to remind us of both the immortality of our souls and God's promise of everlasting life to us through Christ.

The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because the color violet is a liturgical color that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice.

The **first candle**, which is purple, **symbolizes** hope. It is sometimes called the "**Prophecy Candle**" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

The **second candle**, also purple, represents faith. It is called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The **third candle** is pink and symbolizes joy. It is called the "Shepard's Candle," and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the **final purple candle** to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."



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!**



Kindergarten through 8th Grade
Children of Grace Pre-School

NEW WEBSITE: www.hutchinsonlutheralschool.com
<https://www.facebook.com/immanuel Lutheran school hutchinson>

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*

- ****New** Caseys Rewards.** – Go to www.caseys.com
- cocacola.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.



BUY A BRICK PROGRAM

This program will help beautify our campus and help us raise money for our school. The bricks will be placed in front of the steps at school. Whether you are a student, graduate, or a supporter of Immanuel Lutheran and Children of Grace, add your name to the history books. Buy a 4 x 8 brick for \$40 or an 8 x 8 brick for \$60. Yes, we'd like to reserve a permanent brick. Please engrave our brick as follows:

ANY SYMBOL IS CONSIDERED ONE SPACE (PERIOD, COMMA, DASH)
ALL TEXT WILL BE CENTERED AND CAPITALIZED

4 x 8 Brick

8 x 8 Brick

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Immanuel Lutheran School
 20917 Walden Ave
 Hutchinson, MN 55350

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Email Address: _____ Amount Paid: _____

FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY December 18, 2020.

If you have any questions, please call Brian Gephart at (269) 932-5117.