

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

Christmas Eve Children's Program December 24, 2021

CONGREGATION HYMN -

4 "Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates"

INVOCATION & INTRODUCTION

PART ONE

Madison - In the beginning, God created a perfect world, without sin and without sorrow. And he made two perfect people to care for that garden and enjoy it. Adam and Eve were the crown of God's creation. God gave them just one command, "Do not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. For on the day you eat of it, you will surely die."

Natalie - Many people have wondered why God would make such a tree or give such a command. Martin Luther explained that the tree was Adam's church. At that tree Adam would worship and honor God by obeying his command. But Adam and Eve gave in to temptation. They ate from the tree. And right away, they realized they had made a big mistake.

Genesis 3:8-15

Bennett - Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Joe - But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

Kyle - And God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

Brynlie - The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

Megan - Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

Alex - So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

Aubree - And 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."

Scarlet - That last verse was the very first promise of a Savior. God let Adam and Eve know that one of their descendants would destroy the devil's work. They didn't have all the details, but Adam and Eve understood God's promise and believed it.

CONGREGATION HYMN - 396 "In Adam We Have All Been One"

PART TWO

Avery - As the years went by, God revealed details about the promised Savior. God made a promise to Abraham. God swore that Abraham would have descendants as many as the stars in the sky. But one special descendant would outshine them all. The Savior would come from Abraham's line. His offspring would become a source of blessing to all nations.

Genesis 22:15-18

Stella - ¹⁵ The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶ and said, "I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore.

Cody - Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸ and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

Makenna - Through the prophet Isaiah, God gave many more details about the coming Savior. Through Isaiah God revealed that the Savior would be born of a virgin. And again through Isaiah, God revealed that this child would be called God. He would be a light to the nations living in darkness. And he would establish an eternal kingdom.

Isaiah 9:2,6,7

Kate - 2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

Gavin - ⁶ 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.

Ellie - ⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

HYMN - 23 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

(Children and Congregation)

MIDDLE GRADE- sings

 Oh come, Oh come, Emmanuel And ransom captive Israel That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!

CONGREGATION- sings

2. Oh come, Oh root of Jesse, free Your own from Satan's tyranny From depths of hell your people save And bring them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

- 3. Oh Come, Oh Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by your drawing nigh. Disperse the gloomy clouds of night And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*
- 4. Oh, come, O Key of David, come And open wide our heav'nly home. Make safe the way that leads on high And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

PART THREE

Aaden - God also used the prophet Micah to tell about the coming Savior. Micah revealed that the Savior would come from Bethlehem. But that's not all! God also revealed that this child would have origins from ancient times. In other words, he would be the eternal God.

Micah 5:2-4

Madison - ² "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."

Natalie - ³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites.

Scarlet - ⁴ He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.

Sam - Finally, the time arrived for God to fulfill his promises. It all began with Mary, a young woman engaged to be married. God sent an angel to tell Mary the news:

Luke 1:26-35,38

Sam - In the sixth month, 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." $\sim 4 \sim$

Avery - Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

Sam - But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name 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. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

Avery - "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

Sam - The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon 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.

Avery - "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

UPPER GRADE HYMN - 24 "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

PART FOUR

Emma - Mary quickly accepted the word which God revealed to her. She agreed to bear this special child even though her husband might reject her and her family might disown her. God also spoke to Joseph so that he would understand what was happening. Mary's child would be the Son of God and the Savior of the world.

Matthew 1:18-25

Makenna - ¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

Aaden - ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

Stella - ²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are

to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Emma - ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

Bennett - ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

 $Joe - {}^{25}$ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

CONGREGATION HYMN - 707 "Peace Came to Earth"

- Peace came to earth at last that chosen night When angels clove the sky with song and light And God embodied love and sheathed his might Who could but gasp: Immanuel!
 Who could but sing: Immanuel!
- 2. And who could be the same for having held The infant in their arms and later felt The wounded hands and side, all doubts dispelled Who could but sigh: Immanuel! Who could but shout: Immanuel!
- You show the Father none has ever seen, In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain, In bread and wine you visit us again Who could but see: Immanuel! Who could but thrill: Immanuel!
- 4. How else could I have known you, O my God! How else could I have loved you, O my God! How else could I embrace you, O my God! Who could but pray: Immanuel! Who could but praise: Immanuel!

PART FIVE

Cody - The story of Jesus' birth is not a myth or a fairy tale. It happened in Bethlehem during the reign of Caesar Augustus. God brought all of history to this moment in order to fulfill his ancient promises. $\sim 6\sim$

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Luke 2:1-7

Kyle - 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.

Brynlie - 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.

PreK - 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.

CHILDREN'S SONG - "Away in a Manger"

PART SIX

Ellie - God did not let the birth of his son go completely unnoticed. In spite of Jesus' humble circumstances, angels announced his birth. Lowly shepherds heard tidings of great joy. With believing hearts they ran to see this great and mighty wonder.

Luke 2:8-20

Megan - And 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.

Alex - But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Aubree - Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

All - "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Kate - 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."

Gavin - So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

CONGREGATION CANDLELIGHT HYMN - 60 "Silent Night"

PRAYER

BLESSING

HYMN - 62 "Joy to the World" (Children and Congregation)

Verse #1 - CHILDREN

Verses #2 through 4 - CONGREGATION

Serving today at Immanuel:

Organist: Jill Dettman Elder: Justin Black Video Taping: Mark DeVries Power Point: Lily DeVries Altar Guild: Betty Henke and Donna Telecky Ushers: Kori Leske, Jay Mackedanz, Craig Kohls, Carl Horrmann, Tom Schlueter, Lucas Plamann, Steve Wendorff, Mike Yerks

Contacts

Pastor Eugene DeVries 320-587-6138 eugene.mark.devries@gmailcom Principal Brian Gephart School office 320-587-4858 immanuellutheranschool@hotmail.com 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.hutchinsonlutheranschool.com

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Tanya and Justin Black	Grace Black
Gina Buske, Cheryl Tews and our families	Milan and Norma Plath
Betty Eggert	Wayne Eggert
Brian and Wanda Gauer	All Our Loved Ones
Steve and Wendy Hellwig	Our Loved Ones
Betty Henke	Harold and Marie Plamann Roger, Leona and Wallace Plamann
Paula Johnson and Doug Benage	Dawn Nass
Lynn and Patty Mackedanz	Our Parents
Betty Rusch	Earl and Lillie Rusch
David and Marilyn Rusch	Our Parents and Robert Kurth
Dave and Donna Telecky	Harold and Marie Plamann Roger Plamann Howard and Ronnie Telecky
Michael & Julie Thompson Eric, Jenna & Nora Thompson Elizabeth, Ted & Liam Grof	Quinton and Bea Thompson Deloris Thompson Floyd Kastens
Steve and Cindy Wendorff	Our Parents

<u>Upper Grades</u> Cody Black Stella Clark Joseph DeVries Samuel DeVries Aaden Gosse Scarlet Heldt Emma Hoff Natalie Hoff Avery Kohls Bennett Kohls Madison Plamann Makenna Plamann Ellie Podratz

Children

<u>Middle Grades</u> Kate Black Alex DeVries Aubree Mackedanz Kyle Rasmussen Megan Plamann Brynlie Podratz	PreK & Kindergarten Harper Clark Asher Krajsa Lily Mackedanz Easton Podratz Lane Rasmussen Jaxon Schmeling	
Gavin Wersal	Tyson Schmeling Mason Wersal	
<i>Teachers:</i> Barb DeVries, Deb Plamann, Eileen Prieve and Amanda Weber		