



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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DECEMBER 10, 2023

HYMN - 312 “Comfort, Comfort All My People”

We follow Setting One on page 154.

CONFESSION

LORD, HAVE MERCY

GLORY BE TO GOD

The Word

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts, and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING – Isaiah 40:1-11

¹ Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.

³ A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵ And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶ A voice says, “Cry out.” And I said, “What shall I cry?” “All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. ⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.”

⁹ You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, “Here is your God!” ¹⁰ See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. ¹¹ He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

PSALM 85

SECOND READING – 2 Peter 3:8-14

⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

¹⁴ So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

CHOIR – “Bring Us Hope”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION page 161



Refrain



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

All: Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight / paths for him
And all people will see God’s sal- / vation.

Refrain

GOSPEL – Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,² as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: “I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way”—³“a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”

⁴And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

CHILDREN’S SERMON

HYMN – 316 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

SERMON – Isaiah 40:1-11

“Prepare to Meet Him”

NICENE CREED

OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT - *We invite those who hold membership in this church or any church in fellowship with WELS, to partake of the true body and blood of Jesus Christ.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS - Advent Hymn Sing

900 – Lift High the Cross

360 – Behold a Branch is Growing

327 – O Come, O Come Emmanuel

331 – From Heaven Above to Earth I Come (verses 1-4)

BLESSING

HYMN – 302 “Prepare the Royal Highway”



~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~

(Page 1 –December 10, 2023)

Serving today at Immanuel:

Organist: Jane Vacek **Elder:** Jason Horrmann
Video Taping: Mark DeVries **Power Point:** Lily DeVries
Altar Guild: Donna Telecky
Ushers: Kori Leske, Jay Mackedanz, Craig Kohls, Carl Horrmann,
 Tom Schlueter, Lucas Plamann, Steve Wendorff, Mike Yerks

Contacts

Pastor Eugene DeVries Pastor's cell: 320-405-6490

pastor@eugenedevries.com

Website: www.immanuelhutch.com

Monthly Calendar (under Church/calendar)

Weekly Bulletins (under Church/service)

Church Services Broadcasted Mondays at 10:00 am & Sundays at 9 pm on Nuvera channel 10 or Mediacom channel 107.3



<https://www.facebook.com/immanuelhutch>

Services are streamed live on Sundays at 10 a.m.



Teacher, Joel Holz - School office: 320-587-4858

immanuel.lutherschool@hotmail.com

website: www.hutchinsonlutherschool.com



<https://www.facebook.com/immanuel.lutherschool.hutchinson>

Living in God's Grace this Week

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|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Today, Sunday: | 9:00 | a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:00 | a.m. | Worship Service w/Communion |
| Monday: | 6:30 | p.m. | Choir |
| | 6:30 | p.m. | PTF |
| | 7:00 | p.m. | Bible Study |
| Tuesday: | 6:30 | p.m. | Choir |
| Wednesday: | 4:15 | p.m. | Confirmation |
| | 6:30 | p.m. | Elder's Meeting |
| | 7:00 | p.m. | Council |
| | 8:00 | p.m. | Nominating Committee |
| Saturday: | 9:30 | a.m. | Children's Christmas Practice |
| Sunday: | 9:00 | a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:00 | a.m. | Worship Service w/Communion |

~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~

(Page 2 –December 10, 2023)

Pastor DeVries received a call from St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he deliberates where to best serve.



During the Season of Advent, we would like to have a "Hymn Sing" during the offering. We will be singing 3 or 4 hymns on each Advent Sunday. There is a sheet in the entryway on the table to write down your favorite Advent and/or Christmas Hymns. If any questions, please feel free to contact Julie Thompson.



A Door Offering – Will be held on **TODAY, December 10th** for the children's candy bags that will be handed out on Christmas Eve.



A call was extended to **Mr. Craig Kiecker** who is currently the principal at Emmanuel Lutheran School in Tempe, Arizona. He has been offered the Principal and 2-4 teacher position for 2024-2025 school year. Please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers in the next few weeks as he deliberates where best to serve.



giving tree

With the Christmas season upon us and our new school construction being completed, there are items the classrooms and offices are in need of. Immanuel Grace Lutheran School has placed a **Giving Tree** at the entrance of the church with numerous gift choices and price ranges. You can select an item from the tree, purchase the item, and return the item back to church or drop off at school before December 19th. If you would like to donate money in lieu of ordering the item please return the envelope with the gift of money by the same date. Keep in mind that the items listed can be purchased as a different brand but with similar size and type of the requested item. Please reach out to Michelle Kiecker @ 320-290-5001 with any questions.

~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~

(Page 3 –December 10, 2023)



Variety of Greeting Cards AND Christmas Cards

The Ladies' Aid has a variety cards available for sale in the Church Library. They are sold by the box and/or individual cards. Be sure to check it out! Prices will be marked accordingly.



If you would like to purchase **Scrip cards** (now called *Raise Right*) for Christmas, the deadline for Christmas orders will be **December 10**. On hand is a supply of popular cards for anything last minute.

Cash Wise is not on the

list, but I do have cards for Cash Wise/Coborns.

Just a reminder, the cards pay the face value of the card and the school gets the rebate % which is used for trips during the year.

Please see Karen Kohls.



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.

Thrivent 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!**



~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~

(Page 4 –December 10, 2023)

Christmas Services Schedule

Sunday - Christmas Eve

Zion at 8:45 a.m.

Immanuel at 10:00 a.m.

Zion at 3:00 p.m.

Immanuel at 6:00 p.m. **Children's Service**

Monday - Christmas Day

Zion at 8:45 a.m.

Immanuel at 10 a.m.

Sunday - New Year's Eve

Zion at 8:45 a.m.

Immanuel at 10 a.m.



Immanuel Lutheran School Calendar

Thursday, December 14 at 3:45 – Basketball at Northwoods, Hutchinson

Thursday, December 21 – Early Release

Friday, Monday-Friday – December 22, 25-29 – No School

Monday, Tuesday – January 1 & 2 – No School



LACE - Lutheran Association for Church Extension:

- There is a *special rate** being offered for new investments only. A two year term at 5.30% (minimum of \$25). Offer expires 12-31-2023.
 - **Interest paid annually and will automatically transfer to a 2 year term at its currently posted interest rate or can be redeemed at your request.*
- The school's current balance of \$725,000. Every five years the school's loan is scheduled to balloon. When the loan balloons, the current loan rate will increase to 5.75%
- By investing through LACE, it will assist in reducing the cost of the school's loan.
- Questions: please call 989-781-1600 or investwithlace.org

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

- **Caseys Rewards.** – Go to www.caseys.com
- **Country Hearth – Loaves4Learning**
- **Ink Cartridges** – There is a collection box in the entryway.
- **School Store Fundraiser** - www.schoolstore.com
- **Cash Wise Rewards**– enroll at www.morewards.com
- **BoxTops** – This is all digital. For us to get credit, you will need to download the Boxtops for Education App on your smart phone, search Immanuel Lutheran School, Hutchinson and scan your entire receipt.



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



BUILDING FAITH FOUNDATIONS - New School

Building: Below is a link to our Thrivent page where you, family, alumni, and friends can donate to our building fund. Just click on the link, then push the Make Personal Donation button. We also have this information on our website (www.hutchinsonlutherschool.com) under Building Project with a Donation button that leads you to the same Thrivent page. For traditional check donations envelopes can be provided if you know someone that would rather go that route than online. [BUILDING PROJECT | Hutchinsonlutheran \(hutchinsonlutherschool.com\)](#)

Thank you for your support!



The School qualified to receive financing through LACE (Lutheran Association for Church Extension). What is not covered through fundraising will be financed through this organization. The proposed school budget covers all loan payments without requiring extra financial commitments from our congregations.

LACE provides an opportunity for WELS members to purchase investments and receive interest payments. These investments help lower the interest rate on the building's loan payments through LACE.

They are currently offering a 2 YEAR SPECIAL* 5.30%

Visit laceinc.org to learn more and/or to obtain the application.

Designate Immanuel Lutheran School to help reduce the cost of the loan for the school. Only WELS or ELS members are eligible to participate.

Thrivent Choice Dollars®

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