



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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
 DECEMBER 17, 2023

HYMN – 524 “Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

We follow Setting Two on page 172.

CONFESSION

LORD, HAVE MERCY

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

The Word

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

FIRST READING – Isaiah 61:1-3,10-11

¹ The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim 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 joy 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 his 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

SECOND READING – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not treat prophecies with contempt ²¹ but test them all; hold on to what is good, ²² reject every kind of evil.

²³ May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION page 179



Refrain



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

All: I will send my messenger a- / head of you,
 Who will prepare your way be- / fore you.

Refrain

GOSPEL – John 1:6-8,19-28

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all 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 Jewish leaders in 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 Messiah.”

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 wilderness, ‘Make straight the way for the Lord.’”

²⁴ Now the Pharisees who had been sent ²⁵ questioned him, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, 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 straps 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.

HYMN – 324 “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

SERMON – Isaiah 61:1-3,10-11

“The Lord Brings Lasting Joy”

NICENE CREED

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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*

315 “Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”

353 “Joy to the World”

354 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

BLESSING

HYMN - 493 “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~

(Page 1 –December 17, 2023)

Serving today at Immanuel:

Organist: Jane Vacek **Elder:** Steven Plamann
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
 immanuelutheranschool@hotmail.com

website: www.hutchinsonlutherschool.com



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

Living in God's Grace this Week

Today, Sunday:	9:00	a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00	a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion
Monday:	6:30	p.m.	Choir
	7:00	p.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday:	4:15	p.m.	Confirmation
Saturday:	9:30	a.m.	Children's Christmas Practice
Sunday:	9:00	a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00	a.m.	Worship Service
	6:00	p.m.	Children's Service

~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~

(Page 2 –December 17, 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.

The call was extended to **Mr. Craig Kiecker**, *He has declined.*



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.



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

Bingo Night 2024 is Wednesday, February 7!

This highly anticipated event is sponsored by the MLC Ladies' Auxiliary for all MLC students!

The Auxiliary is currently asking for the following donations: cash, baked goods, and quilts/blankets.

Please **drop off** donations at the MLC reception desk no later than **February 1**. Or **mail them** to 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm MN 56073.

~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~

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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.



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!*

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.morerewards.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.



~~Calendar of Events & Announcements~~

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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 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



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!