

December 16, 2018

Advent 3

Organist: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Steve Goodwin

Acolyte: Grant Bernthal

EYE HAS NOT SEEN  
NOR EAR HEARD  
NOR HAVE ENTERED INTO  
THE HEART OF MAN  
THE THINGS WHICH

*God has prepared*  
FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM.



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## PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION

Ps. 22:22-31

<sup>22</sup> I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: <sup>23</sup> You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! <sup>24</sup> For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. <sup>25</sup> From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him. <sup>26</sup> The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever! <sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. <sup>28</sup> For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. <sup>29</sup> All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. <sup>30</sup> Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; <sup>31</sup> they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

## ✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

### OPENING PRAYER

Hymn: WS #710

“Once in Royal David’s City”

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C**  A - - - men.

### CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION:

*We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**C**  Who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C**  And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

**P** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C**  A - - - men.

### INTROIT

*Ps. 85: 1-2,6,8; Phil. 4:4-5*

*A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.*

**P** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

**C** Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.

**P** LORD, you were favorable to Your land; You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**C** You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered all their sin.

**P** Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?

**C** Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

**P** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

### GLORIA PATRI

*Latin for "Glory be to the Father"*



**C** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The first system covers the text 'Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;'. The second system covers the text 'as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords that support the vocal melody.

**VERSE OF THE DAY***1 Cor. 2:9*

Alleluia. Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him. Alleluia.

**THE KYRIE***Latin for "O Lord"*

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST***TLH #237:1*

**C** *♩* All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

**P** Let us pray. ... and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** *♩* A - - - men.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING – Zechariah 3:1-10** Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. <sup>2</sup> And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?" <sup>3</sup> Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. <sup>4</sup> And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." <sup>5</sup> And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by. <sup>6</sup> And the angel of the LORD solemnly assured

Joshua, <sup>7</sup> "Thus says the LORD of hosts: If you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here. <sup>8</sup> Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch. <sup>9</sup> For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day. <sup>10</sup> In that day, declares the LORD of hosts, every one of you will invite his neighbor to come under his vine and under his fig tree."

**EPISTLE READING – 1 Corinthians 4:1-5** This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. <sup>2</sup> Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. <sup>3</sup> But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. <sup>4</sup> For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. <sup>5</sup> Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles' Creed*

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*The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles.*

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**I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn: TLH #645**

**"Behold, a Branch is Growing"**

**SERMON – Matthew 11:2-10** Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>4</sup> And

Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." <sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup> What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. <sup>9</sup> What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

**“What are you looking for?”**

- I. For answers?
  - II. For action?
  - III. For purpose?
- } Look to Jesus!

**OFFERTORY**

*In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.*

**G** *♩* **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

**Hymn: TLH #272:1-3,5      “When All the World was Cursed”**

**- OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS -**

*Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:*

**OFFERING HYMN: TLH #441:1      “We Give Thee But Thine Own”**

**G** *♩* **We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

**PRAYER, LORD’S PRAYER, and BENEDICTION**

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

**G** *♩* **Amen, amen, a – men.**

**Hymn: TLH #64      “Jesus, Thy Church with Longing Eyes”**

## ✝ Announcements ✝

### Midweek Advent Services

continue this Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. This advent season we are focusing on the theme “The Word Becomes Flesh!” Advent is a season of preparation for the Savior to come, and there is no better way to prepare for the Savior’s birth than gathering together with fellow believers. Please take time out of your evenings and join us this Wednesday!

### Looking Ahead...

- ✝ **Today:** Christmas Eve Rehearsal & **Big Snack**
- ✝ **Today:** Elders & Council Meet
- ✝ **Dec. 19:** Wed. Advent 6:30pm
- ✝ **Dec. 23:** Orlando Service
- ✝ **Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve **7 pm**
- ✝ **Dec. 25:** Christmas **10:15 am**
- ✝ **Dec. 29:** Wiffle Ball 9:00 am

**Poinsettia Orders** are still being taken. If you would like to order a Poinsettia and place it in the sanctuary in memory of a loved one, the sign-up sheet is in the back of church. Poinsettias are \$10 this year, please get the money for your flower to Teresa. Thank you!

**Online Worship** Just a reminder that all of the worship services held here at Immanuel are uploaded to YouTube and posted on our church website at <http://winterhaven.clclutheran.org/category/sermons/>. We provide this service particularly for those members who are at a great distance and are unable to attend regularly, but if you are unable to attend on a given Sunday, it’s a great opportunity for you also to get the meat of God’s Word for the week. The Wednesday night Advent services are also uploaded, so if you cannot come to those, please feel free to watch them online. Both bulletins and the services are uploaded to keep you up-to-date on everything going on here at Immanuel.

**A Wiffle Ball Tournament** is being planned to be held here at Immanuel on Saturday, December 29, starting at 9:00 a.m. Each team will have five players and will compete throughout the day. Ages 7 through 16 are welcome. If you or anyone you know would be interested, please sign up by going to <http://winterhaven.clclutheran.org/wiffle-ball-registration/>. If you can’t play, we’d still love for you to come watch and enjoy the games. Help will be needed with various things throughout the day, please watch for more information in the coming months. If you have any questions or would like to help, please speak with Neil Bernthal. Thank you!

**Special Fund Refresher:** We have a number of special funds here at Immanuel, including the **ILC Building Fund** – Used to pay for new academic center at Immanuel Lutheran High School; **Tuition Grant Fund** – Used to help students at our school through tuition grants; **ILC Tuition Fund** – Used to help families send their children to Immanuel Lutheran High School; **Building Fund** – Used for special large ticket replacement items such as septic tank and AC. Also can be used to pay down or pay off loan on teacherage; **Property Improvement Fund** – Used for special larger improvement projects for church, parsonage, and teacherage; **Benevolence Fund** – Fund to help families (especially within our congregation) with special needs. If you are able to contribute to any of these funds, you can just write down the fund and the amount on your offering envelope.

**Shut-in/Encouragement List** **Betty Sweet** is now living at the memory care facility at Spring Haven. **Emily Kuehne** suffers from total blindness and severe knee pain when standing or walking. **Patti Meno** continues to receive treatment for her kidney condition and is awaiting a transplant. **Ray Seger** is back at his rehab facility and remains shut-in. **Delores Seger** recently had an operation on her back and is praying it will take care of her back pains. **Bill Issitt III** remains mostly housebound while recovering from several health problems. **Richard Cook** is dealing with general unsteadiness. **Johanna Jaehnigen** remains mostly housebound, being no longer able to drive. **Joe Jackson**, the father-in-law of Robin Jackson, is recovering in the hospital from a severe stroke. **Sharon Brown** was hospitalized this week with pneumonia; she is now recovering at home.

**Last Week (12/9)** WH – 32 Orlando – 15

General = \$1109 | Property Improve = \$10 | ILC Building = \$30  
Benevolence = \$10 | Building Fund = \$25

**Total Offering = \$1,184**

**December Usher:** Goodwin | **Acolyte (12/23):** Hayden  
| **Cleaner (12/22):** Ireland