

Sermon

-WE RESPOND TO GOD-

Apostles' CreedPg. 127 (Red)

Offering

Offertory #184 "Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord..." (Red)

"Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come."

The Prayers of the Church

Sharing of the Peace

-ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION-

Communion Invitation - All baptized Christians, who believe that Jesus Christ comes to us in and through the bread and wine of Holy Communion are invited to participate in the Lord's Supper. Young persons not yet communing are asked to fold their hands and receive a blessing from the pastor. Those communing are asked to hold out their hand, palm up. Grape juice is available for those who prefer it; simply cover your hand over the cup, and the pastor will serve you grape juice. Welcome to the Lord's Table!

Great ThanksgivingPg. 129 (Red)

Sanctus #525 "You Are Holy, You Are Whole" (Red)

Words of InstitutionPg. 130 - #1 (Red)

The Lord's PrayerCongregation Sings ("Debts," "Debtors")

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

Lamb of GodPg. 135 (Red)

Hymns During Communion#491, 492, 502, 777 (Red)

Post-Communion PrayerPg. 136 (Red)

-WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD-

Announcements

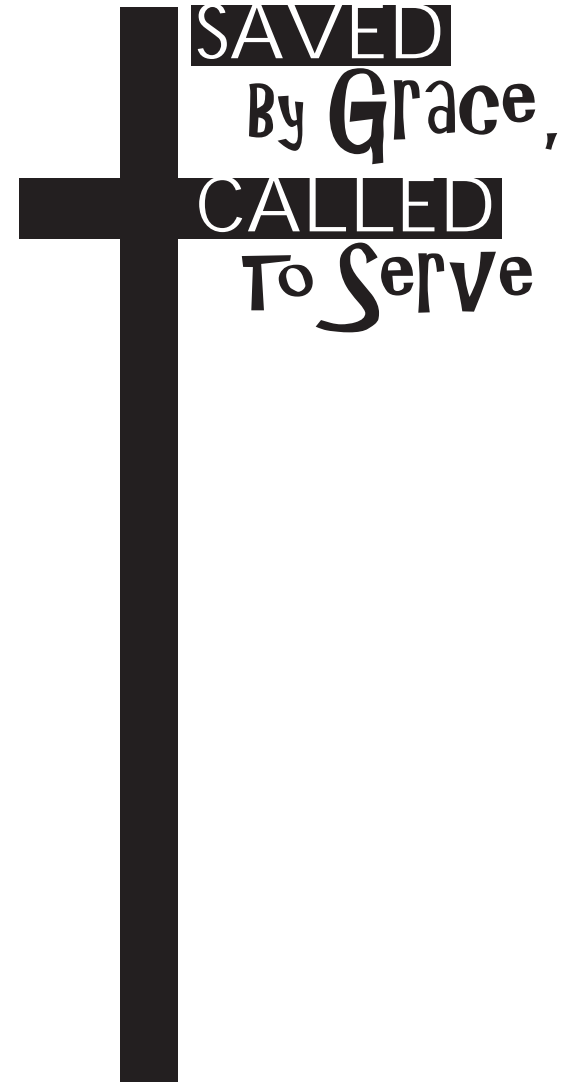
Blessing

Pastor: As the earth keeps turning, hurtling through space, and night falls and day breaks from land to land, Let us remember that in waking, sleeping, being born and dying we are part of one world, one humanity. Let us go from here in peace and live the Good News.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Closing Hymn #503 "A Mighty Fortress"-v. 1,4 (Red)

Postlude



All Members: Ministers

**2nd Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2008 - 9:00 a.m.**

**Immanuel Lutheran Church
Pastor Daniel Belgum-Blad
Home: 320.974.0736
Church Office: 320.974.8695**

ENABLING OUR MINISTRY

MinistersAll Members	LectorDarleen Hovey
Presiding MinisterDaniel Belgum-Blad	AcolyteLucas Damm
Council PresidentBob Starz	UshersDon Anderson, Ole Hovey Connie & Jessica Halvorson
OrganistDeb Mickle	GreetersMark & Lissa Borchert family
SecretaryJanelle Eisenbacher	Coffee ServersGary & Tereasa Link Blake & Lori Schroeder
SextonsPaul & Rolayne Beerman family	
Offering CounterDana Hedberg	
Communion AssistantRobin Johnson	

ORDER OF SERVICE

**As we enter the Sanctuary, let us speak to God.
As we worship, let God speak to us. As we leave, let us speak to each other.**

-WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP-

Prelude Music

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle**“A Candle Is Burning”**(tune: *Away in a Manger*)

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright.
A candle of HOPE in December’s dark night.
While angels sing blessing from heaven’s starry sky,
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

**A candle is burning, a candle of PEACE.
A candle to signal that conflict must cease.
For Jesus is coming to show us the way;
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.**

Confession & Forgiveness**Pg. 116 (Red)**

Gathering Hymn**#251 “My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness”-v.1-2 (Red)**

-WE PRAISE GOD-

Hymn of Praise - “This is The Feast”**Pg. 122 (Red)**

Prayer of the Day - Read in Unison

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. Amen.

-GOD SPEAKS TO US-

First Lesson **Isaiah 40:1-11**

^{40:1} Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ^{40:2} Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ^{40:3} A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ^{40:4} Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ^{40:5} Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ^{40:6} A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ^{40:7} The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ^{40:8} The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand

forever. ^{40:9} Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ^{40:10} See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ^{40:11} He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Second Lesson **2 Peter 3:8-15a**

^{3:8} But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ^{3:9} The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ^{3:10} But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ^{3:11} Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ^{3:12} waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ^{3:13} But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ^{3:14} Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish, ^{3:15a} and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given him.

Gospel Acclamation**Pg. 124 “Alleluia...” (Red)**

Holy Gospel**Mark 1:1-8**

Congregation Responds**“Glory to You, O Lord”**

^{1:1} The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ^{1:2} As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ^{1:3} the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" ^{1:4} John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ^{1:5} And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ^{1:6} Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ^{1:7} He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ^{1:8} I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Congregation Responds**“Praise to You, O Christ”**

Children’s Message

Hymn**#249 “On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry” (Red)**

THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL

Today-Sunday-December 7- 2nd Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Worship/Holy Communion
 10:00 a.m. Fellowship
 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Adult Study
 5:00 p.m. Christian Education Ministry Team Meets

Tuesday 8:00 a.m. Women's Morning Bible Study @ Bethlehem
 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Wednesday 5:45 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday 7:00 a.m. Men's Morning Bible Study @ Jimmy's Pizza
 6:30 p.m. Ministry Teams Meet
 7:30 p.m. Council Meets

Next Sunday-December 14- 3rd Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Worship/Sunday School Christmas Program
 10:00 a.m. Fellowship

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL - NO ADULT STUDY

Confirmation Servant Project

Confirmation Students are Welcome to Ring for Salvation Army during this season. Students who ring for two hours, may use those hours to replace (in place of) two sermon notes for the year. More importantly, you will be helping people in need in our

community through the community outreach of the Salvation Army. Just call the church office, or contact Pastor Dan with your date and time.

Sunnyview Holiday Open House

Please join us for an open house celebrating 10 years of service at Sunnyview Assisted Living. Coffee & Christmas goodies from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, December 14. 316 Sunrise Lane, Atwater.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Offering from Sun., November 30, 2008 - 9:00 a.m.

Attendance	149
Regular Offering	\$1652.00
Sunday School	\$134.47
Building Fund	\$80.00
Pony Express	\$50.00
Food Shelf	\$20.00
TOTAL	\$1936.47

November Ministry Goal*\$14,990.20
 Needed (To Date) To Meet Nov. Ministry Goal\$3654.99

*Our Ministry Goal is the amount we need each month to undertake & accomplish the ministries & mission we have agreed to as God's called and sent people.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Worship at Immanuel

We are glad you have chosen to worship with us and hope that this time is one of refreshment and encouragement for you. If you would like more information about Immanuel please contact the pastor or a Council member. We invite you for coffee, juice and treats in the Fellowship Hall (basement) following worship.

Prayer Concerns

Our church and other area churches; our community; our Synod Bishop, Jon Anderson, and Synod staff, the SW Minnesota and the ELCA Synod; our nation; our companion synod: The South Eastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Southern Africa; we remember the people of Palestine and Israel; those serving in the armed services; and that all people on earth may lay down their arms and work for peace and justice for all; our missionaries: James and Carol Sack, serving in Japan; (Please let us know if you have specific prayer requests).

Advent Season Continues

Today we light the second advent candle, the Bethlehem candle. We remember that Mary and Joseph had to travel a long & arduous distance, from Nazareth to Bethlehem, to prepare for the Roman census. We are invited to travel to Bethlehem & draw near to the Word of God in this season of preparation for Christ's coming.

Adult Study - Today we start our Book of Faith Bible study, 10:30 a.m. in the library. We will examine some different ways of reading Exodus 3: 1-15. You are welcome!

Christmas Program & Noisy Offering Next Sunday

Our Sunday School youth will be leading worship next Sunday with the Christmas program "The Brightest Star." There will be a noisy offering during worship to supplement our Sunday School offering goal of \$500. Part of this money will be used to help a church in SE Minnesota that was severely affected by flooding this past spring/summer.

Sweaters for Sale - Our youth sweater sale fundraiser continues. Sweaters are hanging in entry and are priced as marked. Sales support our Youth Mission Trip, 2009.

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias are available to order to help decorate our church for the Christmas season. Cost is \$13. Colors available are red, pink, burgundy, and marble. Order forms are inserted in the bulletin, or are available in the church office. Orders must be placed by Sunday, December 14.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Bell ringing runs until December 24. Ringers are needed at Wal-Mart, Kandi Mall (by theatre and by Big K (K-mart), at Cash Wise east and west stores, at Skylark Mall, Green Lake Mall, at Cub Foods (entrance and exit), and The Big Store (in New London). Hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday; you select when, how long, and where. Call the church office with a time in mind and we will contact the Salvation Army; or you may call at 235-2033.