

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

*December 25, 2024*

*Christmas Day*

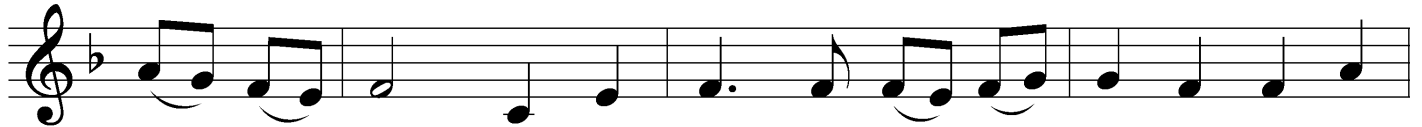
**Minister:** Robert Krueger   **Vicar:** Eric Fluegge   **Accompanist:** Anita Schaible

OPENING HYMN #343 STS.1-3

“Once In Royal David’s City”



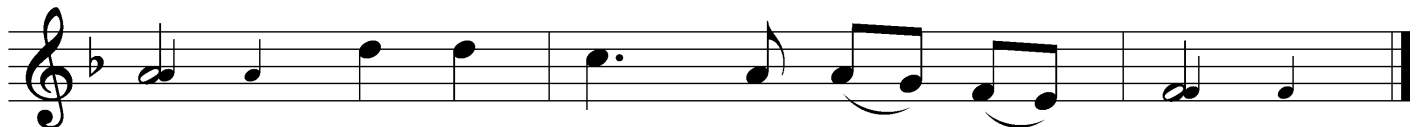
1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly  
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and  
3 And our eyes at last shall see him through his own re -



cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a  
Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his  
deem - ing love, for that child, so dear and gen - tle, is our



man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er  
cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and mean and  
Lord in heav'n a - bove, and he leads his chil - dren



mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
on to the place where he is gone.

*Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, abr., alt.  
Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876 Text and tune: Public domain*

*Please stand.*

INVOCATION & CONFESSTION

CW 189

M: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

C: **His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

M: The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

C: **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

M: But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears?

C: **If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?**

M: Restore us again, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us.

C: **Show us your unfailing love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.**

M: Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people.

C: **My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

M: When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

C: **The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

M: 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.

C: **Glory to God in the highest!**

HYMN #346

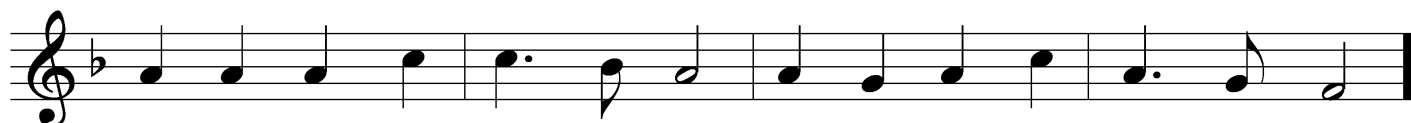
*“Angels We Have Heard on High”*



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,

2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?

3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.

What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?

come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

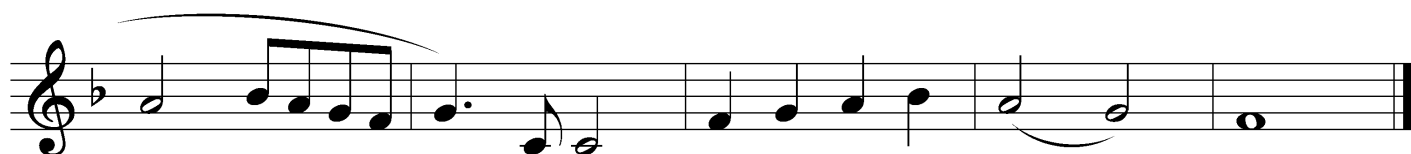
*Refrain*



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## FIRST READING

*Exodus 33:18–23; 34:5-7*

<sup>18</sup>Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

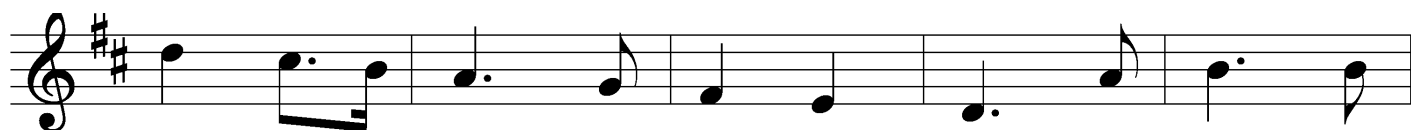
<sup>19</sup>And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. <sup>20</sup>But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

<sup>21</sup>Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. <sup>22</sup>When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup>Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. <sup>6</sup>And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, <sup>7</sup>maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.” (NIV)

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



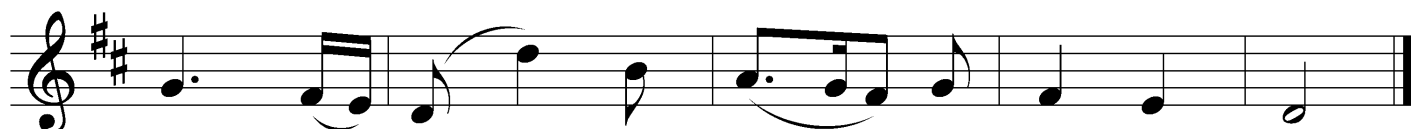
1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow nor thorns in -



ceive her King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.

*Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain*

## SECOND READING

*Romans 8:31–32*

<sup>31</sup>What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? (NIV)

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Galatians 4:4,5



### Refrain



**C:** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**M:** But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son,  
born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law.

**C:** *Refrain*

*Tune: © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services.  
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## HOLY GOSPEL

St. John 1:1-18

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup>He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—<sup>13</sup>children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup>The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

<sup>15</sup>(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known. (NIV)

M: The Gospel of the Lord.  
C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

*Be seated.*

HYMN #358 STS. 1-2,4

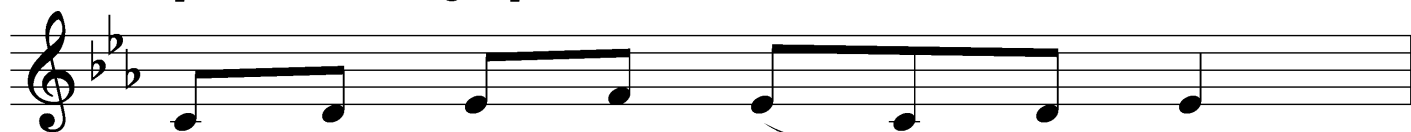
*"Of The Father's Love Begotten"*



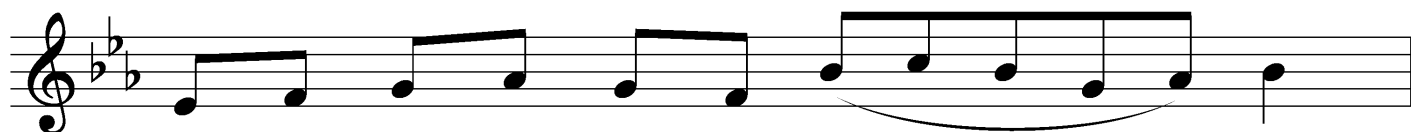
1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -  
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the vir - gin,  
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him, an - gel hosts his



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
prais - es sing, pow'rs, do - min - ions bow be - fore him



he the source, the end - ing he,  
bore the Sav - ior of our race,  
and ex - tol our God and King.



of the things that are, that have been,  
and the babe, the world's Re - deem - er,  
Let no tongue on earth be si - lent,



and that fu - ture years shall see ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
first re - vealed his sa - cred face ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

*Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–c. 413, abr.  
Tune: plainsong, 13th cent. Text and tune: Public domain*

**SERMON TEXT**

*St. John 1:1-18*

**SERMON THEME**

*"The Word Became Flesh"*

*Please stand.*

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*“The Athanasian Creed, II”*

M: It is furthermore necessary for eternal salvation truly to believe that our Lord Jesus Christ also took on human flesh. Now this is the true Christian faith:

**C: We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God’s Son, is both God and man.**

M: He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and he is man, born in time from the nature of his mother, fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh,

**C: equal to the Father as to his deity, less than the Father as to his humanity;**

M: and though he is both God and man, Christ is not two persons but one,

**C: one, not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the humanity into God;**

M: one, indeed, not by mixture of the natures, but by unity in one person;

**C: for just as the rational soul and flesh are one human being, so God and man are one Christ.**

M: He suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead.

**C: He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, and from there will come to judge the living and the dead.**

M: At his coming all people will rise with their own bodies to answer for their personal deeds.

**C: Those who have done good will enter eternal life, but those who have done evil will go into eternal fire.**

M: This is the true Christian faith.

**C: Whoever does not faithfully and firmly believe this cannot be saved.**

*Be seated.*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**FRIENDSHIP CARD** is available on the tables by the entrances and in the mailboxes of members.

If you are watching on-line please go to the description link and sign in.

**OFFERING** The offering plates are located by the entrances. You may also give electronically via our website: [immanuelfindlay.org](http://immanuelfindlay.org) or the App: GivePlus.

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*CW199*

*Please stand.*

M: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**



M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HYMN #347 STS.1,5

*“Angels From The Realms of Glory”*

1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your  
 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the  
 flight o'er all the earth; once you sang cre -  
 Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your  
 a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 voic - es rais - ing to th'e - ter - nal Three in One.  
*Refrain*  
 Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship,  
 wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

*Text (st. 1): James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.*

*Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

M: Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### LORD'S PRAYER

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."**

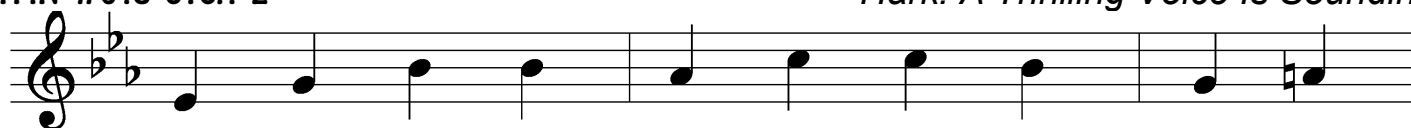
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: Amen.**

### HYMN #318 STS.1-2

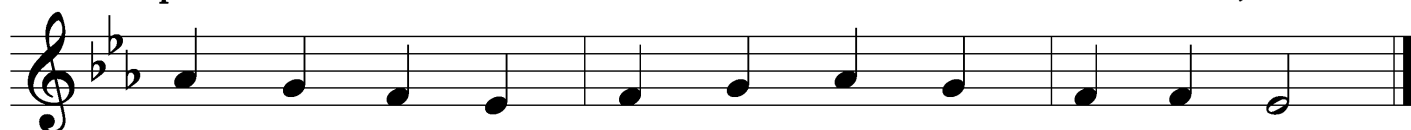
*"Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"*



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is  
2 See, the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, comes with



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the  
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with



works of dark - ness, all you chil - dren of the day."  
tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv'n;

*Text: tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.; Latin, c. 5th–10th cent. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–1889*  
*Text and tune: Public domain*

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*The distribution hymn is printed at the back of the large print bulletin or available on the display or the blue hymnal.*

M: The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting.

C: **Amen.**

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: **his mercy endures forever.**

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

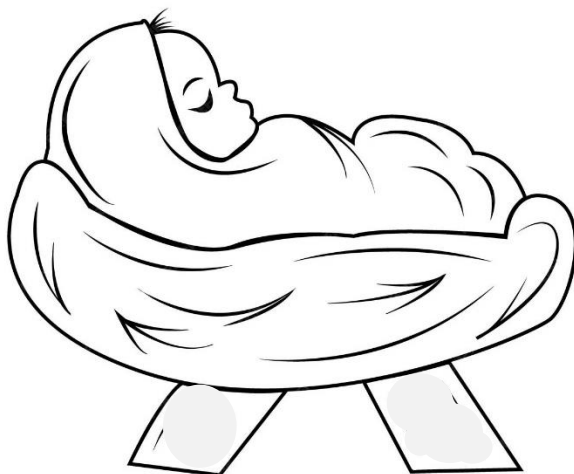
## BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

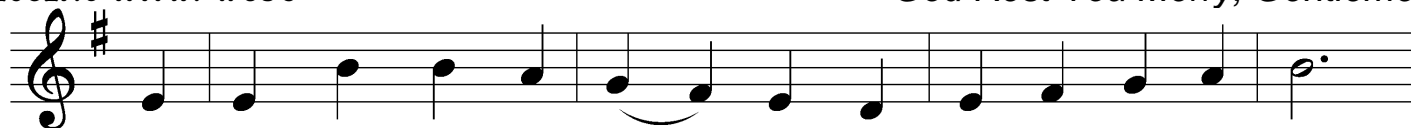
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**



CLOSING HYMN #356

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;  
 2 From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came  
 3 “Fear not,” then said the an - gel, “let noth - ing you af - fright;  
 4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ, our Sav - ior, was born on Christ - mas Day  
 and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought ti - dings of the same,  
 this day is born a Sav - ior, the true and ra - diant light,  
 and in true love and fel - low - ship each oth - er now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray.  
 how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.  
 to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might.”  
 this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas is filled with heav'n - ly grace.

*Refrain*



O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy,



O ti - dings of com - fort and joy.

*Text: English, 18th cent.*

*Tune: English*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

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**Pastor and Connie Krueger** are traveling to visit family today.

**Join us Sunday** for worship at 8:00 and 10:30 AM, and Adult Sunday School at 9:15 AM.