# Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

November 30, 2025 The First Sunday in Advent



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Immanuel Lutheran Church & Preschool (WELS)

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Vicar: Kelvin Johannes

Service Accompanist: Connie Krueger

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Office hours: 9 AM – 1 PM

Minister: Rev. Robert J. Krueger



Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt. Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 702769 Tune: Public domain

Please stand.

#### Invocation

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

C: Amen.

#### Confession of Sins and Lighting Candle

M: God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

C: Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

M: Dear friends, the season of Advent is a time of preparation as we await Christ's second coming on the Last Day. We prepare our hearts to meet him as we humbly seek his forgiveness.

C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

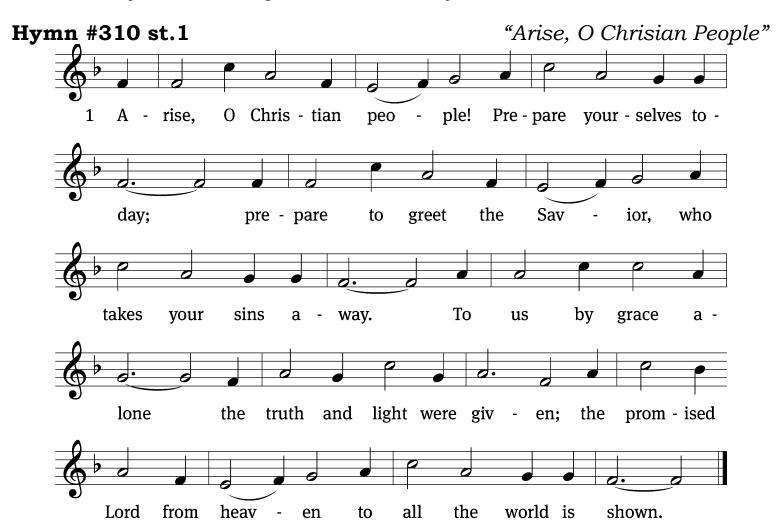
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

M: If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand?

C: But with you there is forgiveness; therefore, you are feared.

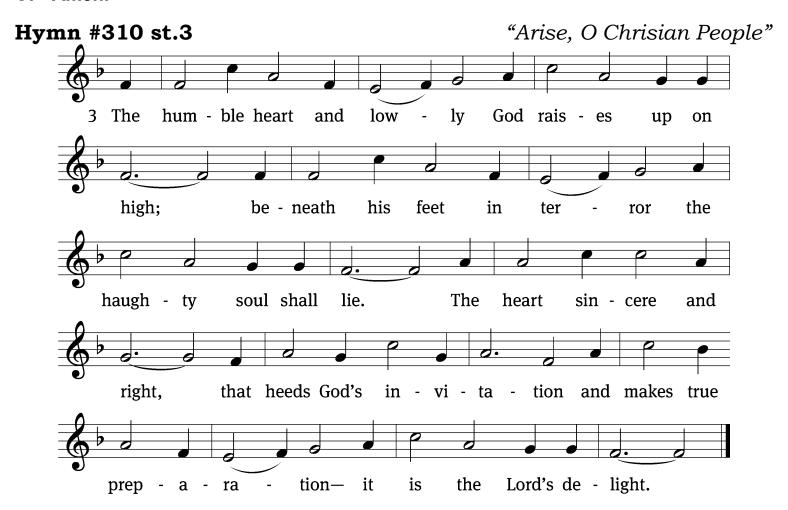


Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–1662; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–1874, alt.

Tune: New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein, Hamburg, 1598, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

- M: God's promise to Abraham and his descendants was fulfilled in the coming of his Son. Jesus Christ humbled himself by submitting to God's law. He humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross. God promises to lift up the humble and fill the hungry with good things because of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C: Though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, so that we through his poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9
- M: Even as we await Christ's second coming, he comes to us here and now in the words he gives his messengers to speak: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

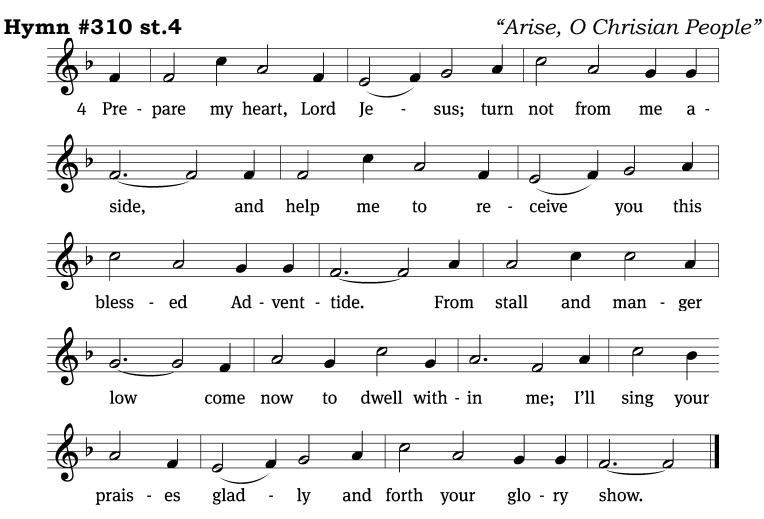


Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–1662; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–1874, alt.
Tune: New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein, Hamburg, 1598, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

# Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- M: We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death.
- C: We remember Jesus, who came as the promised Messiah. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.
- M: We hear his call to repent.
- C: We light one Advent candle as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.
- M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.
- C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blest.



Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–1662; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–1874, alt.
Tune: New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein, Hamburg, 1598, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

# Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

<sup>1</sup>A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.
 <sup>2</sup>The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—
 <sup>3</sup>and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears;

<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.
The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox.
The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.
They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD

<sup>10</sup>In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious. (NIV)

M: The Word of the Lord.C: Thanks be to God.

as the waters cover the sea.



#### Psalm 38B

Refrain



LORD, do not for - sake me; quick-ly come to help me.



LORD, do not rebuke me in your / anger or discipline me / in your wrath.
Your arrows have / pierced me, and your hand has come / down on me.
My guilt has over- / whelmed me like a burden too heav- / y to bear. Refrain

All my longings lie open be- / fore you, Lord;
my sighing is not hidden / from you.

LORD, I / wait for you;
you will answer, / Lord my God.

I confess my in- / iquity;
I am troubled / by my sin.

Come quickly to / help me,
my Lord and my / Savior.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

Tune: after STRAF MICH NICHT, Dresden, 1694
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## Second Reading (read responsively)

Romans 15:4-13

M: <sup>4</sup>For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

<sup>5</sup>May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, <sup>6</sup>so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed <sup>9</sup>and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written:

C: "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name."

M: <sup>10</sup>Again, it says,

C: "Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people."

M: <sup>11</sup>And again,

C: "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him."

M: <sup>12</sup>And again, Isaiah says,

C: "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; in him the Gentiles will hope."

M: <sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (NIV)

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

St. Luke 3:4,6

M: Alleluia! Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. And all people will see God's salvation. Alleluia!

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea <sup>2</sup>and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>3</sup>This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.' "

<sup>4</sup>John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. <sup>6</sup>Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup>Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup>And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup>The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire." (NIV)

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.



Text: James L. Milligan, 1876–1961, alt.
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Sermon Text Isaiah 11:1-10

#### **Sermon Theme**

"Our Qualified Judge"

Please stand.

#### Confession of Faith: Nicene Creed

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated.

#### **Prayer of the Church**

- M: Jesus, our Lord Immanuel, you are the shoot from the stump of Jesse. You bring us hope out of hopelessness, life out of death, and power from weakness. Empower us to live holy lives as we look forward to the day of your coming. We wait for you, Lord, we wait for you.
- C: In your Word we put our hope.
- M: Let the earth be full of your knowledge as the waters cover the sea. As your kingdom comes to human hearts, cool the heat of hatred and calm the frenzy of anger. Give us your Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel and power. We wait for you, Lord, we wait for you.
- C: In your Word we put our hope.
- M: John the Baptist called out, "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is near." Fill the world with the sound of your gospel that more people may enjoy your forgiveness and peace. We wait for you, Lord, we wait for you.
- C: In your Word we put our hope.
- M: We pray for those who watch over us for your sake: pastors, teachers, elders and others who teach and lead us in your church, so that through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Fill their hearts with your Word that they take to heart what they also teach. We wait for you, Lord, we wait for you.
- C: In your Word we put our hope.
- M: Bring your holy comfort to your people, especially those who suffer sickness and hardships of all kind, [especially...]. Remind them that you came to bear our griefs and carry our sorrows, and that their sins have been paid for by your blood. We wait for you, Lord, we wait for you.
- C: In your Word we put our hope.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

- M: Lord, move our hearts to constant repentance, and turn our hearts from every temptation and evil, that at your coming we may be ready to receive what you have promised; you live and reign, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

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**Friendship Register** is available by the entrances. If you are watching on-line please go to the description link and sign in.

**Freewill Offering** The offering plate is located by the back entrance. You may also give electronically via our website: immanuelfindlay.org or the App: GivePlus.

# The Sacrament of Holy Communion

\*Visitors: Please see our communion statement on page 20 before joining us at the Lord's table.



- 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



## 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.

Lamb of God CW 202



Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman

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Be seated

# **Distribution of Holy Communion**

Distribution Hymns are printed on the next 2 pages.

### **Distribution Hymn #316**

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
Tune: Latin, 15th cent., adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621
Text and tune: Public domain

#### **Distribution Hymn #312**

"Comfort, Comfort All My People"



- 1 "Com fort, com fort all my peo ple; speak of peace," so
- 2 All their sins our God will par don, blot ting out each
- 3 John the Bap tist's voice is cry ing in the des ert
- 4 Then make straight the crook ed high way; make the rough er



"Com - fort those who sit dark - ness, groan - ing our God. in dark mis-deed; all that well de-served his an - ger he no and near, call - ing for the far peo - ple to re - pent - ance true and hum - ble. plac - es plain. read - v your hearts be Let



load. Speak their sor - rows' all Je - ru - sa - lem from to will see heed. They have suf - fered man-y a day; more or king - dom now here. 0 that warn - ing is cry of for his ho ly reign. For the glo - rv the Lord



of the peace that waits tell that for them; them their their griefs have passed God will change their now a - wav. God the val leys Now pre - pare for a way; let now o'er earth is spread a - broad, and all flesh shall



their war - fare now ver." sins Ι cov er, that 0 ach-ing sad - ness in to ev er - spring-ing glad - ness. him the hills bow down to him. to meet and greet see the to ken that his word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1611–1684; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois Text and tune: Public domain

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.

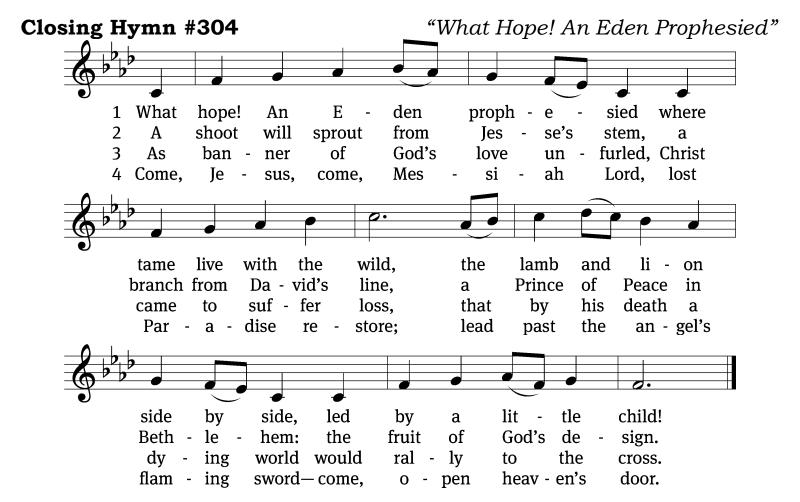
#### **Blessing**

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.



Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, Harrisburg, 1813, ed. John Wyeth
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**Thank you** for the cards, prayers, calls and text messages after my recent surgery. *-Mary Colburn* 

**Babysitting?** A member family of Immanuel in Findlay is looking for someone to watch their 1 1/2 year old child for 3 weeks for 3 hours a day (while both parents work and grandparents are gone). If you could help them, please contact Pastor Krueger.

Advent Service this Wednesday at 7:00 PM.

**Church decorating** this Saturday at 7:00 AM.

**Usher/Greeter** Sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the entry. If you already are an usher or greeter, we will just include you on next years list unless you tell us to remove you.

**Christmas for Kids Volunteers** are needed to help with the Christmas for Kids this Saturday, 1-4 PM. Also, if you have not registered your children to attend, please sign them up online on the church website: immanuelfindlay.org. This is very helpful with the planning process to know how many supplies will be needed.

**Holiday Feast** The church is having our Holiday Feast next Sunday, December 7, after the late service. The Stewardship Committee is providing the meat and drinks. Members are asked to sign up to attend and to also bring a side dish or dessert.

**Japanese Christmas** Sunday, December 7 at 4:00 PM. If you are able to drop off a dessert or side dish for the meal for the Japanese families, please sign up in the narthex.

Advent by Candlelight Tea at Trinity: Women are invited to Trinity in Jenera to attend an evening of music, fellowship, and the Word to help prepare your hearts for the Advent season on Sunday, December 7 at 6:30. Finger foods and tea will be served in the church basement. This year's program seeks to focus our attention right on Jesus by taking a deeper look—through Scripture, narrative, and song—at the names we hear him often called during Advent. Each name reveals a priceless gift just waiting to be opened and treasured for a lifetime. Each name is a perfect gift to unwrap. Please email Jenny at <a href="mailto:mwmtrinity@tlcjenera.org">mwmtrinity@tlcjenera.org</a> if you plan to attend.

<b>BIBLE STUDY</b>	Sunday	Adult Bible Study	Today's Readings	9:20 AM
	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study	James	10:00 AM
	Thursday	Zoom Bible Study	The Incarnation	7:00 PM

Greeters	<b>East Doors</b>	<b>North Doors</b>
<b>11/30</b> 8:00	Volunteer	Volunteer
10:30	Brad & Sarah S.	Helen R.
<b>12/7</b> 8:00	Howard & Nancy W.	Volunteer
10:30	Marjorie H.	Jim & Jamie T.
<b>12/14</b> 8:00	Bob H.	Volunteer
10:30	Denny & Sharon P.	Laura & Mike B.

November Ushers: 8:00 Bob H., Howard W. 10:30 Denny P., Paul W. December Ushers: 8:00 Dob L., Mike W. 10:30 Mike S., Kris A.

Calendar Sunday Worship & Holy Communion, 8 & 10:30 AM

Adult & Youth Sunday School, 9:20 AM

Confirmation, 6:30 PM

**Wednesday** Adult Bible Study, 10:00 AM

Adult Choir Practice, 5:55 PM

Advent Service, 7:00 PM

**Thursday** Zoom Bible Class, 7:00 PM **Saturday** Church Decorating, 9:00 AM

Christmas for Kids, 1 – 4 PM

Sunday Worship & Holy Communion, 8 & 10:30 AM

Adult & Youth Sunday School, 9:20 AM

Holiday Feast, noon

Japanese Christmas Service, 4:00 PM

Confirmation, 6:30 PM



#### December 6, 2025 from 1-4 pm

Kids ages 4 through grade 6

**Children will:** hear the true Christmas story make a craft play games learn and sing songs and celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Register online at: immanuelfindlay.org

**When receiving communion**, it's very helpful when you extend your hand to receive the wafer of bread. If there is anyone who would prefer to receive the wine mixed with water, please contact the pastor. We also have low-gluten wafers available; please speak with the pastor or an elder.

Celebrating Communion in Love—In love, Jesus gives his body and blood in Holy Communion. In love, Jesus tells us we are prepared for his meal when 1) we recognize our sins and need for forgiveness; 2) we confess Jesus as the only true God and Savior, without whom we would be lost for eternity; 3) we have been instructed in the Biblical truths of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection; 4) we believe that in the Supper Jesus gives us his real body and blood in the bread and wine; 5) we publicly confess our oneness of faith and full agreement of belief with those whom we receive the Supper. In love, Jesus cautions us that if we are not properly prepared, then we are rejecting his love and would receive his Supper to our harm. Therefore, in love for all, we at Immanuel follow the ancient, Biblical practice of Close Communion, offering the Supper only to those who have professed their agreement with our Wisconsin Synod fellowship. If you are interested in receiving the Supper with us, we invite you to speak with our pastor about the important necessary pre-Communion instruction.