

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2023

10:00 a.m.

THE VISION STATEMENT FOR IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

As the body of Christ, renewed by the Holy Spirit as a living community of believers, we are committed to sharing the love of Christ and the good news of salvation.

*We build relationships with others in the **Community Around Us**, while nurturing the **Community Among Us**, so all may know of and grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.*

GOD'S MISSION FOR IMMANUEL

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a community of God's people **rooted**, nourished, and educated in the Word of God, to include all people in its fellowship for the sake of Christ, and for their **eternal salvation**.

WELCOME VISITORS!

The Immanuel Lutheran congregation is pleased that you have joined us today. If you have no church home, we invite you to make your home among us.

Organ Prelude – “Christians While On Earth Abiding”

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Werde Munter

Opening Hymn #588 – “Jesus Loves Me”



1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, For the Bi - ble tells me so.
2 Je - sus loves me! He who died Heav-en's gates to o - pen wide.



Lit - tle ones to Him be-long; They are weak, but He is strong.
He has washed a - way my sin, Lets His lit - tle child come in.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!



Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.

Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–68

Text and tune: Public domain

Divine Service, Setting Four

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Malia Cherie Smith, born on June 26, 2022, daughter of Justin Robert Smith and Monique Cherie Medina. Her sponsors are Jose Medina and Alex Waicker.

When candidates are unable to speak for themselves, the sponsors answer the questions on their behalf.

Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the

Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

The pastor addresses each candidate:

P How are you named?

R *Malia Cherie Smith*

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

P Malia, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✠ forehead and upon your ✠ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Malia according to Your boundless mercy and bless her with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in her which has been inherited from Adam and which she herself has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that she be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, she would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of

those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.

P Is it your intention to serve Malia as a sponsor in the Christian faith?

R Yes, *with the help of God.*

P God enable you to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

C Amen.

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to Jesus that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The pastor places his hands on the head(s) of the candidate(s), and the congregation joins in praying:

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

P The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even † forevermore.

C Amen.

Sit

The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:

P Malia, do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you 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?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Malia, do you desire to be baptized?

R *Yes, I do.*

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

P Malia, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life † everlasting.

C **Amen.**

A In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our sister in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

C **Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Malia the new birth in Holy Baptism and made her a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as she has now become Your child, You would keep her in her baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure she may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Peace ☩ be with you.

C Amen.

All return to their places.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the LORD has an indictment against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³“O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8



*Praise the LORD, all | nations!**
Extol him, all | peoples!
*For great is his steadfast | love toward us,**
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.
*Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name,**
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



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



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."


P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.


Sit

Hymn of the Day #837 – “Lift High The Cross”


Refrain




Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,
2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied
4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,



Refrain

Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.
As Thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to Thee.

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. *Refrain*

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.
Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
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Sermon

VOLUNTARY – “Dear Christians, One and All”

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Neun Freut Euch

The melody is played by the pedals!

Offering

(We join with Christians all over the world in worshipping God through the giving of our financial resources. If you are a first-time visitor, you are our guest and we do not expect you to give an offering. For members and friends, the ministry of this congregation is completely dependent upon your generous giving. Our offering is a significant act of worship.)

Stand

Offertory



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

Almighty Lord and Judge of all, do not contend against us; for although Your indictment of our sinfulness is true, Your Son has suffered our condemnation. Hear Him as He pleads for our pardon, and for His sake forgive us our sins and preserve us as Your people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all wisdom, You tell us plainly that the Word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but it is Your power to all who are being saved. Strengthen the faith of pastors and congregations, that they would not turn to man-made wisdom but boldly proclaim Christ and Him crucified. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all glory, make us meek before You. Remove our stubborn inclination to follow our sinful desires, and strengthen us gladly to submit to Your holy will as we await the day of the new heaven and earth. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You have given Your firstborn for our transgressions. Strengthen all parents and guardians, that the children in their care might not be trained in the transgressions of their forebears, but rejoice in Your ways. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord of lords, You rescued Your people from Egypt and confounded Balak, king of Moab, for their protection. Guide the decisions and actions of all earthly authority, that Your people may live in peace and quietness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all truth, bless those who are reviled and slandered because of Jesus. Strengthen them with grace, provide for all their needs of body and soul, and maintain in them the joy and gladness that in Christ their reward in heaven is great. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, You choose what is weak in the world to shame the strong, and You use our infirmities for our good. Hear our prayers on behalf of all who are afflicted [*especially* _____]. Deliver them according to Your will, and make use of their trials to increase their confidence in You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, teach us to hunger for Your flesh and to thirst for Your blood, that by Your Holy Communion we may be cleansed of our sin and equipped to love You above all and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, receive our thanks for the saints whom You preserved in righteousness and delivered to glory. Purify our hearts by Your grace and strengthen us against temptation, that we would look joyfully to the day when we will see You in Your glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**☩ Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Announcements

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Recessional Hymn #848 – “Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear



hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–84, alt.

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

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Tune: Public domain

Organ Postlude –

“God of Grace”

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Cym Rhondda

Those Serving Today:

Pastor	Rev. Charles Minetree
Lay Reader	Mark Smith
Director of Music	Muriel Hopkins
Altar Guild	Carolyn Henn/Joan Goeller

Birthdays This Week:

29	Mark Smith
	Roland Obedekah
31	Fay Husted
2	Charles Libby
3	Nnenna Ibenana

This Week at Immanuel:

Sunday	January 29	9 am	Adult Bible Study
			Sunday School, ages 3-12
		10 am	Baptism and Worship
Thursday	February 2	7 pm	Choir rehearsal
Sunday	February 4	9 am	Adult Bible Study
			Sunday School, ages 3-12
		10 am	Worship & Holy Communion

Ministry Notes

DATE CHANGE — Voters Meeting Now Set for Sunday, February 26

The winter Voters Assembly will take place on Sunday, February 26 in the sanctuary immediately following the worship service. The primary agenda items will be a 2022 Ministry Report which provides information on ministry activities here at Immanuel over the past twelve months and the presentation of the 2023 Budget. We will also hear a special Missionary Report from Pastor Witt detailing his recent activities and sharing some exciting new plans for the coming year. Please put this date on your calendar now and plan to join us for this important meeting. (1/22, 1/29, 2/5)

ADULT BIBLE CLASS is meeting at 9 am on Sundays in the Pastor's office. We are looking at hymns found in the Lutheran Service Book. This is a Bible study of those hymns to gain a deeper appreciation of God's Word found in them. The January schedule began the 8th:

January 29 Hymn# 507 *Glory Be to God*
February 4 Hymn# 537 *Beautiful Savior*

PRAYER REQUESTS

-Heavenly Father, we pray that You be glorified through the effort of our *'Til All Have Heard* Ministry. Guide us and Pastor Witt as we seek and pursue avenues to declare that Your Kingdom is coming clearly and powerfully. Give us the opportunity to plant, water, and harvest for Your Kingdom according to Your will, and grant patience to wait on Your timing and purposes. Lord, in Your mercy/Let us pray to the Lord

- The end of war, and peace for Ukraine
- John Rebstock with kidney failure and diabetes
- The family of Carl Harvey, who was called to his heavenly home
- Elaine Schwab's brother-in-law who has been diagnosed with cancer
- Ray Will who is recovering from surgery
- Jane Derry who is recovering at Promedica Rehab facility in Lutherville
- Eric Paye, who is in the hospital following complications from surgery
- John Pickering, who has a broken arm
- Rosemarie Wilson, the daughter of Filleseta James, for return of strength in her left leg
- Deborah Thomas and her family
- Bill Hermann, now recuperating at home.
- Joseph Woah-tee missing, and whereabouts unknown