# 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**

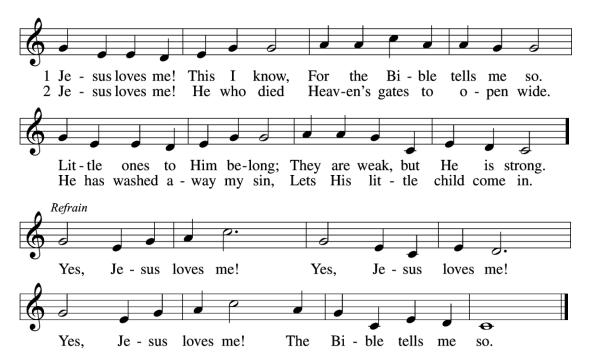
Immanuel Lutheran Church is a community of God's people <u>rooted</u>, nourished, and educated in the Word of God, to include all people in its fellowship for the sake of Christ, and for their <u>eternal salvation</u>.

### **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.

Werde Munter

### Opening Hymn #588 – "Jesus Loves Me"



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

- In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- 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:

- 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.
- 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.
- Thanks be to God.

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

- 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.
- The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even 

  forevermore.
- Amen.

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:

- Malia, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- 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 

  verlasting.
- 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.
- **G** 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.
- Amen.

All return to their places.

Sit

# **Old Testament Reading**

Micah 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says:

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

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people,

or the LORD has an indictment against his people and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>"O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For 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.

<sup>5</sup>O 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."

<sup>6</sup>"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?

<sup>7</sup>Will 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?"

<sup>8</sup>He 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.
- 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

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

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

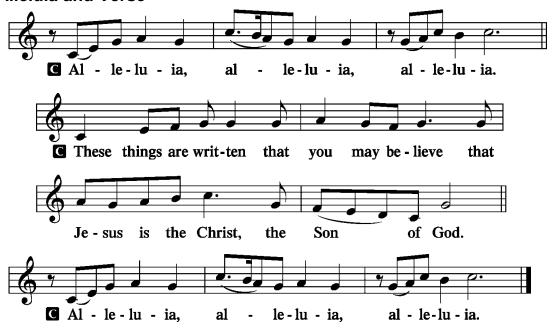
<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those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

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

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

#### Stand

#### Alleluia and Verse



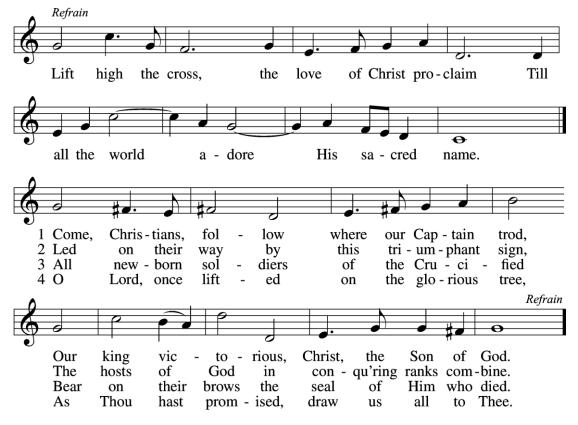
Holy Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

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

- <sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
- <sup>3</sup> Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- <sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
- <sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
- <sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
- <sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
- <sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
- <sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
- <sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- <sup>11</sup> Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice 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.
  - Praise to You, O Christ.

## Hymn of the Day #837 – "Lift High The Cross"



- 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)

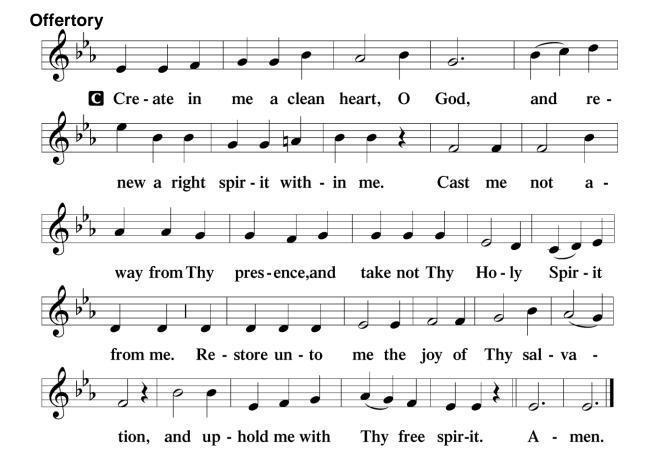
Neun Freut Euch

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



# **Prayer of the Church**

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**

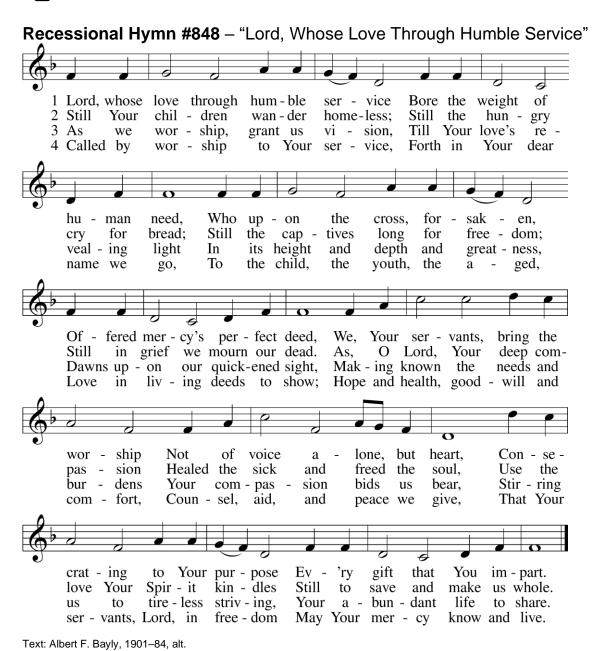
#### **Benediction**

**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.



Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

Text: © Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002312

Tune: Public domain

Organ Postlude -"God of Grace" Cym Rhondda

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

### **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	/ Januar	/ 29	9 am	Adult Bible Study
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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 8<sup>th</sup>:

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