**Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church  
630 Adams St Wausau, WI 54403 | ​​Phone: (715) 842-3644**

<http://www.immanuelwausau.org/>

**Sunday, December 10, 2023**

***2nd Advent Sunday, Year B***

Please welcome Pastor Gary Froseth to Immanuel as he leads us in Worship and celebrates Holy Communion with us today.

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Introduction**

*Please stand if able.*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

who opens the heavens

and draws near to us with salvation.

**Amen.**

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.

Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God,

**you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.**

**We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness**

**that make us reluctant to work against oppression.**

**We are complicit in systems of exploitation.**

**We choose comfort over courage.**

**We are careless with creation’s bounty.**

**Look upon us with mercy.**

**Turn our hearts again to you.**

**Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways**

**for the sake of our waiting world.**

**Amen.**

Hear these words of assurance:

God clothes you with garments of salvation

and covers you with robes of righteousness.

In the tender compassion of ☩ Jesus Christ,

your sins are forgiven.

God’s covenant is eternal,

and God’s blessing rests upon us all.

**Amen.**

Opening Hymn **“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” # 254**

Greetings: “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all” ( 2 Corinthians 13:14).

**C: And also, with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

### P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### A Week of Peace

### Lighting of the candles

**Hymn “Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” # 240 vs. 2**

*Please be seated.*

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

R: A reading from Isaiah.

R: Word of God, Word of life

C: Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13**

R: Let us read responsively.

1You have been gracious to your | land, O Lord;  
  you have restored the good for- | tune of Jacob.  
 2You have forgiven the iniquity | of your people  
  and blotted out | all their sins.  
 8I will listen to what the Lord | God is saying;  
  for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.  
 9Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,  
  that your glory may dwell | in our land.    
 10Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;  
  righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.  
 11Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,  
  and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.  
 12The Lord will indeed | grant prosperity,  
  and our land will | yield its increase.  
 13Righteousness shall go be- | fore the Lord  
  and shall prepare for | God a pathway. 

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

R: A reading from 2 Peter.

R: Word of God. Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

P: *Let us stand* for the Gospel

C: Alleluia Lord And Savior pg. 142

*Alleluia.* Prepare the way | of the Lord.\* All flesh shall see the salva- | tion of God. *Alleluia. (Luke 3:4, 6)*

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

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord**.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*.

**Sermon Pastor Gary Froseth**

*Silence for reflection.*

**Hymn of the Day**  **“Comfort, Comfort Now My People” # 256**

*Please stand if able.*

**Apostle’s Creed** *See the yellow sheet in the back of your hymnal.*

*Please be seated.*

**Prayers of Intercession**

R: With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God’s day of restoration. After **“Merciful God”,** please respond with **“Hear our prayer”**.

R:Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy. **Amen.**

**Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also, with you.**

**Offering**

**Offertory Hymn “Wait For The Lord” # 262 (Sing Twice)**

### *The usher will bring up the offering plate, bread, and wine.*

### *Please stand if able.*

### Offertory Prayer

### P: God our provider,

### by your merciful hand

### abundance springs up from the earth.

### Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.

### Let them be a sign of your steadfast love

### and faithfulness for all people,

### through Jesus Christ our Savior.

### ****Amen.****

**Holy Communion**

### Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you. **C:** **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord pg. 144**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

### Invitation to Communion

Christ spreads a table before you. Gather here with all the saints.

*All are welcome at the Lord’s table. We believe Christ is truly present in the bread and the wine, that is his body and blood are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. If you do not wish to receive communion but wish to receive a blessing, please come forward during the distribution of communion. If you are unable to come forward during distribution and wish to receive communion, please let the usher know and the pastor will come to your seat. Wine and grape juices are available as well as gluten free wafers upon request.*

*Please be seated.*

**Lamb Of God pg. 146**

**Communion Hymn “Christ Be Our Light” # 715**

### Blessing after communion

### Prayer after Communion

P: Generous God,

in bread and cup you have revealed your glory

for all people to see together.

Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim

your good news of liberation and release,

brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

*Please stand if able.*

**Benediction**

**Closing Hymn *“*Hark The Glad Sound” # 239**

### Dismissal

P**:** Go in peace. Keep awake.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

**Prayer Concerns:** Barb West,Joan Bonstead’s daughter (Contact ILC office to update.)

December 16, 2023. In the spirit of shared ministry, announcements for events happening at Pilgrim in the months of December. Your congregation members, friends, and family members are invited to attend. *A Christmas singalong in the Pilgrim sanctuary on Saturday, December 16, at 2:00 p.m. It is followed by light refreshments.*

December 24, 2023. *Christmas Eve* C*andlelight Servic*e *and Holy* *Communion* will be held at Immanuel at 4:00 p.m.

December 25, 2023. *Christmas Day* service will be held at Immanuel at 10:00 a.m.

January 7th, 2024. New Year, new time. Church Service at Immanuel will start at 10:30 a.m.! Mark your calendars.

The Mitten Tree is Back!! Each Holiday season Immanuel decorates our Mitten Tree with mittens and warm hats, these can be handmade or purchased. The items are then given to those in need in our community. You may place your gifts on or under the tree in the Narthex. Thanks to everyone for their continued support of the Mitten Tree!

**Bell Choir** is still going strong. We will be playing December 17th and January 14th. We would love to have you join us! No “musical talent” needed! Just come join us for friendship and fun. Practice is on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. For more information call Joanne at 715-573-7379. Just give me a ring!

The Men’s Discussion Group Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. in the Koinonia Room. New participants are most welcome.

**Strong Bones Senior Exercise Group** meets every Tuesday and Thursday in the old Nursery at 10:30 am. The class is open to anyone wishing to improve balance and maintain strength to prevent falls. New faces are happily welcome.

**Volunteers needed to host coffee hour. There is a sign-up sheet in the kitchen.**

2024 Wall Calendars. Do you have any extra 2024 wall calendars? Please drop them off at the church office for delivery to area nursing homes. You can leave them on the pew by the office. Thank you from the Wausau Golden K Kiwanis.

**Attendance on 12/03/23: 31**

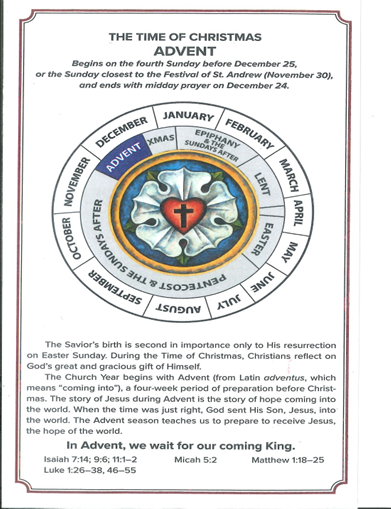
Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. Address is: c/o Moruti (Pastor) Rev. G.M. Nkale, P.O. Box 160, Motswedi 2870, Republic of South Africa. Email for Pastor: [nkalesto@gmail.com](mailto:nkalesto@gmail.com)

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| **December 2023 Worship Servers** | | | | | |
| **Worship Leader Pastor Gary Froseth** | | | | | |
| DATE | PIANIST / ORGANIST | READER | USHER / GREETERS | VIDEO TAPER | COMMUNION |
| 12/10/2023 | Karen Zuidema | Sue Schwede | Dan Westaby | V | Jane Reilly Smith |
| **Altar Guild: Holly Westaby & Kathy Knox** | | | | | |

**\*Next Week 12.17.2023 Worship Service**

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| **December 2023 Worship Servers** | | | | | |
| **Worship Leader Kathy Robinson** | | | | | |
| DATE | PIANIST / ORGANIST | READER | USHER / GREETERS | VIDEO TAPER | COMMUNION |
| 12/17/2023 | Karen Zuidema | Al Solomonson | Mike Schwede | V |  |
| **Altar Guild: Holly Westaby & Kathy Knox** | | | | | |

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