



Immanuel United Methodist Church

800 North Main Street • Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

Sunday, December 22, 2024
4th Sunday of Advent

Order of Worship

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome

Pastor David Roderick

Prelude—

Rhonda Grammer

Opening Prayer

Dave Norris

Advent Candle Lighting

Dave Norris

We have lit three candles—for hope, for peace, and for joy. Today we light the fourth candle—the candle of love. With this flame we signify the love of God that surrounds and fills us at all times, but that we recognize in a special way in the Christmas story. There is no greater power than love. It is stronger than rulers and empires, stronger than grief or despair, stronger even than death. We love, because God loves us.

As we light these candles Loving God, we open ourselves to you this Christmas season.

As these candles are lit, light our lives with your imagination.

Show us the creative power of hope.

Teach us the peace that comes from justice.

Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared.

Magnify your love within us.

Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,

That we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

Song—*Angels We Have Heard on High* UMH #238

Song—*O Little Town of Bethlehem* UMH #234 (v.1 , 2, 3)

Worship Team

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor David Roderick

Song—*Heirlooms*

Worship Team

Scripture John :1-9, 14a ^{NRSVUE}

Dave Norris

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. ⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world: ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory,

Message: *Testifying to the Light*

Pastor David Roderick

Song—*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Worship Team

Prayer of Thanks

Pastor David Roderick

Song—*Doxology UMH #95*

Worship Team

Benediction

Pastor David Roderick

Worship Team: Sophie Antonini, Rhonda Grammer, Caleb Kelahan, Jennifer Moore

Angel Tree Ministry—4 Tags Short. Angel Tree gift tags and gifts were due on December 10th. If you selected a tag, and have not already done so, please return your gifts and tag to the church. We need to be sure the gifts reach their intended child in time for Christmas. Thank you!

Christmas Eve Worship—We will celebrate Christmas Eve on Tuesday, December 24th with a worship service at 5:00 pm. This service will include candlelight and communion. All are welcome!

Advent Studies

Our weekly Advent Studies will conclude on Monday. Meeting information is below. We hope you can join us!

Prepare the Way for the Lord: Advent and the Message of John the Baptist

Date: Monday, December 23, 2024

Time: 6:30-7:45

Location: Rainbow House

Christmas Decorations will be taken down following church service on Sunday, January 5, 2025. Anyone who can stay and assist will be welcome and will help ensure that it is a fast process. As always, we appreciate the ways in which you contribute your time to Immanuel.

Friday Food and Fellowship Lunches will resume again in January with meals being held on January 10th and January 24th. Mark your calendars. We look forward to seeing you in the new year.

From Our Finance Committee: Immanuel United Methodist Church has been blessed with your prayers, presence and support in 2024. We have done God's work and served God's people. Our monetary contributions have unfortunately fallen short of the commitments we made. We ask that you prayerfully consider how you have been blessed and ways that you can share that blessing. Contributions will fulfill our commitment to missions around the world. Thank you for your continuing dedication and support.

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Celebrating Birthdays This Week: 12/23—Jill Garbs; 12/24—Dave Norris, Mary Ann Goldsmith; 12/27—Zinnia Allen; 12/28—Mary Lou Grigg, Trisha Rader

Our Online Calendar can be accessed at any time by following this link:

<https://73818207.view-events.com>.

Immanuel's Welcoming Inclusion Statement

As we recognize the value in each other, we recognize God. We embrace God's good gift of diversity and believe all persons are of sacred worth. Therefore, we welcome people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, social-economic background, family structure, and physical or mental ability into the full participation of this congregation. We are called by God to raise the level of hope for those who have been marginalized and singled out for exclusion, including our LGBTQIA+ siblings. Our passion for a wide welcome of all God's children moves us to participate in reconciling and justice ministries so that we might truly be open minds, open hearts, and open doors.

Calendar for the Week

Monday, December 23	6:30 pm Advent Study at Rainbow House 7:30 pm AA
Tuesday, December 24	Christmas Eve 5:00 pm Worship Service—Candlelight and Communion
Wednesday, December 25	Christmas Day
Thursday, December 26	No Events Scheduled
Friday, December 27	No Events Scheduled
Saturday, December 28	No Events Scheduled
Sunday, December 29	10:00 am In-Person & Livestream Worship

This Week's Worship Assistants:

Liturgist: Dave Norris
Greeter: Jill Winte
Soundboard: Matt Lewis
Worship Screens: Kiffon Lewis

Christmas Eve Worship Assistants:

Liturgist: Betty Gengler
Greeter: Jill Winte
Soundboard: Matt Lewis
Worship Screens: Kiffon Lewis



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Prayer/Praise Ministry

Please pray for:

- Pat Schott, following knee replacement surgery on December 18.
- Nephew of Koenig Family having tests for heart issues-possible surgery.
- Dakotah Mossman, and her newborn, Forrest, who is in NICU at Tampa Hospital. Dakotah is the niece of Kelly Wagner.
- Young Koenig family friend diagnosed with Stage 3 Colon cancer as they have surgery and begin chemo treatments.
- Penny May, comfort and healing following hip replacement surgery on December 12th.
- Gary Ramey, Stepfather of Emily Spitze, fighting cancer that has spread. He will start a new treatment on December 22.
- Taylor Burch, friend of Shannah Wagner and the Wagner family, for pregnancy complications.
- Chelsea Skinner 29, family cousin of Koenig's, as she begins new cancer treatment.

If you have someone or something you would like to have us pray for, please use the tear off sheet on the bulletin and drop in an offering box, or contact the church office at 618-656-4648 by EOD on Wednesdays if possible.

**Song #1 - Angels We Have Heard on High
UMH # 238**

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

See Him in the manger lay
Whom the choir of angels praise
Mary, Joseph lend your aid
While our hearts in love we raise

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord newborn King

**Song #2 - O Come, All Ye Faithful UMH 234
(vs 1,2 3)**

Verse 1
O come all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of angels:

Chorus 1
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Verse 2
True God of True God,
Light from light eternal,
Lo, he shuns not the virgin's womb;
Son of the Father,
Begotten, not created:

Chorus 2
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Verse 3
Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above:
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Chorus 3
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Song #3 – Heirlooms

Up in the attic, down on my knees
Lifetimes of boxes, timeless to me
Letters and photographs, yellowed with years
Some bringing laughter some bringing tears

Time never changes the memories
The faces of loved ones who bring to me
All that I come from and all that I live for
And all that I'm going to be
My precious family is more than an heirloom to me

Wisemen and shepherds down on their knees
Bringing their treasures to lay at His feet
Who was this wonder baby yet King?
Living and dying He gave life to me

Time never changes the memory
The moment His love first pierced through me
Telling all that I come from and all that I live for
And all that I'm going to be

My precious Savior Is more than an heirloom to me
My precious Jesus is more than an heirloom to me

Song #4 - Hark! the Herald Angels Sing UMH# 240

Chorus 1
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With th'angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem

Refrain
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Chorus 2
Christ by highest heaven adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the God-head see
Hail th'incarnate Deity
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel

Refrain
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!

Chorus 3
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace
Hail the Sun of righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Risen with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that we no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth

Refrain
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Song #5 – Doxology UMH #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Immanuel United Methodist Church

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