



*Third Sunday
of Advent*

Immanuel United Methodist Church

800 North Main Street • Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

December 14, 2025
Third Week of Advent—Joy

Order of Worship

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome

Pastor David Roderick

Prelude

Jennifer Moore

Opening Prayer

Sarah Woods

Song—*O Little Town of Bethlehem* #230

Worship Team

Advent Candle Lighting

Sarah Woods

L: In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God's salvation.

All: We choose to believe that the day is coming when "the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Isaiah 35:10).

L: We light this candle of joy as a sign of the Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together

Song—*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* #218

Worship Team

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 35:1-10 NRSVUE

Sarah Woods

35 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and shouting.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;

⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert;

⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸ A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

⁹ No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor David Roderick

Song—*Heirlooms*

Worship Team

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴ Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written

Today's Message:

Pastor David Roderick

Song—*Light of the World*

Worship Team

Prayer of Thanks

Pastor David Roderick

Doxology #95

Worship Team

Benediction

Pastor David Roderick

Worship Team:

Emerson Gausmann, Jennifer Moore

CLI #2836520

Angel Tree Ministries

We have an opportunity to serve 21 children in Madison County this year through Angel Tree Ministries. A reminder that if you selected a tag, your gift wrapped items along with the tag are due today, Sunday, December 14. Phone Rhonda Grammer with any questions or issues, 618-444-4871.

Blessing Bags

We are providing blessing bags this winter, to be available for our friends at Friday Food & Fellowship and anyone in need of essential supplies this winter. A list of suggested items was included in the Weekly Update email if you would like to donate items to be used to fill the bags. You may also fill your own bags and bring to the church. Email kelly@immanuelonmain.org, if you would like a copy of the list emailed to you. There is no deadline as this will be an ongoing ministry through the season.

Friday Food and Fellowship

Our next lunch will be on December 19 from 11:00am—1:00pm. As always, there is no cost but donations are appreciated and accepted as you are able. Our thanks to everyone who volunteers their time to help our community. Please bring a friend and join us for fellowship.

Immanuel Goes to a Hockey Game

Please mark your calendars for Friday, December 19th at 8:15 PM for Hockey Fights Cancer at the RP Lumber Center. Immanuel will participate in the puck drop before the game to honor those fighting cancer, survivors or loved ones lost to cancer. Those individuals will be honored on the ice during a pre-game ceremony. We hope many of you, families, and friends can join us for this event.

Christmas Eve Services

You're invited to celebrate Christmas Eve with us on Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00pm. The service will include candlelight and communion. Services will not be live streamed. We hope you will join us in person!

Christmas Day

If you find yourself without a place to be on Christmas Day, we invite you to join us for lunch. We will be gathering for pizza and fellowship and would love to share a couple of hours of the day with you. Whether you are new, alone, or simply looking for connecting, there is a seat for you. RSVP to Hayden Ellis 618-363-3327.

Inclement Weather Policy

If Church is ever cancelled due to weather, it will be posted on our [Facebook](#) page and/or on our [website](#).

+ + + +

Celebrating Birthdays This Week: 12/18—Sydney Grammer, 12/19—Sharon Koenig

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.

Prayer/Praise Ministry

- Randy Ellis, father of Hayden Ellis, recovering from recent accident.
- Pat Boudreau, sister of Penny May and Dale Fellhauer, awaiting test results.
- Kimberly Buckley, daughter of Linda & Larry Duckworth, needs prayers for emotional support.
- Emily Spitze and family, for the recent passing of her step-father Gary Ramey.
- Prayer of healing for Shelley Duncan, cousin of Sheila Page.
- Brandy Page, daughter of Sheila Page, prayers for continued healing.
- Barb Mindak diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis.
- Ann Pugh fighting brain cancer.
- Maryrose Donnelly, mother of Jules Donnelly, who was diagnosed with cancer.
- Carl Streubel, friend of Emily Spitze, who was diagnosed with cancer.

To add someone to the prayer list fill out the bulletin slip or contact the church office.

Calendar for the Week

Sunday, December 14 3rd Sunday of Advent	10:00 am 11:00 am	In-Person & Livestream Worship Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, December 15	7:15 pm	AA
Wednesday, December 17	1:00 pm 7:00 pm	Head Start Learn & Play Rainbow House Adult Group
Thursday, December 18	9:00 am	United Women in Faith Holiday Bag Assembly
Friday, December 19	8:15pm	Immanuel UMC Night at Hockey Fights Cancer
Sunday, December 21 4th Sunday of Advent	10:00 am	In-Person & Livestream Worship

Today's Worship Assistants:

Liturgist: Sarah Woods

Greeter (s): Jill Winte

Soundboard: Matt Martell

Worship Screens: Kiffon Lewis

Next Week's Worship Assistants:

Liturgist: David Norris

Greeter (s): Emily Spitze

Soundboard: Hayden Ellis

Worship Screens: Tami Masinelli



Scan QR Code to Make a
Contribution to Immanuel
Via PayPal

Immanuel United Methodist Church

Office Phone: (618) 656-4648 E-mail: kelly@immanuelonmain.org
800 North Main Street • Edwardsville, IL 62025
www.immanuelonmain.org

Pastor David Roderick • Cell phone: (618) 530-4679
E-mail: david@immanuelonmain.org -or- droderick@charter.net

Song #1—O Little Town of Bethlehem #230

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep,
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years,
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above;
While mortals sleep the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O, morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth;
And praises sing to God the King
And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given;
So God imparts to human hearts,
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin;
Where meek souls will
Receive Him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

O, holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels,
The great glad tidings tell;
O, come to us abide with us,
Our Lord, Emmanuel.

Song #2—It Came Upon The Midnight Clear #218

It came upon the midnight clear
That glorious song of old
From angels bending to the earth
To touch their harps of gold
"Peace on the earth good will to men,
From heaven's all gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing

Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load
Whose forms are bending low
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow
Look now! For glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing
O rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing

For lo!, the days are hastening on
By prophet seen of old
When with the ever-circling years
Shall come the time foretold
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing

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—Light of the World

The world waits for a miracle
The heart longs for a little bit of hope
Oh come, O come, Emmanuel

A child prays for peace on earth
And she's calling out from a sea of hurt
Oh come, O come, Emmanuel

And can you hear the angels singing

Glory to the light of the world
Glory, the light of the world is here

The drought breaks with the tears of a mother
A baby's cry is the sound of love
Come down, come down, Emmanuel

He is the song for the suffering
He is Messiah, the Prince of Peace has come
He has come, Emmanuel

Glory to the light of the world
Glory to the light of the world
Glory to the light of the world
Glory to the light of the world

Behold your King, Behold Messiah
Emmanuel, Emmanuel

The world waits for a miracle
The heart longs for a little bit of hope
O come, O come Emmanuel

Doxology—#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

Office Phone: (618) 656-4648 E-mail: kelly@immanuelonmain.org

800 North Main Street • Edwardsville, IL 62025

www.immanuelonmain.org

Pastor David Roderick • Cell phone: (618) 530-4679

E-mail: david@immanuelonmain.org -or- droderick@charter.net