

Immanuel's News and Notes ~ December 26, 2021

Welcome to worship as we continue to revel in the Christmas season. "Gracious Child, we pray O hear us, from Your lowly manger cheer us, gently lead us and be near us 'til we join Your choir above. Amen (LSB #375.6)." A special welcome to our visitors, please sign our guest book in the Narthex, and come again!

Please Remember in Your Prayers: Gordon Quandt, Marie Peters, Gary Meseck, Rachel Mentink, Duane Jacoby, Evan Bral, Sam Lee, Diane Taylor and Adam Burns. *If you have a concern for which you would like us to pray, please call the office, 676-2235, or send an email to: immansch@iowatelecom.net.*

We Thank God for the healing He has given to Janice Gierstorf following her surgeries and also to Devin Jepsen in his recovery from covid.

We Pray for God's Comfort for the family of Marcella Petersen whose funeral service was here at Immanuel Wednesday, December 22. The small white poinsettia at the foot of the baptismal font is from her funeral. We thank the family for sharing it with us.

Thank You to everyone who remembered us with cards and/or gifts as we have celebrated our Savior's birth! We are richly blessed to be a part of our Immanuel family. We praise God for the many kindnesses He showers upon us through you. We pray He will continue to guide us and bless us as we continue together in the service of Jesus our Savior in the coming year. Pastor and Chris Mahnken and Pastor Kaiser

Please Note: We will have worship this coming Saturday, January 1 at 4:00 p.m.

Hope When Your Heart Breaks: Our study group will be taking a break December 16-30. We will resume on January 6, 2022.

Readings for Next Sunday: Is. 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-11 (12-15); Eph. 3:1-12; Matt. 2:1-12.

"Thy Strong Word" every weekday morning at 6:25 a.m. on KDSN radio, 104.9. This week—Dec. 27-Jan. 1, Pastor Mahnken will have the daily message. Pastor Kluzek of Faith, Deloit and St. John, Kiron will lead worship at Denison Care, Silveridge, and Eventide today.

The Lutheran Hour: "Rite of Passage" by Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Life proceeds in stages marked by rites of passage. Dr. Zeigler talks about the changes we go through, and the Savior Who goes with us. (Luke 2:21-40) Listen to *The Lutheran Hour* every Sunday morning on Denison's KDSN 104.9 FM at 6:30 a.m. and KDSN 1530 AM at 10:30 a.m.

"Where are your eyes today?" ... Fix your eyes on Jesus—born into humanity for you. Watch as Jesus teaches, heals, comforts, and calls lost people to Himself. Fix your eyes on Him as He hangs on that cross for you. Joyfully meet Him as He comes to you after the resurrection—loving you, forgiving you, and sending you out into His world to share His love with others. *Dr. Kari Vo, Lutheran Hour Ministries—A Life Quote from Lutherans for Life.*

Building Healthy Families: The beginning of a New Year can bring feelings of anticipation, excitement, and hope as we start with a clean slate. How about a new start with one or more of these: Read from The Bible 15 minutes/day; go to church every Sunday without fail; set aside 10 minutes at the end of the day to pray; join a Bible Study group; start tithing; memorize Scripture (one verse per week). 6 weeks of doing something repeatedly makes it a habit. Happy & Blessed New Year to You! **Lutheran Family Service. www.LutheranFamilyService.org.**

God In The Straw: "There is nothing false about Christmas, nothing hokey or make-believe. It's the real thing. It is forgiveness for people who need forgiveness, and life for those who have none. It is strength to fight temptation that is cruel, and to do the thing that is right when it is hard to do. It is the hope of life in the face of death that is crudely real. It is God in the straw. It sounds like a pathetic story. Actually it's a very sympathetic story. It is God in the straw of our humanity. It is God not just *showing* Himself but *doing* for us. It is God taking our humanity, and nailing our sins and whatever we deserve because of our sins to the cross of His Son. It is God calling someone like you or me out of the chaos of darkness into a new order of light, drawing people like us into the company of the Son of His love, into the company of His dear Son in whom we have redemption through His all-too-human blood, even the forgiveness of our sins. That's the real story of the real God. He is God in the straw, no mistake about that! He is God on the raw edges of life. He is God in the everyday, the common, the ordinary, where Jesus, His Son, was and always is. It is the real story of Christmas—not the carols at midnight on Christmas Eve, beautiful as they may be, not the Christmas cards with countless angels and millions of camels. That's not where it's at. It's in the straw of a manger, and it's that Baby you see there-God in the straw." (From a Lutheran Hour Sermon by the late Reverend Dr. Oswald Hoffmann).

About the Cover: In Simeon's hands is the true Light that has come into the world. This radiant Christ is the beautiful Savior, who illumines the path of salvation for all peoples. It is no wonder that Simeon can now depart in peace, as the light of the world has illumined his eyes. This same light continues to shine into our lives this day by the Word. Jesus Christ has dispelled and overcome the darkness of our sin through His cross and resurrection in order to bring us into His marvelous light.

Attendance:

Saturday, Dec. 18:	37
Sunday, Dec. 19:	89
	126

Sunday School:	27
Adult Bible Class:	26

Gifts:

Church Plate:	\$5,239.00
Sunday School:	\$ 33.50
Adult Bible Class:	\$ 25.00

Acolytes today:

Aden Hennings
Brock Schneider

To be included in your giving statements for 2021, gifts must be received in the office by December 30.

Your Christmas Day Offering will go to Immanuel's Home Mission Fund.

~ The Week Ahead in Ministry ~ December 26-January 2

Saturday: January 1, 2022 — Happy New Year!

4:00 p.m. Worship w/HC

**Sunday:
January 2**

9:00 a.m. Worship w/HC

10:15 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class

2021 CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

- * Lodean & Sandra Voss & family in memory of Louis & Alice Aldag and Erwin & Marvella Voss
- * JoAnn Riessen in memory of Erwin & Elfie Riessen
- * Mike & Melanie Hargens & family in memory of Carl & Gladys Petersen and Bill Aldag
- * The Bruhn, Hargens, Korner, Paulsen & Wiebers families in memory of Cole Schneider
- * Dennis & Coleen Bruhn in memory of loved ones
- * Craig & Val Teut in memory of Taylor Marie Teut & Virgene Fredericks
- * Family of Roger Harm in memory of Roger Harm
- * Richard & Becky Hanlin in memory of loved ones
- * Lowell & Julie Teut in memory of Taylor Marie Teut & Tyler Banks
(grandchildren of Lowell & Julie Teut)
- * Lowell & Julie Teut in memory of Lenhard & Anna Teut and Fred & Viola Jess
(parents of Lowell & Julie Teut)
- * Tim & Lila Bubke in memory of their parents, siblings, family & friends
- * Nancy Bielenberg in memory of Herbert & Arlene Teut
- * Bruce & Cathy Namanny in memory of Kenneth & Dorothy Namanny and Olen & Irma Martin
- * Kevin Clausen in memory of Lois Clausen
- * Kevin Clausen in memory of Delmer Clausen
- * Loren & Janice Jepsen in memory of Leslie & Eileen Grell
- * Loren & Janice Jepsen in memory of Ruth Jackson
- * Harry & Kay Riessen in memory of loved ones and others
- * Leroy & Marlene Hight in memory of loved ones
- * Eric & Renae Schneider & family in memory of Cole Schneider
- * Richard Fredericks in memory of Taylor Marie Teut & Virgene Fredericks
- * Joel & Sandy Bubke in memory of loved ones
- * Leroy Fredericks in memory of Marlene Fredericks
- * Curtis & Angela Korner & family in memory of loved ones
- * The Bruhn, Hargens, Korner, Paulsen & Wiebers families in memory of Cole Schneider
- * Derick & Amanda Bruhn & family in memory of loved ones
- * Kristin Hennings in memory of Warren Hennings
- * Guenter & Joyce Detlefsen in memory of loved ones
- * Jerry & Grace Langholdt in memory of loved ones
- * Mike & Tracy Beeck & family in memory of loved ones who are already with Jesus
- * Larry & JoAnn Clausen in memory of Andrew & Bernice Clausen and Theodore & Leona Aldag
- * Wayne & Joyce Miller in memory of Ken Miller
- * Bonard Christiansen in memory of Beverly Christiansen

*Thank you for placing poinsettias to the Glory of God.
You may take them home after the 9:00 am December 26 worship service.*



Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Worship:

Saturday ~ 4 p.m.
Sundays ~ 9 a.m.

Communion: Every
Saturday and First &
Third Sundays

Sunday School &
Bible Classes~10:15 a.m.

Worship Services are
streamed live,
recorded, and can be
accessed at any time by
clicking on Facebook,
YouTube or our website .

***“Together in
Christ, we grow
through the Word
and Sacraments,
serving our Lord
and sharing
His saving grace
with all people.”***

