



Christmas Eve Morning

Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA

Forest City, Iowa

Pastors Rod Hopp & Zech Anderson, Intern Elizabeth Carr

December 24, 2023 9:15am

www.immanuelfamily.com

Building community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: We gather today. **C: It is time to worship!**

L: We listen for God **C: It is time to hear!**

L: We receive God's grace. **C: It is time to be loved!**

L: We leave in peace. **C: It is time to serve others!**

L: As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

GATHERING HYMN: **"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"**

#257 (vs. 1-4) ELW

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

BIRTHDAY PARTY INTRO:

READING: Micah 5:2-5a

HYMN: **"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"**

#272 (vs. 1-3)

READING: Matthew 1:18-23

Birthday Party Activity: Simon Says

HYMN: **"Your Little Ones, Dear Lord"**

#286 (vs. 1,3,4)

READING: Luke 1:26-38

Birthday Party Activity: Pin the Tail

HYMN: **"O Little Town of Bethlehem"**

#279

READING: Luke 1:39-45

Birthday Party Activity: Charades

HYMN: **"I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve"**

#271

READING: Luke 2:1-7

Birthday Party Activity: Sing Happy Birthday

HYMN: **"The First Noel"**

#300 (vs. 1,2,4)

READING: Luke 2:8-14

HYMN: **"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"**

#275 (vs. 1,2,4)

Birthday Party Activity: Bingo

APOSTLES' CREED

pg. 105

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: *L: Hurry, God. C: Receive our prayers.*

Ruby Sue Albertsen

Joyce Kasper

Tim Schmidt

Kristy Anderson

Chris McCormick

Lowell Solberg

Liam Bartleson

Carol Merritt

Jennie Spencer

Hayden Despenas

Jill (Lewison) Nedved

Missionary Karen Anderson

Parker Farland

Wilma Sauer

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes

SHARING OF THE PEACE: *L: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.*

OFFERING: **"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"**

#282 (vs. 1,3,4)

OFFERTORY: **"We are an Offering"**

#692

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, for the time we have, we say: **Thank you.**

For the gifts we offer, we say: **Thank you.**

For the chance to help others, we say: **Thank you.**

For the people whose lives will be better because of these gifts, we say: **Thank you.**

For the ways you are changing the world, we say: **Thank you.**

We pray in the name of Jesus, who appears wherever people need our help. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING HYMN: **"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"**

#288

BLESSING

DISMISSAL: As you leave this place, remember whether you are waiting for a new beginning or just waiting for something to end, God is sustaining you. Keep alert; trust God; seek peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



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Today's worship is broadcast at 11:00am over KLOW 107.3 FM and given because HE IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON, BE JOYFUL! From the Johnson family, Mike, Heather, Hayden, Tate and Jordy.

POINSETTIAS GIVEN:

In memory of Patricia Bendickson from Tori, Ryan, Rylie & Nevaeh Eastvold

In memory of Marion Eastvold from Wayne & Marcia Eastvold and family (2)

In memory of Lanny Jenkins from Sandy Jenkins and family (blue)

In memory of Ralph & Lois Holst from their loving daughter, Nancy, Doug & Jason

Worship Participants:

Ushers: Gary McCarthy, Roland Drew, Colleen Schmidt, Tina Berg

Altar Care: Kathy Leuwerke

Greeter: Shirley Rollefson

Song Leaders: Scott Bertelsen, Cindi Lehmann

Organ/Piano: Karen Post

Assisting Minister: Patti Strukel

Scripture Reader: John Tibodeau

Sound/Video Techs: Ken Ferjak, Dave Midtgaard