

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD  
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAY CREEK  
24686 OLD CHURCH ROAD, RED WING, MN 55066  
[www.immanuel-lcms.org](http://www.immanuel-lcms.org)

Pastor: Rev. Lowell Sorenson, 388-4577  
Togo Missionary: Rev. Micah Wildauer

Organist: Sara Sorenson  
Acolyte: Meya Callstrom

**The Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**December 20, 2015**

**VISITORS – WE WELCOME YOU** to this house of prayer this morning. May you feel at home among friends as we worship together. We invite you to sign your name in the guest book in the back of the church and hope you will return again soon.

This morning we celebrate the Sacrament of the Altar, a feast of forgiveness in which we partake of the true body and blood of Christ along with the visible elements of bread and wine. The Bible gives specific instructions about the Lord's Supper. As it can be received to one's blessing or to one's harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), the Lord's Table must be approached with a sincere faith and a Biblical understanding. That's why all who are new to the Lutheran faith are instructed about this sacred meal before attending the Lord's Supper. Moreover, this Sacrament is also a testimony of our oneness in what we believe (1 Corinthians 10:17). Therefore, we welcome to the Holy Supper all members of Immanuel who have been confirmed and those confirmed members of sister congregations with whom we are in fellowship through unity in teaching (LCMS and TAALC). All guests who wish to receive the Sacrament are asked to speak with Pastor Sorenson before the service. The faith that we believe and confess is a beautiful gift of God. If you are new to Immanuel, we warmly welcome and encourage you to learn about this faith.

Prelude  
Welcome  
Ring of the Bell

Opening Hymn: #357, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Verses 1-4

Invocation  
P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C: Amen.**

Introit of the Day, prayed responsively ..... worship insert

Kyrie (L. Sorenson; Tune: Gethsemane)  
Lord, have mercy, hear our plea,  
Father of all majesty;  
Christ, have mercy, God's own Son,  
Who for us redemption won!  
Lord, have mercy, Spirit blest,  
Source of truth and life and rest.

Hymn of Praise: Omitted in Advent

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

Collect of the Day, spoken by Pastor

Old Testament Reading ..... Micah 5:2-5a  
Response  
P: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

Epistle ..... Hebrews 10:5-10  
Response  
P: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

Common Alleluia Verse (L. Sorenson; Tune: Easter Hymn)  
To the Christ now let us sing; Alleluia!  
Words of life to us now bring; Alleluia!  
For the Church You bled and died; Alleluia!  
Ever reign the Crucified; Alleluia!

Holy Gospel ..... Luke 1:39-45  
Responses  
P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.  
**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**  
(The Gospel is read.)  
P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

The Nicene Creed ..... back cover of the hymnal

Hymn of the Day: #361, "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Sermon: "The Ruler Out Of Bethlehem"

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

Confession and Announcement of Grace

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**C: Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*(Brief Silence)*

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C: Amen.**

An Exhortation to the Communicants

I admonish you in Christ that you discern the Testament of Christ in true faith and, above all, take to heart the words wherein Christ imparts to us His body and His blood for the remission of our sins. That you remember and give thanks for His boundless love which He proved to us when He redeemed us from God's wrath, sin, death, and hell by His own blood. And that in this faith you externally receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as the pledge and guarantee of this. In His name therefore, and according to the command that He gave, let us use and receive the Testament. (From Luther's Works, 53:79-80)

Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution

Sanctus (L. Sorenson; Tune: Nicaea)

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Heaven opens wide today as we partake of Thee.

Blessed, Holy Savior, In the Lord's Name coming.

God in the highest, Hail the glorious King!

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Grant, O Lord, that in true faith we feast today on Thee.

Saints and all the angels, Heav'nly anthems singing.

Fall down and worship, Hail the glorious King!

Agnus Dei (L. Sorenson; Tune: Wem In Leidenstagen)

Lamb of God, Most Holy:

Lord, to Thee, we cry:

Grant Thy grace and pardon,

Strength to us supply.

Lamb of God, Most Holy,

For the world once slain.

Paid for all transgression,

Suffered for our gain.

Christ, our blest Redeemer,  
Died upon the tree.  
For the world of sinners;  
Thus, He died for me.

Look we unto Jesus;  
He is God's own Son!  
Mercy, peace, and blessing,  
He for us has won.

Lamb of God, Most Holy,  
Grant to us Thy peace.  
In Thy precious Supper  
Faith in us increase.

Hymn #376, "Once in Royal David's City"

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn: #357, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Verses 5-7

Chimes/Silent Prayer

Announcements

Postlude