

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAY CREEK
24686 OLD CHURCH ROAD, RED WING, MN 55066
www.immanuel-lcms.org

Pastor: Rev. Lowell Sorenson, 388-4577
Korean Missionary: Pastor Patrick O'Neal

Organist: Sara Sorenson
Acolyte: Jordan Taylor

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 20, 2008

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

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.

Today we partake of the Sacrament of the Altar, a feast where we receive the true body and blood of Christ along with the visible elements of bread and wine. Those visitors desiring to commune at this altar should first speak with the pastor regarding their beliefs. Though the Lord offers this gift to His church for the forgiveness of sins, He also admonishes us through St. Paul: "Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Therefore, in faithfulness to our Lord and with love for our guests, this congregation insists on the Scriptural practice of Closed Communion. For a salutary use of the Lord's Supper, it is essential that those communing here be properly instructed, sorry for their sins, desiring God's forgiveness and His grace to live a sanctified life, and believe in the true presence of the body and blood of Christ in the Lord's Supper. Furthermore, since attendance at the Sacrament is Biblically and historically a sign of church fellowship, those who present themselves for Communion are to be in doctrinal agreement and fellowship with The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

Prelude
Welcome
Ringing of the Bell
Invocation

P: In the name of God the Father,
C: who created life with His hands.
P: In the name of God the Son,

C: who redeemed life with His hands.
P: In the name of God the Holy Spirit,
C: who holds life in His hands.
P: In the name of our Triune God,
C: the Lord of Life! Amen.

Confession and Absolution (Pss. 124:8; 130:3-4)

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

(Silence for self-examination and reflection on God's Word)

P: Most Merciful God,

C: we confess that we have sinned and fallen short of the glory You intended for our lives. We have not loved You with our whole hearts. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have done that which is evil in Your sight and have not done the good You desire. We are worthy of Your temporal and eternal punishment. Yet, You have promised to have mercy on us. For the sake of Jesus Christ, grant to us what You have promised. Forgive our sins, restore our lives, reconcile us to one another, and lead us to amend our sinful lives by the power of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

P: God has had mercy on us, and for the sake of Jesus Christ, He has answered our prayer for mercy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Collect of the Day

P: Almighty God, all things come from You and all things will return to You, the Giver and Preserver of all life. You gave Your Son into the womb of a virgin to embrace our humanity and redeem us, Your people, from our sin. Give us such an appreciation for Your gift of life that we will honor and value all life as You will and desire, and lead us to speak boldly how Jesus became one of us to bring us eternal life and salvation; through Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Litany of Remembrance

- P: This morning we mourn for the millions of lives that have been lost because of abortion. Let us reflect on these lives that were cut short before they could serve God according to the purpose for which they were created. "A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more." (Matt. 2:18).
- P: Let us remember the sons and daughters that were never born.
- C: Little arms that never stretched out asking to be held.**
- P: Let us remember the brothers and sisters who were never able to play with their siblings.
- C: Their laughter was never heard.**
- P: We remember the teachers who were never able to teach and the pastors who were never able to preach.
- C: Wisdom that was never shared.**
- P: We remember the physicians, nurses, technicians, researchers, and other medical professionals through whom God's hand of healing was never able to be extended.
- C: Mercy that was never given.**
- P: Let us remember business people and courageous leaders who were never able to extend a godly influence upon our nation.
- C: Good examples that could never be followed.**
- P: Let us remember the farmers who would never reap the fruits of the earth.
- C: Wholesome, hardworking lives that were never lived.**
- P: We remember laborers whose hands could never form or craft or build.
- C: Productive lives that never were.**
- P: We remember the artists and musicians who will never be able to express the joys and the sorrows within them for others to identify with and appreciate.
- C: Works of art never seen, melodies never heard.**
- P: Let us remember little girls who will never hold and nurture a child of their own and little boys who will never grow up to be called "daddy."
- C: Generations yet unborn never to be.**
- P: Let us remember those children with special needs that will never touch our hearts in ways no one else could.
- C: God's unique purpose for them never realized.**
- P: We remember those who would have been born into difficult circumstances.
- C: Opportunities for God to shape and form and do mighty things amidst life's burdens.**
- P: We remember all the unborn souls for whom Christ died.
- C: Little ones deprived of Holy Baptism and the opportunity to hear of Christ's precious love.**

- P: Let us remember the mothers of aborted children who, in weakness, desperation, and fear, listened to the voices of death.
- C: Lift their hearts to You, O God, that they may know the sin of abortion, lay their burden at the foot of the cross, and receive forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ.**
- P: Let us remember the fathers of aborted children who, unable or unwilling to protect a defenseless life, are in conflict with their responsibility to their pre-born child, to the mother of that child, and to God.
- C: Lift their hearts to You, O God, that they might know the sin of abortion, lay their burden at the foot of the cross, and receive forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ.**
- P: We remember grandparents of aborted children who, unable or unwilling to protect a defenseless life, are in conflict with both their conscience and God.
- C: Lift their hearts to You, O God, that they might know the sin of abortion, lay their burden at the foot of the cross, and receive forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ.**
- P: Let us remember the doctors, counselors, and all who have been deceived by Satan to see abortion as a solution to difficult problems of life.
- C: Lift their hearts to You, O God, that they might know the sin of abortion, lay their burden at the foot of the cross, and receive forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ.**
- P: We think on ourselves, members of the Body of Christ, who in ignorance or fear have been silent when we should have spoken; passive when we should have acted to defend the "least of these."
- C: Lift our hearts to You, O God, that we might know the sin of abortion, lay our burden at the foot of the cross, and receive forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ.**
- P: "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,
- C: for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."**
(Ps. 23:4).

Silent Prayer/Chime Interlude: "Jesus Loves Me"

Hymn: "Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment"

Text: Moir A. J. Waters LSB #511

Tune: Fortunates New (Carl F. Schalk) LSB #521

1)

Herald, sound the note of judgment, Warning us of right and wrong,
Turning us from sin and sadness Till once more we sing the song.
Sound the trumpet! Tell the message: Christ, the Savior king, is come!

2)
Herald, sound the note of gladness; Tell the news that Christ is here;
Make a pathway through the desert For the One who brings God near.
Sound the trumpet! Tell the message: Christ, the Savior king, is come!

3)
Herald, sound the note of pardon - Those repenting are forgiv'n;
God receives His wayward children, And to them new life is giv'n.
Sound the trumpet! tell the message: Christ, the Savior king, is come!

4)
Herald, sound the note of triumph; Christ has come to share our life,
Bringing God's own love and power, Granting vict'ry in our strife.
Sound the trumpet! Tell the message: Christ, the Savior king, is come!

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 49:1-7
Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Holy Gospel John 1:29-42a
Nicene Creed back cover of the hymnal

Hymn of the Day: #401, "From God the Father, Virgin-Born"

Sermon: "The Savior Called from His Mother's Womb"

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Communion Prayer

P: Thanks and praise be to You, Father, for all that You have made and still preserve, including our very selves. When we chose the path of sin and rebellion and brought upon ourselves the curse of death, You did not abandon what You had made but sought us out with the hope and promise of redemption. In the fullness of time You sent forth Your Son, conceived by the Spirit within the womb of a virgin and delivered in flesh as our Savior and Redeemer. He offered Himself in our place, fulfilling the whole Law in order to be our righteousness, and spilling His holy blood for our atonement. Lead us to believe in Him with all our hearts and to receive in faith all the fruits of His suffering, death, and resurrection, which He imparts to us now, in the Holy Supper where He gives us His body and blood to eat and drink.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer see back cover of the hymnal

Words of Institution

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Distribution Hymns:

#393, "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

#370, "What Child Is This"

#537, "Beautiful Savior"

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn: "Life Is a Gift from God"

Text: John G. Fleischmann

Revised: Lowell Sorenson

Tune: Diademata (LSB #525)

1)

Life is a gift from God, Who order'd all my days,
And wrote them in His Book of Life So I could give Him praise.
He guards and still preserves That life He gave to me,
And loves me with a Father's love and will eternally!

2)

Life is a Holy Gift Which God alone can give.
He sets before us death and life; He died that we might live!
For God has sent His Son Who could have come a king,
But chose a mother's womb instead Eternal Life to bring.

3)

Life is a Gift of God So Jesus did partake,
And took upon our human form His heirs He did us make!
When we were being knit He knew who we would be
He mark'd us as His very own His death has set us free!

Announcements

Postlude

Church Council Meeting and Annual Voters' Meeting

All members of the Church Council should note the date of the next meeting: Tuesday, January 22nd at 7:00PM.

The Annual Voters' Meeting will be on **Monday, January 28th** at 7:30PM. Members desiring to join the Voters' Assembly of Immanuel are encouraged to do so. If you have specific questions about this opportunity, please speak with Pastor or one of the elders at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

Ladies Quilting Project

The women of the quilting project will meet tomorrow, January 21, at 9:00AM for a day of work. Please bring a lunch.

DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK

Today:	7:30PM	Nybo's Family Night
Monday:		No School – CILS
	9:00AM	Ladies Quilting Project
Tuesday:		Roe v. Wade Anniversary – Remembrance of Unborn Victims
	12:00PM	March For Life – State Capitol
	12:30PM	Program on steps of the Capitol
	7:00PM	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday:	5:30PM	7 th /8 th Grade Confirmation
	7:30PM	Choir
Thursday:		St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor: Acts 16:1-5; 1 Tim. 6:11-16; Matt. 24:42-47
	2:00PM	Ladies Aid Prayer Service (rescheduled)
	7:30PM	Women's Bible Study
Friday:		Conversion of St. Paul: Jer. 1:4-10; Acts 9:1-22; Matt. 19:27-30
Saturday:		St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor: Acts 20:28-35; Tit. 1:1-9; Luke 10:1-9
	9AM-5PM	Stampin' with the Spirit
Next Sun:	9:00AM	Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00AM	Fellowship Time
	10:30AM	Worship

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Thursday	- Vicky Hoffman, Barb Kelm
Friday	- Justin Kassen
Saturday	- David Banitt

IN OUR PRAYERS

Pastor Lyle Kath (undergoing cancer treatment); Margie Stumpf (healing); Harold Augustin (healing); Paul Nystuen (resurgence of bladder cancer); Syvilla Madsen (undergoing cancer therapy); Dorothy Bremer (for strength and peace as she faces terminal cancer); Karen Gusa (sister of Jan Langhans, struggling with lung cancer); Marian Burkard (recovering from a broken arm); Brad Greenwaldt (cousin of Bonnie Kassen undergoing chemotherapy for Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma); the Kolberg and Reding families (as they mourn the loss of Tom).

Thank You from the Food Shelf

Thank you very much for your contribution of \$175 and 160 lbs. of food to the Red Wing Area Food Shelf/Goodhue County Christmas Project, Inc. With assistance from people like you, we can continue to meet the temporary needs of families in our area.

Attention all Immanuel Committees and Societies: Please prepare your end-of-the-year reports for inclusion in the Annual Report. Please give your materials to Pastor Sorenson or Karen Stemmann at your earliest convenience. Thank You!

Life Quote – January 20

"The question here is not whether black women have access to reproductive 'choices,' but rather why we are fooled into thinking that we have to make a choice at all. It's the pro-abortionists who are trying to suggest that we fix societal problems by reducing the number of black Americans through abortion." *Day Gardner, founder and president of the National Black Pro-Life Union. A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life / www.lutheransforlife.org*

"THE LUTHERAN HOUR" – Sunday, January 27

8:30AM on KCUE-AM; 6:00PM on KDHL-Faribault (920)

"WWJP? – What Would Jesus Preach?"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Mark Hannemann

Bumper stickers and bracelets bear the slogan "WWJD?" – What Would Jesus Do? Pastor Mark Hannemann invites us to consider "WWJP?" – What Would Jesus Preach?"

Pro-Life Petition

Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life is working diligently to prevent the University of Minnesota from cloning and killing human embryos for ghoulish experimentation. The Kahn-Cohen Cloning Bill that would authorize taxpayer funding of these experiments was blocked through our efforts, but it will be back and was only a few votes short. The University's killing of tiny human beings is violence against the human family. You can save some of these lives by preventing taxpayer funding of the U of M's cloning and killing of human embryos. A petition is available for you to sign after the worship service.

MCCL March for Life

January 22nd marks the 35th commemoration of the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision allowing abortion on demand throughout all nine months of pregnancy. Your presence at the Capitol will send a clear message to state lawmakers that the majority of Minnesotans believe abortion on demand is wrong. Since 1973, 50 million unborn babies have been aborted in this country. 530,000 have been aborted in Minnesota. How many more children must die? If you would be interested in attending the peaceful demonstration at the state Capitol along with Pastor Sorenson, please speak with him at your earliest convenience. The program begins at noon on the 22nd.