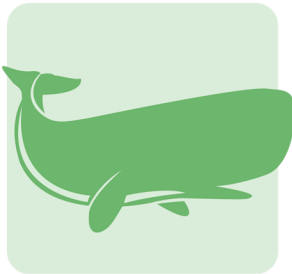


Illustrations



of
Immanuel

December 17, 2025

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Please sign the guest register in the entry
as you leave the church today.

TODAY'S SERVICE

December 17th, 2025

Speaker: Pastor Matthew Ude

Organist: Dan Barthels

PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Revelation 22:16-21

¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star." ¹⁷ And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. ¹⁸ For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book. ²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! ²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

#71 Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

INVOCATION

p In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

CONFESSION OF SINS

p God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

c If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His son cleanses us from all sin.

p If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

c If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

p Let us confess our sins.

- all** Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen
- p** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
- c** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**
- p** Let us pray . . . O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

THE WORD

Isaiah 7:1-14 Now it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, *that* Rezin king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up to Jerusalem to *make* war against it, but could not prevail against it. ² And it was told to the house of David, saying, "Syria's forces are deployed in Ephraim." So his heart and the heart of his people were moved as the trees of the woods are moved with the wind. ³ Then the LORD said to Isaiah, "Go out now to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-Jashub your son, at the end of the aqueduct from the upper pool, on the highway to the Fuller's Field, ⁴ "and say to him: 'Take heed, and be quiet; do not fear or be fainthearted for these two stubs of smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin and Syria, and the son of Remaliah. ⁵ 'Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah have plotted evil against you, saying, ⁶ "Let us go up against Judah and trouble it, and let us make a gap in its wall for ourselves, and set a king over them, the son of Tabel "-- ⁷ 'thus says the Lord GOD: "It shall not stand, Nor shall it come to pass. ⁸ For the head of Syria is Da-

mascus, And the head of Damascus is Rezin. Within sixty-
 five years Ephraim will be broken, *So that it will not be a*
people. ⁹ The head of Ephraim is Samaria, And the head
 of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If you will not believe, Surely
 you shall not be established."" ¹⁰ Moreover the LORD
 spoke again to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ "Ask a sign for yourself
 from the LORD your God; ask it either in the depth or in
 the height above." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor
 will I test the LORD!" ¹³ Then he said, "Hear now, O
 house of David! *Is it* a small thing for you to weary men,
 but will you weary my God also? ¹⁴ "Therefore the Lord
 Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall con-
 ceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

PSALM

Psalm 24:7-10

- P Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up,
 you everlasting doors!
 C **And the King of glory shall come in.**
 P Who is this King of glory?

- C **The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty
in battle.**
- P Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you ever-
lasting doors!
- C **And the King of glory shall come in.**
- P Who is this King of glory?
- C **The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory.**

RESPONSORY FOR ADVENT

LSB, p. 230

- P Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I
will raise up for David a righteous Branch.
- C **This is the name by which He will be called: The
Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- P In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will
dwell securely.
- C **This is the name by which He will be called: The
Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit.

C This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

#646 Silent Night! Holy Night!

SERMON

Luke 2:6-16 ⁶ So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. ⁸ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. ¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² "And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swad-

dling cloths, lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" ¹⁵ So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF IMMANUEL

A Lowly Manger

OFFERING AND PRAYER

Luther's Evening Prayer

All I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

p The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen

#558 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night



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