



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Office@ImmanuelNegaunee.org + www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org
Sunday, January 7, 2024, 9:30am

Epiphany of Our Lord

Welcome to
worship! Please
complete a
Connection Card
and place the card
in the
offering plate.
Thank you!

The feast of
Epiphany
("manifestation")
concludes the
Christmas season
with a celebra-
tion of God's glo-
ry revealed in the
person of Jesus
Christ. In Isaiah
and Ephesians,
that glory is pro-
claimed for all
nations and peo-
ple. Like the light
of the star that
guided the magi
to Jesus, the light
of Christ reveals
who we are: chil-
dren of God who
are claimed and
washed in the
waters of bap-
tism. We are sent
out to be beacons
of the light of
Christ, sharing
the good news of
God's love to all
people.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* **Choir**
(Please stand as you are comfortable.)

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.
Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life, **you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be mes-
sengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and
our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our
neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-
centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are
cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of
eternal life in you. Amen.**

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the
outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In ✝ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy,
for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN *As with Gladness Men of Old* **#302**

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

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead
us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full
vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

(Please be seated.)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will
arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

All kings shall bow down before him. (Ps. 72:11)

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Word of God. **Word of Life. Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

- ¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
²**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**
- ³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
- ⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**
- ⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**
- ¹¹May all kings bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.
¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**
- ¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor,
and preserves the lives of the needy.
¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12


¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in

Christ Jesus our Lord,¹² in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Word of God. **Word of Life. Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand as you are comfortable.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le -
lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

The holy gospel according to...

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated.)

SERMON

Pastor Bre Kinnunen

(Please stand as you are comfortable.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Shine, Jesus, Shine

#671

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

Humble the hearts of your faithful people, that we seek to be servants of your gospel and witnesses to your mysteries. Give us boldness in faith, that we make the good news of Christ's birth known to all people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Establish justice on earth for all its inhabitants. Lead us to protect fragile ecosystems and endangered species. Empower the work of all who research, engineer, and make accessible alternative and renewable sources of energy. Make us careful stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Nations shall come to your light and kings to your dawning. Remove corruption and fear from the hearts of leaders and authorities. Lead governments to expand policies and resources that care for refugees and all migrants. Strengthen the work of resettlement agencies (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Defend the cause of all who are in need, all facing poverty, and all who are oppressed. Come quickly to those who feel that their lives and livelihoods are fragile. Give them strength and lead them forth with hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, empower us to give generously. Prosper the work of ministry partnerships in our community (*especially*). Together, help us share what we have to ensure that our neighbors have enough food, resources, and opportunities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You have redeemed the lives of your faithful departed. Through the love of Christ, gather us into one body with them, and reveal to us the mystery hidden for ages in the One who created all things. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace. **Amen.**

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(Please be seated.)

MEAL

OFFERING & NOISY OFFERING

(Please stand as you are comfortable.)

OFFERING SONG *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise (v. 1 & 4)* **#310**

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance, **receive and bless these gifts we have offered.** Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. **Amen.**



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* #815
Jesus Shall Reign #434

BLESSING OF THE LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY

Gracious God, whose mercy endures from generation to generation: As Mary set out to visit Elizabeth before she gave birth to her son, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our sisters and brothers who are homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion that, through the body and blood of your Son, we may all know the hope of your promised coming in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer, **you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Bre Kinnunen

(Please stand as you are comfortable.)

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, + Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF January 7—January 14, 2024

***QUAKE** The Immanuel youth will be going to Minneapolis for Quake on **March 14-17, 2024**. Any Immanuel youth in 6th-12th grade as well as a friend may go on this trip. A non-refundable deposit of **\$75** is due by **January 2, 2024**. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board outside the church office or call Stacy at 361-9123 for more information.

* **FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Are you willing to help with Fellowship hour? Donations that are needed are bakery items, crackers, cheese, fruit, or whatever suits your fancy, & cleanup! Your Fellowship Hour committee for January is Social Ministry. If it fits your schedule to bring items before Sunday morning, there are shelves in the refrigerator tagged for **Coffee Hour** or leave on the counter marked "Coffee Hour". Please contact **Linda Sjolund at 517-242-5364** with your date and any item you wish to bring. **THANK YOU ALL FOR VOLUNTEERING!**

* **SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CONVERSATION** The Sunday Bible Study is on **HOLD**.

* **TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY** All are welcome to come to our study on **TUESDAYS** from 7:30pm-9:00pm at **Pasquali's** in Negaunee. We welcome you to drop in as your schedule allows. Each week's discussion will be structured as a stand-alone study. Bring your questions, confusions, and doubts! If you have questions, call or text 540-435-4915.

* **ELEVATOR 'OUT-OF-COMMISSION':** The elevator is NOT USEABLE. Work is being done to retrofit the elevator with a new lift. The company we are working with is A4 Access. 80% of the work is complete. We have run into issues to complete the final 20%. There has been an add-on cost of \$7,500 due to a State of Michigan Code change. Martin Saari and members of the Property Committee are diligently working to bring this project to completion. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

* **"GOT SNEAKERS??"** We are collecting used ATHLETIC SNEAKERS which are then sent to a company that reuses those that are still usable and recycles those that aren't. There is currently a bag in the Stewardship corner where they can be deposited. Thank you for your donation.

* **ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE** The final day to submit for the 2023 Annual Report is **January 18**.

* **CHANGES TO CHURCH SERVICE TIMES** Starting today, **Sunday, January 7**, we will begin Sunday Worship Services at 6:00pm in addition to the regular 9:30am service. This service will replace the Monday night service.

* **CHURCH CLOSING PROCEDURES** In the event of inclement weather, a closing announcement will be placed on the church phone message, signs will be posted on the church doors, a post will be added to the church webpage and on Facebook and the closure will be listed on TV6 Closures. Sunday School closures will be posted on our Sunday School Facebook page by 7:30am. When you see the cancellation notice, please pass it on to your friends who may not have seen it yet.

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**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

***Pray For: Lori Bell, Betty Carilli, Kevin Carlson, Karen Couture, Dan Hendrickson, Betty Kinnunen, Michael Kjellman, Anna Laurila, Don & Mary Leece, Jessica Luck, Kathryn Madison, Diane Nault, Gerald Neldon, Ezra Newman, Stephanie Penhale, Shirley Pizziola, Jim Ritzenhein, Jessica Roberts, Marlene Romback, Louise Spickerman, Kathy Stambaugh, Mr. and Mrs. Taseris, Bob Walker.***

***Our Shut-ins: Bettie Ahola, Jonelle Collins, Rudy Gagnon, June Jarvi, Timothy Kjellman, Betty Lukkarinen, Butch Pynnonen, Dolores Reichel, Lillian Rivers, Paul Alan Smith, Elsie Suardini, Lynne Tossava.***

***Members in the Armed Service: Luke DeWitt, Adrianna Gustafson, Michael Gustafson, Spencer Harvala, Hunter (Jessica) Hetrick, Dennis Koski, Tanner Romback, Michael Sedlock, Ethan Wallner, and all Armed Services Families.***

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IN JANUARY, our **Tanzanian Connection and Relations** will be the **Mission Emphasis (ME)**. Many miles separate us, but we discover God's blessing of strengthened faith and vitality in the relationships we develop visiting and being visited by our Tanzanian brothers and sisters in Christ.

January's above-and-beyond ME offerings will go to our Immanuel Companion Congregation fund, to help defray the cost of traveling to Yombo Lutheran Church of the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania this May.



If you wish to give above-and-beyond to this mission, please use January's mission emphasis envelope from your offering envelope box or in some other way designate your gift. *Thank you for your generosity!*

VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN SERVICE

SERVING IN WORSHIP: *Pastor Bre Kinnunen*

ORGANIST/PIANIST/MUSICIAN:
Sunday & Monday - *Connie Scanlon*

Worship Services: Sunday @ 9:30am / 6:00pm
Office Hours are 8:00am-2:00pm, Monday-Thursday (or by appt.)

ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE:

9:30am GREETERS	<i>Alice Mutkala Noreen Collins</i>	6:00pm GREETERS	<i>Diana Hetrick Jim Hetrick</i>
9:30am USHERS	<i>Alice Mutkala Noreen Collins</i>	6:00pm USHERS	<i>Diana Hetrick Jim Hetrick</i>
9:30am LECTOR	<i>Alice Mutkala</i>	6:00pm LECTOR	<i>Kerri Puckett</i>
9:30am COMM ASSTS	<i>Stacy McEachern Youth</i>	6:00pm COMM ASSTS	<i>Heidi Hill</i>
9:30am Tech Team	<i>Luanne Skrenes</i>		

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 7—January 14, 2024

**YOU CAN FIND ALL ONLINE INFORMATION REFERENCED BELOW AT...
www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org**

	<i>Epiphany of Our Lord</i>	
Sunday	9:30am	Worship Service
	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Coffee & Fellowship
	5:00-7:00pm	UPLIFT
	5:30pm	Community Meal at Immanuel
	6:00pm	Worship Service
	7:30pm	AA Group Meets (men & women)
Monday	DEADLINE FOR COUNCIL PACKETS	
	5:30-7:00pm	Lion's Club Meeting
Tuesday	10:00am	Bible Study
	7:00pm	Bible Study
Wednesday	4:30pm	Tanzanian Trip Planning Meeting
	6:00pm	Choir Practice
	7:00pm	Sunday Evening Worship Planning Meeting
Thursday	9:00am	Christmas Tree Dismantling
	10:00am	Quilting
Friday	OFFICE CLOSED	
	10:00am	AA
	1:00pm	Social Ministry/Parish Life Meeting @Linda Sjolund's home
Sunday	<i>Second Sunday of Epiphany</i>	
	9:30am	Worship Service
	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Coffee & Fellowship
	5:00-7:00pm	UPLIFT
	6:00pm	Worship Service
	7:30pm	AA Group Meets (men & women)

(FYI: Pastor Bre can be reached at 507-993-1909 or email: upbre3@gmail.com.)

**YOUR 2024 DONATION BOX CAN BE PICKED UP.
THEY ARE LOCATED AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.
PLEASE PICK UP YOUR BOX. (If you cannot find one and you would like one, please
contact the office and they will prepare one for you.) THANK YOU!**

