

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters.
(Ps. 29:3).

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

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

PSALM 29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." Alleluia. (Matt. 3:17)

GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The holy gospel according to...

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you O Lord.

SERMON

Pastor Steve Solberg

SONG

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

#800

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

By the Holy Spirit, you gather your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God's sight. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You reveal your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Establish among the nations the blessings of peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from you by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love Him. Be with all leaders in our congregations, both at Yombo and Immanuel. May all be united in conversation and work towards common goals to serve and glorify Him. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You created each of your saints for your glory. We give thanks for those you have called by name into your eternal embrace. Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. **You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light.**
Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son

Renew our lives that we may welcome and care for one another and that we may live and serve within the greater community of Negaunee and the world, witnessing to others your abundant love, grace, and welcome.

All baptized Christians who believe this true presence are welcome and encouraged to receive Holy Communion today. Please assist your child(ren) if you wish them communed.

Parents, We believe that the true body and blood of Jesus Christ is in/with/under the bread and wine.

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, + bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.
 Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.
 Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEKS OF
 January 9, 2022—January 15, 2022**

* **BAPTISM:** WE WELCOME INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD: *Aurora Cora Kemper*, daughter of Adam William Kemper and Camille Ann (Sliger) Kemper, born on May 11th, 2021, at St. Vincent’s Hospital in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Her sponsors will be Thomas Lehto and Rayann Kaurala.

* **BIRTHS:** CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES TO: Abby Christine (Garceau) Paquet and Joshua William Paquet on the birth of a son, *Shepherd Lee Paquet*, on December 7th, 2021. Proud brother is Noah William Paquet and proud grandparents are Terry & Sara Garceau and Dave & Linda Paquet.

* **BIRTHDAYS:**

Happy 82nd Birthday to *Maxine Sylvester* on January 11th.
 Happy 92nd Birthday to *Loraine Lehto* on January 12th.
 Happy 83rd Birthday to *Jean Manginen* on January 12th.

* **GIVING YOUR OFFERINGS:** Thank you for continuing to financially support our ongoing congregational mission. Electronic giving is available on our website or through the GivePlus app. (Note: Immanuel absorbs the following processing fees on electronic gifts: giving via debit/credit card 2.75% + \$0.45 per transaction and giving via ACH 1.00% + \$0.45 per transaction.)

* **WELCA EXECUTIVE MEETING** is scheduled for **MONDAY, JANUARY 10th, 1 pm.**



***SUNDAY SCHOOL:** If you are interested in Sunday School for your child(ren), there is always open enrollment for toddlers through Grade 5. The class meets at 9:15 am and classes start at 9:30 am. Go to the Facebook page for updated information, or you can always call the office (906-475-9161). Bring your child(ren) to worship with us.

***CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY: A WORKING DRAFT OF OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY IS AVAILABLE!** View it online or via the FREE mobile app today. A limited number of printed copies are also available on the upper level resource table. To view the directory online, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and follow the prompts under “Sign In” to “Create a login now.” Use your email address that you included in your directory submission and confirm it following the instructions. If you did not submit an email for directory use, you won’t be able to access the directory online. There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for “**Instant Church Directory**” to get the download. The same login protocol as above applies to the app. Need help or have questions? Please contact the church office: (906) 475-9161.

***REVELATION STUDY...** is underway on Thursdays at 6:00 PM both in-person (fellowship hall) and online (church website). No RSVP is necessary. Just bring your Bible. Pastor Steve will provide study materials in downloadable and printed form. Explore this strange and wonderful final book of the New Testament that is best understood as a series of seven broad cycles each beginning either with the life of Christ or the beginning of the Christian Church and completed by the coming of Christ for judgment of the world.

***LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION** Sign up for the Synod’s 2022 Lifelong Faith Formation Classes (nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation). The 2022 winter schedule is:

- Introduction to Biblical Hebrew - 8 Sunday evening sessions
- The Samuel Series: Prayer and the Spiritual Life - 7 Monday morning sessions
- The Big Picture Bible Discussion - 4 Tuesday evening sessions
- The Book of Ezekiel, Part II - 10 Wednesday evening sessions
- Anishinaabe Culture - up to 3 Thursday evening sessions

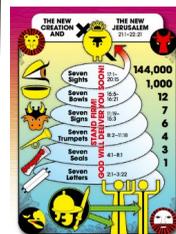
Dialogue with the Islamic Resource Group - 2 sessions on a Thursday and Friday evening
For more information, see nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation or contact Deacon Lori Ward at lori.ward@nglsynod.org or 615-519-1969 (cell).

***WE’RE HIRING: We are in need of a part-time custodian.** If you are interested, you can pick up an application from the office or go to: <https://immanuelnegaunee.weebly.com/apply-for-job.html>. Please pray that God sends the right person.

***2022 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES WILL BE PUT IN THE OFFICE AFTER JANUARY.**

***PAINTING FUND RAISER** - The Painting Project Fund Raiser is on-going. Consider making a donation to this **Sanctuary Painting Fund Raiser** that was voted on after worship, November 1st. We will be raising \$15,000 to help with some of the cost involved with this Project. Thank you for any donation you can make. It will all help with the cost. Right now the total in donations is \$14,114.82. Thank you to all of you who have donated.

***CARE CLINIC** A baby’s play-pen can be found in the Stewardship area of the church where any Care Clinic items can be placed. Needed items include: Onesies, Bibs, Socks, Newborn Hats, Sweater & Hat Set or a Hooded Sweatshirt or a Little Jacket, Sleepers, A New Outfit, Receiving Blankets, A Rattle, A Small Toy, A Hooded Towel, Washcloths, Shampoo, Lotion, Bath Bar, Diaper Rash Cream, Nail clipper, Wipes, Diapers, or Financial Support (checks made out to ‘Immanuel’, and in the memo line write ‘Care Clinic’). Thank you for any donations you may be able to make. Pastor Tom & Luanne Skrenes are handling this Project.





KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Pray For: Nancy Burton, Jonelle Collins, Gerry Davidson, Billy Jo Kaufman, Peggy Jackson, Betty Kinnunen, Anna Laurila, John Meier, Wendy Niemi, Arianna Paananen, Don & Vera Palomaki, Joyce Peterson, Linda Sjolund, Bob Sylvester, Richard Toyra, and all COVID patients.

Our Shut-ins: Bettie Ahola, Rudy Gagnon, Charlene Kivisto, Timothy Kjellman, Betty Lukkarinen, Leo Nirva, Mary Parkkonen, Janet Penhale, Butch Pynnonen, Lillian Rivers, Paul Smith, Lynne Tossava.

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

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**VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN SERVICE**

**SERVING IN WORSHIP: Pastor Steve Solberg**

**ORGANIST/PIANIST/MUSICIAN: Connie Scanlon**

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

**ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE:**

**9:30 am USHERS/GREETERS – Alice Mutkala & Deb Moyer  
6 pm USHERS/GREETERS – Diane Bergh-Hetrick & Kevin Crupi**

**9:30 am LECTOR – Kathleen Partanen  
6 pm LECTOR – Sheila Meier**

**9:30 am COMM. ASST.'S – Alice Zinsser  
6 pm COMM. ASST.'S – Sheila Meier**

**9:30 am Tech Team – Luanne Skrenes  
6 pm Tech Team - Need Volunteers**



# JANUARY'S MONTHLY MISSION

**JANUARY'S MONTHLY MISSION EMPHASIS** is our Tanzanian companion ministry relationships. 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 offerings will go to our Immanuel Companion Congregation fund, encouraging travel and connections between Yombo Lutheran Church of the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and Immanuel.



Stay tuned as future trips are planned!!!

If you wish to give above-and-beyond to this mission, please use January's mission emphasis envelope from your **2022 offering envelope box** or in some other way designate your gift. *Thank you for your generosity!*

Thank you for giving \$1,225.25 in December to  
Room at the Inn.

The recipients will be richly blessed with your generosity!  
Thank you!



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 9, 2022 - January 16, 2022

**YOU CAN FIND ALL ONLINE INFORMATION REFERENCED BELOW AT...**

**[www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org](http://www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org)**

- Sunday**            ***Baptism of Our Lord***  
- 9:30 am   - Sunday School  
- 9:30 am   - Worship Service—Baptism  
- 10:30 am   - Coffee & Fellowship  
- 7:30 pm   - AA Group Meets (men & women)
- Monday**           - 1:00 pm   - WELCA Executive Meeting  
- 6:00 pm   - Worship Service  
- 7:00 pm   - Confirmation Class
- Tuesday**           - 6:00 pm   - Faith Formation Committee Meeting
- Wednesday**      - 10:00 am   - Bible Study (in-person and on Zoom)  
- 5:30 pm   - Endowment Committee Meeting  
- 6:00 pm   - Choir Practice
- Thursday**          - 10:00 am   - Quilting  
- 6:00 pm   - *Revelation* Bible Study Begins
- Friday**             **OFFICE CLOSED**  
- 10:00 am   - Women’s AA Group Meets
- Sunday**            - 9:30 am   - Sunday School  
- 9:30 am   - Worship Service  
- 10:30 am   - Coffee & Fellowship  
- 7:30 pm   - AA Group Meets (men & women)