



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

520 US Hwy 41 E + Negaunee, MI 49866

(906) 475-9161 + FAX (906) 475-9403

Office@ImmanuelNegaunee.org + www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org

Sunday, Dec 11, & Monday, Dec 12, 2022, 9:30 am & 6:00 pm

3rd Sunday in Advent

COVID Protocol
Update: Council has
lifted COVID
protocols,
but encourages
awareness of
ongoing county
numbers and
personal health.

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

A note of joyful
expectation marks
today's worship.
Isaiah announces that
the desert shall
rejoice and blossom,
and Jesus points to
the unexpected and
transforming signs of
God's reign. We wait
with patience for the
coming of the Lord,
even as we rejoice at
his presence among
us this day: in word
and holy supper, in
church and in our
homes, in silent
reflection and in
works of justice and
love. We pray that
God would open our
eyes and ears to the
wonders of Christ's
advent among us.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Kitty Raymond

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please stand as you are comfortable.)

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings,

we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.

People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on + Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

O Lord How Shall I Meet You

#241

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. **You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light these 3 candles to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace. Amen.**

(Light 3 of the candles.)

ADVENT HYMN

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (v.3)

#240

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35: 1-10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the

The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored.

There is no need for fear, for God is coming in glory to save.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down. (Ps. 146: 8)

In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.

feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Word of God.

Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146: 5-10

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: James 5: 7-10

⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Word of God.

Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are comfortable.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Come Now, O Prince of Peace* (v. 3-4) #247

3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

GOSPEL: Matthew 11: 2-11

The holy gospel according to.....

Glory to you, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." ⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated.)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

All Earth is Hopeful

Walter Scanlon

#266

(Please stand as you are comfortable.)

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we rejoice in the gifts of your Spirit. Equip the global church to magnify your love and peace in every land. We pray for the work of the Lutheran World Federation and ELCA Global Mission. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Abundant God, we rejoice in your creation. Revive lands we have squandered and depleted. Make gardens flourish in cities and neighborhoods. Cleanse polluted air and water so living things may breathe, drink, and praise you. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Righteous God, we rejoice in your justice. End racism and oppression. Deliver all who are unjustly imprisoned or persecuted. Reconcile nations and peoples in conflict. Help us pray for our enemies. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Healing God, we rejoice in your compassion. Comfort any in distress because of worry, illness, or loss. Strengthen and protect health care workers, rescue teams, crisis counselors, and all who risk themselves to keep others safe. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Abiding God, we rejoice in your company. Give us calm and patient hearts as we gather with family and friends. Keep us mindful of those for whom this season is not happy. Console the grieving and surround them with loving support. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.

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

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Faithful God, we rejoice with Mary, Mother of our Lord, and with all the saints, that your mercy endures for all generations. Look with favor on those who have died and lead us to joyfully sing of your everlasting promises. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(Please be seated.)

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN

My Soul Waits in Stillness

Kitty Raymond

(Please stand as you are comfortable.)

OFFERING PRAYER

Eternal God, **you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

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.

SENDING

CLOSING HYMN

Joy to the World

#267

BLESSING

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF December 11—December 18, 2022

- * **BIRTHDAYS:** Happy 83rd Birthday to *Mary Ann Laukka* on December 11th (Today).
- * **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS** Remember your loved ones with a poinsettia this Christmas season. Order forms are in the hallway. Please return yours by December 21st to be included in the Poinsettia booklet acknowledging your donation. Thank you.
- * **ANGEL TREE PROJECT** This Christmastime we are again sponsoring the *Angel Tree Project* where gifts are purchased for children of incarcerated individuals. You can help to show God's love by being an *Angel* and selecting a child's name to buy a gift for. The cost of each should be about \$25.00 and we try to get some type of clothing for them and also some type of activity/toy they would like to receive. This year we have several children ranging in age from 3 months to a 10 year old. One guardian sent a picture of one of the children, as you can see. If you can, call the office or stop by to select an individual, purchase and wrap the gift, returning the gift to the office by the end of this week, December 15th, so it can be delivered or mailed for Christmas. Thank you for your consideration and help.
- * **ADULT PROGRESSIVE CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY** A Progressive Christmas Dinner Party is being planned for **THIS COMING Saturday night December 17**. There will be a 6 pm gathering for appetizers and a salad, a 7 pm gathering with the main course, and an 8 pm gathering at the church for dessert and Christmas carols. There is a sign-up board at the entrance to the fellowship hall. If you would like to participate, you can sign up simply to attend or you can sign up to attend and host the appetizer/salad course, the main course, or serve dessert at the church. **Sign up TODAY, December 11**. If you have any questions call Terry Cathcart (906-485-1364). (There should be groups of 6-8 at the most.)
- * **PIKKUJOULU:** The Faith Formation Team is coordinating refreshments & doing KP for December Fellowship Hours. Paulette Patron is the contact person for this month. Pikkujoulu (Little Christmas) is a Finnish traditional informal party held to anticipate Christmas - & to sample Christmas favorite foods. Immanuel will be celebrating Pikkujoulu during Fellowship Hour **TODAY, December 11**. If traditional Christmas items are not your specialty, Fellowship Hour next Sunday, December 18 is an opportunity for you to bring a snack for coffee time. Thank you for your volunteering & help.
- * **FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Are you willing to help with Fellowship hour? Donations are needed such as bakery, crackers, cheese, fruit, or whatever suits your fancy, & cleanup! Your Fellowship Hour coordinator for December is FAITH FORMATION. 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 Paulette Patron (475-4776) with your date & item. Thank you.
- * **THE CALL PROCESS UPDATE:** There will be a Call process update with question and answer meeting in the Fellowship Hall following the services on January 8th and 9th, 2023. The meeting is expected to be no more than 1 hour. Please plan to attend.
- * **PROJECT KEEP KIDS WARM (PKKW).** This fall over 300 youth have been given warm winter clothing and the need continues to grow. Desperately needed are warm winter coats sizes 6-12 and water repellent gloves/mittens. Your donations can be placed in the boxes located near the West entrance.
- * **FORTUNE LAKE FUNDRAISER** All proceeds will go directly to Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp who has been selected as the CoVantage Cares Giving Tuesday Recipient. Funds will be used to rehabilitate their highest use buildings: Emanuel Lodge, Duplexes, & the Dining Hall, **with a portion being matching from the CoVantage Cares Foundation**.
- An Open Mic Style Talent show** Join us **TODAY, December 11, from 2:30-4:30 pm ET (1:30-3:30 pm CT)** at Messiah Lutheran Church Marquette, MI., for a Fortune Lake style talent show! God's Café will feature local individuals and small groups as they dazzle the crowd by sharing the gifts God has given them. The open mic style will allow for everyone to participate. Stick around for cookies and hot drinks!





***TIME & TALENT FORMS / ESTIMATE OF GIVING FORMS** These forms can be filled out and brought to the church at anytime. PLEASE consider your call to serve our Lord and this congregation by completing the *Estimate of Giving* form for 2023 and the *Time & Talent* form for 2023. (If you don't fill out a new Time & Talent form, your choices from the past will remain.) Place the form(s) in the Offering Plate or send it to the church office as soon as possible. We are "Together Into God's Future."



***DATES TO REMEMBER AND MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR:**

December 15 - Thursday, 11:30 am. WELCA General Membership to approve 2023 budget and year-end charity donation(s). Meet downstairs in the Quilting room. Coffee and goodies will be served.

***NOVEMBER 15, 2022, COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

- Discussed and endorsed use of dishwasher any time dishes are used to fight the spread of germs
- Discussed the need for volunteers for Sunday Snow Shoveling. Congregation members are encouraged to sign up for Sunday morning shoveling on the sign-up sheet located in the church entry way (NOTE-We are also still in need of Tech persons. Want a little cash for your volunteering at the church? Sign up to be a Tech person - get trained today!)
- Acknowledged the resignation of Laurie LeSage from the position of Parish Administration / Bookkeeper effective December 8, and reviewed the updated job description for that position
- Established a Nominating Committee to fill:
 - o Two positions on Church Council for 2023
 - o Three voting members of the NGLS Annual Meeting
 - o Endowment Committee members
 - o Three members of the FLLC Annual Meeting
- Approved needed repairs to the organ at a cost of \$3,864.00
- Established Sunday, February 5, 2023, at 10:45 am as the date for the 135th Annual Business Meeting. This meeting will be held in hybrid form with attendance in person or via Zoom



***CONFIRMATION UPDATE** During this 'Call Process', Confirmation will look a little different this year. The confirmation classes **will meet on the 3rd Monday of the month** for fellowship & service opportunities **from 6pm - 8pm**, with dinner provided. Classes will be combined with confirmands from Immanuel, Prince of Peace in Harvey, & Messiah in Marquette. These sessions will allow the youth to learn & connect during this important part of their faith walk. This new program is still being cultivated with the help of new team leaders. If anyone has questions, please email Hayley Smith, Hayley-smith@hotmail.com, or call/text 906-367-4295. **NOTE: There is 1 more Confirmation Retreat. The 3rd Confirmation Retreat** will be at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Harvey on Saturday, February 25th, 2023, 10 am - 3 pm.



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Pray For: *Nancy Burton, Betty Carilli, Kevin Carlson, Renae Carlson, Cheryl, Sue Cohan, Connie Foster, Dan Hendrickson, Peggy Jackson, Tom Johnson, Betty Kinnunen, Michael Kjellman, Marian Kulju, Anna Laurila, Don & Mary Leece, Diane Nault, Don Palomaki, Stephanie Penhale, Joyce Peterson, Shirley Pizziola (Sue Cohan's mother), Delores Reichel, Jim Ritzenhein, Jessica Roberts, Louise Spickerman, Molly Taseris, and all COVID patients.*

Our Shut-ins: *Bettie Ahola, Jonelle Collins, Rudy Gagnon, Charlene Kivisto, Timothy Kjellman, Betty Lukkarinen, Leo Nirva, Butch Pynnonen, Lillian Rivers, Paul Smith, Lynne Tossava.*

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



SERVING IN WORSHIP: *Walter Scanlon*

Organist/Pianist/Musician: *Connie Scanlon*

Choir Director: *Connie Lindblom* / Choir Accompanist: *Vicki Lempinen*

Worship Services: Sunday @ 9:30 am / Monday @ 6:00 pm

Office Hours: 8 am-2 pm, Monday-Thursday (or by appt.)

VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

9:30 am USHERS/GREETERS	— <i>Linda Derocher</i>
	— <i>Jim Derocher</i>
6:00 pm	— <i>Diana Hetrick</i>
	— <i>Deb Hicks</i>
9:30 am LECTOR	— <i>Alice Zinsser</i>
6:00 pm	— <i>Kay Korpi</i>
9:30 am COMMUNION	— <i>No Communion</i>
ASSISTANTS	—
6:00 pm	— <i>No Communion</i>
9:30 am TECH TEAM	— <i>Luanne Skrenes</i>
6:00 pm	— <i>Tyler Moore</i>



(COMMUNION SET-UP FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER — *Terry & Sue Cathcart*)

DECEMBER'S MONTHLY MISSION

IN DECEMBER . . . our mission emphasis is Room at the Inn, our area emergency night shelter for adults.

Room at the Inn opened Marquette's first ever permanent homeless shelter on December 24, 2020 above the Room at the Inn Warming Center. Local churches had operated a rotating shelter between churches for nearly 14 years. The improved shelter is a 30-bed emergency shelter with 24/7 shelter access. Over 1600 meals are served per month.

The Warming Center continues to provide a warm and friendly location for shelter guests to gather, socialize, eat and - of course- to warm up during cold days.



Room at the Inn provides food, shelter and assistance for individuals transitioning out of homelessness. Room at the Inn serves primarily Marquette area residents.

Donations of money and food for meals is much appreciated. Food donations are under stricter regulation so best to check directly with Room at the Inn or check the Beacon for suggestions. Volunteers are always welcome!

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

Thank you for giving \$ 690.00 in November to the
Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Operations & Maintenance.
The recipients will be richly blessed with your generosity! Thank you!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 11, 2022 - December 18, 2022

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

www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org

Sunday

3rd Sunday in Advent

- 9:30 am - Worship Service
- 9:30 am - Sunday School
- 10:30 am - Coffee and Fellowship
- 7:30 pm - AA Group Meets (men & women)

Monday

- 6:00 pm - Worship Service
- 6:00 pm - Companion Synod Meeting

Wednesday

- 10:00 am - Bible Study (in-person)
- 6:00 pm - Choir

Thursday

- 9:00 am - Decorate the Church (Can U help?)
- 10:00 am - Quilting

Friday

OFFICE CLOSED

- 10:00 am - Women's AA Group Meets

Saturday

- 5-9:00 pm - Progressive Dinner

Sunday

4th Sunday in Advent

- 9:30 am - Worship Service
- 9:30 am - Sunday School
- 10:30 am - Coffee & Fellowship
- 7:30 pm - AA Group Meets (men & women)