



Sermon: "Still Searching?" Luke 2:40-52
Saturday, January 4 & Sunday, January 5, 2025
Immanuel Lutheran Church & School
Okawville, Illinois 62271
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

WELCOME TO IMMANUEL

We gather on the Lord's Day knowing that "Christ being raised from the dead will never die again" (Romans 6:9). Welcome, visitors who have joined us today. If we can help in any way, please call: Church 618-243-6216 or School 618-243-6142.

Pastor Eric Wood

Phone 618-243-2846

E-mail: myhomeontherange@juno.com :

Saturday: 21 Communed: 17 Sunday: 58 Communed: 42

Christmas Eve: 172 Christmas Day: 82 Communed: 71 New Year's Eve: 14

Bible Class: 7 Sunday School: not held

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer concerns to be included in our public prayers may be shared with Pastor Wood and/or the church office. Prayers may be for particular individuals or concerning wider issues. Let us pray!

- All members of Immanuel including:
 - At home – Adeline Blumhorst, Bill Durham, Gloria Eggemann, Kellee Helbig, Janet Lange, Linda Schuetz, Crystal Strasburg, Mike Strasburg
 - At Brightly in Mascoutah – Leonard & Bernice Hemminghaus
 - At Breese Nursing Home – Lois Rabenort
 - At Freeburg Care Center - Loraine Schneider
 - At Washington County Hospital in Nashville – Verdell Unverfehrt
 - At Bethesda Gardens in Loveland, Colorado - Carol Wennemann
- Non-members with health concerns: Crystal Hasheider, wife of Matt Hasheider; ILS Kindergarten teacher, Jody Liszewski; Betty Markowski, sister of Charlotte Durham; Tim Schnitker, son-in-law of Sharon Storck.
- That the Lord would continue to provide for his work in this place through generous giving, willing workers, and wise stewardship
- The staff, faculty, and students of Immanuel Lutheran School
- The educational mission of Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School
- All who work or study in West Washington County Schools
- Reverend Rafael & Deaconess Jamielynn Flores, serving in Chile
- The mission work of the Southern Illinois District, including...
 - ...all congregations, schools, and district leaders
 - ...rural and smalltown congregational support
 - ...urban ministry (neighborhood renewal and Unity school) in East St. Louis
 - ...campus ministry and international student outreach at SIU-C and SIU-E
 - ...prison and jail ministry in many locations
 - ...partnership with Seminary in Dominican Republic
 - ...disaster response ministry (LERT)
 - ...advocate for life

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Order of Service - Divine Service Setting One

385 From East to West (Sunday)

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 147:1, 5, 11–12; antiphon: John 1:14

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory,*
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;*
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.

Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;*
his understanding is beyond | measure.

But the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him,*
in those who hope in his | steadfast love.

Praise the LORD, O Je- | rusalem!*

Praise your God, O | Zion!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

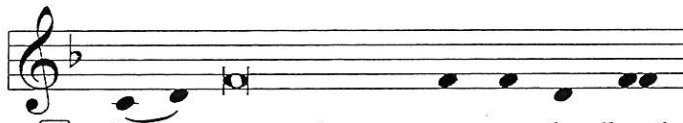
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory,*
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

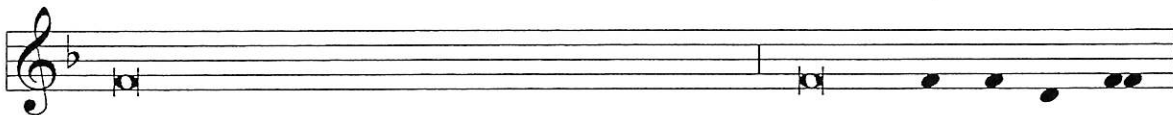
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



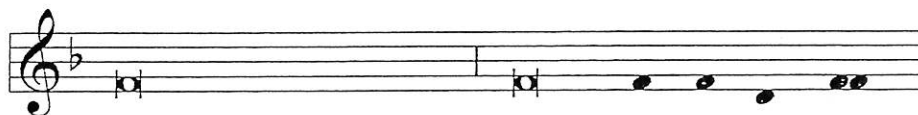
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



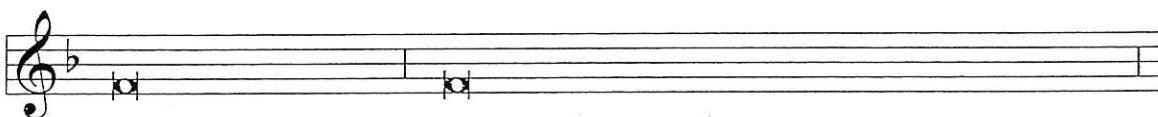
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



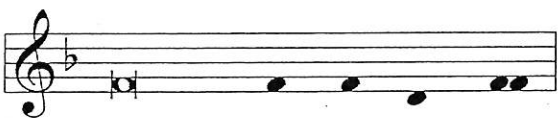
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



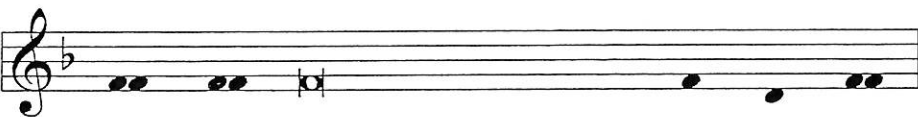
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,

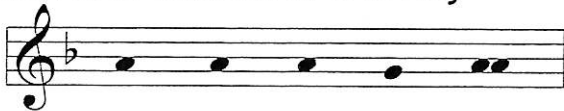


You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



G And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



G A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 3:4–15

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- G** Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

To us a child is born, to us a son is | given; *
 and the government shall be upon his | shoulder.
 And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God, *
 Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.
 Sing to the Lord a | new song, *
 for he has done | marvelous things!

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3–14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- G** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

G Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:40–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

410 Within the Father's House

Stand

Nicene Creed

☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Sit

Offering

Stand

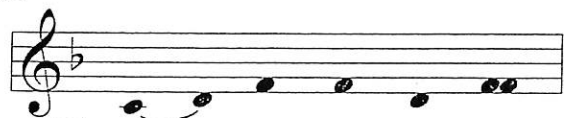
Offertory



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

Service of the Sacrament

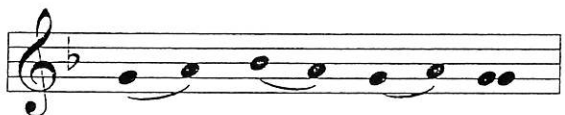
Preface



P The Lord be with you.



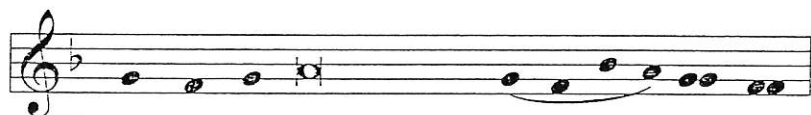
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

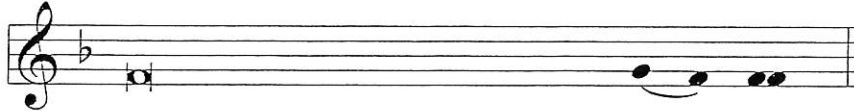
G Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

376 Once in Royal David's City

523 O Word of God Incarnate

725 Children of the Heavenly Father

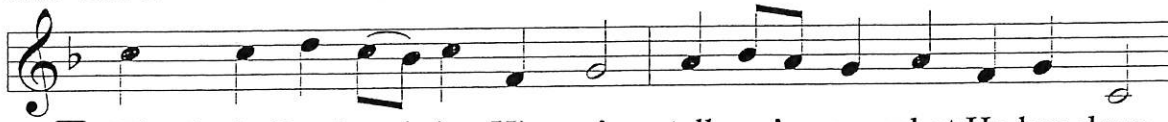
Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

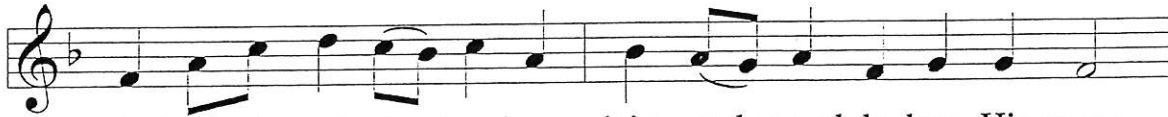
P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

G **Amen.**

Thank the Lord



G Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

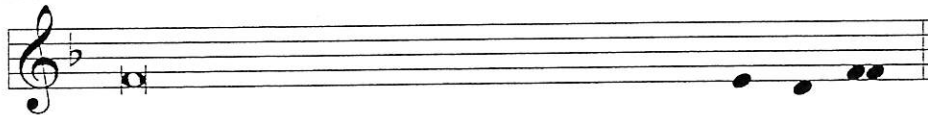
A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



G A - men.

Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



G A - men.

862 Oh, Blest the House (Sunday)

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Pastor

Eric Wood

Pianist (Saturday)

Sophia Wood and Nora Wood

Organist (Sunday)

Sharon Krueger

Acolyte (Saturday)

Michael Lautenschlaeger

(Sunday)

Landan Kraus

Readers (Saturday)

Tricia Rennegarbe

(Sunday)

Donna Davis

Communion Assistants (Saturday)

Kent Helbig

(Sunday)

Jonathan Schneider

Birthdays: 5th Nicole Bruck, 7th Megan Fulton, 8th Jacob Schwankhaus, 10th Clark Weeke, Savannah Borrenpohl

January Ushers – Saturday –

Sunday –

Saturday service at 5:30 p.m.

Bible Class at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.

No Sunday School on January 5th.

Elder Meeting on January 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Chapel Service this Wednesday at 8:15 a.m. with Pastor Wood

Annual report information due by January 13th.

Board of Parish Ed will be taking down the Christmas decorations at church on Thursday, January 9th at 5:30 p.m. They would appreciate any help they can get!

SCHOOL NEWS

Immanuel Lutheran School will return to class on January, 6th.

Immanuel Lutheran School has an immediate opening for a part time Principal for the remainder of the 2024- 2025 school year or until a permanent Principal can be called or contracted. The applicant should have a BA in Education and background in school administration. If interested please contact Donna Davis at 714-788-0855 or donnadavis@immanuelokawville.org.

Immanuel Wee Care is in search of a part time teacher/day care worker after school. If you are interested or would like additional information, please call Cheri Kurtz at 618-243-6161.

Immanuel Lutheran School is looking for a volunteer to help in the kitchen 2 days a week. Please call the school office for details.

You can help the school financially by doing the following: Shop With Raiseright - For complete information visit www.shopwithraiseright.com Checks payable to ILS PTL. Go to smile.amazon.com/ch37-0916756 and Amazon donates to Immanuel Lutheran Church and School Okawville. Participate in the **Kroger Community Rewards** program. Join **Casey's Rewards** today and donate to our school. This is for instore, online or at the pump purchases.

GENERAL NOTES

Life Thoughts in the Church Year: No human life—and no human pregnancy—ever goes unplanned or unwanted by Almighty God. Ephesians' first chapter makes clear the Heavenly Father conceived each precious person "before the foundation of the world" (Ephesians 1:4). And the coming of Christ Jesus incorporates male and female, old or young, into heaven's household by adoption. Children come as Gospel gifts!

Life Quotes "Let the peace of Christ change how you live—clothing yourself with godly virtues reflecting a thankful heart. Carry this peace that the angels proclaimed and Simeon saw. It sets the tone for the coming year, another year you get to live as God's child in the peace of Jesus." *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life*

Stewardship: Luke 2:40 – "And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him." At Christmas God became man. And as a man, Jesus grew up and increased in strength and wisdom. We are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, to grow in His image. The power for this growth comes from receiving the grace of Jesus in His Word and Sacraments. How is the Lord calling you to grow this year?

Lutheran programs on Radio & TV on Sundays – 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. 850 AM Radio KFUE Lutheran Worship from a Lutheran church; 9:00 a.m. 104.7 FM Rev. Mueller, New Minden Bible Study; 10:30 a.m. TV Station "TCT" "Lutheran Worship." These are not a replacement for being in church and Bible class. These are for times when we are unable to attend in person.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The offerings for Wednesday, December 18, Saturday, December 21, Sunday, December 22, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day were as follows: Current \$1465.00, Home Use \$17,695.00, Loose \$185.70, Cemetery \$250.00, Advent \$75.00, Christmas Eve \$8288.00, Christmas Day \$3057.00, New Years Eve \$45.00.

Expenses for the week: \$24,313.98

Loan Balance (borrowed on 12/27/24) \$21,000.00

Update to Thrivent Choice

Thank you to everyone who directed their “Thrivent Choice Dollars” to Immanuel. If you have not contacted Thrivent Choice Recently, please call 800-847-4836 to see if Thrivent has money set aside for you to designate to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Immanuel Lutheran School or another designation of your choice. Money is available through the Thrivent Choice Program. This is not a donation coming out of your investment.