

The Epiphany of Our Lord

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

Embrace ~ Educate ~ Engage

January 4, 2026

11:30am Modern Divine Service

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Greeting of the Saints

Opening Song

"Gratitude"

Verse 1

All my words fall short
I got nothing new
How could I express
All my gratitude

Verse 2

I could sing these songs
As I often do
But every song must end
And You never do

Chorus

So I throw up my hands and praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah
And I know it's not much, but I've nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing, hallelujah, hallelujah

Verse 3

I've got one response
I've got just one move
With my arms stretched wide
I will worship You

Chorus

So I throw up my hands and praise You again and again
‘Cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah
And I know it’s not much, but I’ve nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing, hallelujah, hallelujah

Interlude

Bridge

Come on my soul, oh don’t you get shy on me
Lift up your song, ‘cause you’ve got a lion inside of those lungs
Get up and praise the Lord. *(Sing a total of 3x)*

Interlude

Chorus

So I throw up my hands and praise You again and again
‘Cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah
And I know it’s not much, but I’ve nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing, hallelujah, hallelujah

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Invocation

P: Let us begin

C: in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: Brothers and Sisters in Christ, walking humbly together, I invite you to confess your sins with me before the Lord.

C: Heavenly Father, we confess that we have not always walked as Your people; we have sinned and fallen short of how You have called us to live. And yet we know that You are a God of mercy and grace, we humbly ask that You forgive us our sins and set us on Your path of righteousness. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Amen.

P: In the stead and by the command of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the Grace of God to you and forgive you of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Kyrie (*spoken*)

**All: Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.
And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A 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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

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

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated

Children's Message

Please stand

Song of the Day

"Great Are You, Lord"

Verse 1

You give life, You are love.
You bring light to the darkness.
You give hope, You restore ev'ry heart that is broken.
And great are You, Lord.

Chorus

It's Your breath in our lungs,
So we pour out our praise,
We pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs,
So we pour out our praise to You only.

Verse 2

You give life, You are love.
You bring light to the darkness.
You give hope, You restore ev'ry heart that is broken.
And great are You, Lord.

Chorus

It's Your breath in our lungs,
So we pour out our praise,
We pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs,
So we pour out our praise to You only. 2x

Bridge

And all the earth will shout Your praise.
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing,
Great are You, Lord. 3x

Chorus

It's Your breath in our lungs,
So we pour out our praise,
We pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs,
So we pour out our praise to You only. 2x

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Sermon

Rev. Benjamin Braun

Please 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 ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For a right knowledge of Christ, that we would abandon the darkness of this world and embrace the joy of His heavenly light, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For families, that our Father in heaven would bless our households with grace and protection; and that we might remember Him in both joy and trouble and worship before Him forever, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For those who are afflicted and in need of deliverance, especially Bernice, Angela, Carrie Ann, Earl, and Rita, that their prayers would be heard by the almighty God who has made us fellow heirs of the unsearchable riches of Christ; and that they would be preserved in the faith until that day when their eternal healing is fully revealed, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the Holy Christian Church, that God's Word would richly abide in her and that many would be led to Christ through her witness, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: All these needs, gracious Father, and whatever else You know that we need, grant for the sake of Him who shattered this world's darkness with everlasting light, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

Offering *(Please place completed Attendance Register in the offering plate)*

"Trust In God"

Verse 1

**Blessed assurance Jesus is mine
He's been my fourth man in the fire time after time
Born of His Spirit washed in His blood
And what He did for me on Calvary is more than enough**

Chorus

**I trust in God, my Savior
The One who will never fail
He will never fail. *Repeat 1x***

Verse 2

**Perfect submission all is at rest
I know the author of tomorrow has ordered my steps
So this is my story and this is my song
I'm praising my risen King and Savior all the day long**

Chorus

**I trust in God, my Savior
The One who will never fail
He will never fail. *Repeat 1x***

Bridge

**I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
That's why I trust Him
That's why (I trust Him). *Repeat 3x***

Chorus

**I trust in God, my Savior
The One who will never fail
He will never fail. *Repeat 1x***

Bridge

**I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered
That's why I trust Him
That's why (I trust Him). *Repeat 1x***

Chorus

**I trust in God, my Savior
The One who will never fail
He will never fail. *Repeat 1x***

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Tithes & Offerings Brought Forward

C: Thank you, Lord, for blessing us so that we may be a blessing to others.

Service of the Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also 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: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.**

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 covenant 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: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated

Silent Prayer before Communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Communion Song

"Living Hope"

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us.
How high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night.
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken; I am forgiven.

The King of kings calls me His own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Chorus

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free.
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me.
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope. *Sing 2x*

Verse 3

Then came the morning that sealed the promise,
Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me. *Repeat verse 3*

Tag

Jesus, Yours is the victory.

Chorus

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free.
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me.
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope. *Sing 2x*

Ending

Jesus Christ, my living hope.
O God, You are my living hope.

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Please stand

Communion Dismissal

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

C: **Amen.**

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.

C: **Amen.**

(NO Closing Song)

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**