

Third Sunday in Advent

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

Embrace ~ Educate ~ Engage

December 14, 2025

9:00 a.m. Divine Service One

Lutheran Service Book – Page 151

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Greeting of the Saints

Prelude-Processional

Prelude on “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

Chris Winston

Opening Hymn

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

Hymn 515



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride-groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.
Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.
A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride-groom is at hand.
In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.
The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt. Tune: Swedish. Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

LSB 151

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.**

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.

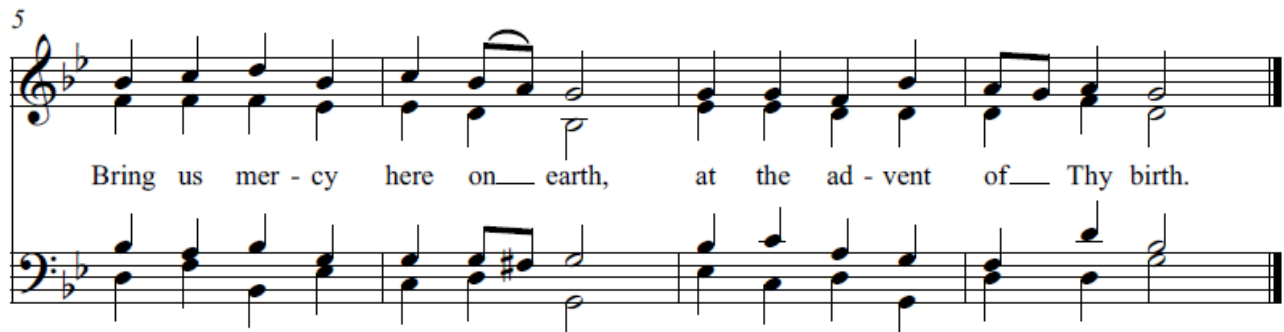
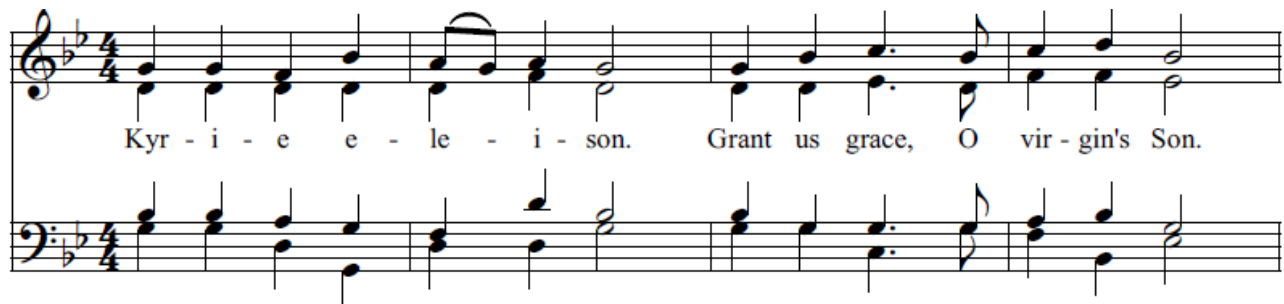
We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy 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.

Kyrie

arr. Chris Winston



Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together.

C: Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
it 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.
Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who have an anxious heart,
“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you.”
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
No 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.
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

R: Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the'. The second staff contains the lyrics 'words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' and ends with a double bar line.

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.

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



Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-15

When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated

Children’s Message

Please stand

Hymn of the Day “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

Hymn 345



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the
near,” we hear it say. “Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav’n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -
works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!”
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv’n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89. Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Rev. Benjamin Braun

Angels and Shepherds

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Please stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For joy in the Lord, that we may be sustained in the time of waiting for His will and purpose to unfold in these latter days; for patience under trials; and for hope that endures the changes and chances of this mortal life, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the homes of our land, that God would grant safety and security to all families; and that the faith would be delivered from one generation to the next, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For those entrusted with positions of leadership in government; for service men and women who defend us against the enemies of our nation; and for those who enact and enforce laws that protect us, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the sick and grieving, that as the day draws near when blind eyes see, deaf ears hear, lame legs leap and mute tongues sing for joy, God would grant them healing according to His gracious will, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: O God, Your love invites us to rejoice in Your goodness. In every circumstance of life, teach us the joy that comes from knowing Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and eagerly expecting His gracious visitation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, 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)*

Rebecca Winston

“The Shepherds”

Hyun Kook

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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

LSB 160

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: 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

VENI EMMANUEL

French, 15th cent.

James Pierce

Setting by C. Winfred Douglas, 1867–1944

Sanctus O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, The God by heav'n - ly

Agnus Dei O Christ, the ho - ly Lamb of God, Who takes a - way the

Nunc Dimittis 1 Lord, let Your ser - vant go in peace, Your Word ful - filled with -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly Spir - it,

hosts a - dored, Both heav'n and earth Your glo - ry show.

whole world's sin, Have mer - cy on us now, we pray,

in my sight. Sal - va - tion comes for all to see.

with them one, As was in comes the be - gin - ning, now,

Refrain

Ho - san - na sing we to the Lord.

And grant Your heav'n - ly peace with - in. Re - joice! Re - joice!

For Is - rael, glo - ry; Gen - tiles, light.

And as the end - less a - ges run.

Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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 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."

Pax Domini

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

C: Amen.

Agnus Dei

VENI EMMANUEL

French, 15th cent.

James Pierce

Setting by C. Winfred Douglas, 1867-1944

Sanctus O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, The God by heav'n - ly

Agnus Dei O Christ, the ho - ly Lamb of God, Who takes a - way the

Nunc Dimittis 1 Lord, let Your ser - vant go in peace, Your Word ful - filled with -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly Spir - it,

hosts a - dored, Both heav'n and earth Your glo - ry show.

whole world's sin, Have mer - cy on us now, we pray,

in my sight. Sal - va - tion comes for all to see,

with them one, As was in the be - gin - ning, now,

Refrain

Ho - san - na sing we to the Lord.

And grant Your heav'n - ly peace with - in. Re - joice! Re - joice!

For Is - rael, glo - ry; Gen - tiles, light.

And as the end - less a - ges run.

Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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 Hymns

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Hymn 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for-ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven. Text and tune: Public domain

“Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service”

Hymn 848



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
 2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
 4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear



hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
 cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
 veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
 name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
 Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
 Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
 Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
 pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
 bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
 com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
 love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
 us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
 ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–84, alt. Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia. Text: © Oxford University Press.
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“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”

Hymn 352



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly
2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send
heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

**5 Bruise for me the serpent's head
That, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to You in faith,
Safely kept through life and death.**

**6 Then when You will come again
As the glorious king to reign,
I with joy will see Your face,
Freely ransomed by Your grace.**

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter. Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

Communion Dismissal

LSB 164

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.

Nunc Dimittis

VENI EMMANUEL

French, 15th cent.

James Pierce

Setting by C. Winfred Douglas, 1867-1944

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. The first system includes the lyrics for 'Sanctus', 'Agnus Dei', and the beginning of 'Nunc Dimittis'. The second system continues the 'Nunc Dimittis' lyrics. The third system is marked 'Refrain' and includes the lyrics 'Ho - san - na sing we to the Lord.' and 'And grant Your heav'n - ly peace with - in. Re - joice! Re - joice!'. The fourth system concludes with the lyrics 'Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!'. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.

Sanctus O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, The God by heav'n - ly
Agnus Dei O Christ, the ho - ly Lamb of God, Who takes a - way the
Nunc Dimittis 1 Lord, let Your ser - vant go in peace, Your Word ful - filled with -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly Spir - it,
 hosts a - dored, Both heav'n and earth Your glo - ry show.
 whole world's sin, Have mer - cy on us now, we pray,
 in my sight. Sal - va - tion comes for all to see.
 with them one, As was in the be - gin - ning, now,
 Ho - san - na sing we to the Lord.
 And grant Your heav'n - ly peace with - in. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 For Is - rael, glo - ry; Gen - tiles, light.
 And as the end - less a - ges run.
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Benediction

LSB 166

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.

Closing Hymn “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”

Hymn 348



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose
4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.
But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.
And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt. Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth. Text and tune: Public domain

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude-Recessional Improvisation on “Consolation”

Chris Winston

D·E·C·E·M·B·E·R at a glance

Come to the BOAR'S HEAD CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL!

An Ancient Celebration of Christmas in Music, Drama & Dance.

Invite your friends and neighbors and attend **TODAY, December 14th at 5:00pm**, here at Immanuel.

WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICE

December 17th at 6:45pm, in the Sanctuary

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE INVITE: Monday, December 22 at 6:45pm

Bring your grief. Bring your hardships. Bring whatever burdens you, to the manger of our Lord.

BLOOD DRIVE HERE AT IMMANUEL: SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

(OK BLOOD INSTITUTE)

Time: 9:00am—12:30pm, in the gym

Look for the sign-up sheet in a couple of weeks!

ALTAR FLOWERS

Do you have a special occasion coming up? Birthday, anniversary, baptismal birthday and would like to have flowers for that special occasion?

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex or call the church office (918-258-5506) and order altar flowers. Each arrangement is \$60.

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

A reminder that the December Newsletter is available online; go to immanuelba.org

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Stop by the sound booth in the Sanctuary and pick up a device.



The altar flowers are in recognition of the baptismal birthday of Evan Fleming (December 14, 2014).

Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, who calls us by name and blesses us through the waters of Baptism. You have given us this sacrament to secure our salvation and draw us nearer to You through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. Thank You for this glorious gift.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Immanuel's Visioning Process – pray for us as a congregation to know God's vision for us and that we will be inspired to pursue it.

Those with Health Concerns – Karen Beckmann, Matt Hagans, Loretta Herzberger, Ryder VanNoy, Angela Walsh

Those with cancer – Allen Beaird, Carol Boatright, Michelle Craig, Donna D., Jill Duran, Earl Franklin, Mike Hays, Mark Holcomb, Allen Hufford, Holly Johnson, Lyle Johnson, Shirley Kirkpatrick, Merle Kuhlmann, Jackie Oestreich, Pat Rogers, Gary Siftar, Carrie Ann Swaim, Tabitha, Theresa, Ellen Vester, Lois Wegner, Carole Weygand, Woody Wicker

Missionary work: Rev. Christian and Gudula Tiews serving in the Eurasia Region; Ben Helge serving in the Czech Republic; Josh Lange and family, working with CWF in Shanghai; Bob & Chris Prouty serving in Australia; Rev. Jason and Anna Marie Steffenson will be serving in Italy. Rev. Bryan and Deaconess Keah Payne serving in Shinyanga, Tanzania.

FOR YOUR OFFERING:

- Text: immanuelba to: 1-888-364-GIVE (4483)
- Church App: "Give" icon
- Website: immanuelba.org
- Mail: 400 N Aspen Ave, Broken Arrow, OK 74012

CHURCH ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Sunday, December 7th:

9am Service attendance: 260 Offering: \$25,404.00

11:30am Service attendance: 77 Online Giving: \$11,609.97

"United in faith and empowered by the Spirit,
Immanuel **Embraces, Educates, and Engages** our
community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Monthly Update—November 2025

	Nov 2025	2025 YTD
Offerings Received (General Fund)	\$125,965	\$1,090,729
Total Income Received	\$145,533	\$1,393,229
Expenses	\$121,001	\$1,374,751
Surplus/Deficit	\$24,532	\$18,478

*In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make
straight your paths. Proverbs 3:6*