

We thank all our members and guests who worshipped with us today,
and we welcome all our online guests who joined us as we stay connected
with God!

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



706 Knob Hill Avenue | Redondo Beach
310.540.4435 | www.immanuelrb.com

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

Please leave your offerings in the plate as you enter worship.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus:

**Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.**

King of all days, O so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly, You came to the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor. **Chorus**

And I'll never know how much it cost,
To see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost,
To see my sin upon that cross. **Chorus**

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INVOCATION:

P: In the Name of the Father,

C: **Who is the source of all our treasures;**

3 O Zion's daughter, rise
To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.

4 As judge, on clouds of light,
He soon will come again
And His true members all unite
With Him in heav'n to reign.

6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

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+ + + **TO GOD ALONE BE GLORY** + + +

SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Bill Lowrey

Elder: Frank Pierce

Sound: Joan Wilner

Music Director: Patty Robinson

Presentations: Jeff Guild

Praise Team: Catherine Brown, Dave Buckeyne, Cheryl Hollander,
Gerald Krause, Gwen Lambert, Kathryn Lowrey, Dn. Fred Roach,
Dennis Thompson, Sandy Willson-White

Ushers: Walter Colgan, Tony Crutchfield, Dr. Steve Fynaardt, Michael Walker

Lay Reader: Chris Kuecker

Now He shines, the long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.

4 O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing.
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him
And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.

5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore. Amen.

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CLOSING PRAYER

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.

CLOSING HYMN: 331 THE ADVENT OF OUR KING sts. 1–4, 6

1 The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.

2 The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.

P: And of the Son (+),

C: Who is our Lord, our Savior, our Priceless Treasure;

P: And of the Holy Spirit,

C: Who empowers us to receive in faith the treasures of the kingdom of God;

P: We begin this time of worship together.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS:

P: In the presence of the Father Almighty, His Son Jesus Christ the Lord,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in our hearts, we confess our sins.
(silence for personal reflection)

We confess our arrogance in coming to God with words that speak of:

C: My home, my family, my wealth, my life, my ideas, my talents.

P: We confess our readiness to set our minds on earthly things,

C: And our reluctance to set them on what the Spirit desires.

P: We confess our refusal in word, action and attitude,

C: To acknowledge that all good gifts come from the Father's hand.

P: We confess our anxiety over the accumulation of earthly security,
worth, and value.

C: While we recognize the wealth that comes to us from God in Christ Jesus.

P: Jesus says, "Watch out! One's life does not consist in the abundance of their possessions." God in His mercy has given His dearest treasure, Jesus, to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. We who believe in Jesus are given the power to set our minds on things above and not earthly things, for we have died to the world and our lives are now hidden in Christ. Rejoice in this forgiveness, believe God's promises, and live.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: (in unison)

Almighty God, judge of us all, You have placed in our hands the wealth we call our own. Give us such wisdom by Your Spirit that our possessions may not be a curse in our lives, but an instrument for blessing; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN: “O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL”

(verses 1, 2, 7)

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

**Ref: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord’rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. **Refrain**

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. **Refrain**

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HANGING OF THE GREENS

P: As we begin the Christian Year, we celebrate the Advent Season in preparation for the coming Savior. Advent means “to come,” so we prepare for the coming of our Lord.

C: **Today we prepare this house of worship for the birth of God’s Son. Advent makes innkeepers of us all, asking us to make room for the Messiah in our worship, our homes, our lives and our hearts.**

(Prayer spoken together)

As we prepare to again celebrate the birth of Christ, our God becoming flesh, we pray that we might show the love of Jesus through our words and actions in this Advent season. As the King of Kings and Lord of Lords reigns in our hearts, help us to reflect, remember and reach out with the story of Jesus’ birth, life and salvation for the world. May these decorations of Christmas stand as symbols for us and as a witness to others of the unchanging love and everlasting life that is ours through Jesus. Amen.

HYMN: GLORIFY THY NAME

- 1 Father, we love You, we worship and adore You.
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
- 2 Jesus, we love You, we worship and adore You.
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
- 3 Spirit, we love You, we worship and adore You.
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

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HYMN: 384 OF THE FATHER’S LOVE BEGOTTEN

- 1 Of the Father’s love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.
- 2 Oh, that birth forever blessed,
When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world’s Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore.
- 3 This is He whom seers in old time
Chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN: 468 I AM CONTENT! MY JESUS EVER LIVES

- 1 I am content! My Jesus ever lives,
In whom my heart is pleased.
He has fulfilled the Law of God for me,
God's wrath He has appeased.
Since He in death could perish never,
I also shall not die forever.
I am content!
I am content!
- 2 I am content! My Jesus is my head;
His member I shall be.
He bowed His head when on the cross He died
With cries of agony.
Now death is brought into subjection
For me by Jesus' resurrection.
I am content!
I am content!
- 3 I am content! My Jesus is my light,
My radiant sun of grace.
His cheering rays beam blessings forth for all,
Sweet comfort, hope, and peace.
This Easter sun has brought salvation
And everlasting exultation.
I am content!
I am content!
- 4 I am content! At length I shall be free,
Awakened from the dead,
Arising glorious evermore to be
With You, my living head.
The chains that hold my body, sever;
Then shall my soul rejoice forever.
I am content!
I am content!

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P: The Advent Wreath is a symbol of God's never-ending love and the everlasting life that we who trust in Jesus will receive. The candles are lit reminding us that while something is happening now, there is something more, still to come. They symbolize our waiting experience for the Lord's coming.

C: The Greens, Holly and Ivy are hung to represent eternal life and the unchanging nature of God.

P: The Tree decorated with Chrismons is a symbol that points the way to heaven. The tree lights shine as a message that cannot be hidden but give testimony to Christ, the Light of the world and our light that must shine before others glorifying our Father in heaven.

C: The Poinsettias bloom at Christmas time like stars announcing the royal birth. The red flowers remind us of the blood of Christ, and the reason for the Christ child's coming. The white petals are symbols of the purity of Jesus. The gold centers are for the King who reigns in our hearts.

P: The Nativity Scene reflects upon the place of Jesus' birth. A stable where the Christ child was born among the eyes of the animals and the angels who gave glory to God. The poverty and humble beginning of Jesus' life reminds us of the wealth of heaven that Jesus left for our sake.

C: We come to worship the Savior born for us. We come to hear again the Good News of Jesus' Birth and the promise of the Lord's return. May these customs and decorations serve as opportunities to share the hope, joy, peace and love we have in Christ our Savior.

INTERCESSIONS and THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: We pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs...

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our 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.

READING

Philippians 4:10-20 (ESV)

Reader: Chris Kuecker

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity.

Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36 (ESV)

Reader: Chris Kuecker

And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the

2. Do I truly repent of all my sins in thought, word, and deed?
3. Do I trust in God’s promise of forgiveness for Jesus’ sake?
4. Am I willing to change my ways and glorify God with my life?

If your response to each of these questions is yes, then confess with us and step forward to receive God’s gift of Life! (Grape Juice is dark in color and available for those unable to receive wine. The wine is clear.)

PREFACE

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. 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

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

C: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

C: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

By thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne

Bridge:

You're our joy
You're our hope
(REPEAT)

Ending:

Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

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SERMON: "Consumer's Christmas" (Philippians 4:10-20)

"God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus."

The _____ the _____

We _____ Debt, Christ _____ Debt

Don't Get _____ in the Wrong Christmas

+ + + **HOLY COMMUNION** + + +

WE RECOGNIZE THE REAL PRESENCE of Christ's Body and Blood in, with and under the bread and wine offered in this Sacrament. We accept that Jesus Christ, true God and true Man has given us this Sacrament as a means of grace by which we receive, by faith, complete forgiveness of sins. We believe that only those who are baptized into the Christian faith, examine themselves, repent of their sins, and believe in Jesus Christ as Savior receive the benefits of this Sacrament.

1. Do I believe that Jesus' true Body and Blood are really present in the Sacrament?

summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

A: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

The members of Immanuel present their tithes and offering in support of the work of the church, returning to God from the blessings we have received from Him. If you are a guest with us this day, you have already blessed us in joining our worship.

SERMON HYMN: COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Born thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now thy gracious kingdom bring
By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone