



Hurry Up and Wait

3 *For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:
14 I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it nor
anything taken from it; God has done this so that all should stand in awe before him.
15 That which is already has been, that which is to be already is,
and God seeks out what has gone by (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 14-15).*

What a busy season is upon us! The days from Thanksgiving through the New Year are just one big blur. The time from Pentecost at the beginning of June to All Saints Sunday at the beginning of November went slow and steady like a roller coaster climbing a hill. Then the coaster comes crashing down the other side like we're trying to cram a year's worth of living into the last two months. We barely have time to catch our breath before Ash Wednesday signals the beginning of our Lenten journey on the way to Holy Week. Our church year is a never-ending cycle of beginning and ending and beginning again. That which is already has been, that which is to be already is.

During this hectic (and sometimes frantic) holiday season, while we're planning family feasts and holiday parties, buying gifts and sending cards, preparing church services for Sundays and mid-week Advent services and Christmas Eve and Christmas, it is easy to look ahead instead of enjoying each moment and each other. Our Advent theme this year is "The Gifts of Advent." The Gifts are the gift of patience which is so very important in this time of rushing. The gift of speech and silence which calls us to stop and be still and know that "I am God." The gift of hope lifts us from the stress and anxiety that the demands of the season can place upon us. And the gift of family - our own individual families, our church family, and the family we share with all the baptized as beloved children of God - is the very reason for the season.

And God gives us another gift - the gift of time. A time to rush and a time to stop and just breathe. A time to create new memories and a time to remember old ones. A time to hurry up and a time to wait. May this holiday season bring you and yours a time of joy and fellowship, a time of comfort and healing. For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.

LOVE
YOUR neighbor
AS YOURSELF.
Mark 12:31

There are many of you ... who think to yourselves: "If only I had been there! How quick I would have been to help the Baby! I would have washed his linen. How happy I would have been to go with the shepherds to see the Lord lying in the manger!"

Yes, you would! You say that because you know how great Christ is, but if you had been there at that time, you would have done no better than the people of Bethlehem. ... Why don't you do it now? You have Christ in your neighbor. You ought to serve him, for what you do to your neighbor in need you do to the Lord Christ himself.

— Martin Luther

Welcoming All. Growing Together in Faith. Sharing Christ's Love

Winter Weather

As we enter the season of winter weather advisories, please know that any cancellations of church activities will be posted on the congregational Facebook group (private) and page (public), KSAL.com and local radio/TV stations that we are able to contact. If you feel the roads are not safe to travel on, please stay home!



Please notify the church office when...

- ...You or a family member is hospitalized. Also, let the hospital chaplain know you would like a visit from Pastor Jacque.
- ...You have a change of address.
- ...Your phone number has changed.
- ...Your email address has changed.
- ...Members of your family are students attending school away from home or are living at a different address.



2023 Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes for next year will soon be available for pick-up in the narthex. If you are visiting one of our homebound members, please feel free to deliver their envelopes!

Worship Volunteer Opportunities

Recently added to the list of opportunities for you to help with worship is the position of Assisting Minister. The Assisting Minister reads the prayers of intercession, the offering and post communion prayers, and the dismissal. Assisting ministers typically robe, but it is not necessary. The cantor and the assisting minister may be the same person. Worship volunteers may sign up on the bulletin board outside Pastor's office.

Congregation Council Action from October 2022:

Approved 2023 Proposed Budget to present to congregation.

Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to office@immanuelsalina.org
Deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the month.

CONTACT US:

255 S. 7th St.....Salina, KS 67401
 Church office.....(785) 825-4750
 Jacque Thornton, Pastor.....pastorjacque@immanuelsalina.org
 Mindy Tillberg, Deacon.....mindy@immanuelsalina.org

End of Year Giving



Thank you for financially partnering with us this year as we have sought to be the hands and feet of God in our community and beyond! We are so grateful for your support in what God is doing in and through Immanuel. Although the year is quickly drawing to a close, our financial needs remain significant. As of November 4, we are \$26,962.50 short of funds. We ask that you prayerfully consider the ministry of Immanuel in your end of the year giving decisions. With your generosity, we can eliminate our debt and begin 2023 with a solid foundation for our continued ministry of sharing God's love with others.



Immanuel Lutheran Church accepts qualified charitable distributions (QCD) from an

IRA. This provision of the Internal Revenue code allows an individual, age 70 1/2 or over, who owns an IRA to get tax relief from a distribution from the IRA that is paid directly from the IRA to a qualified charity. Consult with your tax advisor for details.

Christmas Candles

Altar Guild is selling candles to decorate the sanctuary for the holiday season. Cost is \$10 per candle. Contact the church office to place your order.



Altar Guild

Wednesday, Nov 30

3:00 pm

Decorate for Advent & Christmas.

Wednesday, Jan 4

3:00 pm

Take down Christmas decorations

Wednesday, Jan 18 at 5:15 pm

Monthly meeting. Come join us!

New members are welcome.



Year End Reports

As 2022 comes to an end, Ministry Team chairs and organizations need to submit year-end written reports to Mindy Tillberg by December 30. Financial reports are due as soon as possible.

Midweek Advent Worship

November 30, December 7, 14, 21

12:15 pm & 7:00 pm

“The Gifts of Advent”

A gift is given freely and offered in love. In the weeks before Christmas, we often race around finding just the right gifts for friends and family. The season of Advent is itself a gift—a time set apart to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. We give thanks for God’s gift to us in the baby of Bethlehem.

Nov. 30: The Gift of Patience

Waiting is hard. We eagerly anticipate the desires of our hearts and want them to come soon. We wait for the first day of school or the first snow-fall. We wait to see a loved one or to hear a doctor’s news. Just as the farmer waits for crops or the fig tree waits for summer, we are reminded to be patient until the coming of the Lord.

Dec. 7: The Gifts of Speech and Silence

Encountering the angel of the Lord, Zechariah was struck speechless. His imposed silence became a time to reflect on the wonders of God. Like Zechariah, we are called at times to be silent and listen, at other times to shout with joy.

Dec. 14: The Gift of Hope

Hope is a word on which our future rests. We cannot know what will come, but with faith we place our hope in Christ. Like Zechariah, we hope for the tender mercy of our God, light in the midst of darkness and death, and the knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of our sins.

Dec. 21: The Gift of Family

The Gospel of Matthew begins with a family tree from Abraham to Jesus. Between the recitation of names, we also hear the story of God at work in our world from generation to generation. The Advent and Christmas seasons highlight the significance of family and friends in our lives. We witness Mary and Joseph, Elizabeth and Zechariah, and the shepherds together tending their flocks. As God’s children, we become part of the family tree.

Midweek Advent offering is designated for Serenity House of Salina, a residential addiction treatment center. We will also be collecting:

- pillows (even gently used)
- pillow cases
- curtains
- bath towels
- men’s personal hygiene items



Youth Group (6th -12th graders)

watch for more information about our Salvation Army Angel shopping on December 3 at 9:00 am and our event with St John’s & Redeemer on December 11!



WELCA Dutch Lunch

Tuesday, December 6 at 11:30 am

Join us at Martinelli’s! To make a reservation contact Ellen Vaupel at (785) 827-1375.

Wednesday, Dec. 7

5:30-7:30pm

Join us at Messy Church this month! All ages are invited to get messy together through games, crafts and activities, music, and Biblical storytelling. Pizza dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 pm, activities will begin at 6:00 pm.



The Longest Night Service

Wed, December 21 at 6:00 pm

St. John’s Lutheran Church ~ 302 S. 7th St.

In a season when so many people don’t have enough hours in a day to get their lists checked off, we who feel lost in the night have all the time in the world.

We remember the loss that has stolen the joy of Christmas. We grieve over a job, a dream, a loved one we have lost. We sit in the shadows of our homes, too weary to turn on the lights. We search for the Light of the world to comfort us. Our fear of the future, our remembrance of the past; our pain which is difficult to bear and harder to release; our emptiness which cannot be filled with platitudes; our hands which cannot hold the ones we wish to embrace: all make this a season of long nights. So, be with us in our loneliness, in our longing, in our loss, in our lives.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

December 24

7:00 pm



Due to Mindy Tillberg’s vacation, the church office will be closed December 23 & 30 and office hours for December 26-29 will be 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

December Worship Volunteers *(as of 11/30/22)*

| | December 4 | December 11 | December 18 | December 24 7:00 pm | December 25 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Greeter | Shirley Milleson | Tom Davis | | | |
| Usher | | Tom Davis | | Joel & Diana Looney | |
| Acolyte | Emma Greenemeyer | Ty Tillberg | | Gus Diehl | |
| Cantor | Henry Diehl | Pam Michel | Pam Michel | Henry Diehl | |
| Assisting Minister | | | | | |
| Lector | Liz Diehl | Kathy Yosai | Janet Ireton | John Yosai | |
| Communion Assistant | Monica Davis | | Jeri Clouston | | |
| Altar Guild Set-Up | Connie Beisner | Kathy Herron | | | Connie Beisner |
| Altar Guild Clean-Up | Alisha Cooper | Kathy Herron | Alisha Cooper | | Connie Beisner |
| Fellowship Hosts | Komarek's | Yosai/Milleson | Herron's | | |

January Worship Volunteers *(as of 11/30/22)*

| | January 1 | January 8 | January 15 | January 22 | January 29 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|
| Greeter | | | | | |
| Usher | | Tom Davis | | | |
| Acolyte | | Emma Greenemeyer | Tom Davis | Emma Greenemeyer | Gus Diehl |
| Cantor | | | | | |
| Assisting Minister | | | | | |
| Lector | | Monica Davis | Janet Ireton | Kathy Herron | |
| Communion Assistant | | Monica Davs | | | |
| Altar Guild Set-Up | Jo Srna | Corlene Lange | Janet Ireton | Corlene Lange | |
| Altar Guild Clean-Up | Norma Hodge | Corlene Lange | Janet Ireton | Corlene Lange | |
| Fellowship Hosts | | | | | |