

# 3rd Sunday of Epiphany



## January 25, 2026

**IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*

Norwood, PA ~ Phone: 610.586.5860

[www.immanuelnorwood.org](http://www.immanuelnorwood.org)

The People of Immanuel are Ministers of the Church

The Rev Scott R. Lee, Pastor

Kathleen Schneider, Director of Music

PRELUDE (*Prayerful time for reflection.*)

^MISSION STATEMENT:

**C: We of Immanuel are claimed, gathered, and sent by God to live Christ's example through worship, education, and service.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Mighty God, lover of justice, you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ✝ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

## ^OPENING HYMN

## I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to  
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

## ^KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

## ^HYMN OF PRAISE (*Verses 1&2*)

### God of Promise, Let These Signs of Grace

*Refrain*

God of prom - ise, let these signs of grace

kin - dle in our hearts a song of praise.

1 Life - giv - ing wa - ter      soak - ing our dry - ness,  
 2 Word of pro - claim - ing,      breath on the wa - ter,  
 3 Oil of a - noint - ing,      fra - grant with pow - er,  
 4 Bright light of Eas - ter      cleav - ing the dark - ness,  
 5 Robe of a - dop - tion      grow - ing God's fam - 'ly,

drown - ing our sin each day, mak - ing us new—  
 plant - ing your prom - ise— the voice from a - bove:  
 nam - ing us ho - ly while hold - ing our pain—  
 shin - ing up - on and with - in us to - day—  
 wrap - ping our bro - ken - ness in the di - vine—

*Refrain*

mer - cy come stream - ing from you.  
 "This is my child, my be - loved."  
 mark of the life that we gain.  
 bea - con of hope on the way.  
 love be - come sym - bol and sign.

P: The Lord be with you

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray

## ^PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 9:1-4**

*The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.*

<sup>1</sup> There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the Lord] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Word of God, word of life: **Thanks be to God**

## PSALM

## Psalm 27:1, 4-

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**<sup>4</sup> One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up-on a rock.

**<sup>6</sup> Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the Lord**

**<sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.**

<sup>8</sup> My heart speaks your message “Seek my face.” Your face, O Lord, I will seek.

**<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.**

## SECOND READING

## 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

*Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.*

<sup>10</sup> Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup> For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there

are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

Word of God, word of life: **Thanks be to God**

^GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God’s Holy Name, alleluia!**  
**Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God’s Holy Name, alleluia!**  
**Praise God’s Holy Name, alleluia! Praise God’s Holy Name, alleluia!**  
**Praise God’s Holy Name, alleluia! Praise God’s Holy Name, alleluia!**

^HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter

C: **Glory to you O Lord**

*Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God’s reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.*

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup> “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles— <sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,

and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”

<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

Pastor. Scott Lee

## ^HYMN

# Will You Come and Follow Me

## *The Summons*

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners in -  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?  
 pray'r in you and you in me?  
 mean in you and you in me?  
 sound in you and you in me?  
 grow in you and you in me.

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## ^APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.\*  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Kneeling as able.)*

**Response:** Merciful God, receive our prayer.

## ^PEACE

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

**C:** And also with you.

**P:** Let us share a sign of peace with one another, as you feel comfortable.

## OFFERING

*We join other Christians in joyfully responding to God's goodness, through your personal giving. The ushers will pass the offering plates during this time. For those who don't feel comfortable passing the plates, we ask that you place your offering in the plates located at the front of the nave prior to the service, or after the service, in the plate on the table as you exit into the Hospitality area. Many people give electronically and we thank all growing disciples in advance for their supportive giving.*

## ^OFFERTORY HYMN



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the

brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the

seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the

prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,

and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## +HOLY COMMUNION+

## ^GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

**P:** It is indeed right and salutary.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

*Santo, santo, santo*



San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,

. . . lle-nos es-tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.  
your glo - ry fills all heav-en and earth. . . . You are ho - ly, God.

Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . . .  
. . . Bless - ed be the Sav - ior, the one who comes in your name.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to e-res, oh Dios.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *In the night he was betrayed.....*

### ^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.

*(Verse 1 only)*

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# Lamb of God

## Your Only Son

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
 2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and  
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have

sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
 scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a  
 brought me to your side to be led by your staff and

*Refrain*  
 sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.  
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
 rod and to be called a lamb of God.

God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me

in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P:** The table is ready, come and eat.

**C:** Amen

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION *(By Intinction)*

*All baptized Christians are welcome to share the bread and wine of **Holy Communion**. After it is placed in your hand, dip your wafer in the wine (silver chalice) or grape juice (ceramic chalice). Sign a communion card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.*

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C:** Amen

### Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*Refrain*



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by  
morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy  
hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ^BENEDICTION/BLESSING

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## HYMN

## We Are Marching in the Light of God

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos', Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO  
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO  
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

## ^DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**



**ReconcilingWorks**  
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION



As a **Reconciling in Christ** congregation, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Norwood, commits to celebrating the love of God with ALL people as we are all made in God's image. We are committed to racial equity in our congregation, community, and country. Whatever your abilities, gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship status, race, culture, faith tradition or economic circumstance; whatever your past or present – you are welcome to share in God's love and our community.

**Welcome Visitors!** We are very glad you are with us today! It is a privilege to have you share our worship service. Please take a moment to fill out the Visitor Guest Book located at the top of the steps at our Chester Pike entrance. We would appreciate having a record of your communion with us today. Please sign a communion card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. If you have any questions please ask any of the members, we'll be happy to help. Check out [www.immanuelnorwood.org](http://www.immanuelnorwood.org) or our Facebook page. **Thanks for being with us!**



**Supporting IMMANUEL's Mission with Our Generosity.** We have three easy and virtual ways for people to donate to IMMANUEL. You will see on our Website and on our Facebook page "links" which you can click and make a secure donation. And here is a **QR code** which you can scan with your smart phone. Thank You for your continued generous support!



## ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

**Weekly Activities do not reflect building use by outside groups.**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	Education Hour	10:00 AM
	Worship	11:00 AM
	<b>ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b>	12:00 PM
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Bible Study in person	
	(at St. Matt's)	9:00 AM
	Bible Study ( <i>Zoom</i> )	7:00 PM

	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Worship Assistant</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>
<b>Jan 25</b>		K. McClellan	J. Crane	
<b>Feb 1</b>	K. Dukes	J. Kintsche	C. Kelly	



**December Income - \$14,240**

**December Expenses - \$10,542**

### Communion cards!

Please remember to submit your communion card at least once a year!

The **Congregational Annual Meeting** will be held **TODAY**. (weather permitting), immediately following the 11:00 am service. Please plan to stay and contribute to discussions about the mission of Immanuel

**Acme/ShopRite Gift Cards!** They are used like cash at any of the area stores. There is no extra charge for the certificates. **Our church receives 5% of the coupons. Help us help our church!** See Mary Lyn Horne-Onimus for details.

**ACME**



The next First Holy Communion preparation class will be held on: **Sunday, February 22, 2026 Meet at 12:30 in the sanctuary.** If your family has a scheduling conflict, or if you have any questions, feel free to contact Pastor Lee at: [pastor.immanuelnorwood@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.immanuelnorwood@gmail.com)



your morning.

As we enter the winter season, please let the Property Committee know if you are willing to help with snow removal. Contact Fred Warner or Karl McClellan. In the event of **Severe Weather** please call the church office at 610.586.5860 for a recorded announcement on the status of Sunday morning services. Closing announcement will be made no later than 6:30 AM to ensure ample time to plan



### **Join Us in 2026 for Weekday\*\* Evening Virtual Bible Study!**

Our Virtual (“Zoom”) Bible study is back on Wednesdays\*\*; 7:00 to 8:00 PM after our Christmas break **until we reach Lent** then we will switch nights (We’ll let you know what night\*\* as we are still deciding as of the newsletter deadline). We will be using another interactive series from “Right Now Media”. All you need is your Bible and we’ll provide the discussion questions when we “connect”. For a copy of the session Study Guide, please go to the mailboxes in the rear of the Hospitality Area and on the left-hand lower corner you’ll find “Zoom Bible” with copies ***for that week*** in a folder. Karl and Fred lead the sessions. You may join at any time! Just go to our website: [www.immanuelnorwood.org](http://www.immanuelnorwood.org) and click on the “Church Calendar” tab, then scroll to **the ZOOM LINK FOR WEEKNIGHT BIBLE STUDY**. The web site will be updated with the proper link, connection information with dial in numbers, Meeting ID and Passcode.

Any questions, please see Karl McClellan or Fred Warner. Thanks!!

## Heating Oil Season is Here!

Our mascot for our Heating Oil campaign, **Scout** is asking that our members do their best to contribute monthly a little extra using **the OIL envelopes you'll find at the BRIGHT YELLOW Heating Oil campaign poster board** located in the Hospitality area.



## Souper Bowl Sunday!!!

Please feel free to bring your cans of soup to worship up to and including February 8<sup>th</sup> to donate towards the Little Pantry. The boxes will be on the table in the hospitality room to place your vote on which team will win the Super Bowl!



Church Council nominations are coming up! Are you interested? It's that time of year- in which we develop a ballot for Church Council elections. This year we have the following vacancies:

- Three terms of three year positions
- One term of two years
- Two terms of one year
- Two terms of one year for Junior Council Members

If you are interested in being considered to be on the ballot for church council please see Karl McClellan, Nominating Committee Chair.



Yes! The preparations are underway for the Easter Cantata! Practices will begin on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:15AM in the choir room!