

Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

212-289-8128 www.immanuelnyc.org www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

Immanuel's YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCixDAacoJS7umLndrBnugmw You can tune in at 10:55 a.m. for the prelude and service or later for a recording.

The First Sunday of Christmas

11 a.m. Sunday, December 31, 2023

arm welcome, everyone, to Immanuel Lutheran Church. We are delighted that you are here and hope that you will return. If you do not already have a church home in our city, please consider joining this congregation. We would rejoice to have you. Just send me an email (gpfryer@gmail.com) or speak with Pastor Carol Fryer (ceafryer@gmail.com) or with Pastor Lara Bhasin (lara.bhasin@tsm.edu).

In Christ, Gregory Fryer Pastor Gregory Fryer

Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting Three

PRELUDE Majesté du Christ demandant sa gloire à son Père

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

BELLS

Please stand when the minister approaches the center aisle.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand. Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P Most merciful God,
- we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

The minister stands and addresses the congregation.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

The Entrance Rite

HYMN, LBW 70

Go Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT





Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt. Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

HYMN OF PRAISE, LBW 71 Angels We Have Heard on High (Next page)

GLORIA

Angels We Have Heard on High



Text: French carol; tr. "Crown of Jesus," 1862 Music: GLORIA, French carol

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**
- Let us pray. Almighty God, you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world. We pray that his birth as a human child will set us free from the old slavery of our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Sit

The Liturgy of the Word of God

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 61:10--62:3, RSV

To the people who returned to Jerusalem after the exile, the prophet proclaims that the LORD's salvation will fully come to pass. Jerusalem will become a shining light to the nations and righteousness and praise will spring up as surely as the earth puts forth vegetation.

will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

62:1For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch.
2The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name which the mouth of the LORD will give.
3You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

A The word of the Lord.

© Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148, LBW

ADESTE FIDELIS



Cantors

¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord | from the heavens;*

praise him | in the heights.

All

²Praise him, all you an- | gels of his;*

praise him, | all his host.

Cantors

³Praise him, | sun and moon;*

praise him, all you | shining stars.

All

⁴Praise him, heav- | en of heavens,*

and you waters a- | bove the heavens.

Cantors

⁵Let them praise the name | of the Lord;*

for he commanded, and they | were created.

All

⁶He made them stand fast forev- | er and ever;*

he gave them a law which shall not | pass away.

Cantors

⁷Praise the Lord | from the earth,*

you sea monsters | and all deeps;

All

8fire and hail, | snow and fog,*

tempestuous wind, do- | ing his will;

Cantors

9mountains | and all hills,*

fruit trees | and all cedars;

All

10wild beasts | and all cattle,*

creeping things and | winged birds;

Cantors

 $^{11}kings$ of the earth \mid and all peoples,*

princes and all rulers of the world;

All

12young | men and maidens,*

old and | young together.

Cantors

¹³Let them praise the name | of the Lord,*

for his name only is exalted, his splendor is over | earth and heaven.

All

 $^{14}\mathrm{He}$ has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his | loyal

servants,*

the children of Israel, a people who are near him. | Hallelujah!

Saint Paul seeks to show the Galatians that the purpose of Christ's birth was to liberate us from the law's condemnation so that we would be fully adopted into God's family as sons and daughters.

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

A The word of the Lord.

© Thanks be to God.

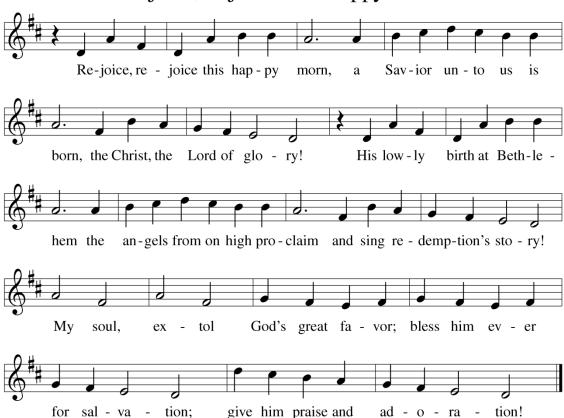
Please stand for the Alleluia hymn and the reading of the Holy Gospel.

HYMN LBW 43

Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET

Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn



Text: Birgitte K. Boye, 1742–1824; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937 Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the Second Chapter:



And when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word;
³⁰for mine eyes have seen thy salvation
³¹which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples,
³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to thy people Israel."

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him; ³⁴and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother,

"Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phan'u-el, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, ³⁷and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

After the Gospel:

P The Gospel of the Lord!

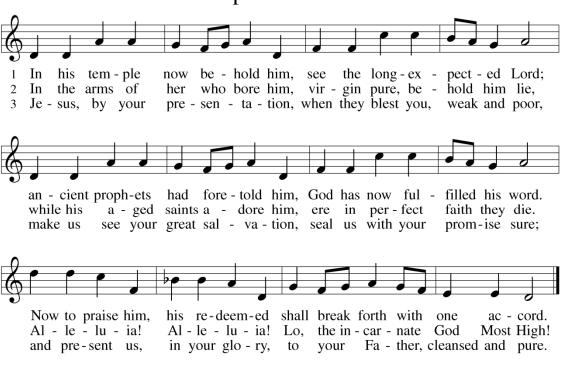


HYMN LBW 184

In His Temple Now Behold Him

LINDSBORG

In His Temple Now Behold Him



Text: Henry J. Pye, 1825–1903, alt. Music: LINDSBORG, Robert Leaf, b. 1936

Music © Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Please sit after the minister's opening invocation of the Holy Trinity.

SERMON

Following the sermon, silence for reflection.

NICENE CREED (In olden days, it was customary for people to bow at the confession of the Holy Incarnation: "...and was made man." This seems especially suitable for the great Christmas liturgies. If you would like to do so, the place is marked in this text:)

e believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

The Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G And also with you.

Let us offer a sign of peace to our neighbors: "Peace be with you."

Sit

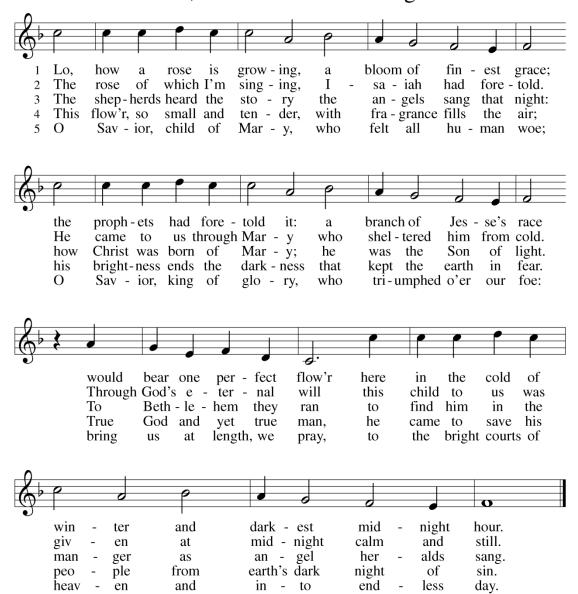
THE OFFERING You can give your tithes and offerings via our QR code. Just point the camera on your smart phone to this code on your screen:

Or you can donate via this link: <u>Donate</u> Here are some other options for giving: <u>Ways to Give</u>



The Eucharistic Bread and Wine are moved from the credence table to the altar. The congregation remains in the pews until the Distribution of the Sacrament.

Lo, How a Rose Is Growing



Text: German, 15th cent.; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943

Music: ES IST EIN ROS, Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1599

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

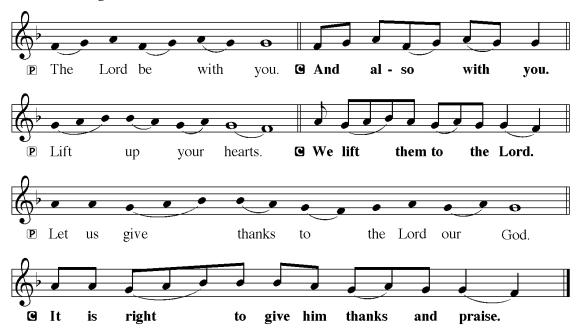
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Offertory Prayer

- **A** Merciful Father,
- we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

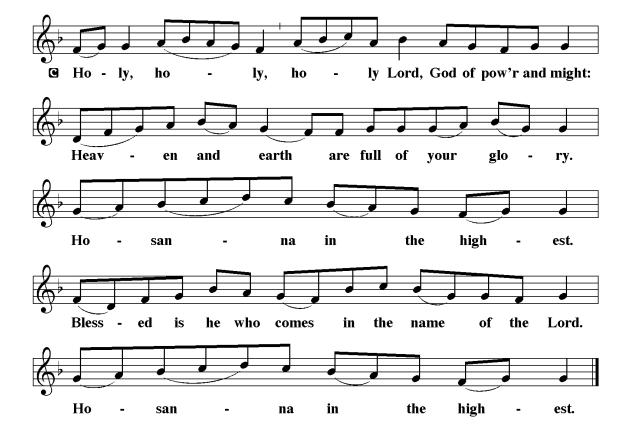
Eucharistic Dialogue



Preface for Christmas

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus (Next page)



Eucharistic Prayer II

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all. We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the fathers, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain. In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

© Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

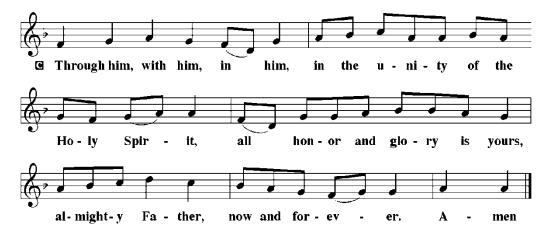
P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us. We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death. But chiefly we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit. We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

G Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

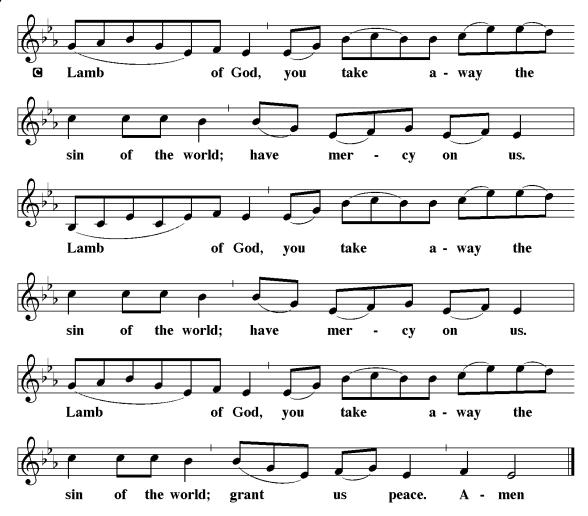


The Lord's Prayer

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 FRACTION. The host is broken.

Agnus Dei



Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

+ If you are home, worshiping online with us, here is a possible "Prayer for Spiritual Communion" lifted up in *Forum Letter* (May 2020). *Forum Letter* is a respected Lutheran newsletter published by the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

HYMN LBW 198

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (Next page)

PICARDY

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt. Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

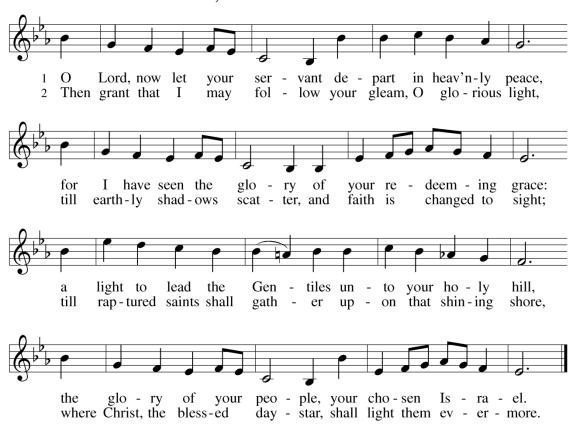
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Silence for reflection.

The Sending

BENEDICTION (Spoken)

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant



Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt. Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune, 19th cent.

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DISMISSAL

- **A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

Parish Announcements

+ Remember tomorrow morning's NAME OF JESUS service, at 11 a.m. It is a good way to start the New Year, remembering Him whose name we bear.

- + ABOUT TODAY'S PARAMENTS AND VESTMENTS: Unto us a Son is given! The white paraments and vestments symbolize gladness, purity, light, and joy to all the world!
- + THE ADVENT/CHRISTMAS BANNER: Two trumpets are shown one descending to announce the coming Christ and one ascending in praise for grace and thanksgiving for the coming Kingdom.
- + COPYRIGHTS: Parts of the liturgy and scripture introductions come from or are based on those from *Sundays and Seasons, Copyright* © 2023 *Augsburg Fortress,* license SAS022429. Permission to reprint, podcast, and or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-713464. Readings of Holy Scripture are often downloaded from Bible Gateway: https://www.biblegateway.com/. Copyright information for the various translations is included on the Bible Gateway website.

Service Notes

Organist and Choirmaster	Zac Schurman
Cantors	Teresa Castillo, Olivia Ericsson, Ivan Conrad
Greeters/Ushers	Luz Ortiz, Jazo Ichikawa
Crucifer	
Altar Guild	
Lector	Mariam Touba
Presiding Minister	Rev. Lara Bhasin
Assisting Minister	Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer
Preacher	Rev. Gregory P. Fryer

Intercessions

FAIRLY NEW TO THE PRAYER LIST: Timna Rosenheimer (friend of David Kiehl), Melodee Kelly (friend of Thomas Wicks), Susan McIntosh (Richard McIntosh's sister), Celia Cabrera, Minfang Cheng (friend of Louisa Laverde), Stephen and Jean Fischer, and Sally Graudons.

Some Notes on Our Church Nave and Liturgy

- + Our congregation is one of the historic Lutheran churches in town, going back to the middle of the Civil War, 1863. We are a member of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). The national bishop of the NALC is Rev. Daniel Selbo.
- + You might be interested to hear about our reredos — the wooden altarpiece at the front of our church. It was hand carved by artists in Germany's Black Forest. The left statue is Moses, with the Ten Commandments in his left arm and the two horn-like rays of light shining forth from his face after his encounter with the Lord on Mt. Sinai (Exodus 34:29-30). The right-hand statue is St. John the Evangelist, with a quill pen in his hand and an eagle at his feet. And the center statue is Jesus Christ, the personal unity and the most perfect meaning of the Law (Moses) and the Gospel (St. John).
- + Our painting of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, above the reredos, pays tribute to the founding liturgy of our congregation, Transfiguration Sunday, February 11, 1863. Our painting shows Jesus, Moses, and Elijah elevated above the ground, so that at first glance you might think that it is a painting of the Ascension. But the saintly company with Jesus Moses and Elijah on either side, with Peter, James, and John fallen down in awe at the sight point to the Transfiguration. Heaven

- knows and gives credit to the anonymous painter of our painting, but we note that it is in the style of Raphael's painting of *The Transfiguration* (1517-1520). Raphael also placed Jesus, Moses, and Elijah elevated above the disciples.
- + Our church windows were installed in 1973 and constitute a visual meditation on an ancient hymn of the Church, the *Te Deum*. Pamphlets are available in the rear of the church explaining the windows one by one.
- + Our church bells, named *Glaube*, *Hoffnung*, and *Liebe* for Faith, Hope, and Love, were a gift from German Empress Augusta Viktoria.
- + A hint about acoustics: you will be able to hear the choir and organ better if you sit toward the front half of the church. The overhanging choir balcony obscures some of the beauty of the music for those sitting under it.
- + Our worship book is the green hymnal, the *Lutheran Book of Worship* ("LBW"). This book contains both liturgies and hymns, with liturgies in the first half and hymns in the second. Sometimes we include hymns from *With One Voice* ("WOV") or from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* ("ELW").
- + If you have a cell phone, please silence it for the liturgy. And please finish coffee or other drinks out in the narthex rather than in the main nave.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street ❖ New York, NY 10128 ❖ (212) 289-8128 Office Hours: 10 a.m. − 3 p.m. Monday - Friday www.immanuelnyc.org

www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION	11 a.m. Sundays
MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION	6:30 p.m. Wednesdays
SUNDAY SCHOOL	10 a.m. Sundays
BIBLE STUDY	In recess
PARISH SECRETARY	Karen Katz-Shea
SEXTON	Gerry Britton
PARISH BOOKKEEPER	Charles Derderian
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER	Zac Schurman
CANTOR	Olivia Ericsson <u>oliviaer@umich.edu</u>
SEMINARY INTERN	Vicar Lara Bhasin
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE	Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer
PASTOR	Rev. Gregory P. Fryer
Some Parish Ministry Opportunities:	
CHOIR	Organist and Choirmaster Zac Schurman
	zac.schurman@juilliard.edu
MEALS ON HEELS	Barbara Chomko (bchomko@nyc.rr.com)

e extend to you a cordial welcome and hope that you will return. If you are a visitor, please fill out one of the cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor Carol Fryer. If you are interested in membership here at Immanuel, please contact the church office for an appointment with Pastor Carol. Or you can email her at ceafryer@gmail.com.

- + HOLY COMMUNION is offered to all baptized Christians who have been instructed in the Church's faith, who confess it with us (as in the Creeds), and who may in good conscience receive the Sacrament in keeping with the understanding with which it is celebrated here: namely, that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and are distributed to and received by all who commune.
- + HOLY BAPTISM is celebrated and MARRIAGES solemnized only after consultation with the pastor well in advance. If you or someone you know is ill, hospitalized, homebound, or otherwise in need of the ministry of the Church, let us know. Please call one of the Pastors (212-289-8128) or email them: gpfryer@gmail.com or

- ceafryer@gmail.com.
- → We mean for PRIVATE CONFESSION to be available as often as you need. Please call one of the Pastors (212-289-8128) or email them: gpfryer@gmail.com or ceafryer@gmail.com.
- + LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING WITH OIL FOR THE SICK is available. Again, simply contact either Pastor Fryer.
- + FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: There is a long line of Christians, both rich and poor, who have disciplined themselves to budget a portion of their income, put it into an offering envelope first thing, and give it to the church. Pastors Carol and Gregory Fryer live by that tradition and commend it to you. Online giving is also available through our website, or by following this QR code with your phone camera:

