



Today's Message

Fourth Sunday in Advent
"The Gift of Joy"
Rev. Dr. Larry W. Tieman · December 18, 2016

Catch up on past sermons you may have missed at: www.immanuelcl.org/media-resources

New Here... Welcome!

If you are new to Immanuel Lutheran Church and School, we would love to meet you! Be sure to stop by our "Connection Center" where a **welcome gift** is waiting for you, and thanks for sharing worship with us today!

What's Happening:

You can always keep in touch with what's happening by checking in at our website: www.immanuelcl.org

Connecting

A Connection card helps us to get to know you! We like to send a thank you for visiting us, and to help you find classes or connections that might best fit what you are looking for.

I'd like to Know More

We would love to answer your questions! Call the church office or email: mwolowiec@immanuelcl.org

Service Times: Saturday Evenings, 6:00pm Historic Church · Sunday Mornings 8:00 - 9:30 - 11:00 Pathway Court *

SERMON NOTES

I. Hakuna Matata!

- A. The phrase means "no w_____."
- B. It is part of a "problem free p_____."
 - 1. It may be nice for the m_____.
 - 2. But it is s_____ and short-lived.
- C. The gift of Jesus brings d_____ and a _____ joy!

"Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy" (1 Peter 1:8).

- II. A _____ Joy!
 - A. Waiting has a p_____.
 - B. It keeps hope a _____ and helps us overcome our f_____.
 - C. When you know what's coming, you can r_____!

Memory Verse

"And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord.'" (Luke 2:10-11).

III. R_____ Joy!

- A. Joy is often found in the midst of h_____ things. (James 1:2-3)
- B. Joy comes from t_____.
 - 1. They produce p_____.
 - 2. Which makes us into the people God wants us to be.

IV. Choose Joy!

- A. Choose G_____.

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

- B. Choose to O_____
- C. Choose to A_____

"If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be Complete." (John 15:9-11)

MY NEXT STEPS...

- Memorize Luke 2:10-11.
- Get ready for Christmas by anticipating, recognizing, and choosing the "gift of joy."
- Invite someone to attend worship with you on Christmas Eve to receive the "Gift of Christmas."

Coming Up at >>



Immanuel

>> Sunday, December 18, 2016 - Fourth Sunday in Advent

Touching Hearts and Transforming Lives with the Light of Jesus Christ...

rightnow MEDIA

Our church's bible study library is now digital...and gigantic! Join for free! You should have received an invitation email to register for RightNow Media. Click the Get Started button in the email. Create your profile. Then explore! If you did not get an invite, contact Monica Wolowiec at mwolowiec@immanuelcl.org.



*ETERNAL LIGHT IS IN HONOR OF KATIE KLOESS
7th GRADE TEACHER AND COACH FROM ZION MARENGO*

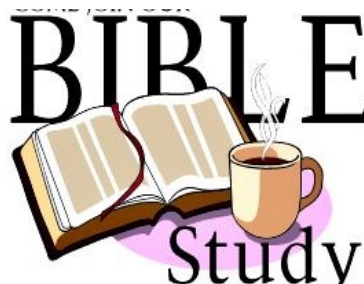
Don't forget to return your 2017 Stewardship Pledge Cards! Additional cards are available at the Connection Desk.

Congregational Q & A Budget presentation TODAY following the 11 am service.



Adult Choir Welcome!!

We are pleased to announce that Mr. Robert Blazek will be joining our staff as the new Director of Music in January. He is excited to announce that adult choir rehearsals will begin on **Tuesday, January 10** from 7—8:30 pm in the Music Room. All are welcome! We look forward to welcoming Robert and his wife, Cheri, to our Immanuel family.



Sundays at 9:30 am

The new session of the Education Hour will kick off on January 8, 2017. Visit our website at www.immanuelcl.org or pick up a handout from the connection center to learn about what classes will be available.



We are excited to announce that Pastor Bob Pudell has accepted the call to serve as Executive Pastor here at Immanuel!

We look forward to welcoming him to our staff after the new year!



Christmas Worship Services

Christmas Eve (December 24) 2 & 4 pm—Commons
Christmas Eve (December 24) 8 & 10 pm—Historic Church
Christmas Day (December 25) 10 am—Commons

Get the latest weekly Announcements, event postings, and information at: www.Immanuelcl.org

* **Families with Young Children:** Changing tables are found in the washrooms down the hall on the left of the worship area. Nursing Mom's room is located behind the desk in the Library (doors on the back wall of worship area).