

Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church



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(517) 485-4118

Service Times: Sunday 8:00AM & 10:30AM - Wednesday 6:30PM

Radio Broadcast Sunday 8:00AM on WJIM 1240 on the AM dial

Live streaming 8:00 and 10:30AM follow the prompt on the website

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Paul J. Lindloff

Pastor Joel A. Voss

Notes for Visitors:

- **Restrooms** are located in the hallway north of the sanctuary.
- **Nursery Room:** If you need a quiet place for your children, we have a room near the church offices. If you need help finding the room, please ask an usher for assistance.
- **Hymnals:** Use the red hymn books in the rack ahead of your pew to follow along in the service. If you need help or guidance, please ask someone nearby to assist you.
- **Holy Communion:** The Sacrament of Holy Communion (The Lord's Supper) will be celebrated at the close of our church services today. If you are a communicant member of another WELS congregation, we invite you to share this Sacrament with us. If you are not a member of our church, we ask you to honor our Biblical practice of close communion and refrain from coming forward until you have completed doctrinal discussions with one of our pastors. (Please read "Attending the Lord's Supper" for more information. Pamphlets are in

November 28, 2021 *First Sunday in Advent*

The Pastors' Notes

"Advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming." Christians prepare for celebrating the birth of Jesus by remembering the longing of the Jews as they waited for the Messiah to come. We are reminded of how much we also need a Savior, and we look forward to his second coming (*Advent*)—even as we celebrate his first coming at Christmas.

The four Sundays of Advent have traditionally been summarized with a one word exhortation (Watch; Prepare; Rejoice; Behold) as a new candle on the Advent wreath is lit each week until the center white candle (the Christ candle) is lit on Christmas Eve and following.

During the first week of Advent, we remember to *WATCH*. We don't know when the End will come, so we watch God's promises in Scripture for comfort. There he tells us that while there is judgment at the End, he comes to bring deliverance for his people. Because of these promises, we need not fear when we see signs of the End. Instead, they serve to remind us that Jesus will return, and we can watch for his return with peace and joy.

Today's bulletin cover illustrates the "righteous Branch" in Jeremiah 33. The promises of God for which we watch do not often display themselves in an outwardly powerful way.

Order Of Worship: The Common Service, pg. 15

Hymns.....1; 2; 9
 Distribution Hymns.....47; 21; 313
 Sermon Theme.....Jeremiah 33: 14-16

What Are You Watching?

Prayer Of The Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 33: 14-16

¹⁴ Listen, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the good promises that I have spoken to the house of Israel and concerning the house of Judah.

¹⁵ In those days and at that time,
 I will cause a righteous Branch to grow up from David's line.
 He will establish justice and righteousness on earth.

¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved,
 and Jerusalem will dwell securely.
 This is what she will be called:
 The LORD Our Righteousness.

Psalm 25 (hymnal, pg. 74)

Epistle Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

⁹ Indeed, how can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have before God on account of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we are praying earnestly to see you in person and to supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ May God our Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord increase your love and make it overflow for each other and for all people, just as ours does for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts as blameless in holiness before our God and Father, when our Lord Jesus comes with all his saints.

Verse of the Day

Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.”
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia. (Revelation 22:20)

Gospel Lesson: Luke 21: 25-36

²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. And on the earth nations will be in anguish, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the surging waves, ²⁶ people fainting from fear and expectation of the things coming on the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ But when these things begin to happen, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is near.”

²⁹ He told them a parable. “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰ As soon as they are sprouting leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is actually near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Amen I tell you: This generation will not pass away until all these things happen. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³⁴ “Watch yourselves or else your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and the worries of this life, and that day may come on you suddenly. ³⁵ For it will come like a trap on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Stay alert all the time, praying that you may be able to escape all these things that are going to happen and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

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