

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.

January 2, 2022

Second Sunday after Christmas

The Pastors' Notes

Christmas tells the story of Jesus as the long-awaited King who has finally come to save us. Jesus, God's Son, the King of heaven and earth, is born in Bethlehem—the Son of God is a baby lying in a manger. The Christmas season continues after December 25 over a period traditionally known as the twelve days of Christmas. The twelve days of Christmas mark the days between Christmas on December 25th and Epiphany on January 6th. During this time, the Church rejoices around the truth of Christmas—our God was made flesh for us.

The color for the Christmas season is white, symbolizing the divinity, eternity, purity, light, and joy of Jesus Christ.

This Sunday, we celebrate with joy how God has fulfilled and kept all his promises. Our readings remind us that God may take a “long” time (at least according to us) to fulfill his promises. But he will fulfill them. And regarding the completion of our salvation, he already has! Our faith may be put to the test to trust these promises and wait, like Abram and Simeon in today's lessons. But through it all, the Lord will remain faithful.

Order Of Worship: The Common Service, pg. 15

Hymns.....55; 34; 61; 53
 Choir (10:30).....*Father, Let Me Dedicate*
 Sermon Theme.....Genesis 17:1-17

Walk before Me and Be Blameless

Prayer Of The Day

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 17: 1-7

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty. Walk before me and be blameless. ²I will make my covenant between me and you, and I will make your descendants very numerous.”

³ Abram fell on his face. God spoke with him. He said, ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you. You will be the father of many nations. ⁵Your name will not be Abram anymore, but your name will be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a large group of nations. ⁶I will make you extremely fruitful, and I will produce nations from you. Kings will come out of you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you as an everlasting covenant throughout their generations. I will be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

Psalm 148 (hymnal, pg. 121)

Epistle Lesson: Colossians 1: 13-20

¹³ The Father rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, things seen and unseen, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and all things hold together in him.

¹⁸ He is also the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that in all things he might have the highest rank. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have

all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile all things to himself (whether things on earth or in heaven) by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Verse of the Day

Alleluia. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Alleluia. (Psalm 98:3b)

Gospel Lesson: Luke 1: 68-75

⁶⁸ Blessed is the Lord, the God of Israel,
because he has visited us and prepared redemption for his people.
⁶⁹ He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David,
⁷⁰ just as he said long ago through the mouth of his holy prophets.
⁷¹ He raised up salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us,
⁷² in order to show mercy to our fathers by remembering his holy covenant,
⁷³ the oath which he swore to Abraham our father,
⁷⁴ to grant deliverance to us from the hand of our enemies,
so that we are able to serve him without fear,
⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

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