

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Sandy Hill

Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Jim Abbott

First Sunday of Christmas

December 27, 2009

Congregation responses are in **bold**. *ELW* are hymn numbers.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

[stand]

Invocation

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Amid the darkness of this world, let us confess our sin
and welcome the light of God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of grace and truth,

**in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in the
darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, and
have not trusted the good news of great joy.**

**Forgive us and renew our hope,
so that we may live in the fullness of your love,
trusting in the grace of Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

The angel said, You shall call his name Jesus
for he will save his people from their sins.

With great joy, I announce to you
the entire forgiveness of your sins,

in the name of the Father, and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Greeting

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, born of
Mary, be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn **“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”** *ELW 275*

Prayer of the Day

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God,
**and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all
things we may think and act according to your good will and may
live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.**

Amen.

[sit]

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Children's Sermon

First Reading 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

18 Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen
ephod. 19 His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to
him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly
sacrifice. 20 Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say,
“May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift
that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their
home. 26 Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and
in favor with the LORD and with the people.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

2 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

4 Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

5 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

6 He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

7 Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

8 fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

9 Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

10 Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

12 Young men and women alike, old and young together!

13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

14 He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

Second Reading Colossians 3:12-17

12 As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. 13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one

body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

[stand]

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The holy Gospel according to Luke the 2nd Chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Luke 2:41-52

41 Now every year (Jesus's) parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. 43 When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. 44 Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. 45 When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. 46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." 49 He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" 50

But they did not understand what he said to them. 51 Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

[sit]

Sermon

Silence for reflection

[stand]

Hymn **“The First Noel”** *ELW 300*

Apostles’ Creed Inside back cover of hymnal

Prayers of Intercession

Each portion of the prayers ends with:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The prayers end with:

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share a sign of peace with fellow worshipers

[sit]

THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to God for His gifts to us.

Offering

[stand]

Hymn of Thanksgiving **“Let All Things Now Living”** *ELW 881*

Thanksgiving for the Word

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you make all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word, you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
Amen.

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.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

May Christ, born into time to bring endless peace,
guide your days and years in righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

Hymn **“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”** *ELW 288*

[sit]

Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Ringing of the bell

Serving Us Today...

	St Matthew	Immanuel
Organists	Frances Scheffer	Lois Holle
Readers	Louise Abbott	Colleen Bentke
Ushers	Stanley Sommer Mark Niebuhr Bubba Brewton	Bill Yawn Eugene Bothe Brianna Hupe Jerry Kieke
Altar Flowers	Mike & Vicki Muegge	LeeRoy & Doris Kramer
Acolyte		Spencer Flynn

Calendar & Upcoming Events...

Today - Worship 8:30 am Immanuel
No Sunday Schools
Worship 10:30 am St Matthew
Sun Jan 3 - Worship 8:30 am w/ Holy Communion St Matthew
Sunday Schools @ 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am w/ Holy Communion Immanuel

Immanuel Reports Due

Reports for the General Meeting are due to the Office by January 10. No exceptions! Proposed 2010 budget available.

Pastor Abbott on Vacation

Pastor Abbott will be on vacation from December 28 through January 5. For Pastoral Care call Rev. Charles Parnell, Salem Lutheran 836-9320

Guest Minister

On Jan. 3 Katherine Weeks, Intern at Our Saviour's College Station will be our guest minister.



Choir Notes St Matthew January 2010

St Matthew choir will not practice on Jan 3, but will practice and sing on Jan. 10, 17, 24 and 31.

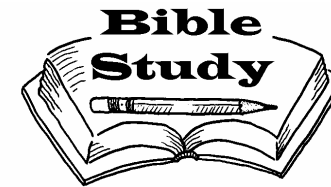
Immanuel Volunteer as a Lay Visitor

A sign up sheet is in the Parish House to sign up for this important ministry.

Volunteers Serving in the Community

Lay Visitors – Immanuel – Delivering bulletins
Please support these disciples and our shut-ins with your prayers. Erma Luetge is serving in December.

Senior Meals - Those delivering meals for Washington County Healthy Living Association from both Immanuel and St Matthew this week are Ruth Kelling and Laura Fischer.



BIBLE STUDY RESTART!

JANUARY 11 - MONDAY 1:00 pm AT IMMANUEL 7:00pm at CLINT & WINNIE BORIACK

Bible Study in January will pick up where we left off in the Book of ACTS. I want to encourage you to come, even if you have not been to bible study in a while. Each lesson stands on its own - and is just a few pages long.

As we read about the growth and work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the apostles we see how that same Spirit is at work in our lives.

Our first lesson is Acts 13:1-12 "Mission and Magic."

.Keeping in Touch

Pastor Abbott:

Call - 251-4992 - Pastor Abbott's cell phone –

E-Mail pastorabbott@earthlink.net – for Pastor Abbott

St Matthew: Call - 836-8894 – the office @ St Matthew

E-mail - smichurch@hotmail.com

Website – stmatthewbrenham.org

Immanuel: Call - 836-6780 – the office @ Immanuel.

E-mail - smichurch@hotmail.com\

Members in Nursing Homes or shut in...

Margaret Heideman Lorena Randermann
Louise Bell Loesch Ruth Koester Mary Helen Cade
Bob Eccleston Alfred Gaskamp Nelda Gaskamp
Martha Clough

Those seeing doctors, continuing treatments and/or recovering from surgery...

Trenton Stewart Barbara Hollis Don Bolenbarr
Raleigh Wellmann Jerry Watson Tim Wellmann
Mike Hodges Betty Watson Ruth Koester

In our extended family...

The full prayer list is in the December newsletter. Those listed below have been added or updated in the last few weeks. If you want someone added or wish to report their improvements, please let Pastor Abbott know, 251-4992

Robert Terrian – son-in-law of Ed & Sylvia Dannhaus
Lauren Davis – friend of many
David Ryan Fuller – friend of Pam Schroeder
Doris Jankowiak – friend of many
Shawn Presnell – Barbara Hollis' daughter
Ray Goehring – Barbara Hollis's brother
Leroy Boenker – cousin of Renee Lambert
Gregory Rybarski – brother of Christie Schroeder
Michael Danford – nephew of Doris and Bob Burk
Levi Luvaas – father of Marlene Randermann
Donald Carter – son of Barbara Hollis
Ruby McLain - Aunt of Barbara Kramer & Dorothy Schulte
Jenny Sebastian – Amanda (Wellmann) Sebastian's sister in law
Katherine Kenjura - Edna Schroeder's niece
Bonnie Benkowski – friend of many
Louese Teer – Aunt of Trochelle Ray
Bernice Heinsohn – mother of Clyde, a friend of Henry Al Ellermann
Jocine Hanath – Friend of Stanley Sommer
Wayman Bradley – brother of Don Bradley
Jimbo Hardin – nephew of Pauline Hodges
Nora Watts – Mother of Sandra Wodrich
Frank Dickschat – uncle of Renee Lambert
Butch Kevorkian - Philip Kelling's biological father