

Immanuel Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

December 2009

*“O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!”*

Dear friends in Christ,

We are already into the new Church Year. Advent has begun, as the Church once again reminds her people that we wait in anticipation for the Advent of our King – our Lord – our Savior. It is a time of repentance, a time of joy, a time for being alert and watchful for our Lord’s coming.

When you receive this newsletter, we will have already had our first Sunday Advent service and also our first Midweek service. But I still encourage you to come and hear God’s Word as we look at His first Advent as the Christ-child, born of Mary; through His current Advent as He comes to us in His Word, to prepare us for His final Advent on the Last Day as He takes us home for eternity.

This year’s Advent Midweek theme is “The Stories of Advent.” Each week we will look at how God’s eternal plan to send the Messiah was accomplished through His chosen people:

Week 1 – **“Advent Expectation”** – Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist

Week 2 – **“Advent Faith”** – Mary, mother of Jesus

Week 3 – **“Advent Action”** – Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus

I pray that God be with you this Advent Season and also bless you with a joyous Christmas as we continue to gather together to receive His grace which is overflowing.

With love in Christ,

Pastor Praeuner