

Incarnation Lutheran Church
4th Sunday of Advent
Online Worship
December 20th, 2020

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Maria Zart, from *Tabulaturen etlicher lobgesant* Arnolt Schlick (c. 1460-1521)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,
whose forgiveness is sure
and whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Together let us honestly and humbly confess
that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving and forgiving God,

we confess that we are held captive by sin.

In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor;

we have not been Christ to one another.

Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin.

Renew us each day in the light of Christ.

Amen.

People of God, hear this glad news:

by God's endless grace

your sins are forgiven, and you are free

to live in the peaceable realm of God.

May you be strengthened in God's love,

✚ comforted by Christ's peace,

and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

*Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.*

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

CHILDREN'S TIME

WORD

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

⁴But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

After the Reading: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

MAGNIFICAT

Plainsong, adapt. Bruce E. Ford (b. 1947)
Emmett Kirwan, Baritone

SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27

²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

After the Reading: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 266

All Earth Is Hopeful (Verse Two)

*People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel";
she conceived him, "God with us,"
our brother, whose birth
restores hope and courage to children of this earth.*

GOSPEL READING: Luke 1:26-38

Before the Reading: The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

After the Reading: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Emily Willhide

CAROL: ELW 265

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Emmett Kirwan, Grace Sawicki, Michael Willhide

*The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favored lady." Gloria!*

*"For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honor thee;
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favored lady." Gloria!*

*Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!*

*Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
"Most highly favored lady." Gloria!*

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition concludes "Hear us, O God." We respond: **Your mercy is great.***

God of power and might, fulfill your promise and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

Gracious God, all generations call you blessed. In this holy season we pray for our neighbors of other denominations and Inspire the faith of their people. Cultivate understanding among us and strengthen us in love and service to our community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creator God, you scatter the proud. Everything we have belongs first to you. Bless and protect the seas, mountains, plains, forests, skies, and soils that surround us. Give us humility as we tend them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Righteous God, you humble the powerful and lift up the lowly. We pray for the leaders of all nations, that they amplify the voices of people in need. Guide all people entrusted with leadership, to create societies in which everyone can flourish. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate God, you fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty. Nourish those who lack access to adequate food and nutrition. Bless the work of advocates, community organizers, and food pantries. Encourage others to provide for their neighbors in need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Healing God, you pour out mercy to all who cry out to you. Surround everyone in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit with your tender presence. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Eternal God, you are faithful to the promises you made to our forebears. We give thanks for the ministry of Katharina von Bora Luther and other ancestors who organized, planned, dreamed, encouraged, and reached out as they served you. We give thanks for the bold leadership of female leaders in our own time. Inspire others with their steadfast witness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY

Prelude on "Joy to the World"

Carl Schalk (b. 1929)

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made 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.

THE 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

BLESSING

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, ✝ now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: Nunc dimittis
Emmett Kirwan, Baritone

John Naylor (1838-1897)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Announcements

Palmetto Chamber Orchestra Concert: Sunday, December 20th at 4 pm on the Richland County Library Facebook page. We will also share this to the ILC Facebook page.

Advent Evening Worship: Evening Worship will be taking place on Wednesday, December 23rd at 6 pm via Facebook live-stream.

Christmas Eve Services on Thursday, December 24th:

- 5 pm: Festival Service with Holy Communion. In addition, this service will be live streamed on Facebook.

Lessons and Carols will be on Sunday, December 27th via Facebook.

Faith Formation will be having an interest meeting on Sunday, January 17th.

December is Pledge Month: Please remember to turn in your pledge cards!

A time for Self-directed Worship will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11a.m. to 1 p.m. We ask that those who attend please wear a mask and remain socially distant from others.

Wednesdays at noon, Incarnation will be hosting a short devotional Bible study. Bible study will be held over Zoom and the office will email out the link for the meeting each Wednesday morning.

The church will be open by appointment for families to get holiday photos in the sanctuary. Check your email for sign-up times on Dec. 22nd and 23rd!

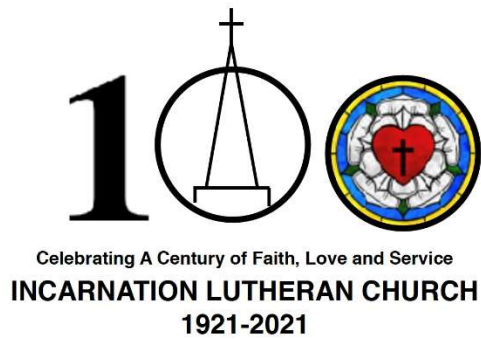
Do you want to join Incarnation? If so, please contact the office at office@incarnationlutheran.com so that we can gather your contact information and reach out to you.

Prayer List

Current: Ed Skinner, Lily Hoffman, Alex McArver, Ivey Smith, Diane Smith, Sam Hall, The Pratt Family, The Norton Family, The Family of Mary Thompson, The Family of Sara Carroll, The Family of Rylan Rogers, all those caring for elderly parents, and all those that are home bound.

Continuing: Thomas Ulmer, Jesse, Emily Prince, Emily Wright, Gary Todd, Linda Blazek, Maren Milbourne, Ann Ford, Judy Moody, and Jenny Gantt.

Military: Michael Willhide, Mike Turner, (Mavis Turner's son), Hilary Compton, (Kim Yerrick's niece), Tyler Owens, (Kim Yerrick's nephew).



Our 100th Anniversary Begins!

Kick-off to the Anniversary Year

Sunday, January 3, 2021

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Rusty Kehl

Son of Incarnation

Pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greenwood, South Carolina

It's finally here! Incarnation's 100th Anniversary celebration will officially begin on Sunday, January 3, 2021 with Pastor Rusty Kehl as our guest preacher!

Rusty, the son of Mary Kehl and sister of Amy Kehl, grew up at Incarnation and spent his formative years here, where he was an active participant in church life. As an adult, Rusty became Scoutmaster of Incarnation's Troop 8 and he and his wife Dee Dee were involved in every ministry Incarnation had to offer.

Rusty answered a long-delayed call to ministry when he entered the Master of Divinity program at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, where he graduated in 2016. He was ordained a pastor and began serving Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greenwood, South Carolina. On January 17, 2021, he will begin a new ministry at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Florence, South Carolina.

We are delighted to welcome Rusty and Dee Dee Kehl home to inaugurate our anniversary year!

Poinsettia Order Form

Please share in gracing our Nave this year with a Poinsettia in memory of loved ones or to honor family or friends. Names will be printed in the bulletin on Christmas Eve. Submit this form and \$18.00 for each dedication. Place in the offering plate or drop off at the office. Feel free to email your request to the office as well.

(Circle one) In Memory of In Honor of

Name: _____

Given by: _____

Paid: Check _____ Electronic _____

Online Giving!

We look forward to the day when we can worship together as a family again, but until then, please continue to support the mission of the church. You can use this image below by scanning the QR Code with your smart phone's camera which will lead you to our Website for Online Giving or look for our new Paypal button on our Facebook page!



General Fund Update:

	Actual	Plan	Difference
Last Week	\$4,367	\$4,808	\$441-
Month-to-Date	\$6,356	\$9,616	\$3,260-
Year-to-Date	\$191,397	\$240,400	\$49,003-

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Incarnation Lutheran Church



Incarnation Lutheran Church Columbia, SC



South Carolina Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Lutheran Church of the Incarnation

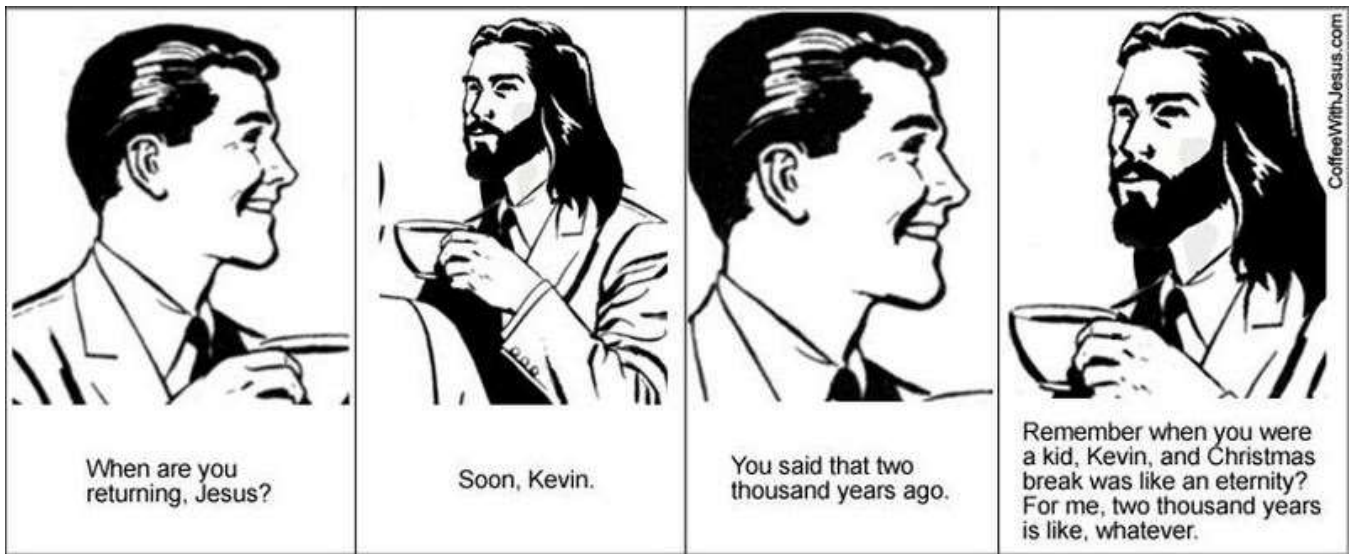
3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

www.incarnationlutheran.com

email: office@incarnationlutheran.com

803-256-2381



Find your elf name and then draw your elf-self!
Don't forget to share it with us on Facebook!



WHAT'S YOUR

ELF NAME?

<p>First Letter of Your First Name:</p> <p>A - Cookie</p> <p>B - Sweetie</p> <p>C - Sparkle</p> <p>D - Bubbles</p> <p>E - Cheerful</p> <p>F - Tootsie</p> <p>G - Delightful</p> <p>H - Joyful</p> <p>I - Spunky</p> <p>J - Sugarplum</p> <p>K - Candy</p> <p>L - Twinkle</p> <p>M - Sprinkles</p>	<p>N - Snowflake</p> <p>O - Cupcake</p> <p>P - Merry</p> <p>Q - Perky</p> <p>R - Frosty</p> <p>S - Happy</p> <p>T - Chipper</p> <p>U - Angelic</p> <p>V - Precious</p> <p>W - Sunny</p> <p>X - Jolly</p> <p>Y - Flirty</p> <p>Z - Tinsel</p>	<p>Your Birth Month:</p> <p>JAN - JollyToes</p> <p>FEB - McSprinkles</p> <p>MAR - Sugarplum</p> <p>APR - Peppermint</p> <p>MAY - FloppyFeet</p> <p>JUNE - McJingles</p> <p>JULY - SparklyToes</p> <p>AUG - PuddinShoes</p> <p>SEPT - SugarPants</p> <p>OCT - AngelEyes</p> <p>NOV - PointyEars</p> <p>DEC - Evergreen</p>
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