

Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

212-289-8128 www.immanuelnyc.org www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

Immanuel's YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIxDAacoJS7umLnd1Bnugmw

You can tune in at 11 a.m. or later in the day for a recording.

Second Sunday of Advent

11 a.m., Sunday, December 5, 2021

Warm welcome, everyone, to Immanuel Lutheran Church. This is the Second Sunday of Advent. We have in place our blue paraments and our Advent/Christmas banner, with the trumpets blowing above and below.

Most Sundays, we live stream our morning liturgy. We plan to do so this morning too. If for some reason, the live stream does not work this morning, you should be able to watch the recorded service later in the day. Actually you can always do that, whether you watch at 11 a.m. or not.

Our Task Force on Re-Opening says that *if we are vaccinated* then masks are optional. But if we are not vaccinated, then we should wear masks. Also the Task Force says that we can sing again!

Carol and I are fully vaccinated, but at least for a while, we mean to wear our masks when we are close to the people, as in the Distribution of Holy Communion.

We hope you will find strength for your souls in this liturgy. Thank you for joining in the prayers of thanksgiving by way of the Lord's Supper.

If you do not already have a church home, please consider joining us here at Immanuel. Just speak with Pastor Carol or send her a note (ceafryer@gmail.com).

In Christ,

Cregory Tryer

Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

gpfryer@gmail.com

Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting Three

PRELUDE Nun komm der Heiden Heiland Dietrich Buxtehude (c.1637-1707)
THE BELLS

Please stand when the minister approaches the center aisle.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Stand/kneel

- P Most merciful God,
- We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you

with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

The minister stands and addresses the congregation.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Entrance Rite

HYMN LBW 29 Comfort, Comfort Now My People F

FREU DICH SEHR

- "Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God. Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load. To God's people now proclaim that God's pardon waits for them! Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever.
- 2 For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near, calling us to true repentance, since the kingdom now is here.
 Oh, that warning cry obey!
 Now prepare for God a way!
 Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him!
- 3 Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain!
 Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign!

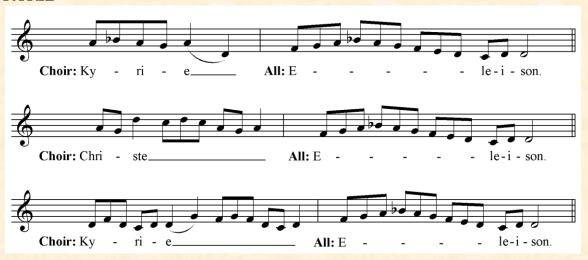
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad, and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1611-1684; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P 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.

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

ADVENT CANDLE (The second candle is lit by the Ichikawa family: Jazo and Kumi Ichikawa and sons Keitaro and Kojiro)

P We praise you, O God, with this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles of this wreath,

kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we will be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we will welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Sit

The Liturgy of the Word of God

³Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, till they present right offerings to the LORD. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

A The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Zechariah's Canticle, Luke 1:68-79, from Lutheran Book of Worship "Matins." (Choir member Juli Borst will sing the L-passage on the next page.)







The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵thankful for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel thus about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my

imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruits of righteousness which come through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

A The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the singing of the Gospel Acclamation and for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

ALLELUIA: Traditional Gregorian Chant



All: Alleluia.

Verse (Choir): Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

All: Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPELLuke 3:1-6, RSV Before the Gospel:

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the Third Chapter:



In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²in the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness; ³and he went into all the region about the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be brought low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways shall be made smooth;

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

After the Gospel:

P The Gospel of the Lord!



HYMN LBW 418 Judge Eternal Throned in Splendor

RHUDDLAN

- 1 Judge eternal, throned in splendor, Lord of lords and King of kings, with your living fire of judgment purge this land of bitter things; solace all its wide dominion with the healing of your wings.
- 2 Still the weary folk are pining for the hour that brings release; and the city's crowded clangor cries aloud for sin to cease; and the homesteads and the woodlands plead in silence for their peace.
- 3 Crown, O God, your own endeavor; cleave our darkness with your sword; feed the faint and hungry peoples with the richness of your Word; cleanse the body of this nation through the glory of the Lord.

Text: Henry S. Holland, 1847-1918

SERMON

Following the sermon, silence for reflection. Then stand for the Creed.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

INTERCESSIONS

The Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

THE PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- And also with you.

Let us offer a sign of peace to our neighbors: "Peace be with you."

THE OFFERING You can give your tithes and offerings via our Q code. Just point the camera on your smart phone to this code on your screen:

Or you can donate via this link: <u>Donate</u> Here are some other options for giving: <u>Ways to Give</u>

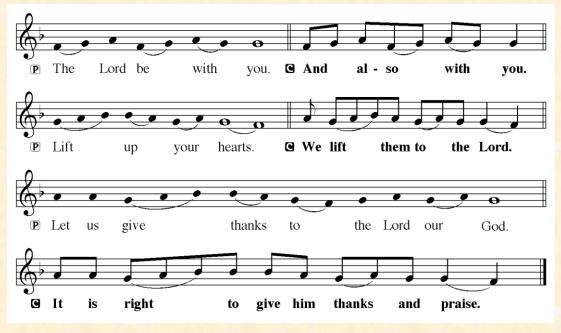
The Eucharistic Bread and Wine are moved from the credence table to the altar. The congregation remains in the pews until the Distribution of the Sacrament.

Anthem Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, der Jungfrauen Kind erkannt, daß sich wunder alle Welt, Gott solch Geburt ihm bestellt. Now come, Saviour of the heathen, recognized as the Virgin's Child, so that the world marvels that God ordained such a birth for Him.

- A Let us pray.
- Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

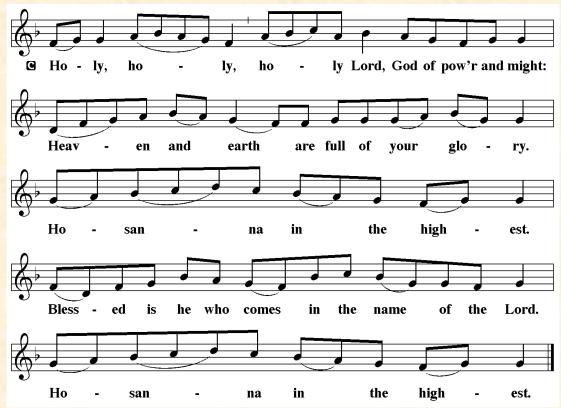
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Preface for Advent

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Eucharistic Prayer I

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

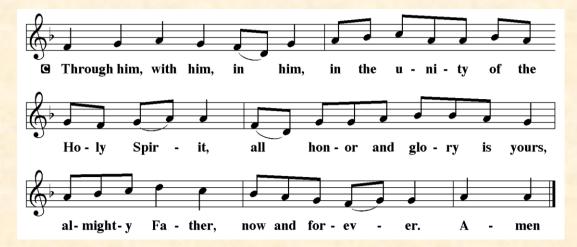
P Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

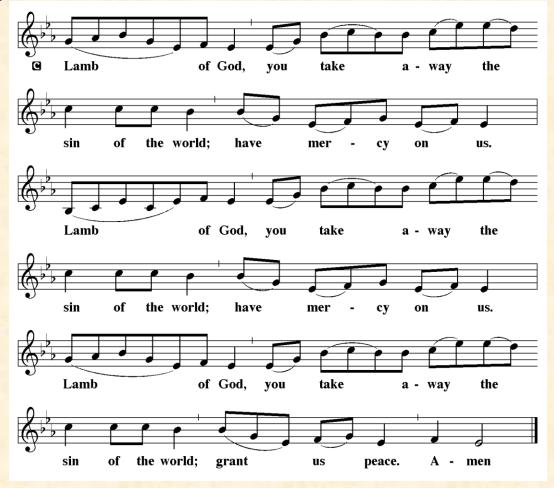


The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Fraction. (The host is broken.)

Agnus Dei



Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

+ If you are home during this pandemic, worshiping online with us, here is a possible "Prayer for Spiritual Communion" lifted up in *Forum Letter* (May 2020). *Forum Letter* is a respected Lutheran newsletter published by the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Communion Anthem *My Lord, What A Morning*Spiritual, arranged Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

My Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.

Done quit all my worldly ways, join that heavenly band.

My Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.

Communion Meditation Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland

Lüneburger tablature (anon. 17th century)

HYMN LBW 219 Come With us O Blessed Jesus

JESU, JOY OF MAN'S DESIRING

Come with us, O blessed Jesus, with us evermore to be.
And, in leaving now thine altar, let us never more leave thee!
Let thy bright celestial chorus never cease the heav'nly strain; but in us, thy loving children, come, bring peace, good will to men.

Text: John H. Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891

When all have received the Blessed Sacrament, the people stand for the Post-Communion Blessing:

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- **G** Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

The Sending

BENEDICTION (Spoken)

1 Herald, sound the note of judgment, warning us of right and wrong, turning us from sin and sadness till once more we sing the song.

Refrain

Sound the trumpet! Tell the message: Christ, the Savior king, is come!

- 2 Herald, sound the note of gladness; tell the news that Christ is here; make a pathway through the desert for the one who brings God near. *Refrain*
- 3 Herald, sound the note of pardon-those repenting are forgiv'n;
 God receives his wayward children,
 and to them new life is giv'n. *Refrain*
- 4 Herald, sound the note of triumph; Christ has come to share our life, bringing God's own love and power, granting vict'ry in our strife. *Refrain*

Text: Rev. Dr. Moir A J Waters (1906-1980) Permission given by Heather Waters Bedford

DISMISSAL

- **A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachow (1663-1712)

Parish Announcements

- + COFFEE HOUR IN THE UNDERCROFT. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship following the Liturgy. To get to the undercroft for Coffee Hour, bear to the left in the narthex as you would exit the church.
- + ABOUT TODAY'S PARAMENTS AND VESTMENTS. The blue paraments and vestments used during Advent are symbolic of hope. We hope for the Christ child to be born in us, and we wait in hope for his return.
- → The ADVENT BANNER. Two trumpets are shown one descending to announce the coming Christ and one ascending in praise for grace and thanksgiving for the coming Kingdom.
- + HANGING OF THE GREENS. We will decorate the sanctuary for Christmas on Saturday afternoon, December 18th, from 2 to 5 p.m.
- + OUR ST. NICHOLAS PARTY will take place on December 18th from 5 to 9 p.m., with live music, festive hams and your pot luck dishes! Let Barbara Chomko know what you can bring, or use the sign-up sheet downstairs. Welcome! To comply with NYC vaccination mandates, this party is for folks who have been vaccinated.
- + CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA AND MUSIC FUND. The church is decorated at Christmas with a lighted tree and poinsettias. Members and friends may wish to place one or more poinsettia plants in the church to honor the memory of departed loved ones or simply as a gift to the glory of God in the incarnate Christ. A gift of \$20.00 for each plant as well as gifts toward the Christmas Music Fund may be given, using the envelope included with this bulletin for your convenience. You may place it in the offering plate or give it to Ester Neubacher or Pastor Carol after church today, and again on December 5th and 12th.
- + TOY COLLECTION: The Sisters of the Fraternité Notre Dame will again be hosting a Christmas party for needy children. They are asking for donations of new toys. If you can give a toy, please wrap it and mark it as to the age of the child and whether it is for a boy or girl. (Please no guns or violent toys.) You may leave your gifts in the narthex on Sunday mornings, or bring them to the church office during the week. Let's aim for Sunday December 12 as the last Sunday for bringing gifts.

- + CHRISTMAS MITTEN TREE. The Sunday School will have a mitten tree once again this year. Please give the mittens (or gloves) you bring to one of our Sunday School teachers. The mittens will be given to the Fraternité Notre Dame who will distribute them to needy children. The mitten tree will be put up during the Hanging of the Greens on December 18th.
- → Join us for COMPLINE (Prayer at the Close of the Day) this evening at 8 pm via Zoom or in Pastor Carol's study, 120 East 88th, Apt 1F; and MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION at 6:30 pm.
- + COPYRIGHTS: Parts of the liturgy and scripture introductions come from or are based on those from Sundays and Seasons, Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress, license SAS022429. Readings of Holy Scripture are downloaded from Bible Gateway https://www.biblegateway.com/. Copyright information for the various translations is included on the Bible Gateway website.

Service Notes

Organist and Director of Music	Dr. Gwendolyn Toth
Ushers/Greeters	Toshitake "Jazo" Ichikawa, Luz Ortiz
Lector	Lara Bhasin
Preacher and Assisting Minister	Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer
Presiding Minister	Rev. Gregory P. Fryer

Some Notes on Our Church Nave and Liturgy

- + You might be interested to hear about our reredos the wooden altarpiece at the front of our church. It was hand carved by artists in Germany's Black Forest. The left statue is Moses, with the Ten Commandments in his left arm and the two horn-like rays of light shining forth from his face after his encounter with the Lord on Mt. Sinai (Exodus 34:29-30). The right-hand statue is St. John the Evangelist, with a quill pen in his hand and an eagle at his feet. And the center statue is Jesus Christ, the personal unity and the most perfect meaning of the Law (Moses) and the Gospel (St. John).
- Our painting of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, above the reredos, pays tribute to the founding liturgy of our congregation, Transfiguration Sunday, February 11, 1863. Our painting shows Jesus,

Moses, and Elijah elevated above the ground, so that at first glance you might think that it is a painting of the Ascension. But the saintly company with Jesus — Moses and Elijah on either side, with Peter, James, and John fallen down in awe at the sight — point to the Transfiguration. Heaven knows and gives credit to the anonymous painter of our painting, but we note that it is in the style of Raphael's painting of *The Transfiguration* (1517-1520). Raphael also placed Jesus, Moses, and Elijah elevated above the disciples.

- + Our church windows were installed in 1973 and constitute a visual meditation on an ancient hymn of the Church, the *Te Deum*. Pamphlets are available in the rear of the church explaining the windows one by one.
- + Our church bells, named *Glaube*, *Hoffnung*, and *Liebe* for Faith, Hope, and Love, were a gift from German Empress Augusta Viktoria.
- A hint about acoustics: you will be able to hear the choir and organ better if you sit toward the front half of the church. The overhanging choir balcony obscures some of the beauty of the music for those sitting under it.
- + Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me," and we view the presence of children in worship, even when they are wiggly and noisy, as a gift to the Church and an encouragement that our congregation is growing! Parents at their own preference are also welcome to take advantage of free childcare which we offer in the Undercroft every Sunday for children age 3-6. Our childcare worker will bring these children up to the Communion rail to receive a Blessing. We encourage older children to attend the entire service, either sitting with their parents or up in the balcony where the teens tend to congregate.
- + Our worship book is the green hymnal, the *Lutheran Book of Worship* ("LBW"). This book contains both liturgies and hymns, with liturgies in the first half and hymns in the second. Sometimes we include hymns from *With One Voice* ("WOV") or from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* ("ELW").
- + If you have a cell phone, please silence it for the liturgy. And please finish coffee or other drinks out in the narthex rather than in the main nave.

+ This congregation is a member of the NALC – the "North American Lutheran Church." The national bishop of the NALC is Rev. Daniel W. Selbo.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street * New York, NY 10128 * (212) 289-8128 www.immanuelnyc.org www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

HOLY COMMUNION	11 a.m. Sundays
MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION	6:30 p.m. Wednesdays
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Sundays at 10 a.m. in the undercroft
MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY.	. 6:30 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room
PARISH SECRETARY	
SEXTON	Gerry Britton
PARISH BOOKKEEPER	
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Dr. Gwendolyn Toth
PASTOR	Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer
SENIOR PASTOR	Rev. Gregory P. Fryer
Some Parish Ministry Opportunities:	
CHOIR Director of Musi	ic Dr. Gwendolyn Toth (212) 289-8128

We extend to you a cordial welcome and hope that you will return. If you are a visitor, please fill out one of the cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor Carol Fryer. If you are interested in membership here at Immanuel, please contact the church office for an appointment with Pastor Carol. Or you can email her at ceafryer@gmail.com.

MEALS ON HEELS...... Barbara Chomko (bchomko@nyc.rr.com)

- + HOLY COMMUNION is offered to all baptized Christians who have been instructed in the Church's faith, who confess it with us (as in the Creeds), and who may in good conscience receive the Sacrament in keeping with the understanding with which it is celebrated here: namely, that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and are distributed to and received by all who commune.
- + HOLY BAPTISM is celebrated and MARRIAGES solemnized only after

- consultation with the pastor well in advance. If you or someone you know is ill, hospitalized, homebound, or otherwise in need of the ministry of the Church, let us know. Please call one of the Pastors (212-289-8128) or email them: gpfryer@gmail.com or ceafryer@gmail.com.
- → We mean for PRIVATE CONFESSION to be available as often as you need. Please call one of the Pastors (212-289-8128) or email them: gpfryer@gmail.com or ceafryer@gmail.com.
- + LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING WITH OIL FOR THE SICK is available. Again, simply contact either Pastor Fryer.
- + FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: There is a long line of Christians, both rich and poor, who have disciplined themselves to budget a portion of their income, put it into an offering envelope first thing, and give it to the church. Pastors Carol and Gregory Fryer live by that tradition and commend it to you. Online giving is also available through our website, or by following this QR code with your phone camera:

