**Last Week (1/3)** WH – 29 Orlando – 11

Total Offering = \$2,161

General = \$1,311 | Property = \$50 | Tuition = \$675 | Building = \$50 | Tuition Grant = \$75

Usher: Seger Cleaner (1/23): Custodio Acolyte (1/24): Grant B.

Mon 1 Samuel 3:1-10 We're not surprised; when God's Word becomes obscure, the clergy sink into degeneracy—for that's cause and effect. So God acted: "I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who

# **Looking Ahead...**

- 廿 Jan. 20: Zoom Bible Class 6:30 pm
- 🕆 Jan. 24: Orlando Service 8 am

shall do according to what is in My heart and in My mind" (2:35). That was Samuel, a miracle baby. We assume that his parents shared God's Word with their child, and Samuel was ready to absorb more. God set him up for lifetime epiphany.

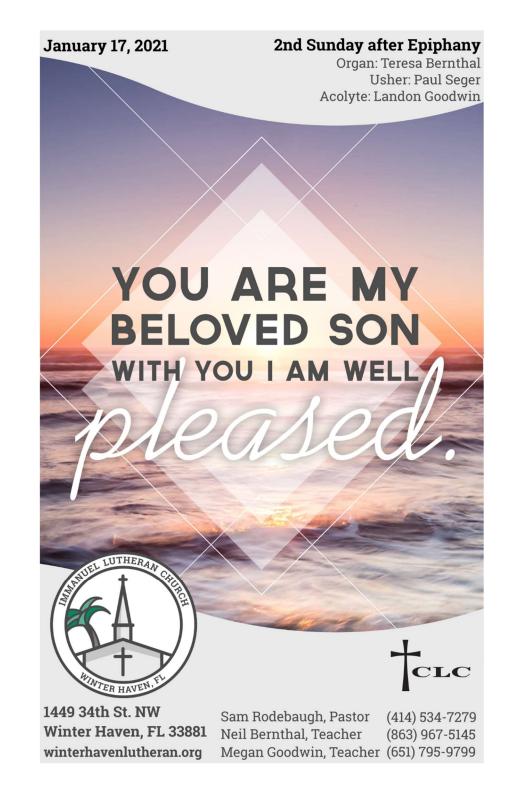
Tues John 1:43-51 God finds us—just as Philip found Nathanael and shared the good news: "We have found Him of whom Moses and the prophets wrote." Nathanael questioned whether anyone from Nazareth could be the Messiah, and our answer is "Yes!" Not only does Jesus know our human psyche (47-50), He also opens heaven's front door, and angels from heaven attend Him on Earth. Yes, Jesus finds doubters and can change their doubts into affirmations (49)! We praise the Lord for such epiphanies.

Wed 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 We hardly need to be reminded that we are lustful by nature, but perhaps we do need to be reminded that we belong to Jesus—in both our body and our soul. Here the Holy Spirit lays it out in a logical manner—so that after our mind has absorbed the facts, our heart will become convinced that we are so special to God that we cannot desecrate His property with sexual immorality. Epiphany flavors our everyday life.

Thurs Psalm 67 opens with God, God's mercy, and God's mercy on us (1)--for the good purpose of enlightening [epiphany] others, so that humans all over the world will understand what God has done for them, and they will let loose with loud praises (2-4). In this electronic age God has salvaged many souls from Satan via the internet. Who knows when such epiphanies will be superseded by Jesus' final Epiphany (6-7)? Lord, have mercy on our nation!

**Fri Matthew 24:29-31** On the subject of the final Epiphany, let's remind our-selves of the facts: The *tribulation of those days* and the return of Jesus seem to be joined in a time warp; Jesus will preside over the Universe's chaos; humanity in general will tremble in fear (30) as He gathers together His elect from all over this planet. Hallelujah for His Appearing!

Sat Acts 20:1-16 God's faithful spokesman Paul was well aware that Jesus could return at any moment, so he re-visited young congregations in Greece and Macedonia on his route to Jerusalem. At the stopover in Troas/Troy, God used Paul to restore life to dead Eutychus; then he hop-scotched southward along the coastline of modern Turkey, avoiding trouble from idolaters but spending time with his fellow believers. Paul had much to share with his dear friends in the Ephesian congregation. Stay tuned for further details. Amen.



#### PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 29

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. <sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness. <sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters. <sup>4</sup> The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. <sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. <sup>6</sup> He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. <sup>7</sup> The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. <sup>8</sup> The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. <sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, "Glory!" <sup>10</sup> The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. <sup>11</sup> May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

## 

**OPENING PRAYER** 

P Pastor

Congregation

**HYMN: TLH #129** 

"Hail, Thou Source of Every Blessing"

- Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise, Manifested by the star To the sages from afar, Branch of royal David's stem, In Thy birth at Bethlehem. Anthems be to Thee addressed God in man made manifest.
- 2. Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme, And at Cana, Wedding-guest, In Thy Godhead manifest; Manifest in power divine, Changing water into wine.

  Anthems be to Thee addressed God in man made manifest.
- 3. Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
  Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil's might;
  Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill.
  Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.
- 5. Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Mirrored in Thy holy Word; May we imitate Thee now And be pure as pure art Thou That we like to Thee may be At Thy great Epiphany And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.
- P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

- 4. Oh, look on me with pity Though I am weak and poor; Admit me to Your kingdom To dwell there, blest and sure. I pray, Lord, guide and keep me Safe from my bitter foes, From sin and death and Satan; Free me from all my woes.
- 5. Then let Your Word within me Shine as the fairest star; Keep sin and all false doctrine Forever from me far. Help me confess You truly And with all Christendom Here hail You King and Savior And in the world to come.

### **PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION**

Numbers 6:24-26

- The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- C Amen, amen, a men.

#### **HYMN: TLH #132:1**

"O God of God, O Light of Light"

1. O God of God, O Light of Light, Thou Prince of Peace, Thou King of kings! To Thee where angels know no night The song of praise forever rings. To Him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain for sinful men, Be honor, might, all by Him won, Glory and praise! Amen, Amen.

# **♣** Announcements **♣**

<u>Saint Called Home</u> Our beloved sister-in-Christ, Loye Issitt, was called to her Savior's side Thursday night. Though we weep here without her, we may also rejoice knowing that we have an appointment to see her again in Paradise. "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:25-26) A Victory service is being planned. More information will be coming later. In the meantime, please remember her family in your prayers frequently.

Letter Received - Dear Members of Immanuel Lutheran Church, After much prayerful consideration, I have decided to resign from my call at Immanuel Lutheran School. Because of unforeseen circumstances, I am not able to continue to fulfill my call. I would like to deal with my family situations and pursue other means of providing for them! Thank you for allowing me to teach God's precious lambs for the time that I was able. I also thank the congregation for their continued support through this tough time. In Christ, Megan Goodwin

<u>Desi Naumann Update</u> I had requested prayers for our Sister-in-Christ Desi Naumann, the Lord answered our prayers by calling her home to heaven on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. "Precious in the sight of the LORD Is the death of His saints." (Psa 116:15 NKJ)

### HYMN: WS #749 "Come to Living Word and Water"

1. Come to living Word and water; Come, as throngs to Jordan came. Heed the call of faith's Creator: "Be baptized in Triune Name!"

<u>Refrain:</u> Alleluia, alleluia! All who are baptized and believe, From the Father, Son and Spirit Everlasting life receive.

- 2. Come for peace and consolation; Find release from ways depraved. Hear the joyous proclamation: "You, by baptism, now are saved!"
- 3. Come for Christ's regeneration; His perfection you will wear. Share the Christian expectation, For, by faith, you live as heir!

**SERMON – Mark 1:4-11** John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." <sup>9</sup> In those

days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."



## Baptism—A Life Changing Event

For Jesus: Beginning His Earthly Ministry For Us: Being Baptized Into Christ

#### **OFFERTORY**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

### HYMN: WS #718:1, 4-5

"O Jesus, King of Glory"

O Jesus, King of glory, Both David's Lord and Son!
 Your rule endures forever; In heaven is Your throne.
 Help that in earth's dominions, From pole to farthest pole,
 Your reign may spread salvation To each benighted soul.

#### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:**

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.
- **©** ✓ Who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.
- And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.
- Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

#### INTROIT

Ps. 2:7-12; Is. 42:1

- P Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights.
- I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.
- P Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.
- You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."
- P Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.
- Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling,
- P for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.



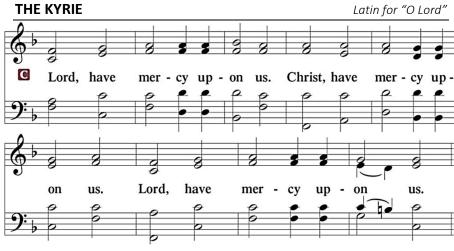
Latin for "Glory be to the Father"



#### **VERSE OF THE DAY**

Mk. 1:11

P Alleluia. You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia.



**GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST** 

TLH #237:1

- All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!
- P Let us pray. . . . and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING – Genesis 1:1-5** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

**EPISTLE READING – Romans 6:1-11** What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup> For one who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup> For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

# 

#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

- I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.