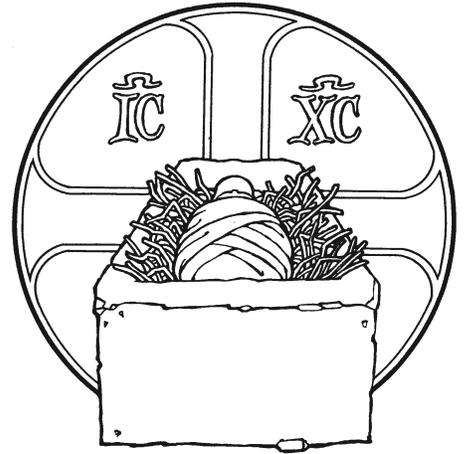


December 2025

St. Matthew interprets for us the prophecy given in Isaiah 7:14, *Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his Immanuel* (see Matthew 1:22-23 which quotes Is. 7:14). Matthew lets us know that *Immanuel* means “God with Us” and applies this title specifically to Jesus.

Jesus is “God with us”, that is, God in human flesh who has come to save. Christmas is the revealing of this great prophecy and truth - that you don’t have a God who just looks on you from afar, but rather One who comes very near - that He is not above being born in the muck and the mire of the animal stall in order to deliver His people from their own uncleanness. This makes “God with us” the most profound and joyous thing! It makes the angels rejoice. It makes the Magi travel a long way to lay eyes on prophecy come true. It makes us sit in wonder on Christmas to know our loving God is with us. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity! (LSB 380) Who doesn’t love Christmas?



Even if you don’t anything under the tree or don’t get invited to any dinners, Christmas still means God with Us has come. Could you or all the earth receive a better gift? Could you have a better feast than what He prepares for you? The fact is, to believe what Matthew is telling us is to believe there is joy for you at Christmas no matter what. Yes, sometimes it can be hard when we think of days gone by or loved ones who no longer take their place at our tables. But the Savior of the world has come and we have hope and strength in that - in Him.

Let Christmas banish all your sadness! One and all, great and small, come with songs of gladness (LSB 360). The world thinks it has it all if the presents are stacked knee deep, but we know of God with Us in the babe come in the manger and nothing can change that. Truth be told, we let that change us.

*He whom the sea
And wind obey
Doth come to serve the sinner in great meekness.
Thou, God’s own Son,
With us are one,
Dost join us and our children in our weakness. (LSB 372)*

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Suggitt

LIFE QUOTE

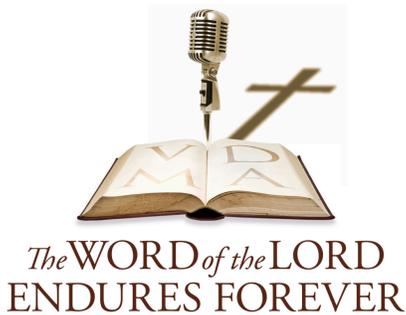
As we celebrate the birth of our Lord, let us pray for all mothers who find themselves pregnant and afraid. Abortion is never the answer. We pray daily that the Lord will strengthen all expectant mothers who find themselves alone and seemingly without hope and that He will help them choose life. Every human being's life is a precious and beautiful miracle.

A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

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