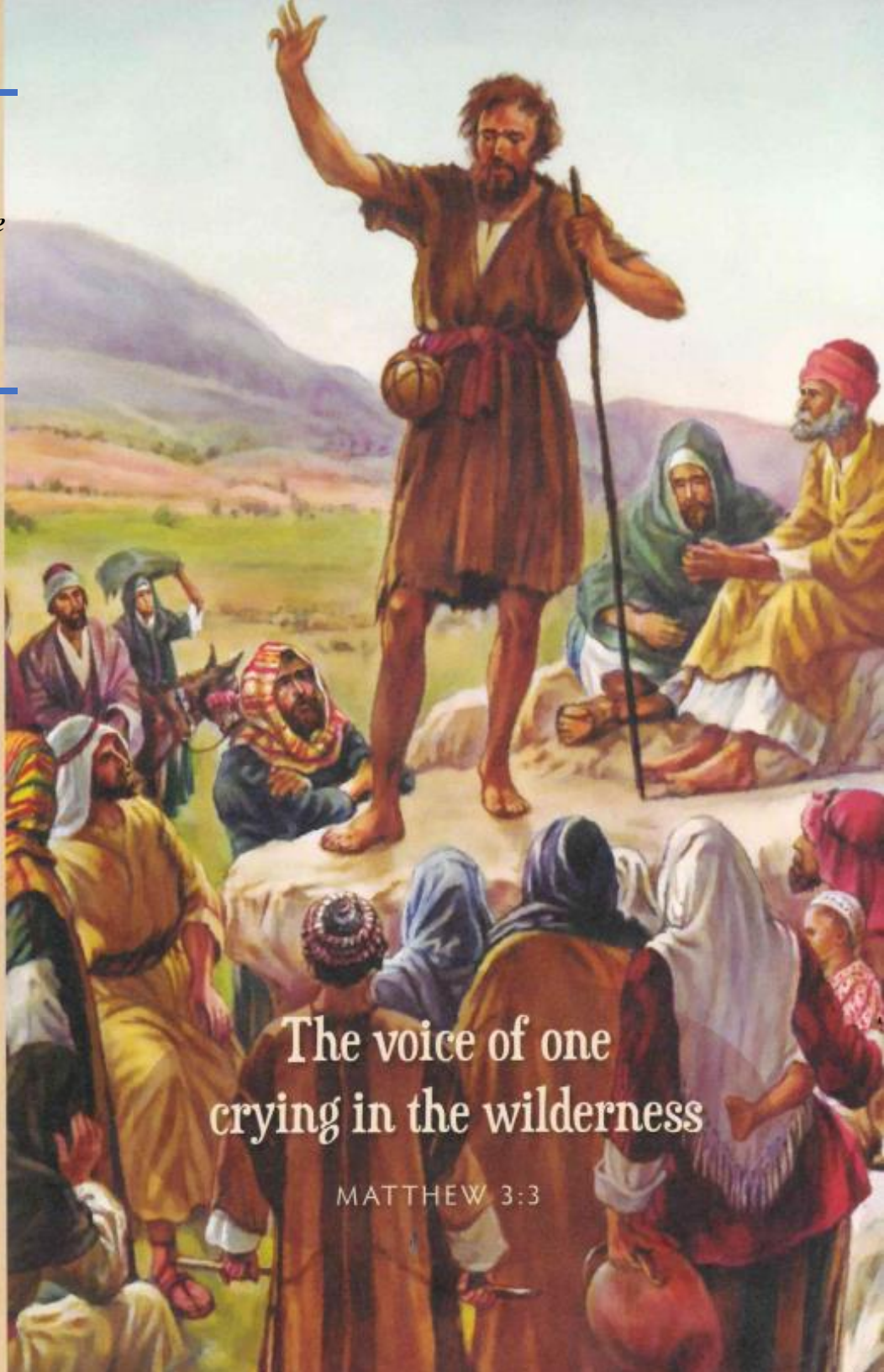

FULL VERSION
December 7, 2025
10:30 a.m.
In Person, YouTube
& Facebook Live;
Broadcast:
10:30 a.m. on
WLBK 1360 Radio

About the Cover:

From his clothing to his diet, John certainly stood out as his voice echoed in the wilderness.

However, John's voice did not stand out because of him. His call to repent was all about preparing the way for Christ, the stand-alone Savior of the world. For Christ alone is the one who has taken all of our sins upon Himself and atoned for them on the cross.



The voice of one
crying in the wilderness

MATTHEW 3:3

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND STUDENT CENTER

Rev. Marty Marks
Rev@godwithusilc.org

511 Russell Road
DeKalb, IL 60115

December 7, 2025
10:30 a.m. In Person
YouTube & Facebook Live

THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

Theme for Worship: This morning our Advent journey focuses on HOPE. In Romans Paul explains that Hope comes in Christ, but we'll explore what this kind of hope really looks like. We'll also hear John the Baptists call to repentance and see how Christ inspired faith produced that repentance which leads to a REAL hope!

♪ Pre-Service Music
Ringing of the Bells
Welcome

Spiritwind

♪ Opening Song: "What Can I Give Him"

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wiseman I would do my part;
Yet what can I give Him? Give him my heart. *Repeat*

The Sharing of The Peace

The Invocation

- P** We begin in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Introit

Psalm 105:4-8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b

- P** In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
- C** make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
- P** Seek the LORD and his strength;
- C** seek his presence continually!
- P** Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
- C** his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

P O offspring of Abraham, his servant,

C children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

P He is the LORD our God;

C his judgments are in all the earth.

P He remembers his covenant forever,

C the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

P & **C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

C make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

C Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Service of the Word

Old Testament

Isaiah 11:1–10

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 15:4–13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." ¹⁰And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." ¹²And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule

the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.” ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message

Pastor Marty

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 3rd chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’” ⁴Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?” ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

♪ Sermon Song: “We Wait in Hope”

1. O come to us O Holy Child
Bestow on us Your peace
We long for You this wintertime
We wait in hope
Come lead us to Your banquet Lord
So we may all renew
Our lives are longing for Your love
Come O Lord
2. In cold and damp our presence here
We wait for You to come
Our hearts are beating anxiously
We wait in hope
Emmanuel the promised one
Come show to us Your face
Our hearts are crying out to You
Come O Lord
3. Confusion lurks within our world
The siren sounds alarm
Our troubled hearts are insecure
We wait in hope
O child to come and save us all

**From turmoil and from strife
Your people seek Your wisdom now
Come O Lord**

- 4. O Prince of Peace O Lamb of God
From David's house You come
Renew us and inspire us
We wait in hope
Defend our lives from want and greed
Forgive us of our sins
Our world is crying out to You
Come O Lord**

- 5. We call on You Emmanuel
God with us
To strengthen us in unity
We wait in hope
Our journey leads us to this place
To seek and call Your name
We celebrate and wait in hope
Come O Lord**

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Sermon:

Rev. Marty Marks

“Hope Comes through Christ, Faith Produced Repentance Delivers it to All!”

Confession and Absolution

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

The Offering *The plates are brought forward*

(An offering plate is available in the narthex; plates will not be passed during the worship service. Immanuel has the ability to accept offerings through online giving. Families can easily give one-time or set up as recurring gifts. Simply make a secure donation via electronic check by visiting www.ImmanuelDeKalb.com. If you choose to set up a recurring gift, you will be prompted by email to create your own online donor account to manage your gifts.)

Announcements

The Intercessory Prayers

The Leader says prayers for specific and general concerns of God's people, following each petition with "Lord in your mercy" to which the congregation responds with "Hear our prayer."

The Lord's Prayer

C 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 Celebration of the Lord's Supper

(The Lord's Supper is celebrated in this service in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. If you share this confession, we invite you to commune with us. If you have doubts or questions concerning this confession of our faith community, we ask that you withhold participation until receiving clarification or instruction from our pastor. The pastor will also offer a blessing to any unconfirmed children who desire it.)

P The Sacrament of Holy Communion delivers to us the forgiveness of sins earned for us by the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. His real Body and Blood come to us in, with and under the bread and wine. Not only are our sins forgiven through this meal, our faith is strengthened, and the Holy Spirit guides us to be better and more effective servants to God. To help prepare our hearts and minds as we receive these gifts, please join me in praying:

P & **C** Father I trust in Your Son, Jesus, as my Savior. As I prepare to receive His real Body and Blood into me, please make my heart inclined to receive it in a way pleasing to You. Create a true sense of repentance in my heart and a sincere desire to follow You after it is received. Please empower me to serve You better in a sense of unity with You and with others. Amen.

The Words of Institution

P Our Lord Jesus Christ on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples and said, "Take, eat, this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me. In the same way, also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: Drink of it all of you; this is My blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me.

P Come, the table is prepared, and the Lord awaits.

C We come in the name of Jesus.

The Sacrament is Distributed for Us to Receive

♪Distribution Songs:

♪“All Who are Thirsty”

All who are thirsty
All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep.

Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come.

All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep.

Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come.
Come Lord Jesus Come.

All who are thirsty

♪“People of God”

With our lips, let us sing one confession,
With our hearts hold to one truth alone;
For He has erased our transgression,
Claimed us called us His own, His very own.

Chorus: We're the people of God, called by His name,
Called from the dark and delivered from shame;
One holy race, saints ev'ry one,
Because of the blood of Christ Jesus, the Son.

♪“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

1. Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark! the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King.
2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King.
3. Hail , the heav'nborn Prince of Peace; hail, the Son of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild he lays His glory by Born that men no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King.

Benediction / Silent Prayer / Postlude

PARTICIPANTS December 7, 2025		
Altar Guild: Carloyn McQuillan		
	8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Musicians	C-J Motisi, <i>pianist & soloist</i>	Angela Pringnitz, <i>Spiritwind coordinator</i>
Pastor	Rev. Marty Marks	Rev. Marty Marks
Children’s Message	---	Rev. Marty Marks
Acolyte	Aaron Martinez	Irene Pringnitz
Lay Reader	Sue Harms	Jen Allen
Radio Narrator	Tammy Tiggelaar	---
Videographer/Sound	Mark Mistic	Mia Yelich
Slides	Kevin Harms	Doug Nelson
Ushers	Taylor McWilliams, Tom Sawyer & Jeff Bannister	Dan Lohmeier, Will Michels & Jen Allen
Communion Assist	Taylor McWilliams & Dennis Martinez	Dan Lohmeier & Brian Pringnitz

THE WORSHIP SERVICE IS BROADCAST EACH SUNDAY AT 10:30 A.M. ON WLBK 1360.

Altar Flowers: “To the glory of God and in loving memory of my son, Eric,” by Jackie Hanson

Radio Broadcast: “To the glory of God and in loving memory of my son, Eric,” by Jackie Hanson

TO BE A SPONSOR: Contact the office to reserve a date.

Cost: \$50 Flowers.

\$250 One-hour radio broadcast of the church service; \$125 Half-sponsorships are also available.

Make your check out to Immanuel, with a notation on the memo line saying, “flowers,” or “radio.”

These checks may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

OPEN FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS: December: *Full*; **2026:** January 4, 11 & 18

OPEN RADIO SPONSORSHIPS: December 14 & 21; **2026:** January 4, 11, 18 & 25

Rev. Marty Marks, Pastor 815-501-3951; rev@godwithusilc.org

C-J Motisi, Adult Choir Director, LCMS certified Lay Minister cj.cmssc@gmail.com 630-664-8005

Katie Martinez, Pre-School Director, 815-756-6669 (o); LittleLambs@godwithusilc.org

Darlene Hillman, Office Manager, 815-756-6669; office@godwithusilc.org

Alma Sanchez, Secretary, almas@immanueldekalb.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m.— 12:30 p.m. *Closed Fridays when school is not in session.*

CHURCH PHONE: 815-756-6669; 756-6675; **Fax:** 815-756-9585

OFFICE E-MAIL: office@godwithusilc.org

CHURCH WEBSITE: www.ImmanuelDeKalb.com

LITTLE LAMBS WEBSITE: www.littlelambsdekalb.com