



# Immanuel

Congregation (Singapore)

Newsletter December 2022 Vol. 08 No. 21

Motto for 2022: YEAR OF WITNESSING  
"Your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed  
of your disease." (Mark 5:34)

Theme of the month: Majestic Manger

For private circulation only





## Letter from Vicar

Greetings to all in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Post - pandemic Era is facing many chaos and struggles due to war, starvation, and poverty. All over the world, we are expecting peace and comfort to overcome this desperate and pathetic situation. In this context our theme “Majestic Manger” is very relevant to address all these issues. The birth of Christ was not the ordinary birth of an ordinary man. It was the birth of the most unique person in history. The birth of Jesus Christ was the incarnation of God Himself. Church Father Athanasius' view of incarnation is, “God became man that man might become God.”

In Luke 2: 7 we read, “And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in clothes and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.” When the angel appeared to the shepherds in the field to invite them to visit the new-born King, he told them to look for a baby in a manger. *Manger* comes from the Latin word for *chew* or *eat*. It refers to a trough where horses and donkeys and cattle ate.

Manger was Majestic because Jesus was born there. He is fully divine and fully human. In other words, Jesus has two distinct natures: divine and human. Jesus is the Word who was God and was with God and was made flesh (John 1:1, 14). Jesus Christ's presence changed the whole universe up and down. His incarnation introduced a new order, it was entirely different from the existing system. He reinterpreted the meaning of power, authority, majesty etc. Traditional kings must be born in a palace, but this king's birthplace is a manger. It teaches us the importance of humility, openness, and accommodation.

The manger is a sign of humility. It embodies a profoundly moving truth: that on his first night on this earth, the King of Glory, the Son of God, slept in a manger where the animals fed. What a picture of God's desire to identify with the humble and the poor. 'Away in a manger with no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head, the stars in the sky look down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay'.

In Phil. 2: 7 - 8 we read "He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself." "God became man and took on flesh. The Creator became a creature; the One who hung the stars lay helpless in a manger. The One who we teach our children is so big, so strong, and so mighty became so tiny, so weak, and so powerless. The King of the angels was made a little lower than the angels. The Creator of time entered time. The One whose everlasting arms are underneath His people lay vulnerable in his mother's arms."

The manger is a sign of openness and accommodation. A stall of some sort, filled with hay or straw with a cow here, a few sheep over there, and a donkey laying down. Wise men are bowing as they present their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, as the shepherds take note of the whole scene, having been told by the angel and led by the star up above. His birthplace is open to entire creation, there was no discrimination among the creation, that place is to open to accommodate, haves and have-nots, biotic and abiotic.

The manger wasn't just a sign for the shepherds; it's a sign to all of us that Jesus is accessible to everyone who seeks Him. The shepherds would not have had access to a baby born in a royal palace, and as strangers, they probably wouldn't even have had access to a baby born in the confines of a family home. But a manger was accessible to all—and still is. Amid this crowded scene, we find Mary and Joseph beholding Baby Jesus lying in a manger as the centrepiece. If we are ready to receive Christ in our lives, we will also be blessed with his love and peace.

Yours In Christ,

Shijuachen.

## Organisations

---

**Sunday School:** *All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. (2. Timothy: 3: 16)*

We send our children to school regularly to study the prescribed syllabus because we consider education to be very important for our children to survive in this secular world. There is no doubt in it. As a believer we are called to develop and learn about spiritual aspects. For that the Holy Scripture is given to us for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training our coming generation in righteousness. As the Lord said to us "Seek first his (God's) kingdom and his (God's) righteousness, and all these things (secondary, that we are searching first) will be given to you as well (St. Mathew: 6: 33). What is our priority, Lord or world? If you consider Lord and His word, please bring your children every Sunday to Sunday school. The most precious gift from us to our children would be to introduce and show them their true Creator.

**Youth Fellowship:** *"...while he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father...." (2 Chronicles 34: 3).*

These words are talking about Josiah, one of the kings of Judah in Jerusalem. He was twelve when he became the king of Judah. The noteworthy and commendable quality about him was that he began to seek the Lord of his father in his youth. How about our youth? They are away from their father's God. What has happened? We must examine our lives. Dear youths, this is a platform for you to gather together and express your views and ideas and have biblical discussions for your spiritual nurturing. "Remember your Creator in the days of your youth," (Ecclesiastes: 12: 1)

**Choir:** *"Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs." (Psalms: 100:2)*

Choir is an inevitable part in the worship. We are a blessed church to have the book of Hymns and Lyrics that have around thousand songs in it. The choir has a significant and an elevated role in our worship for which they have a separated place and a dress code. All choir members are dedicated for this service by the oath before God, but there is a tendency to ignore the oath and

forget our God. Please serve the Lord with the blessing that we received from the Lord.

**Women's fellowship:** *"Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her". (Luke: 10: 42)*

In Jesus' time, women were widely accepted and in the first church they took many vital roles in the growth of churches. They lay the foundation of a family, church, society, and a nation. In order to serve in many roles, they must be enlightened by the word of God. Women's fellowship is the forum for our women to study and understand the word of God and share their feelings and nurture each other in Christian faith. Let us gather together without fail and continue to study the Holy Scripture.

**Men's Fellowship:** *"The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul, The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous, They are more precious than gold; than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb". (Psalms; 19: 7, 9,10)*

This is a platform for our men to have a closer fellowship and to equip themselves to lead the church, to study the word of God, and to pray together. Today the church needs more lay leadership to be part of the church ministry. It is not a waste of time to spend time for a fellowship and Bible study. Rather it is a blessing that will manifest in sound wisdom to support your personal life, family life, official life, social life, and spiritual life.

## Lectionary for December 2022

---

### 04 Dec 2022 Sunday, 6:30 pm – Christmas Carol Service

**Theme: Majestic Manger**

#### CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson</b>	Isa. 9:1-7	Anne Rachel Shiju
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson</b>	Luke 1:26-38	Saji K David
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Lesson</b>	Matt 2:1-12	Jisha Thomas
<b>Chief Guest</b>	Dr. M. P. Joseph	
<b>Intercession</b>	Rev. Dr. Shiju Samuel	
<b>Offertory</b>	Abraham Vinu Sam, Jaseentha Joseph, Sheeba Mathew, E.Sunil Kumar	

---

### 11 Dec 2022 Sunday, 8:00 am – Holy Communion Service in Malayalam

**Theme: Promise of Immanuel**

#### 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ADVENT

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson</b>	Isa. 7:10-17	Binija Raj
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps. 98	Serah Rajesh
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson</b>	1 Pet. 3:8-16	Sheeba Mathew
<b>Gospel</b>	Matt. 1:18-25	
<b>Intercession</b>	Jaseentha Joseph	
<b>Kiss of Peace</b>	Robin John Mathew & Juley Lissy Rajan	
<b>Offertory</b>	Johnwin & Linda	
<b>Ushers</b>	Rajesh Albert & Family	

---

## 18 Dec 2022 Sunday, 8:00 am – Holy Communion Service in English

**Theme: Preparation: The Lord is Coming**

### 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ADVENT

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson</b>	Mica. 4:1-5	George Varghese
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps. 126	Ryan Rajinikanth
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson</b>	1 John 4:7-21	Juley Lissy Rajan
<b>Gospel</b>	John 4:21-37	
<b>Intercession</b>		Vivin John Kurien
<b>Kiss of Peace</b>		Vimal Y Johnson & Nissy Sarah Varghese
<b>Offertory</b>		Sanju Kurian & Kukku Sanju
<b>Ushers</b>		Saji K David & Family

## 25 Dec 2022 Sunday, 8:00 am – Holy Communion Service in English

**Theme: Christmas: Grace upon Grace**

### CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson</b>	Deut. 6:1-9	John Anil Jacob
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps. 20	Leah Elizabeth Robin
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson</b>	Eph. 2:4-9	Vinly Sarah Abraham
<b>Gospel</b>	Matt. 2:13-23	
<b>Intercession</b>		Alin Mathew
<b>Kiss of Peace</b>		Binesh George Mohanan & Shoma George Mohanan
<b>Offertory</b>		Saji K David & Jaseentha Joseph
<b>Ushers</b>		Robin John Mathew & Family



## 31 Dec 2022 Saturday, 11:00 pm – Matins Service in Malayalam (Online)

**Theme: Come to the Lord and Rejoice (Year Ending)**

### WATCHNIGHT SERVICE

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson</b>	Isaiah 1: 1-20	Vinu Sam Abraham
<b>Psalm</b>	89: 1-18	Raylene Rajinikanth
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson</b>	Acts 16: 19-34	Jaseentha Joseph
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 19: 1-10	
<b>Intercession</b>		Sheeba Mathew

## 01 Jan 2023 Sunday, 8:00 am – Holy Communion Service in Malayalam

**Theme: God’s Continuing Covenant with All**

### COVENANT DAY

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson</b>	Gen. 9:8-17	Abraham Vinu Sam
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps. 145	Joyan Vinujin
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson</b>	Gal. 4:21-31	Shanamol P.J
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 2:15-21	
<b>Intercession</b>		Bindya Jacob
<b>Kiss of Peace</b>		Johnwin Johnrose & Linda Johnwin
<b>Offertory</b>		Raja Rajinikanth & Reena Rajinikanth
<b>Ushers</b>		Vinujin Sudhar & Family

## News and Notes

---

### 1. Sunday Holy Communion Service

We will have Holy Communion service every Sunday at **8:00 am at My Saviour's church**. We would like to acknowledge the efforts of the service preparation team for the smooth conduct of Worship service.

### 2. Midweek Evening Devotion and Bible Study - Virtual

A weekly virtual devotion session is conducted on Wednesdays at 8pm. Second and fourth Wednesday of the month is arranged for bible study, led by our Vicar. Our members participate in reading bible lessons, praying, and singing songs. Mrs. Sheeba Mathew and Mrs. Alin Mathew are coordinating the sessions. We request your participation and regular attendance in this virtual session.

### 3. World Sunday School Day

World Sunday School Day was observed on 6<sup>th</sup> November. Rev. Lawrence Visuvasam Sing was the special guest. Sunday School students and teachers led the worship service.

### 4. Children's Christmas Party

Children's Christmas Party was held on 26<sup>th</sup> November from 6 pm. It was a fun-filled event with a BBQ party and Christmas gift exchange. Thanks to the coordinators for arranging such a wonderful party for the kids. Special thanks to Capt. Alpha Abraham and Dr. Mary Daniel for hosting this party at their condominium facility.

### 5. Christmas Carol Service

Christmas Carols Service will be held on Sunday, **4<sup>th</sup> December at 6:30 pm**. The venue will be at **Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 30 Dukes Road, Singapore 268912**. The theme is "**Majestic Manger**." Our chief guest will be **Dr. M. P. Joseph**, renowned Christian theologian and academician. Choirs from our sister Malayalam churches will be singing carol songs in the Carol Service. Please note that we will not be having morning service on 4<sup>th</sup> December due to the Carols. We request all to uphold our Carol Service and Choir members in your prayers. Please

invite your near and dear ones for the event and we request your whole hearted participation to make the event a success.

## **6. Christmas Carol Rounds**

House to house carol rounds are planned from **5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> December**. Rev. Dr. Shiju Samuel Achen will get in touch with you according to the daily schedule. Please open your homes and welcome our carol singers.

## **7. Christmas Day Service**

We will have Holy Communion service at 8.00am in English, followed by a fellowship breakfast.

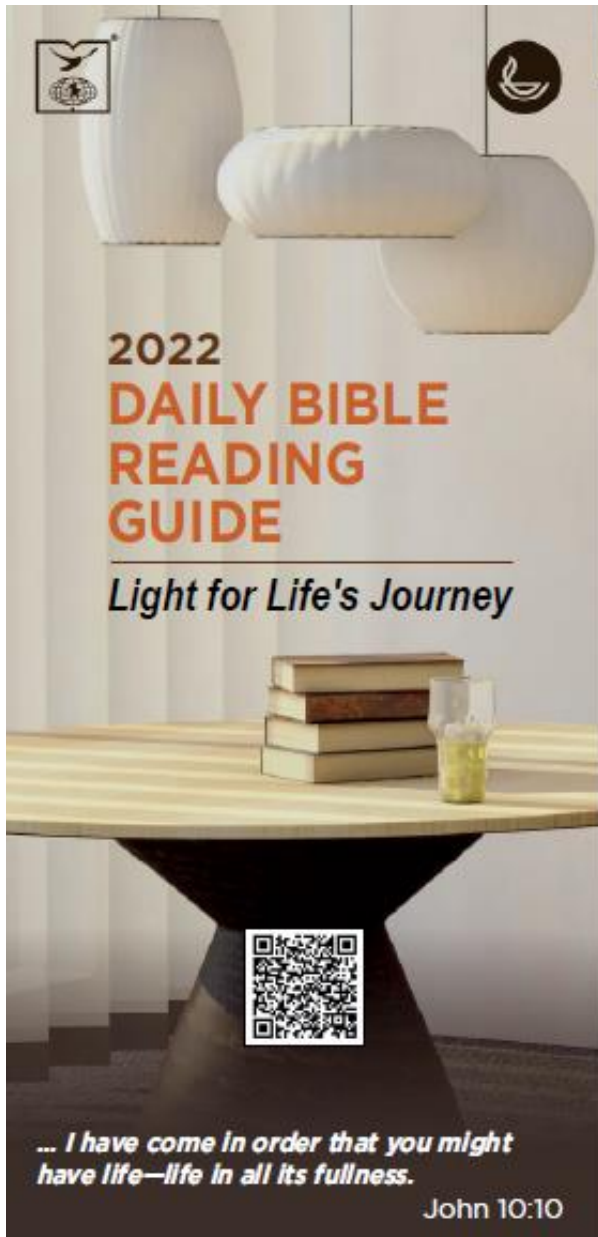
## **8. Watch Night/New Year Service**

As **1<sup>st</sup> January** falls on Sunday, we will hold an online thanksgiving prayer meeting service on **31<sup>st</sup> December at 11pm** and New Year covenant service will be held on **1<sup>st</sup> January at 8 am**.

## **9. Articles for Newsletter**


All members are encouraged to send relevant articles/creative work for publishing in the newsletter. Please arrange to send your contributions by the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month to Vicar or Secretary. January newsletter theme will be **“Christian Discipleship.”**

## Daily Bible Reading Guide



**2022  
DAILY BIBLE  
READING  
GUIDE**

*Light for Life's Journey*



*... I have come in order that you might  
have life—life in all its fullness.*  
John 10:10

**DECEMBER**

**AMOS**

1 Thu 6:1 -14  
2 Fri 7:1 -17  
3 Sat 8:1 -14  
4 Sun 9:1 -15

**2 CORINTHIANS**

5 Mon 1:1 -11  
6 Tue 1:12-24  
7 Wed 2:5 -17  
8 Thu 3:1 -18  
9 Fri 4:1 -18  
10 Sat 5:1 -6:2  
11 Sun 6:3 -13

12 Mon 6:14-7:1  
13 Tue 7:2 -16  
14 Wed 8:1 -15  
15 Thu 8:16-9:5  
16 Fri 9:6 -15  
17 Sat 10:1 -18  
18 Sun 11:1 -15

19 Mon 11:16-33  
20 Tue 12:1 -10  
21 Wed 12:11-21  
22 Thu 13:1 -14

**MATTHEW**

23 Fri 1:1 -17  
24 Sat 1:18-25  
25 Christmas 2:1-12

26 Mon 2:13-23

**JOEL**

27 Tue 1:1 -12  
28 Wed 1:13-20  
29 Thu 2:1 -17  
30 Fri 2:18-32  
31 Sat 3:1 -21



---

WOMEN IN GOD'S SERVICE

by The Women's Fellowship

## *The Majestic Manger*

“As a baby in a manger, As a star to warm the night  
As a song to fill our silent hearts, As a voice of love and light  
As a healer sent from heaven, As a lamb to take our sin, As a royal risen Savior,  
Lord you left your throne & your golden crown for me in great humility  
How majestic is the manger that brought wonder to the night  
Lord come to my heart, there's room in my heart for Thee”

The above lyrics is an excerpt from the song that our choir would be using to worship our Lord in this year's Carol service. The word Manger comes from the Latin word for chew or eat. It refers to a trough where horses and donkeys and cattle eat from. A lowly dirty manger was made majestic with the birth of God in human form.

The manger :

1. was predestined place to be - according to the Old Testament prophesies. I have thought several times on why Jesus could not have been born earlier. Perfect parents, perfect timing, perfect place to upbringing and many more could have been the factors by which it took time.

2. was a sign given to the shepherds to rejoice the birth of the King. The shepherds were instrumental in spreading the news of the birth of the King and they had to be given a sign to follow.
3. signifies humility and love of our God who left his throne for us. What does he see in us to leave his throne and come to the earth.
4. brings forth remission of sins & grace into our lives without which our lives would be busy performing sacrifices for every sin that's committed. The manger is an invitation for us to open our hearts and create room for the King.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth *peace among those with whom he is pleased!* (Luke 2:14)



## Majestic Manger

As all of you may know, Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem. Luke 2:7 says, "And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." But why was He born in a manger? Does the manger have any spiritual meaning to it? In the Gospels it is written that Jesus was born in a manger because the inn in Bethlehem where they sought shelter did not have any available rooms and the only other option they had was the manger in a stable. The word 'manger' is also mentioned many times in the Gospel of Luke. This is unusual and should lead us to ask why. Why does Luke feel it important to tell us about where Jesus was born?

- The first reason is to show that Jesus' birth was humble, lowly and that He did not have the privilege to be born in an inn or a hospital like most of us. Instead, He was born in a manger.
- The manger is a feeding trough for cattle. In the bible, Jesus says that He is bread of life and whoever comes to him will never be hungry. This brings me to my next point which is, the reason why Jesus was born in a manger, a feeding trough, is because it was a sign of what Jesus came to do which is to offer Himself as bread to 'feed' our souls spiritually. In other words, He came to satisfy our spiritual hunger, something that cannot be satisfied in any other way except through Him.
- The manger is a sign that Jesus is accessible to everyone. In the bible it says that the angels invited the shepherds to see baby Jesus, the newborn king. The shepherds would not have had access to a royal

baby born in a palace. Hence, since Jesus was born in a manger, the shepherds were able to see him. Therefore, the manger that Jesus was born in signifies that He is accessible to people from all walks of life

Why is the manger referred to as majestic?

- One reason is because 'majestic' in 'majestic manger' means exalted, which means someone who is of a higher status or has special abilities. Isaiah 7:14 says "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." What does 'Immanuel' mean? 'Immanuel' is a Hebrew word which translates to 'God with us'. This reveals that the baby that was born in the manger was not an ordinary human being like you and me but, He was God who came into this world for the redemption of our sins and to heal those who are suffering. Therefore, He is majestic.
- Another reason why Jesus is majestic is because He is compassionate and can sympathise with us. This is because He through the humiliating experience of being born, being helpless and fully dependent on His parents even though He is God. His earthly life included growing up, learning obedience and going through the difficulties of puberty. Hence, He was like us in every respect. Hence, He can sympathize with us as we go through the same challenges and temptations. Hebrew 4:15 says "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." Therefore, He is majestic.

Therefore, in conclusion, Jesus is majestic. He is compassionate and He sympathises with us. His birth in the manger emphasizes his humility. Jesus is the bread of life and he will satisfy our spiritual hunger. Therefore, we must consistently pray to Him that we may be fulfilled spiritually as the only way we can satisfy our hunger is through Him. In addition, we must also remember that all of us are accepted by Jesus and He is accessible to all of us. We must also not forget Christmas is not only about Santa, presents or tasty food but it is about the birth of Jesus Christ who came to our world in humility for the redemption of our sins.

- Serah Rajesh



## **HUMBLE BEGINNINGS**

*A Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths,  
lying in a manger was the sign.  
God is a perfect planner and  
His son born in a manger  
must be a reason.  
Animals were a sacrifice and  
Jesus was born as replacement.  
The final and complete offering!  
From humble beginnings  
Jesus rose to be a King.*

*It does not matter where you come from;  
Born by a drunkard,  
In a poor family  
Dumped in a bin,  
A child of rape or murderer.  
What matters is what's inside of you.  
Your manger is not your destiny  
but your origins.  
Don't judge or be judged by your manger.  
A King of kings was born in a manger!*

*- Vivin John Kurien*



## Papa Panoy's Special Christmas

*It was Christmas Eve and although it was still afternoon, lights had begun to appear in the shops and houses of the little Russian village, for the short winter day was nearly over. Excited children scurried indoors and now only muffled sounds of chatter and laughter escaped from closed shutters.*



*Old Papa Panov, the village shoemaker, stepped outside his shop to take one last look around. The sounds of happiness, the bright lights and the faint but delicious smells of Christmas cooking reminded him of past Christmas times when his wife had still been alive and his own children little. Now they had gone. His*

*usually cheerful face, with the little laughter wrinkles behind the round steel spectacles, looked sad now. But he went back indoors with a firm step, put up the shutters and set a pot of coffee to heat on the charcoal stove. Then, with a sigh, he settled in his big armchair.*

*Papa Panov did not often read, but tonight he pulled down the big old family Bible and, slowly tracing the lines with one forefinger, he read again the Christmas story. He read how Mary and Joseph, tired by their journey to Bethlehem, found no room for them at the inn, so that Mary's little baby was born in the cowshed.*

*"Oh, dear, oh, dear!" exclaimed Papa Panov, "if only they had come here! I would have given them my bed and I could have covered the baby with my patchwork quilt to keep him warm."*

*He read on about the wise men who had come to see the baby Jesus, bringing him splendid gifts. Papa Panov's face fell. "I have no gift that I could give him," he thought sadly.*

*Then his face brightened. He put down the Bible, got up and stretched his long arms to the shelf high up in his little room. He took down a small, dusty box and opened it. Inside was a perfect pair of tiny leather shoes. Papa Panov smiled with satisfaction. Yes, they were as good as he had remembered -- the best shoes he had ever made. "I should give him those," he decided, as he gently put them away and sat down again.*

*He was feeling tired now, and the further he read the sleepier he became. The print began to dance before his eyes so that he closed them, just for a minute. In no time at all Papa Panov was fast asleep.*

*And as he slept he dreamed. He dreamed that someone was in his room and he knew at once, as one does in dreams, who the person was. It was Jesus.*

*"You have been wishing that you could see me, Papa Panov." he said kindly, "then look for me tomorrow. It will be Christmas Day and I will visit you. But look carefully, for I shall not tell you who I am."*

*When at last Papa Panov awoke, the bells were ringing out and a thin light was filtering through the shutters. "Bless my soul!" said Papa Panov. "It's Christmas Day!"*

*He stood up and stretched himself for he was rather stiff. Then his face filled with happiness as he remembered his dream. This would be a very special Christmas after all, for Jesus was coming to visit him. How would he look? Would he be a little baby, as at that first Christmas? Would he be a grown man, a carpenter -- or the great King that he is, God's Son? He must watch carefully the whole day through so that he recognized him however he came.*

*Papa Panov put on a special pot of coffee for his Christmas breakfast, took down the shutters and looked out of the*

*window. The street was deserted, no one was stirring yet. No one except the road sweeper. He looked as miserable and dirty as ever, and well he might! Whoever wanted to work on Christmas Day -- and in the raw cold and bitter freezing mist of such a morning?*

*Papa Panov opened the shop door, letting in a thin stream of cold air. "Come in!" he shouted across the street cheerily. "Come in and have some hot coffee to keep out the cold!"*

*The sweeper looked up, scarcely able to believe his ears. He was only too glad to put down his broom and come into the warm room. His old clothes steamed gently in the heat of the stove and he clasped both red hands round the comforting warm mug as he drank.*

*Papa Panov watched him with satisfaction, but every now and then his eyes strayed to the window. It would never do to miss his special visitor.*

*"Expecting someone?" the sweeper asked at last. So Papa Panov told him about his dream.*

*"Well, I hope he comes," the sweeper said, "you've given me a bit of Christmas cheer I never expected to have. I'd say you deserve to have your dream come true." And he actually smiled.*

*When he had gone, Papa Panov put on cabbage soup for his dinner, then went to the door again, scanning the street. He saw no one. But he was mistaken. Someone was coming.*

*The girl walked so slowly and quietly, hugging the walls of shops and houses, that it was a while before he noticed her. She looked very tired and she was carrying something. As she drew nearer he could see that it was a baby, wrapped in a thin shawl. There was such sadness in her face and in the pinched little face of the baby, that Papa Panov's heart went out to them.*

*"Won't you come in," he called, stepping outside to meet them. "You both need a warm seat by the fire and a rest."*

*The young mother let him shepherd her indoors and to the comfort of the armchair. She gave a big sigh of relief.*

*"I'll warm some milk for the baby," Papa Panov said, "I've had children of my own -- I can feed her for you." He took the milk from the stove and carefully fed the baby from a spoon, warming her tiny feet by the stove at the same time.*

*"She needs shoes," the cobbler said.*

*But the girl replied, "I can't afford shoes, I've got no husband to bring home money. I'm on my way to the next village to get work."*

*A sudden thought flashed through Papa Panov's mind. He remembered the little shoes he had looked at last night.*

*But he had been keeping those for Jesus. He looked again at the cold little feet and made up his mind.*

*"Try these on her," he said, handing the baby and the shoes to the mother. The beautiful little shoes were a perfect fit. The girl smiled happily and the baby gurgled with pleasure.*

*"You have been so kind to us," the girl said, when she got up with her baby to go. "May all your Christmas wishes come true!"*

*But Papa Panov was beginning to wonder if his very special Christmas wish would come true. Perhaps he had missed his visitor? He looked anxiously up and down the street. There were plenty of people about but they were all faces that he recognized. There were neighbors going to call on their families. They nodded and smiled and wished him Happy Christmas! Or beggars -- and Papa Panov hurried indoors to fetch them hot soup and a generous hunk of bread, hurrying out again in case he missed the Important Stranger.*

*All too soon the winter dusk fell. When Papa Panov next went to the door and strained his eyes, he could no longer make out the passers-by. Most were home and indoors by now anyway. He walked slowly back into his room at last, put up the shutters, and sat down wearily in his armchair.*

*So it had been just a dream after all. Jesus had not come.*

*Then all at once he knew that he was no longer alone in the room.*

*This was not dream for he was wide awake. At first he seemed to see before his eyes the long stream of people who had come to him that day. He saw again the old road sweeper, the young mother and her baby and the beggars he had fed. As they passed, each whispered, "Didn't you see me, Papa Panov?"*

*"Who are you?" he called out, bewildered.*

*Then another voice answered him. It was the voice from his dream -- the voice of Jesus.*

*"I was hungry and you fed me," he said. "I was naked and you clothed me. I was cold and you warmed me. I came to you today in everyone of those you helped and welcomed."*

*Then all was quiet and still. Only the sound of the big clock ticking. A great peace and happiness seemed to fill the room, overflowing Papa Panov's heart until he wanted to burst out singing and laughing and dancing with joy.*

*"So he did come after all!" was all that he said.*



## *Majestic Manger - Amy Ann Abraham*



## Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries

---

### Birthdays in December

<b>02 Dec</b>	Nathan Cherian George
<b>04 Dec</b>	Ryan Dave Jacob
<b>08 Dec</b>	Neethu V.O.
<b>16 Dec</b>	Dency Susy Koshy
<b>17 Dec</b>	Mathew Lukose
<b>18 Dec</b>	Jisha Daniel
<b>20 Dec</b>	Christy Susan Saji
<b>20 Dec</b>	Samson Thomas George
<b>21 Dec</b>	Melanie Mathew
<b>23 Dec</b>	Nathel Johnson Nissy
<b>30 Dec</b>	Mathew Joseph

### Wedding Anniversaries in December

<b>29 Dec</b>	Ashok George Cherian & Vandana Thomas
<b>30 Dec</b>	Gejo Philip & Dency Susy Koshy

## Prayer Requests

---

- ❖ Praise God for the healing of Mr. Robin John Mathew, Mrs. Geetha Daniel and Dr. Mary Daniel.
- ❖ Pray for the healing of Capt. Alpha Abraham and Mr. Samson Thomas George.
- ❖ Pray for the fathers of Mr. Sunil Kumar, Mr. Daniel Wesley, Mrs. Juley Robin and Mr. Rajesh Albert
- ❖ Pray for the mothers of Mrs. Jolly Saji and Mr. Rajesh Albert.
- ❖ Pray for all our elders, especially Mary Paul Aunty, Molly Charles Aunty, Thankamma Aunty and Valsa Mathew Aunty.
- ❖ Pray for all mission fields and missionaries.
- ❖ Pray for the world to get a permanent relief from pandemic.
- ❖ Pray for those who are not coming to church and prayer meetings: to have the spiritual urge to gather together.
- ❖ Pray for the smooth functioning of our church organizations (Sunday School, Youth Fellowship, Women's Fellowship, Men's Fellowship and Choir).
- ❖ Pray for buying a worship place for our congregation.
- ❖ Pray for our Church to be a witnessing community.
- ❖ Pray for World peace especially for eradication of poverty and starvation.
- ❖ Pray that the ongoing war between Ukraine and Russia should come to an end.
- ❖ Pray for those who are suffering from natural calamities
- ❖ Pray for the Carol Service

### **Immanuel Congregation (Singapore)**

Registered Office: 111 North Bridge Road, Peninsular Plaza, #27-01  
Singapore 179098

Parsonage: 7 Marine Terrace, #3-244, Singapore 440007

Ph: 67615178, 90605146 (HP)

Email: singaporecsi@gmail.com

**Worship Place: My Saviour's Church, No 2 Prince Charles Crescent,  
Singapore - 159011**

---

Chief Editor: **Rev. Dr. Shiju Samuel**

Editorial Board:

Rajesh Albert

Neethu V O

Johnwin Johnrose

Vivin John Kurien

Abraham Vinu Sam

Saji K David

Varghese John

Bright D L

Articles, reports and photos should be sent to [singaporecsi@gmail.com](mailto:singaporecsi@gmail.com) by the 15th of every month to be included in the newsletter of the following month.

---



Immanuel Congregation  
(Singapore)  
presents



# MAJESTIC MANGER



A CHRISTMAS CAROL  
SERVICE

6:30 PM on Sunday 4th Dec 2022



Lutheran Church Of Our Redeemer  
30 Duke's Rd Singapore 268912