



# Sermon Study Guide for December 21, 2025

*Our Savior Lutheran Church and School*

**Theme:** The Fourth Candle – Love

Love came down to set us free, and love has a name to it and that's Jesus Christ. Immanuel means "God with us" and Jesus being with us was love dwelling among us, he was selfless for me and you, showing us what the true essence of love is.

**Getting Started: (Sharing with each other)**

1. What comes to mind when you think about Love on Christmas?
2. What does the world say Christmas is all about verses what we Christians say Christmas is all about?
3. Other than Jesus obviously, what is the best gift you have ever received on Christmas that made you feel loved?

**In the Word: Read Matthew 1:18-24**

4. We see in the scripture that Joseph was making his own plans to divorce Mary, the Angel comes and tells Joseph that God has a plan of his own, giving us Jesus. How do we relate to Joseph making our own plans, during Christmas or anytime of the year?
5. God giving us Jesus is a way better plan than any of us could come up with. In what ways can we be better about being apart of God's plan rather than telling him ours?
6. Isaiah 7:14 says "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." God didn't want to restart with us, create new people and earth, he wanted to continue with you and restore everything through his son Jesus who was always the plan from the start. How does knowing God's plan for you through his son Jesus make you feel loved by your heavenly Father?

### **In the Word: Read 1 John 3:16**

7. The scripture says love is “Laying down your life for our brothers and sisters” which means love is sacrifice. In what ways do you sacrifice to love others around you?

### **Putting it all Together (What do we believe or do as disciples?)**

8. **Read 1 John 4:7-10.** It says that “God is love” and showed us that love through what Jesus did for us on the cross. Those who love know God, so how does God’s love for you through Jesus change the way you live? And how might you show that same love that you received in Jesus to others?
9. **Read 1 Corinthians 13:3-7.** The apostle Paul is describing the characteristics of love and we know Jesus is love so these are all characteristics of him too! Paul describes the characteristics, love is patient, kind, not proud, etc... What aspect of this love do you need to better work on this Christmas Season?
10. Knowing that you are loved by Jesus, a love that can never be taken away from you, a gift we have received. This is what Christmas is all about, the greatest gift of all Jesus Christ, the gift of love. How might you be able to remind someone in love, a family member, friend, a co-worker, how might you remind someone about what **Christmas** is all about this year?

**Prayer:** Father, we thank you that the plan you had all along was to give us Jesus. You didn’t want to start over but continue with us and you did that by sending Jesus to the cross for our sins to be the greatest image of love that humans have ever known. Thank you for your loving sacrifice for us and showing us what love is all about. Help us this Christmas season in celebrating your birthday remind all of those around us what Christmas is all about, you Jesus. Help us show your love to others as you have shown us and help us love others and gently push them back to the reason for the season in your son Jesus. Help us love in all we do and thank you for covering us head to toe, in your grace, mercy and love. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

**Note for Next Bible Study:** There is **NO** study guide for Sunday, December 28. The next sermon study guide will be available the following Sunday, January 4. Have a merry CHRISTmas and God’s blessings in the New Year!