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Advent Series – Lo’ How a Rose E’re Blooming  
The Second Sunday in Advent  
PASTOR JOSH DESCH

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

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**Sermon Title:** “Immanuel”

**Scripture text:** Isaiah 7:10-17

**Outline:**

1. The essence of fake holiness (v. 10-12)
2. The essence of Immanuel (v. 14)
3. The essence of faith (v. 13, 15-17)

**Questions:**

1. What is the difference between fake holiness and having a “holier than thou” attitude and living “in the world but not of the world”?
2. What was wrong with King Ahaz’s answer? Why wasn’t he in the right and Isaiah in the wrong? Wasn’t it only right that he didn’t want to test God?
3. What are the three ingredients of biblical faith? Which one is the ‘key’ ingredient?
4. Where do you need to trust God more in your life? Be specific!
5. ‘MYTH BUSTERS’ BONUS QUESTION: Liberal scholars love to point out that Isaiah 7:14 does not actually say “virgin” and that there was another Hebrew word Isaiah could have used if he really meant virgin. They use this argument to say that Matthew was wrong in connecting the birth of Jesus to this prophecy. However, this is a gross over-simplification. Isaiah uses a word that is perfectly suited for his prophecy and Matthew was absolutely correct in translating that word as “virgin” and applying Isaiah 7:14 to Jesus’ birth. What did you learn from the sermon about how we can have confidence that Jesus really did fulfill this prophecy? The myth is that Matthew misinterpreted Isaiah. Can you bust it!?