



EMMANUEL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICE
DECEMBER 14, 2025

The word Emmanuel means *God With Us*, the extraordinary promise that there is no person, place or context beyond the presence of God. “Emmanuel” also has the same meaning and pronunciation in virtually every language on earth—a beautiful indication that the gospel is for all of us, equally. Regardless of who we are, where we come from, or what we’ve done, we are all freely invited to experience the nearness of God in our life and worship.

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

If you are new to Emmanuel, we’d like to stay in touch!

Fill out our Keeping Connected form to let us know you visited and to receive information about our church. You can use the QR code below, use this link (bit.ly/EPCkeepingconnected), or complete a physical form found at our Welcoming Table in the lobby.

We are so happy that you visited!





ADVENT

Advent means "arrival": a season where we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Chorus

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold thru-out the heavens
There shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

Brandon Lake | John W. Work, Jr.
CCLI #7187890

ISAIAH 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
And the government shall be upon his shoulder.

And his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

Narration

Of the increase of his government and of peace there
will be no end, on the throne of David and over his
kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and
with righteousness from this time forth and
forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE
Julia and Caleb Minus

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ: But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be the ruler in Israel, whose coming is from old, from ancient days.

People: **Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.**

Leader: And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

People: **And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.**

~Micah 5:1-5a

OLD TESTAMENT READING AND SERMON TEXT

The public reading of the Scriptures reminds us of the truth that can only be found in God's Word.

PSALM 62

Refrain

My soul waits in silence for God and God alone
My salvation is in him the harbor of my hope
Once the Lord has spoken, twice have I heard this
The power belongs to God and steadfast love is his

¹I am at rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him. ²He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I will never be shaken. ³How long will you threaten a man? Will all of you attack as if he were a leaning wall or a tottering fence? ⁴They only plan to bring him down from his high position. They take pleasure in lying; they bless with their mouths, but they curse inwardly. Selah

Refrain

⁵Rest in God alone, my soul, for my hope comes from him. ⁶He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I will not be shaken. ⁷My salvation and glory depend on God, my strong rock. My refuge is in God. ⁸Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts before him. God is our refuge. Selah

Refrain

⁹Common people are only a vapor; important people, an illusion. Together on a scale, they weigh less than a vapor. ¹⁰Place no trust in oppression or false hope in robbery. If wealth increases, don't set your heart on it. ¹¹God has spoken once; I have heard this twice: strength belongs to God, ¹²and faithful love belongs to you, Lord. For you repay each according to his works.

Refrain

Setting arranged by Nick Chambers and Stephen Bates

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

GREETING AND PROCESSIONAL

Children up to 5th grade are invited to attend Children's Church. K-3rd will meet their teacher in the lobby. Preschoolers and 4th-5th graders will head directly to their classroom upstairs. First-time visitors, please visit the Children's Ministry Table for more information.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, Amen.

SERMON

Sermons at Emmanuel encourage us to depend on the finished work of Christ rather than self-justification.

SELAH

REV. YOUNG LEE

OFFERING

Offering is a grateful acknowledgement of trust and worship of our God who owns everything and withholds nothing.

O COME O COME EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Chorus

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, thou Day-Spring come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

O come, thou rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from satan's tyranny
From depths of hell, thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave

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CONFESSION OF SIN

Since we are forgiven in Christ, confession is an honest word of grace and not an exercise in shame.

Merciful God, we confess that 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 are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We are forgiven in Christ and our assurance is based on God's promises.

"Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and you forgave the iniquity of my sin."

~Psalm 32:5

COMMUNION

The Lord's table is open to all who have faith in Jesus and have joined themselves to the visible body of Christ. (Gluten free wafers are available.)

JOYFUL JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee
God of glory, Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee
Opening to the sun above

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day!

All Your works with joy surround You
Earth and heaven reflect Your rays
Stars and angels sing around You
Center of unbroken praise

Field and forest, vale and mountain
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Praising You eternally!

Always giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!

Loving Father, Christ our Brother,
Let Your light upon us shine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine

Henry Van Dyke | © Public Domain

BENEDICTION

Benediction means "good word" and is a pronouncement of grace and blessing.

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cookies & Treats - Today

Celebrate Christmas together with our annual Cookies & Treats. After service, cookies and other treats will be available in the lobby for all to enjoy.

Youth Group - Today

Youth in grades 6-12, don't miss the last youth group of the semester! We'll meet in the gym to play games, eat lunch, and grow together through Bible study and small groups.

Sparks - Today

Third through fifth graders, grab some cookies from the cookie swap and come upstairs to the conference room for lunch, games, and a lesson about the Kingdom of God. We'll meet after the service until 2 PM.

Christmas Eve Service - December 24

Join us for a Christmas Eve Service at Rivendell from 5-6 PM. Childcare will not be provided, and we welcome all ages to join in the worship service.

Call for Christmas Guests - December 25

You are invited to celebrate Christmas dinner with your Emmanuel church family! Some folks have extra room at their table and would like for you to join them for their Christmas meal. If you would enjoy celebrating with others from church, or if you have room for others to join your table, contact Bonnie to be connected (bblakeney@emmanuelarlington.org).

Testimony Sharing Service - January 4

At the beginning of every new year, we set aside time during the service to share testimonies (stories) of God's work in our lives. As you reflect on the past year, consider sharing a short version of your story with our church family during this service.

Women's Epiphany Brunch - January 10

Join the women of Emmanuel to celebrate Epiphany on Saturday morning, January 10. Sign up on Church Center if you plan to attend.

Malaria Matters: Combating a Global Health Challenge- January 11

As part of our series on vocation, we will learn about health and human services during the service and focus on the topic of malaria after church in a seminar led by Dr. Ian Drobish. Plan to join us to learn more about God's glory through Ian's work in this field.

Singing at the Lees' - January 17

Join us on Saturday, January 17th at 7:30pm at Sang and Eleanore Lee's home. Stephen Bates, Eleanore Lee, and Christina Rawls will be hosting a vocalists' get-together/jam session. This will be an environment suited for both new and experienced singers, with easy to pick up songs as well as opportunities for four-part harmony. Sign up on Church Center to let us know you are coming.

Advent Resources Available

Advent material is available for adults and children in the lobby. Please take a copy and enjoy observing this season with our church community.