

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Chorus:

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King

James Chadwick | Kurtis Parks
CCLI Song #7014589

INVITATION TO WORSHIP AND ADVENT READING

We gather in response to God's gracious invitation, not because worship earns favor with him.

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor..."

People: he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound

Leader: To proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God.

People: To comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them the oil of gladness instead of mourning.

~Isaiah 61:1-3

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL (ADESTE FIDELES)

O come all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of angels

Chorus:

O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

Sing choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
O sing all ye citizens of heav'n above
Glory to God all
Glory in the highest

Yea Lord we greet Thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing

C. Frederick Oakeley | John Francis Wade
CCLI Song #31054

OLD TESTAMENT READING

⁷Surely oppression drives the wise into madness, and a bribe corrupts the heart. ⁸Better is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit. ⁹Be not quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger lodges in the heart of fools. ¹⁰Say not, "Why were the former days better than these?" For it is not from wisdom that you ask this. ¹¹Wisdom is good with an inheritance, an advantage to those who see the sun. ¹²For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the life of him who has it. ¹³Consider the work of God: who can make straight what he has made crooked? ¹⁴In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that man may not find out anything that will be after him. ¹⁵In my vain life I have seen everything. There is a righteous man who perishes in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man who prolongs his life in his evildoing. ¹⁶Be not overly righteous, and do not make yourself too wise. Why should you destroy yourself? ¹⁷Be not overly wicked, neither be a fool. Why should you die before your time? ¹⁸It is good that you should take hold of this, and from that withhold not your hand, for the one who fears God shall come out from both of them..

~Ecclesiastes 7:7-18

Leader: This is the word of God, absolutely true, and given to us in love.

People: Thanks be to God.

MERCY OFFERING PRESENTATION

Restoration Immigration Legal Aid (RILA)

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

GREETING

DOXOLOGY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE READING

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

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

~Colossians 3:12-13

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

The sermon is a time to hear God's Word explained and applied. Sermons at Emmanuel encourage us to depend on the finished work of Christ rather than self-reliance or self-justification.

FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER

REV. YOUNG LEE

OFFERING

The offering is our grateful acknowledgement of trust and worship of the God who owns everything and withholds nothing. If you give online, consider contributing a dollar or loose change as a tangible act of worship.

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HIS MERCY IS MORE

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Chorus:

Praise the Lord His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness new every morn
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Matt Boswell | Matt Papa
CCLI Song #7065053

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

God of mercy, You sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from You and turned aside from Your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves as pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored Your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

~Book of Common Worship

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We are forgiven in Christ! Using the words of Scripture reinforce that our assurance is based on God's declaration and promises.

So Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

~Hebrews 9:28

COMMUNION

This is the Lord's table, not Emmanuel's, and is open to all who have a sincere faith in Jesus and have joined themselves to the visible body of Christ. The Lord's Supper isn't simply a memorial, but is also a time of real grace imparted and received in union with God.

MERCY OFFERING COLLECTION

LO HE COMES

Every eye shall then behold Him
Robed in dreadful majesty
Those who set at naught and sold Him
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree
Deeply wailing deeply wailing
Shall the true Messiah see

Chorus:

Lo He comes
With clouds descending
Once for favored sinners slain
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of His train
Hallelujah hallelujah
God appears on earth to reign

Now redemption long expected
See in solemn pomp appear
All His saints by man rejected
Now shall meet Him in the air
Hallelujah hallelujah
See the day of God appear

Yea amen let all adore Thee
High on Thine eternal throne
Savior take the power and glory
Claim the kingdom for Thine own
O come quickly O come quickly
Hallelujah come Lord come
Come Lord come

Charles Wesley | John Cennick | Matthew S. Smith
CCLI Song #4256010

BENEDICTION

Benediction literally means "good word." It is a pronouncement of grace and blessing as we are sent, that we would live out the Christian life solely because God is with us.

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.

~Numbers 6:24-26

After the service, a male and female leader of Emmanuel will be available by the stage to pray for any concerns you have.

Unless noted, all Scripture is English Standard Version (ESV).

EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), a denomination committed to the historic truths of Scripture & the relevance of the gospel in everyday life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keeping Connected

If you're new to Emmanuel, we'd like to stay in touch, so please fill out a Keeping Connected card through our church app. Click "Get Connected" and then "Get Connected".

December Mercy Offering - This Sunday

This Sunday, we will collect a Mercy Offering for Restoration Immigration Legal Aid (RILA). Please designate mercy offerings to this partner when giving on the Emmanuel App or [online](#).

Christmas Party Dinner - This Sunday

Emmanuel will host its annual Christmas party dinner at Rivendell on Sunday, December 12 from 5-8pm! Everyone is invited to join for a fun time of food and fellowship, and we invite everyone to bring a side. If your last name begins with A-T, please bring a side to share. If your last name begins with U-Z, please bring a dessert to share.

Support Emmanuel Partners - This Sunday

Please stop by the Gift Station in the church lobby after service to donate to our partners: Restoration Immigration Legal Aid, Arlington Bridge Builders, Assist Pregnancy Center, and Project Belong!

Sparks Meeting - This Sunday

Emmanuel's third through fifth graders will be meeting together after service from 12:30-2:00pm at Rivendell for lunch, games, and a lesson!

Emmanuel Soul Sisters

The Emmanuel Soul Care Team is launching a prayer partner ministry in order to connect women at Emmanuel with each other, increase dependence on prayer, and support spiritual growth! If you would like to learn more and sign up, [please contact the office](#) or [use this link](#).

Christmas Eve Service - December 24

Everyone is welcome to attend Emmanuel's Christmas Eve service on December 24 at Rivendell from 5-7pm!

No Online Streaming for Christmas Eve or the December 26th Service

We will be taking a break from streaming the service online on Christmas Eve, December 24th and December 26th. If you are traveling, we encourage you to attend a church service in your area! We will return to streaming on January 2nd.

No Monday Night Prayer Meeting

Please join us next week on 12/20 for our weekly prayer meetings!

Coffee and Conversations

Join ABB every Friday from 6:30 to 8pm at Arlington Mill Community Center to meet our neighbors and practice speaking English with them! Please sign up for at least one Friday under "Get Connected" on the Emmanuel App or [at this link](#).

Offering

We highly encourage everyone to give online through our website (click "Give" on the upper right corner) or our app (click "Give" on the bottom of the homepage). If this is not possible, then please mail checks to our office (5545 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22207).

Parking at Rivendell

Please remember not to park in front of a residence when parking at Rivendell. Parking is available surrounding the Lee Community Center and park as well as the Little Ambassadors Academy parking lot.

COVID Precautions

As a friendly reminder, if you are not vaccinated, please wear a mask. Unvaccinated children older than 3 years old are also encouraged to wear a mask. And for those who would like greater social distancing precautions, the balcony is available to use during service, where wearing a mask is required.