Christmas Eve Divine Worship at 11:00 p.m.



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

917 West Jefferson Boulevard, Fort Wayne, IN 46802 Phone: 260/423-1369 Website: www.emmanuellutheran.org

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Here are a few things we'd like you to know...



CHILDREN IN WORSHIP



We are so happy you are here!

We've got tot bags and children's bulletins that are located in the east and west rear entrances of the church. Also, check out our Visual Faith page in the back of the bulletin.

Please feel free to bring your kids up during the distribution of Holy Communion for a personal blessing.

The unstaffed Church Nursery is available for children three years of age and younger and is located in the lower level. If you need help finding it, please ask one of our ushers who will gladly guide you.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request that you would like announced to the congregation, you will find a prayer request card on the tables located near each entrance into the sanctuary. Drop the completed card into one of the boxes located at each entrance, or simply hand it to an usher.

CONNECTIONS COUNTER

Visit the Connections Counter located in Ebenezer Hall. We've been expecting you and have a gift for our visitors. You can also pick up information on all we have to offer and sign up for events too!

SPECIAL NEEDS



We offer a hearing loop, large print bulletins and printed copies of today's sermon. If these would be helpful, please ask one of our ushers who would be delighted to assist you.

GATHERING TIME



Join us for coffee, donuts and fellowship on Sunday mornings, after the early service and before Sunday school and Bible classes begin.

EMMANUEL APP



emmanuellutheran.org



Found in the gathering space we call Ebenezer Hall.

BUILDING FAITH IN THE CITY

"A Savior Has Been Born to You"

AS WE GATHER

We often see Christmas as a time for us to "go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us" (Luke 2:15). Yet, Christmas is not about our going to God, it is about His coming to us in the person of our Savior, Jesus. Now, in awe of His great mercy and grace, we are able to go and proclaim the news of God's peace coming to earth.

+ THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE AT 11:00 P.M. +

THE PRE-SERVICE MUSIC: Christmas Selections

"Son of God, Which Christmas Is It?"
"Carillon on 'Forest Green'"

Choir Orchestra

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

(As the bells ring, please stand as you are able, and face the processional cross)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "Once in Royal David's City"
(Choir sings verse 1)

Hymn 376

THE INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the

■ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: When all was still and it was midnight, Your almighty Word, O Lord,

descended from the royal throne.

People: The virgin bears a Son; His name is Jesus, for He has come to save

His people from their sins.

Leader: Come, let us unburden our hearts at His invitation and confess our sins

to God our Father.

(Silence for reflection and confession)

Leader: Most merciful God,

People: we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Leader:

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \maltese Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: His is the name of peace—given not as the world gives, but only as He

can give—who forgives our sins and reconciles us to the Father and

through Him to each other. Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Please be seated)

THE MUSICAL RESPONSE: "Still, Still, Still"

Handbells

(Please stand, as you are able)

THE COLLECT

Leader: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray:

People: O God, You made this most holy night to shine with the brightness

of the true Light. Grant that, as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth, we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and

forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

THE CAROL: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

1. From heav'n above to earth I come To bear good news to ev'ry home; Glad tiding of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing: 2.(Choir) To you this night is born a Child Of Mary, chosen virgin mild; This little child of lowly birth, Shall be the joy of all the earth.

3. This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your sad and bitter cry;He will Himself your Savior be. From all your sins to set you free. 4. (Women) He will on you the gifts bestow Prepared by God for all below, That in His kingdom, bright and fair, You may with us His glory share.

- 5. (Men) These are the signs that you shall mark: The swaddling clothes and manger dark. There you will find the infant laid.
- 7. How glad we'll be to find it so! Then with the shepherds let us go To see what God for us has done In sending us His own dear Son.
- 6. (Choir) Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Make thee a bed soft undefiled, Within my heart, that it may be A quiet chamber kept for thee.
- 8. (Choir) Glory to God in highest heav'n Who unto us his Son hath giv'n! While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to all the earth.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

(Luke 2:1-7)

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David: To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. 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.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE CAROL: "What Child Is This?"

Hymn 370

(Choir sings verse 2)

THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS

(Luke 2:8-14)

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them: "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: You shall find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

THE ARIOSO: Luke 2:13

Caroline Eber, soloist

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying:

THE CHORUS: Luke 2:14

Choir

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will toward men.

This chorus is from part one of Handel's Messiah, which contains prophecies and accounts of Christ's birth. This chorus is preceded by a series of recitatives and ariosos (short songs) for soloists. These solos are used for narratives or dramatic moments in the Messiah.

THE SHEPHERDS GO TO THE MANGER

(Luke 2:15-20)

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand, as you are able)

THE CHRISTMAS CREED (Spoken together)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, who sent His Son as my Savior on Christmas Day.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, announced by the angels, worshipped by the wisemen, who lived to suffer, die, and rise again, to free us from sin, death and the power of the devil.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who has brought me to faith in the Christ of Christmas and by whose continuous work in my heart, I am ever led to lay before the feet of Christ the treasures of my love and live under Him as my King, both now and forevermore. Amen.

(Please be seated)

THE CAROL: "Angels We Have Heard on High" (Choir sings verse 2)

Hymn 368

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Pastor Dan Sheafer

THE GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

During the offering, please take the binder located at the end of each pew, and fill out the appropriate info. We encourage members to greet our visitors at the end of the service.

(Please stand, as you are able)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: We come to You, O Lord, remembering how You gave us the

unmistakable sign of Your love by sending Your only Son to be born of a virgin in our own flesh and blood. Hear us, then, for the sake of Christ, as we pray for Your Church, for all people according to their

needs, and for ourselves. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for Your church, O Lord, that it may be the sign of Christ to

the world through Your Word proclaimed and Holy Sacraments given in Your name. Make Your Church a place of welcome where everyone is invited to know the Lord and rejoice in His gifts of forgiveness, life,

and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We recall before You the many for whom this night is no different than

any other night, those who have not heard the good news the angels sang and the shepherds heard. Use us to share with others the Gospel of Jesus Christ that we may speak hope and life in His name. Lord, in

Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for ourselves and our celebration of our Savior's birth, that

the mystery of the Word made flesh may be central in all we say and do. Bless our family celebrations, those who travel, and our sharing of gifts in remembrance of Your gift of Jesus Christ. Make us mindful of those in poverty and need, the lonely and sorrowful, and guide us to use Your abundant gifts to touch their lives with joy. Lord, in Your

mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: These and all things useful to us and profitable to our salvation, we

pray You to grant us, O Lord, for the sake of and in the name of our

Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

+ THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

Leader: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader:

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

THE SANCTUS (Tune: Savior of the Nations Come)



THE LORD'S PRAYER (Spoken together)

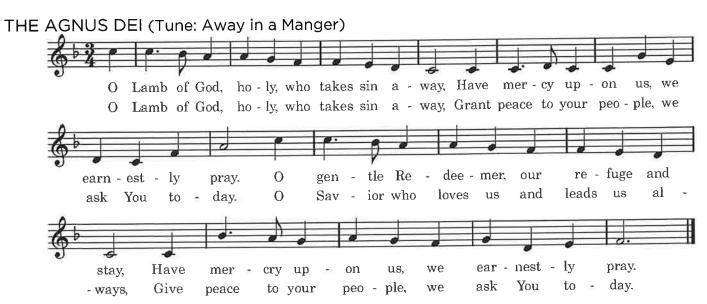
During the Lord's Prayer, the church bell tolls three times to encourage those outside the sanctuary to join with the church in corporate prayer.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.



(Please be seated)

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION (Served at the communion rail) When Jesus said, "This is My Body...This is My Blood," He really meant it. As Lutherans, we believe in the real bodily presence of Christ in the Sacrament, not merely in a figurative or symbolic sense. This means that Jesus' body and blood are actually present in the bread and wine received in Holy Communion. In this meal our faith is strengthened and forgiveness is assured. This gift is an act of God's love, which we don't deserve, cannot explain, and don't even fully understand. We humbly believe it. It is a request of our congregation that anyone who wishes to commune with us would share this faith. If you are not receiving the Lord's Supper today but desire a blessing, approach the Pastor with your arms crossed over your heart. The individual cups located in the center of each tray contain non-alcoholic wine for those having that medical need. Individually packaged gluten-free communion wafers are available. Please ask the Communion Assistant if you have this dietary need.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE HYMN: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hymn 380

At midnight, the church bells ring as we pause to honor the angels' song, marking our Savior's birth. After the bells toll, the choir sings "Nativity Carol."

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

Hymn 366

"Kling Glocken"

Handbells

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Hymn 393

"Angels Advent Carol"

Choir

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Hymn 361

(Women - verse 2; Men - verse 3)

(Please stand, as you are able)

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

leader In the

In the flesh and blood of the Christ Child, You have made Yourself known among us, and tonight, by Your flesh and blood, given with bread and wine, You have bestowed forgiveness, life, and salvation. Keep all who have received this Holy Sacrament firm in the faith, that they may live in You, even as You live in them; through Jesus Christ

our Lord. Amen.

People: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

(Please face the recessional cross and light your candles)
THE RECESSIONAL HYMN: "Silent Night, Holy Night"
Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,

Hymn 363

Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

(Soloist) Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

THE POSTLUDE

SERVING

Acolyte Everett Cummins

Processional The Middendorf Family

Organ Myra Schmidt Choir Director Matt Johnston

Orchestra Anna Snodgrass, Brian Snodgrass, Maria Snodgrass, Rochelle

Linnemeier, Michelle Hoffman, Eleanor Johnston, Dan Helton, Rachel Corwin, Steve Hahn, Craig Dahlkamp, Ryan Bowland, Jeanine Tietz, Amaya Tietz, Isaiah Tietz, Jaeger Wedeven, Carolyn Meyer, Will Stanley, Cara Wentland, Colleen Phillips, Chris Minning, Rod Sroufe, Jesse Evans, Anton Evans, Amy

Peters

Usher Crew Tom Matson, Stephen Williams, Bill Pynchon, Arlan Hogan, Dave

Scheppel

Communion Tom Matson, Justin Arkkelin, George Lin

Altar Guild Tammy Bair, JoAnn Bender, LuAnn Bender, Tina Bruce

Audio Tom Anderson

The staff of Emmanuel wishes each of you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building faith in the city

We are a caring family of baptized Christians bound together in the forgiveness which God has provided all people through His Son, Jesus.

This family exists to announce this gift of forgiveness to individuals of all nations and cultures through the preaching of God's Word and the administration of the Sacraments. Emmanuel instructs young and old according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and reaches out through forgiving relationships, working to connect all members of the family through caring friendships.

Emmanuel serves as shepherds of the sheep; seekers of the lost; friends of sinners; and caregivers to the poor, lonely and broken-hearted. It is a family that cares for all people and reaches out to witness to the love and forgiveness found in Jesus Christ.

Emmanuel Worship Services are designed to share God's love and forgiveness through the ministry of Word and Sacrament. We offer a variety of worship styles and we encourage you to worship in the liturgical style that best meets your needs.

Saturday Evening Divine Service—This service offers a contemporary setting and is held on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning Divine Services—These services are held on Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. and feature worship in a traditional liturgical setting.

Church Staff

Thomas A. Eggold, Senior Pastor
Dan Sheafer, Associate Pastor
Matt Johnston, Dir. of Music Ministry
Lana Hille, Dir. of Congregational Care
Sarah Pennekamp, Dir. of Discipleship
& Youth Ministry

Mark Sheafer, Pastoral A
Ryan Tietz, Pastoral A
Dan Dahling, Pastoral A
Myra Schmidt, Organist
Dick Shively, Business M
Becki Elonzae, Office Mark

Liz Bejot, Dir. of Children's Ministry Jennifer Tweedy, Dir. of Admin. & Finance

Arthur Klausmeier, Pastor Emeritus Dan May, Pastoral Assistant Herb Schumm, Pastoral Assistant Mark Sheafer, Pastoral Assistant
Ryan Tietz, Pastoral Assistant
Dan Dahling, Pastoral Assistant
Myra Schmidt, Organist
Dick Shively, Business Manager
Becki Elonzae, Office Manager
Randy Thompson, Maintenance Supervisor
Carolyn Meyer, Administrative Assistant
Brad Larson, Seminary Fieldworker
Caleb Swor, Seminary Fieldworker
Qien "Suzie" Su, Deaconess Fieldworker

Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School

Dr. Ben Stellwagen, Principal

1123 Union Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802 Website: www.esmeagles.com

Once in Royal David's City





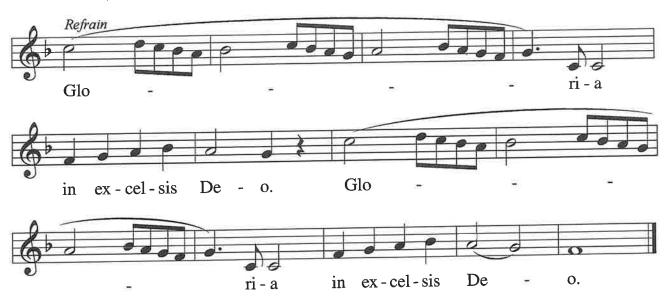
Angels We Have Heard on High



- 1 An gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains, 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy-ous strains 3 Come to Beth-le - hem and see Him whose birth the an pro-long?
- an gels sing;



re-ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains. And the moun-tains in What the glad-some tid - ings be Which in-spire your heav'n - ly song? Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



- 1 Hark! The her ald an gels sing, "Glo ry to the new-born King;
- 2 Christ, by high est heav'n a dored, Christ, the ev er last ing Lord,
- 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



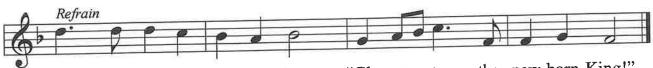
and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" mild, God Peace on earth and mer - cy a vir-gin's womb. Late in time be-hold Him come, Off - spring of all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings. Light and life



tri - umph of the skies; Join the na - tions, rise, Joy - ful, all ye Hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty! God-head see, Veiled in flesh the Born that man no more may die, glo - ry by, Mild He lays His



born in Beth-le-hem!" With the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is sus, our Im-man-u - el! Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je give them sec-ond birth. raise the sons of earth, Born to



the new-born King!" The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to Hark!

Tune and text: Public domain

It Came upon the Midnight Clear



- 1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old, 2 Still through the clo-ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un-furled,
- 3 All you, be neath your heav y load, By care and guilt bent low, 4 For lo, the days have come to pass By prophets seen of old,



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
And still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world.
Who toil a - long a drea - ry way With pain - ful steps and slow:
When down in - to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was fore - told.



"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all-gra-cious king." A - bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov-'ring wing, Look up, for gold - en is the hour, Come swift - ly on the wing, His word of peace shall to the earth God's an - cient prom-ise bring,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing. And ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing. The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an - gels sing. And all who take this gift will hear The song the an - gels sing.



1 In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall; 2 Flocks were sleep - ing, Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new



Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all. Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos-pel true.



Swift-ly wing-ing, An - gels sing-ing, Bells are ring-ing, Tid - ings bring-ing: Thus re-joic-ing, Free from sor-row, Prais-es voic-ing, Greet the mor-row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child was born for you!

Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child was born for you!

Tune and text: Public domain

