

Midweek Advent Service



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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

“Far from Home”

AS WE GATHER

In the midst of exile, Isaiah prophesied only one way home to our God: through the arrival of the God-man, Jesus. In Isaiah, the promises of God - fulfilled in either Jesus' arrival or his second coming - proclaim to us that while we long to find peace, belonging, and comfort this time of year, our ultimate Christmas gift is our citizenship in his kingdom. For he is the Home who has come to win us back from exile, keep us safe in his embrace, and promises that we will someday reside with him forever.

+ THE ORDER OF SERVICE +

THE PRELUDE: Advent Selections

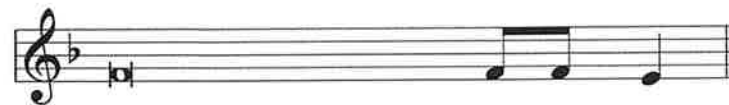
THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

(Please stand, as you are able)

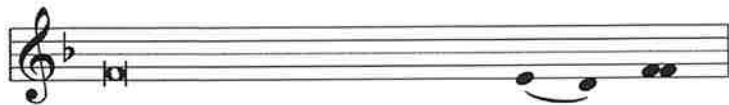
THE LITANY OF LIGHT



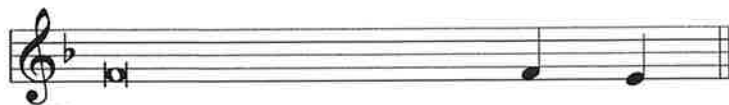
L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



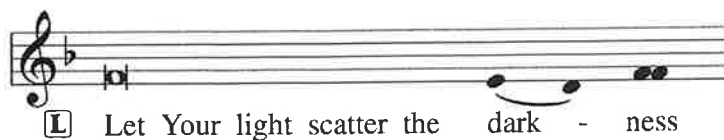
C the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



L Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



C and the day is almost o - ver.



L Let Your light scatter the dark - ness



C and il - lu - mine Your Church.

THE HYMN OF LIGHT



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -



ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:



the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

THE THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The musical score is written on seven staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with a large 'L' at the beginning of the first line and a large 'C' at the beginning of the last line.

L Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,
who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of
fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ;
may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;
for You are mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion
and we, Your creatures, glo - ri - fy You, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.
C A - men.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER (Isaiah 11:1-2, 10)

Leader: The shoot has sprung from the stump of Jesse.

People: The branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

Leader: The Spirit of the Lord rests upon him.

People: And his resting place shall be glorious.

Leader: Almighty God, you have gathered us from exile into the promise of your presence.

People: Fix our eyes on Jesus, the One who comes to make his home with us, that we may find peace in his Word and rest in his grace. Through Christ our Lord we pray, Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God our Father.

People: We confess that in our sin, we have fractured our families and friendships. We carry wounds we have caused and wounds we have received. We fall short of your holiness and cannot make ourselves whole. Apart from Christ, we would face only judgment. Forgive us, Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection)

Leader: Hear the good news. The Lord sees your wounds and knows your sins. In Christ Jesus, justice has been done and reconciliation has been won. You are forgiven, restored, and welcomed into God's family forever. 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 Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

THE RESPONSORY PSALM (Is. 66, Ex. 23, Ps. 103, adapted)

Leader: The Lord knows the works and thoughts of all people.

People: Nothing is hidden from his sight.

Leader: He comes to render judgment with righteousness.

People: He will not let injustice stand.

Leader: Yet the Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

People: He gathers the nations to see his glory.

Leader: From every land, he calls brothers and sisters to himself.

People: He makes the broken whole and the estranged his family.

Leader: From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before him.

People: And his kingdom shall never be broken.

Leader: The Lord knows the works and thoughts of all people.

People: Nothing is hidden from his sight. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (verses 1-3) Hymn 357

THE READING: Isaiah 66:18-23

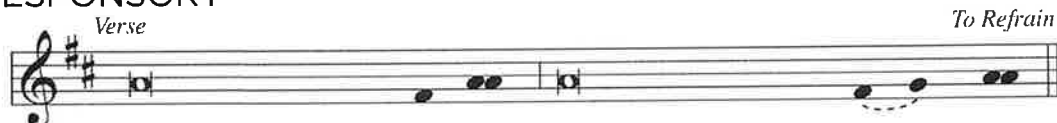
"For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, ¹⁹ and I will set

a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. ²⁰ And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. ²¹ And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD. ²² "For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain. ²³ From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSORY



- L** 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
 2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep— it.
 3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



- C** Lord, I love
 the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

(Please stand, as you are able)

THE APOSTLES' CREED (Spoken together)

(Please be seated)

THE SERMON HYMN: "Let Us All with Gladsome Voice"

Hymn 390

THE SERMON

Pastor Mark Sheafer

THE GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

"Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you" (Deuteronomy 16:17). During the offering, please take the black binder, located at the end of each pew, and fill out the appropriate information. We encourage our members to make note of our visitors and greet them after the service.

THE MUSICAL OFFERING

(Please stand, as you are able)

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Eternal God, you promise a new heaven and a new earth where all your children will be gathered as one. Heal our divisions, reconcile our brokenness, and fill us with the hope of your everlasting kingdom. Keep us steadfast in faith until the day when we worship before you in perfect unity and joy. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 BENEDICTION

Leader: God the Father, who calls you home, keep you steadfast in faith. God the Son, who welcomes you home, forgive you and make you new. God the Spirit, who dwells with you, guard you until the day you see your home complete.

People: Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN: "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

Hymn 383

THE POSTLUDE: "Once He Came in Blessing"

Callahan

SERVING

Organ

Myra Schmidt

Acolyte

Dannika Rubrake

Usher Crew 2

Jim Braun, Mike Huesner, Jason Kaiser, Fred Peterson, Dave Scheppele, Nick Terrell, Joshua, Simeon, and Isaiah Vandercar, John Wright, Daniel Wunderlich

Audio Engineer

Mike Harvey

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 Sheaffer, Associate Pastor
Matt Johnston, Dir. of Music Ministry
Lana Hille, Dir. of Congregational Care
Sarah Pennekamp, Dir. of Discipleship
& Youth Ministry
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 Sheaffer, 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

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



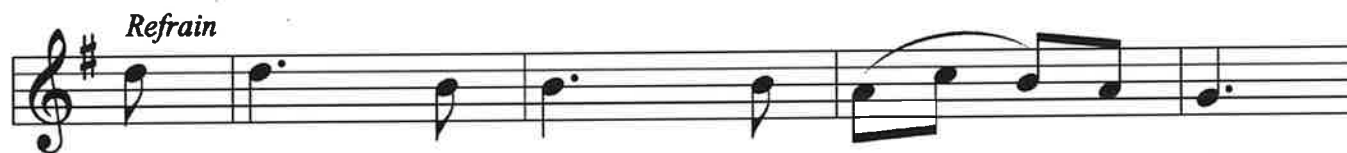
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of
tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.



Refrain
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text and tune: Public domain

390 Let Us All with Gladsome Voice



1 Let us all with glad-some voice Praise the God of heav - en,
2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sad - ness,
3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a won - der?
4 Christ, our Lord and Sav - ior dear, Be Thou ev - er near us.



Who, to bid our hearts re - joice, His own Son hath giv - en.
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in glad - ness.
There-fore praise God ev - er - more Here on earth and yon - der.
Grant us now a glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us.

Text and tune: Public domain

383 A Great and Mighty Wonder



1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:
 2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,
 3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,
 4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,
 5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!
 And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.
 Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.
 The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.
 And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

Refrain



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

Text and tune: Public domain