

PRAYER OF THE DAY: “Lord Jesus Christ, give ear to our prayers, and lighten the darkness of our hearts by your gracious visitation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.” **Amen.**

Communication Cards - Offering Envelopes: The offering envelope in your bulletin is also being used as a visitor and communication card. If you are visiting with us, please know that your presence is your gift to us. We have a generous congregation and ask only that you share your contact information with us. Members and visitors may use the communication envelopes to indicate a desire for a pastoral visit, a prayer concern, or changes in contact information. Envelopes may be placed in the offering basket.

Holy Communion is the Lord's Supper for the Lord's People: “All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father & of the Son & of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread & wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation.” We practice Intinction at Emmanuel Lutheran. Receive a wafer (the body of Christ) and dip it into the cup of wine

Schilbe Family Farewell: Rev. Scott Schilbe has accepted a call to serve as pastor of Messiah Lutheran in Carlyle, IL. A coffee hour reception will be served tonight, Dec. 15 to say goodbye to our dear friend & his family. Scott has faithfully served as one of our worship pianists. We pray God's blessings upon Scott & his family.

Worship at Madonna Towers Skilled Care Chapel: On the first and third Wednesdays of each month, Emmanuel members are invited to participate in a ministry to area seniors. Our next Worship Services will be on Wednesdays, Dec. 19; Jan. 9 & 23 at 1pm. Give Lee Pearce a call if you would like to help with this ministry.

Women's Bible Study: Women of Emmanuel have completed their study on the Book of Psalms. A new 5-week study on the “Song of Songs” begins on Jan. 10 at 1pm—Oasis Church. Study Dates: January 10, 24 & 31; February 7 & 28.

Men's Bible Study Breakfast: Men of Emmanuel are looking at the Book of Psalms on Tuesdays at 8am & discussing the appointed Psalm for the week. The men meet at Oasis Church weekly for conversation & coffee. **This week's study** will be on Psalm 80. There will be no study on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. The men will resume their study on January 8, looking at Psalm 29.

The Emmanuel Weekly

Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018

Advent III - 6 pm

***“Praising, Proclaiming and Practicing
Emmanuel—God with us—in daily
life!”***

Children's Nativity

The Children of our congregation are presenting the story of Christ's birth in worship on Dec. 22. This presentation is based on the book, Where Jesus Slept, written by Norma Lewis. Emmanuel received a Thrivent Action Team grant for the purchase of Nativity costumes.

Christmas Goodie Bags for Kids

Julie Engle received a Thrivent Action Team grant and assembled special Christmas Bags for all youth attending worship on December 22.

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24 (9pm) Service of Carols, Communion and Candlelight with pipe organ & instrumentalists.

Extended Prelude begins at 8:40pm.

Holiday Cookies

Emmanuel will be delivering cookies & worship invites to area hospitality houses this Thursday, December 20. Contact Judy Pearce if you would like to help.

The December Emmanuel Epistle Newsletter & Prayer Calendar are available! Also, pick up your copy of Our Daily Bread Devotional, and this year's Christmas Ornament!



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Sat., Dec. 15—G.I.F.T. & Saturday School at 5:10m; Eve of Advent III Worship at 6pm
- Tues, Dec. 18 — Men's Bible Study at 8am; Text Study at 10:30am
- Wed, Dec. 19—Madonna Towers Worship (1pm)
- Thurs, Dec. 20—Clergy Mtg. in La Crosse @ 10am; Delivering Cookies—Hosp. Houses
- Sat, Dec. 22—G.I.F.T. & Saturday School at 5:10pm; Eve of Advent IV Worship at 6pm, with Children's Nativity
- Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve Worship at 9pm with extend Prelude at 8:40pm

Dorothy Day Fundraiser: Ava Siebenaler is coordinating a fundraiser for the Dorothy Day House. Gifts may be placed in the offering jar on Dec. 22. Checks may be made out to Emmanuel Lutheran. Jean Wanek received a Thrivent Action Team grant in support of this fundraiser. Offerings received on December 22 will provide compassion to the Homeless in our community.

Discipleship Covenants for 2019 are available for signing.

Membership at Emmanuel is an annual renewal. 64 Covenants were signed in 2018. Thanks for walking with Jesus and making Emmanuel your church home. We've already received 28 signed Covenants for 2019. Deadline: January 9, 2019.

Emmanuel Nominating Committee: Is God calling you to serve in leadership at Emmanuel Lutheran Church? Opportunities: Church Council, Audit Committee, Nominating Committee, or Voting Delegates.

Calendar Items:

- Mon, December 24th, 9pm - Christmas Eve Worship Service with Carols, Communion and Candlelight. Theme: *Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory!* Extended prelude begins at 8:40pm.
- Saturday, January 5th, 6pm - Worship Service: 12 Days of Christmas, Bell Ringing Service—Bring your bells!
- Saturday, January 26th, 3:30pm - Annual Meeting, 4:45pm; Potluck Dinner, 6pm Worship.
- Sunday, February 10 - Friday, February 22, 2019 - SEMAC Mission Work Trip to Wilmington, N.C.
- Wednesday, March 6th, 6pm - Ash Wednesday Worship Service. Lenten Theme: "Singing & Praying the Psalms".
- Monday, April 22nd, 6am - Public Reading of the entire New Testament at Oasis.

Thanks for worshiping with us this evening. Your presence is your gift to us. We pray that our Service of Word & Sacrament is a blessing to you. Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are praising, proclaiming and practicing Emmanuel – God with us – in daily life! May the power of the Holy Spirit equip the saints for Witness in the World! **Visit us at:** www.emmanuelofrochester.org



**Worship
Advent III
Dec.15, 2018
6:00 p.m.**

LITURGY: HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

WORSHIP NOTES: ReClaim

Liturgy: Holden Evening Prayer, revised edition

(Please return the Service Bulletin)

Prelude: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" Anne Krentz Organ

Gathering Song: "The Advent of Our King" (LSB #331—See Insert; Lighting of the Advent Candles)

Scripture: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 7:18-35

Children's Sermon: "Get the Light!"

Sermon: "The Light is Here"

Song of the Day: "Joy to the World" (ReClaim #123)

Offering Music: "Joy to the World" Frederick Frahm

Communion Music: "Hark the Glad Sound" Aaron David Miller

Communion Song: "Hark the Glad Sound" (See Insert)

Closing Song: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" (ReClaim #99)

Postlude: "Hark the Glad Sound" J. Bert Carlson

WORSHIP SERVANTS Tonight: THANKS!

Pianist: Scott Schilbe

Flutist: Julie Peterson

Violinist: Kailey Peterson

Scripture Reader & Communion Server: Deb Vomhof

Sound: Don Holtan

Acolyte: Addison Siebenaler

Worship Leader & Set up: Julie Steffenson

Coffee: Peg Holtan Treats: Julie Steffenson

Ushers: Joe Vomhof & Cabe Siebenaler

Take-down: Janet Sunde and friends

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota

Contact Information: 3819—18th Ave. NW, Rochester, MN

Phone: 507-206-3048

www.emmanuelofrochester.org

Zephaniah 3:14-20 — The LORD is in Your Midst

14 “Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! 15 The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. 16 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. 17 The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. 18 I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. 19 Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. 20 At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,” says the Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Philippians 4:4-7 — The Lord is at Hand

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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Gospel Reading: Luke 7:18-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 7th. Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

18 The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, 19 calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for

another?” 20 And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” 21 In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. 22 And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. 23 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” 24 When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 25 What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. 26 What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 27 This is he of whom it is written, ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ 28 I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.” 29 (When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John, 30 but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.) 31 “To what then shall I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? 32 They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.’ 33 For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’ 34 The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ 35 Yet wisdom is justified by all her children.”]

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Gathering Song: "The Advent of Our King"

(Text: LBW 22; Tune: LBW 368—I Love Your Kingdom, Lord)



- 1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel-come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
Him-self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spite The peace He comes to bring.
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

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| 5. Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on. | 6. All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity. |
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Communion Song: "Hark the Glad Sound"

(Text & Tune: LBW 35)

1. Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long!
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne, and ev'ry voice a song.
2. He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before Him burst, the iron fetters yield.
3. He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace, t'enrich the humbled poor.
4. Our glad Hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim;
And heav'n's eternal arches ring, with Thy beloved Name.