

*Gospel Acclamation: “Alleluia”	Page 83
*Holy Gospel: Mark 1:1-8	
Children’s Message: “Jolly Old Saint Nicholas”	
Sermon: “Tidings of Comfort & Joy!”	Pastor Dave Steffenson
*Hymn of the Day: “Comfort, Comfort Now My People”	#29
*Confession of Faith: Apostles’ Creed	Page 85
*The Prayers (bulletin page 3)	
*The Peace	Page 86
Offering	
*Offertory: “ <i>Let the Vineyards</i> ”	Page 86
*Offertory Prayer	Page 88
*The Great Thanksgiving (#33)	Page 88ff
*Lord’s Prayer: <i>Traditional Version</i>	Page 91
<i>Invitation &amp; Distribution</i>	
Lamb of God	Page 92
Communion Hymn: “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”	#34
*Table Blessing	Page 92
*Post-Communion Cantic: “Thank the Lord”	Page 92
*Post-Communion Prayer	Page 94
*Benediction	Page 94
*Sending Hymn: “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”	#25
*Dismissal	Page 95
Postlude	

**Thanks** for worshipping 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 in the Season of Advent!

**Visit us at:** [www.emmanuelofrochester.org](http://www.emmanuelofrochester.org).

## The Prayers

A: As we await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in glory, we pray for the Church, the world, and all who yearn for healing and peace.

*Silence is kept.*

A: O Lord, our God, in these latter days the winds of war and privation leave anxiety and fear in their wake. Gather us into one Body, feed us on your holy and life-saving Word, and comfort us with your presence.

O Lord, we pray,

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

A: As one body we pray: “Come, Lord Jesus.” Most especially do we pray for the relief of the persecuted Church, and for an end to suffering and oppression for reasons of faith. Give also new life and vigor to the comfortable Church, that we may with enthusiasm champion our suffering brothers and sisters and the faith in which we all persevere. O Lord, we pray,

O Lord, we pray,

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

A: Your prophet Isaiah prophesied that One would come who would urge your people to “prepare the royal highway, to make straight the way of the Lord.” Help us to make straight the crooked within us, that our lips and lives may illumine your glory and reveal your steadfast compassion to the world. O Lord, we pray,

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

A: Your servant John the Baptist saw past the trappings of wealth and power to the poor sinner underneath. Grant the same honesty to those who lead nations, who govern our states & our towns, & who command our military services, including our President & our Governor, that self-interest never overshadows the needs of those in their charge. O Lord, we pray,

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

A: Bless our Advent Wreath and our keeping of time in these days of Advent. Remind us that 1000 years is like a day unto you O Lord. We praise you for your long-suffering & patience as you await the repentance of your people. O Lord, we pray,

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

A: We all await the return of your Son, our crucified and risen Lord. But for some of us the need is immediate and urgent. Grant healing and hope to all who suffer illness, disability, or the loss of a loved one or job including [names]. Let them see your never failing love, and the light of your everlasting mercy. O Lord, we pray,

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Into your hands, O God of our salvation, we commend all for whom we pray, including ourselves, trusting in your steadfast love as shown us by your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

*Psalm 85 —responsively*

L: LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**C: You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.**

L: You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.

**C: Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!**

L: Will you be angry with us forever?

**C: Will you prolong your anger to all generations?**

L: Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

**C: Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.**

L: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

**C: Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.**

L: Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**C: Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

L: Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

**C: Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.**

**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 and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation." We are practicing head of the aisle Communion tonight by means of Intinction.



**Worship—Eve of  
Advent Two  
Dec. 6, 2014  
6:00 p.m.**

**Lutheran Book of Worship—Setting II**

*\* indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements—*Lighting of Advent Candles*

**Prayer:** O faithful and loving God, we praise you for your tender compassion and give you thanks for your steadfast love for us and all creation. Bless us who see the light of this wreath, that we may be strengthened by the hope of your advent among us, and live toward the completion of all things in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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|---|----------|
| *Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness         | Page 77  |
| *Gathering Hymn: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" | #30      |
| *Greeting   | Page 78  |
| *Kyrie  | Page 78f |
| *Hymn of Praise: "Glory to God"                   | Page 79f |
| *Salutation and Prayer of the Day                 | Page 82  |

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And Also with you.**

P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By His coming nurture our growth as your people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85

Second Lesson: II Peter 3:8-14

Bulletin Page 4

Plainview Area Community Choir presents the *Christmas Cantata "Tonight"*, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. There will a free will offering. Come and enjoy.

**Men's Bible Study Breakfast:** Weekly fellowship around God's Word at 8 am Tuesdays at Charlie's (1408 2nd. St. SW). Join us in being Evangelical. Invite a friend. Share the Good News! We will meet on Tuesday, December 9 & discuss the readings for Advent III: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; I Thessalonians 5:16-24; & John 1:6-8, 19-28.

**Women's Bible Study:** Pastor Dave is leading an Eight Session Study on I Corinthians. Women of Emmanuel Lutheran & Oasis Baptist are gathering on Wednesday afternoons (1:00-2:30 p.m.), twice each month, for a 21st Century look at St. Paul's letter to the Church in Corinth. The Church in Corinth had its share of problems. Instead of living as resurrection people and infiltrating the culture with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the church was accommodating itself to culture and swallowing paganism hook, line, and sinker. Written in Ephesus around 55 A.D., Paul could have been addressing the Church in the USA in the year 2014. **Remaining Date:** December 17.

**Saturday School: 5:10 p.m.**—Christian Education for all ages on Saturdays prior to Worship! Each week we'll enjoy singing, a Bible Lesson/Craft and a snack (kid friendly). If anyone has any ideas for a more 'exciting' name for Saturday School—we'd love to hear it! Contact Julie Steffenson for more information or to share your ideas: (507)-206-3048. Three week class on Holy Communion: Dec. 6, 13, 20.

**Bell Ringing**—One of Emmanuel's Ministry Partnerships is the Salvation Army. For a second year in a row, we are ringing bells and sharing the good news of Christmas with our neighbors. Lee Pearce is coordinating this activity. This year's remaining dates and locations are as follows:

\* Saturday, Dec. 6 from 11am-1pm at Hy-Vee North (37th St.)—Arne/Samia Nelson.

\* Thursday, Dec. 11 from 1-3pm at Hobby Lobby—LeRoy/Margaret Quam & Don/Peg Holtan.

\* Monday, Dec. 22 from 11am-1pm at Shopko North (Pharmacy Door entrance)—Bob/Marcia Harms, and Dick/Nancy Stanley  
All Times are Filled. THANKS!

**Sharing Tree:** Located in the Gathering Space of the Oasis Church is a gift-giving opportunity for members wishing to bless the families of the Interfaith Hospitality Network this Christmas Season. Suggested gift items: Kitchen items, linens, sheets & pillow cases, toiletries, etc.

## Isaiah 40:1-11—Comfort God's People

1 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. 3 A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. 5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." 6 A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. 7 The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. 9 Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" 10 Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 11 He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## II Peter 3:8-14 —The Day of the Lord will Come!

8 But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. 11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, 12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! 13 But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. 14 Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading—Mark 1:1-8

**P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Mark the 1st. Chapter.**

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. 2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, 3 the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" 4 John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And he preached, saying, "After me comes He who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**P: The Gospel of the Lord.**

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

### WORSHIP SERVANTS Tonight:

Pianist: MarJean Damerval

Scripture Reader/Prayers/Communion Server: Lee Pearce

Set-up: Julie Steffenson

Take Down: Janet Sunde

Ushers: Larry Vomhof & Ava Siebenaler

Sound: Don Holtan

Coffee: Peg Holtan

Treats: Ardis Christen

**The December Emmanuel Prayer Calendar & Epistle Newsletter are available in print!**

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota**  
**Contact Information: 1815—38th Street NW, Rochester, MN**  
**Phone: 507-206-3048**      [www.emmanuelofrochester.org](http://www.emmanuelofrochester.org)

# The Emmanuel Weekly

**Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014**  
**Eve of Advent Two—6 pm**

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

### ADVENT

As we journey through the Season of Advent we await the coming of Christ, who is our Light and our Salvation. Advent's color is BLUE, the color of hope. In Christ we are forever homing in hope! During the Days of Advent, may God prepare a way into our hearts and give us the joy of Emmanuel. We await the coming of Jesus in daily life, in the needs of our neighbors. We await the END TIME coming of Jesus. We await the coming of Christ in Word & Sacrament. We await the Advent of God in the Nativity of our Lord. Blessed Advent to you & yours! Special thanks to LeRoy Quam for making our Advent Wreath!

### The real SANTA CLAUS

December 6 is the Feast of Saint Nicholas. Nicholas was born in Patara (present-day Turkey) around 280 AD. He lost both of his parents as a young man, and reportedly used his inheritance to help the poor and sick. A devout Christian, he later served as bishop of Myra, a city that is now called Demre. St. Nicholas is the real person behind the legendary character called Santa Claus, who brings Christmas presents to children around the world.



### CALENDAR ITEMS

- Sat, December 6—Bell Ringing (11am-1pm) Saturday School @ 5:10pm; Advent II Worship at 6pm; Huddle @ 7:30pm
- Tues., Dec. 9 at 8 am Men's Bible Study Breakfast at Charlie's
- Thurs, Dec. 11—Bell Ringing (1-3pm) at Hobby Lobby
- Sat, December 13 Saturday School @ 5:10pm; Advent III Worship @ 6pm
- Tues, Dec. 16 @ 8am Men's Bible Study Breakfast at Charlie's; Council Mtg. @ 10am;
- Wed, December 17 at 1pm—Women's Bible Study on I Corinthians