

P: Into your hands, merciful Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*Lord's Prayer: *Traditional Version*

*Benediction:

*Sending Hymn: "Savior of the Nations Come!" — LBW #28

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord! Celebrate the miracle of Christmas!

C: **Jesus is my miracle! Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Worship Servants Tonight: Thanks!

Pianist: Jane Cabaya

Assisting Minister, Scripture Reader & Prayers: Kim Starr

Greeters: Lee & Judy Pearce

Sound/Video Recording: Don Holtan

Set-up and Take-down: Julie Steffenson & Peg Holtan

Advent & Christmas 2021: "The WORD Made Flesh"

- Saturday, Nov. 27: Advent Liturgy during the four weeks of Advent with the lighting of the Advent Wreath each week.
 - Saturday, December 18: Children's Nativity.
 - Friday, December 24: Christmas Eve Worship at 2pm.
 - **CHRISTMAS DAY Worship at 6pm!**
- Saturday, January 1, 2022: Twelve Days of Christmas Liturgy with Bell Ringing and Lighting of Candles (6pm).

Thanks for worshipping with us this evening. Your presence is your gift to us. We pray that our Service of Word and 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 Advent of our Lord keep hope in our hearts!

Visit us at: www.emmanuelofrochester.org.



**Worship—Eve
of Advent I
Nov. 27, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

Lutheran Book of Worship—Advent Liturgy "The Miracle of Christmas!"

** indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek the ways of your justice and peace, for the night is past and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from our sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when He comes, & welcome Him into our hearts and homes, for He is our hope & salvation. Blessed be God forever. Amen.

Lighting of Advent Candle

Sing: Tune of "I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve" — LBW #69

1. The Incarnation, mystery, The WORD made flesh for me;

The miracle of Christmas is, The gift of Calvary.

2. Before the altar of our Lord, we shall confess and see;

Forgiveness is the grace of God, that sets the sinner free.

Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness:

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***Hymn: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”—LBW #30**

*Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come, that by your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by your mighty deliverance; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:1-10 (See Insert)

Second Lesson: I Thessalonians 3:9-13

***Gospel Acclamation: “Advent is Here” to the tune of “Earth & All Stars” — LBW #558**

Advent is here, waiting continues! Jesus our Savior is always Good News! Open our ears, help us to listen! Jesus a lamp and a light to our feet! Christmas is coming and we shall rejoice! Give God the glory, Alleluia!

*Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

Children’s Message: “There will be Signs!” (Posted on Facebook)

Sermon: “Parable of the Fig Tree”

***Hymn: “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”—LBW #34**

***Confession of Faith: “Nicene Creed”**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering: *(No passing of baskets; offerings may be placed in the basket located by the church entrance as one leaves; offerings of support may also be given electronically or sent via U.S. mail. Thanks for supporting the ministry of Emmanuel.)*

***Closing Prayers:**

L: As we await the coming of our Savior in mercy and majesty, let us pray to our Heavenly Father for the Church, the world, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence

L: (Each petition ends with “Lord, in Your mercy,” to which the people respond **“Hear our prayer”**).

The Emmanuel Weekly

Saturday, Nov. 27, 2021
Advent I – 6 pm

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

The ADVENT of our LORD

A new church year begins tonight with the Season of Advent. Happy New Year! This year’s Advent & Christmas theme is: **“The Miracle of Christmas”**. Each week during the Season of Advent we will be celebrate the miracle of saving faith in the name of Jesus! Prayerfully we say, “Amen! Come Lord Jesus!”

The Littlest Watchman

This year, each family at Emmanuel will receive a book entitled “The Littlest Watchman,” by Scott James. Pick up your free copy on Saturday, Nov. 27 at worship. Pastor Dave will be sharing Advent devotions in his 4:31 each day during the month of December. Wait & Watch for it!

Emmanuel Huddle!

Saturday, December 4 at 7pm! Please join us for information sharing!

The December Emmanuel Epistle Newsletter & Prayer Calendar are available! Also, pick up your copy of Our Daily Bread Devotional for December 2021—January 2022.

First Sunday of Advent: Jeremiah was to inform an idolatrous people that the Lord would not forsake them, even though they had disregarded his love and his ways. He would send a righteous branch of the tree of David to be their king. This king would be eternal and his reign would be characterized by justice and mercy. We know this one as King Jesus, and he will return to earth once more and take his people unto himself for all eternity.

2022 Membership Covenants! Advent I begins on Saturday, November 27. 2022 Discipleship Covenants are available for servants of Emmanuel wishing to sign or renew their membership covenant for the new year 2022. A Covenant Renewal Service will take place on Jan. 22 at our 6pm Worship Service. Membership at Emmanuel is an annual renewal; a yearly commitment to the walk of discipleship in the footsteps of Jesus. Disciples seek to pray daily, worship weekly, grow spiritually, read & study Scripture on a regular basis, serve others, share the good news, & live and give generously. Those signing an Emmanuel Discipleship Covenant may have membership in another congregation as well. Questions? Contact Pastor Dave Steffenson! 24 Discipleship Covenants have already been signed and submitted. Thank you!

Christmas Keepsake Ornament: Each year, Emmanuel Lutheran Church celebrates the Season of Christmas with a commemorative ornament. This year’s Theme is “The Miracle of Christmas”. One ornament per household.

Holiday Cookies: Plates of store-bought holiday cookies are being shared with area Hospitality Houses during the Season of Advent! Those wishing to help with this distribution of Christ-centered love may contact Judy Pearce. Judy received a Thrivent Action Team grant in support of this ministry.

Thrivent Choice Dollars: If you have Thrivent Products don’t forget to designate your Choice Dollars. Call #1-800-847-4836 or go online at www.thrivent.org. We’ve received \$1,572.00 in Thrivent Choice Dollars thus far in 2021.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota
Contact Information: 3819—18th Ave. NW, Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-206-3048 www.emmanuelofrochester.org



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Saturday, November 27
Advent I Worship at 6pm
- Wednesday, Dec. 1
Men’s Bible Study at 11am (Oasis Church);
Women’s Study at 1pm
- Thursday, December 2
Council Meeting at 1pm
- Saturday, Dec. 4 —Eve of
Advent II Worship, 6pm;
Emmanuel Huddle, 7pm
- Pick up your gift of this
year’s Emmanuel
Christmas Ornament.
- Holy Communion will be
offered on December 11
(Advent III), Christmas
Eve, and Jan. 1.
- **Acts 4:31—The Church
Prayed!**

***Hymn: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”—LBW #30**

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Jeremiah 33:14-16—A Righteous Branch

14 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 15 In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 16 In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.””

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-10 (Responsively)

L: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust;

C: Let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

L: Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;

C: They shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

L: Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

C: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

L: Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love,

C: For they have been from of old.

L: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

C: According to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

L: Good and upright is the Lord;

C: Therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

L: He leads the humble in what is right,

C: And teaches the humble his way.

L: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,

C: For those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

I Thessalonians 3:9-13—Blameless in Holiness

9 What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, 10 as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? 11 Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, 12 and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, 13 so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 21st. Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

25 [Jesus said,] “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, 26 people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” 29 And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. 30 As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. 31 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

32 Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 34 But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. 35 For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

***Hymn:** “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”—LBW #34

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel. Shall come to you, O Israel.

1. Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. **[Refrain]**
2. Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free
Your own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. **[Refrain]**
3. Oh, come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by you advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. **[Refrain]**

***Hymn:** “Savior of the Nations, Come” —LBW #28

1. Savior of the nations come; Show the glory of the Son!
Every people stand in awe; Praise the perfect Son of God!
2. Advent of our Lord & King; Miracle of Christmas sing!
Wondrous birth, oh wondrous child, Of the virgin undefiled.
3. God the Father's precious Son, Girds himself in flesh to run.
For the trophies of our souls, longer than this round earth rolls.

Announcements//Scripture Readings//Songs

Emmanuel Huddle: December 4 at 7pm! Join us following worship on December 4 for conversation regarding our shared ministry. We'll have a first look at our mission plan budget for 2022, an update on our Building project, and also conversation regarding Ten Goals for our Ten Year Church Anniversary!

Nominating Committee: Members of Emmanuel are to prayerfully consider ways they can serve Christ and put their discipleship into practice during the year 2022. Members of the Nominating Committee will be contacting you soon.

Church Land Update: Things are moving forward on God's Land. The driveway and parking area are in. Weather permitting, an electrical transformer will be installed soon. Preparations have been made for the Shelter. The Cross has been placed near the church sign. Thanks is offered to LeRoy and Margaret Quam for the gift of a beautiful cross with an eternal circle. Forever is God's love, in Christ, for you!

Men's Bible Study: Men of Emmanuel Lutheran meet on Tuesday mornings at 8:30am via email & study the Bible Readings for the upcoming weekend. Let Pastor Dave know if you would like the study notes emailed to you. In-person studies will be offered on the following **Wednesdays: Dec. 1, 8 & 22 at 11am.** Location: Oasis Church. Bring a Bible, & a friend.

Women's Bible Study! A Bible Study on “Women of the Bible” continues on Wednesdays at 1pm at the home of Judy Pearce with Leitha Bothun as the study leader. Upcoming Study Dates: December 1 & 15. December 15 will be a potluck Christmas Lunch. Contact Judy or Leitha with questions.

Snow Removal: Emmanuel is responsible for removal of snow on the Oasis sidewalks, one day each week during the winter months. In the past, Mondays have been our day of choice. Volunteers are needed to assist with snow removal.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota
Contact Information: 3819—18th Ave. NW, Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-206-3048 www.emmanuelofrochester.org