

Sermon: “What Shall We Do?”	Pastor Dave Steffenson
*Hymn of the Day: “Song of St. Nicholas”	INSERT
*Confession of Faith: “Nicene Creed”	Page 84
*The Prayers (bulletin page 3)	
*The Peace	Page 86
Offering	
*Offertory: “Take My Life, that I May Be”	vs. 1 & 6 of #406
*Offertory Prayer	Page 88
*The Great Thanksgiving (#33)	Page 88ff
*Lord’s Prayer: <i>Traditional Version</i>	Page 91
<i>Invitation & Distribution</i>	
<i>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.</i>	
Lamb of God	Page 92
Communion Hymn: “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”	#25
*Table Blessing	Page 92
*Post-Communion Canticle: “Thank the Lord”	Page 92
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*Sending Hymn: “Sent Forth by God’s Blessings”	#221
*Dismissal	Page 95

Postlude

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 & practicing Emmanuel – God with us – in daily life! May the hope & promise of Advent equip the saints for Witness in the World!

Visit us at: www.emmanuelofrochester.org.

The Prayers

A: As we await the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray for all who have need of his love to lighten their darkness.

A brief silence.

A: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, that we may receive with gladness your holy Word for the renewing of our spirits. Help us see our sins against you & our neighbors with a sober & sorrowful clarity. Give us the strength to repent of our wrongs, amend the harm we have done, and trust in your gracious willingness to forgive. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, that we may respond to your mercy and to your providential care with joy and loud praise. Open our eyes, so we may behold your wonderful works in our lives and your awesome deeds among the nations. Grant that same vision to the leaders of the nations, that together as one we may form communities that give hope to the hopeless. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, that we may suffer with our brothers and sisters in Christ who are robbed of home and family, imprisoned, tortured, and even killed for their love of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lead us to pray daily in their defense, and to remember all the saints in Light who laid down their lives to preach your Truth with their blood. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, that we may love as you love, following the example of St. Nicholas. Help us to hear the message of our brother, John the Baptist. Let the reality of sin and judgment color our preparations for the Advent of the Holy Child, so that even overexcited children and tired adults may experience a true joy in the grace we receive through him. Hold close in your embrace those who are sick & in need of healing (**names**). Bless those have preceded us in death.

Comfort us with the truth that they live now in your pure light. Keep us one in faith with all the departed saints, that we may be gathered with them in that glorious day. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We pray with the whole Church on earth, “Come, Lord Jesus,” and awaiting the return of your Son, commend all for whom we pray to your fatherly care.

C: Amen.

Psalm 66:1-12 —responsively

L: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

C: Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!

L: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

C: All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name."

L: Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

C: He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.

L: There did we rejoice in him, who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations;

C: Let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

L: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

C: Who has kept our soul among the living & has not let our feet slip.

L: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

C: You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs;

L: You let men ride over our heads; we went through fire & through water;

C: Yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.

WORSHIP SERVANTS Tonight:

Pianist: MarJean Damerval

Scripture Reader & Prayers: Julie Steffenson

Communion Server: Julie Steffenson

Ushers: Bob Harms & Creig Anderson

Acolyte: Cabe Siebenaler

Coffee: Peg Holtan

Treats: Jean Wanek

Sound: Don Holtan

Set-up and Take-down: Julie Steffenson, Janet Sunde & Friends



**Worship—Eve of
Advent Two
Dec. 5, 2015
6:00 p.m.**

Lutheran Book of Worship—Setting II

** indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

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.

Lighting of Advent Candles

Sing: "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" (2x) vs. 2—Insert

**Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness Page 77*

**Gathering Hymn: "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry" #36*

**Prayer of the Day:*

P: Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of your only-begotten Son, that by his coming we may be enabled to serve you with pure minds; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson: Malachi 3:1-7b

Psalm 66:1-12

Bulletin Page 4

Second Lesson: Philippians 1:2-11

**Gospel Acclamation: "Alleluia" Page 83*

**Holy Gospel: Luke 3:1-20*

Children's Message: "Jolly Old St. Nick" Pastor Dave Steffenson

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 8 to discuss the readings for Advent III: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Psalm 85; Philippians 4:4-7; & Luke 7:18-35.

Saturday School 2015: Join us at 5:10 p.m. each Saturday in the Oasis Church Fellowship Hall as we learn Bible Stories and enjoy two special units this year on the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles' Creed. Games, skits, music and crafts will be a part of the learning experience. All kids are welcome to participate in Saturday School. There will be no Saturday School on December 26.

Women of the Word! Two studies are available. One for women during the day and one in the evening. Both groups are studying "Famous Women in the Word of God". Session Two for the Evening Study option will be held at Katie Siebenaler's house (12827 Hwy 52 S.E., Chatfield, MN) on Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 6:30pm. Session Eight of the Afternoon Study will be at Oasis Church on December 16 at 1pm.

PRAYING FOR OUR SCHOOLS: During the month of December we are praying for Washington Elementary School. We will deliver goodies as an expression of our love & gratitude on December 14. Thanks for keeping the staff, students & families of our area schools in your prayers.

BENEFIT DESSERT CONCERT: Oasis Church is hosting the "Joy Of Christmas" benefit desert concert with Crossroads Chorale & JuBell-Lante on Sunday, December 6 at 6:30pm. Concert & Dessert are free. Donations of food and cash will support the Supermarket Saturday Ministry of Oasis Church. Reservations are required (507-289-8596).

Plainview Community Choir: The Annual Christmas Cantata will be presented at the Plainview High School on Sunday evening, December 6 at 7pm. The title of this year's Cantata is: "Majesty of Heaven" by Tom Fettke. Jan Fiskum will direct the choir, and Darald Bothun will be the narrator. A freewill offering will be received. Contact Darald Bothun for more information.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota
Contact Information: 1815—38th Street NW, Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-206-3048 www.emmanuelofrochester.org

Malachi 3:1-7b — Offerings of Righteousness

[The oracle said,] 1 "Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. 2 But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. 3 He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. 4 Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. 5 Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts. 6 For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. 7 From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Philippians 1:2-11 — The Fruit of Righteousness

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, 4 always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. 6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. 7 It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. 8 For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. 9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The 2016 Discipleship Covenants are available for signing. Remember, Membership at Emmanuel is an annual renewal. 54 Covenants were signed in 2015. Thanks for making daily discipleship a priority in your walk with Jesus.

Gospel Reading—Luke 3:1-20

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke the 3rd. Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

1 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, 2 during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3 And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. 5 Every valley shall be filled, & every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, 6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" 7 He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. 9 Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." 10 And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" 11 And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." 12 Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" 13 And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." 14 Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, & be content with your wages." 15 As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, 16 John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit & fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." 18 So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. 19 But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, 20 added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Annual Meeting: Change of Date—This Year's Emmanuel Lutheran Church Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 31, 2015, at 4pm, followed by a potluck supper. Child Care will be provided. Meat and beverages will also be provided. Please bring a dish (salad, side dish or dessert) to share.

The Emmanuel Weekly

Saturday, December 5, 2015

Eve of Advent Two—6 pm

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

ADVENT

Advent's color is BLUE, the color of hope. In Christ we are 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 and Sacrament. We await the Advent of God in the Nativity of our Lord. Blessed Advent to you and yours! Thanks to LeRoy Quam for making our Advent Wreath, and Julie Steffenson for sewing our new Advent Pulpit Parament.

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, & used his inheritance to help the poor & 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.

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

Also, pick up your copy of the Advent Devotional Calendar, and the Our Daily Bread Devotional for December—February.



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Sat, December 5—St. Nicholas Celebration (9am-12:00 noon) Saturday School @ 5:10pm; Advent II Worship at 6pm
- Sunday, December 6 Supermarket Saturday Benefit Concert @ 6:30pm; Plainview Cantata @ 7pm
- Tues., Dec. 8 at 8 am Men's Bible Study Breakfast at Charlie's; Council Mtg. @ 10am; Women's Bible Study @ 6:30pm—Katie's
- Sat, December 12 Saturday School @ 5:10pm; Advent III Worship at 6pm; Huddle after worship
- December 24 @ 4 pm Christmas Eve

The Song of Saint Nicholas (tune: Jolly Old Saint Nicholas)

Once upon a long ago, Very far away,
In the town of Bethlehem, Lying in some hay,
Jesus came for you and me, Bringing heaven's love
As a gift for us to have, From the Lord above.

In the town of Myra once, Also long ago,
Lived good Bishop Nicholas, Hair as white as snow.
Nicholas loved Jesus who, Loved and saved us all.
"I will do the same," said he, "Helping great and small."

Thankful Bishop Nicholas, Friendly, good and wise;
When he could, he helped the poor, Always by surprise.
Rich men came to Nicholas, Bringing wealth to share
So it could be sent to those, Living in despair.

We should be like Nicholas, Thankful, good and kind,
Loving those who need our help, All the ones we find.
Jesus gave his life for us, Taught us how to give:
Share but never seek rewards, That is how to live!

Bethlehem, the star shines bright, Lead us, saint today,
To the Holy City where, Christ, the child, is laid.
As we see you kneeling there, We adore and say,
May the joys of Christmas night, Cheer our world today.

*Text: Mike Sherer, St. Nicholas Eve, December 5, 1972; and J M Rosenthal
Tune: Traditional Jolly Old St. Nicholas*

Salvation Army Bell Ringing! Emmanuel Lutheran Church is partnering again this year with the Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell Ringing campaign. There are locations throughout the Rochester area, including Byron & Stewartville, from November 14th through Christmas Eve. A manned kettle nets about \$30 more per shift than an unmanned kettle; a huge difference in donations and the ability to help those in need. Kettle donations provide services ranging from food, clothing, shelter, medical & dental assistance to counseling, adult day care programs & spiritual guidance. See Lee Pearce to sign-up now as part of the Emmanuel Bell Ringing Team to get your choice locations and times. Make it a family affair! Our Emmanuel Goal is 40 Servant Hours! 32 hours have already been committed.

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