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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.

The Prayers

A: Together, let us praise the wonders of God and pray for all people everywhere, according to their needs. *(a brief silence)*

A: God of faithfulness, the heavens sing of the wonderful things you do. You touch each of us and everyone around us with your permanent love. Teach us to recognize your wonders and share your Word near and far. Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,

C: I will proclaim your faithfulness forever.

A: Lord, help us follow the example of Mary. She was troubled and confused, but when the angel called her by name and told her not to be afraid, she expressed trust, confidence & obedience. Remind us that there is nothing that You cannot do – and you work in us and this world constantly, even when it seems dark and scary. Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,

C: I will proclaim your faithfulness forever.

A: Guide and inform leaders at all levels of our communities, states and nations, that their decisions, words & actions further your plan & bring glory to your holy name. Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,

C: I will proclaim your faithfulness forever.

A: God of wonders, bless your church universal and all who preach, teach and share your Word, thereby nurturing your people and serving your mission in our congregation and around the world. May we inspire and reignite those in our midst to live in the spirit of Christmas all year long. Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,

C: I will proclaim your faithfulness forever.

A: Loving God, we ask that you comfort your people who are hurting today, especially as we celebrate the perfect gift of your Son, our savior Jesus Christ. Grant healing and an extra measure of your love to those who are ill, those in pain, those who are hungry or cold, and those who live in sadness and despair. We ask your blessing today upon those whom we name before you. *(brief silence)* Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,

C: I will proclaim your faithfulness forever.

A: As many of us gather with family, friends and neighbors for Christmas festivities, may we take the opportunity to share your story, help those around us grow in your love and reflect on your perfect gift. Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,

C: I will proclaim your faithfulness forever.

P: We commend all for whom we pray into your hands, trusting in your constant love and mercy, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*Sing: "My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord"—#180
(Luke 1:46b-55) to the tune of
"Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"—#230)*

1. My soul now magnifies the Lord; my spirit leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind regard, and I am blest for time to come.
2. For He alone who shows such might, has done amazing things to me. His mercy flows; His name like light, remains in time perpetually.
3. His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scatters those of proud intent, and casts them down from high estate; then gives the low His nourishment.
4. He feeds the hungry as His own; the wealthy leave with empty hands. He gives His help to Israel; His gracious promise always stands

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.

Christmas Open House at Pastor Dave and Julie's place: Sunday, January 4 from 1-4 p.m. Beverages, desserts, snacks & Christmas goodies will be served. In preparation for Epiphany, we'll read the story of the Magi (Matthew 2) and sing some favorite Epiphany Songs. King Cake will be served.



**Worship—Eve of
Advent Four
Dec. 20, 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: Blessed are you, God of our salvation; you promised that the One of peace would come from Bethlehem to feed your flock & make us live securely. As we light these candles, kindle in us the fire of your love, infuse in us the fruit of your Word, & empower us to lift up the lowly & to fill the hungry with good things; let your face shine on us and bless us that we may be saved. Amen.

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*Gathering Hymn: "Savior of the Nations, Come"	#28
*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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson: II Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Psalm—Luke 1:46b-55

Second Lesson: Romans 16:25-27

Bulletin Page 4

Membership at Emmanuel: “Now you are the Body of Christ and individually members of it”—I Cor. 12:27. Baptized members are servants of Emmanuel, living out their God-given faith in congregational life; committed to the walk of discipleship, growing up into the full maturity of Christ. Each December, Christians desiring membership at Emmanuel Lutheran of Rochester are invited to sign up (be enrolled for the next calendar year) on our Servant Roster. To be a member is to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, baptized & committed to the Marks of Discipleship. If you desire to “praise, proclaim, and practice Emmanuel—God With Us—in daily life,” then complete the 2015 Emmanuel Discipleship Membership Covenant and walk with us to the glory of God!

MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP: Signposts guide our way—Disciples seek to pray daily, worship weekly, grow spiritually, read & study Scripture on a regular basis, serve others, share the good news, and give generously.

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 23 & discuss the readings for Christmas.

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. No Saturday School during the Season of Christmas (December 27 and January 3).

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 date and location is: * Monday, Dec. 22 from 11am-1pm at Hobby Lobby—Bob/Marcia Harms, and Dick/Nancy Stanley. **Thank you to all of our Emmanuel Servants who rang bells at the Salvation Army Kettles this Advent Season.**

Christmas Open House—Sunday, Jan. 4 from 1-4pm: Pastor Dave and Julie invite members of Emmanuel and their friends to an open house in celebration of our Lord’s birth. Beverages, desserts, snacks & Christmas goodies will be served. In preparation for Epiphany, we’ll read the story of the Magi and sing some favorite Epiphany Songs.

II Samuel 7:1-11, 16—God’s Covenant with David

1 Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, 2 the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." 3 And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you." 4 But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, 5 "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? 6 I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. 7 In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' 8 Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. 9 And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. 10 And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ... 16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.'"

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Romans 16:25-27—Doxology

25 Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26 but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- 27 to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading—Luke 1:26-38

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." 34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

WORSHIP SERVANTS Tonight:

Pianist: Mandy Lambrecht

Scripture Reader/Prayers/Communion Server: Kari Richards

Set-up: Julie Steffenson

Take Down: Janet Sunde

Ushers: Rich Sunde & Arne Nelson

Sound: Don Holtan

Coffee: Peg Holtan

Treats: Samia Nelson

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota
Contact Information: 1815—38th Street NW, Rochester, MN
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The Emmanuel Weekly

Saturday, Dec. 20, 2014
Eve of Advent IV—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!

NALC SEMINARY SUPPORT

Emmanuel's Christmas Eve offering will support the North American Lutheran Church Seminary. Last year Emmanuel gave \$4,593.00. Prayerfully consider your gift and mark your offering envelope: "Christmas Gift". Thanks for your generous support of our Seminary!

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



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Sat, December 20
Saturday School @ 5:10pm; Advent IV
Worship @ 6pm
- Tues, Dec. 23 @ 8am
Men's Bible Study
Breakfast at Charlie's
- Wed, Dec. 24 @ 6 pm
Emmanuel Christmas
Eve Worship
- Sat, December 27
No Saturday School;
Worship @ 6pm
- Sun, Dec. 28—Pastor
Dave @ Gift of Grace
- Sat, January 3, 2015
Bell Ringing—12 Days
of Christmas Worship
Service @ 6 pm
- Sun, Jan. 4 (1-4 p.m.)
Open house at Pastor
Dave & Julie's Place