

**Save the Date: Annual Meeting—Sunday, January 18, 2020**  
This Year's Emmanuel Lutheran Church Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, Jan. 18 at 3:30pm, followed by a potluck supper. Child Care will be provided. Meat & beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish (salad, side dish or dessert) to share.

**Enrollment for membership at Emmanuel Lutheran in 2020 is open. Complete a Discipleship Membership Covenant and place it in the offering basket before January 4, 2020. We have 45 completed covenants thus far. Thanks!**

**WORSHIP HELPERS:**

Pianist: Beth Daede

Guest Pastor: Rev. Waldemar Gies

Scripture Reader, Prayers & Communion Helper: Lee Pearce

Ushers/Acolyte: Darald Bothun & LeRoy Quam

Sound: Don Holtan

Treats: Judy Pearce

Coffee: Peg Holtan

Set Up: Julie Steffenson

Take Down: Janet Sunde & friends

*Thanks for worshiping 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 & practicing Emmanuel – God with us – in daily life! Merry Christmas!*

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

**A GIFT FOR YOU!** Emmanuel Lutheran has an annual tradition of providing a Christmas keepsake ornament for each family. This year's ornament is a GIFT ornament in celebration of Jesus, the Ultimate Gift. We offer thanks to Lee and Judy Pearce for coordinating this keepsake ministry. We hope this keepsake provides a cherished memory of your life at *Emmanuel*. Be sure to get yours today.

**FYI: Offerings received tonight will be deposited & recorded as gifts for 2019. Thanks for your generous support of Emmanuel!**



**Worship  
Christmas I  
Dec. 28, 2019  
6:00 p.m.**

**Lutheran Book of Worship—Setting II**

*\* indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

\*Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness Page 77

\*Gathering Hymn: "What Child Is This" #40

\*Greeting:

P: The grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the WORD made flesh, be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

\*Hymn of Praise: "Angels We Have Heard on High" #71

\*Prayer of the Day:

P: Heavenly Father, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature and be born of the Virgin Mary. Grant that we, having been redeemed & made your children by grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever.

C: **Amen.**

Lesson: Isaiah 63:7-14

Psalm 111 (read responsively by half verse) Page 270

Lesson: Hebrews 2:10-18

Gospel Verse: "Joy To the World" — verses 1-2 #39

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:13-23

Song: "Joy to the World" — verses 3-4 #39

Children's Message:

Rev. Waldemar Gies

Sermon: "The GIFT of Steadfast Love" Rev. Waldemar Gies

\*Hymn of the Day: "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #290

\*Confession of Faith: "Nicene Creed" Page 84

\*The Prayers: each petition ends with, "Lord in your mercy," ... and the congregation responds with, "Hear our prayer."

\*The Peace Page 86

Offering - Gift of Music by our Worship Pianist

\*The Great Thanksgiving—Eucharistic Prayer for Christmas

\*Lord's Prayer: *Traditional Version* Page 91

*Invitation & Distribution—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 & believe that Jesus Christ, crucified & risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life & salvation." We practice Intinction at Emmanuel Lutheran. Receive a wafer (the body of Christ) & dip it into the cup of wine (the blood of Christ).*

**Communion Hymn: "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" #54**

\*Table Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, Word made flesh and born of Mary, keep you always in His light and love.

C: **Amen.**

Benediction Page 95

\***Sending Hymn: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #60**

\*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota**  
**Contact Information: 3819—18th Ave. NW, Rochester, MN**  
**Phone: 507-206-3048 [www.emmanuelofrochester.org](http://www.emmanuelofrochester.org)**

# The Emmanuel Weekly

**Saturday, Dec. 28, 2019**  
**Christmas I - 6:00 p.m.**

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

*Merry Christmas to You and Yours!  
Remember, Christmas is a Season,  
12 Days long! Ring those Bells!*

**THANKS!**

Special thanks to Rev. Waldemar Gies who is serving as our guest pastor tonight, while Pastor Steffenson is away on vacation.

**First Sunday after Christmas**

The capacity of the human race for darkness and evil is a reality we constantly face in this life. At times we are tempted to think that evil and darkness win. The message of Christmas still reminds us that the light of Christ cannot be extinguished. The birth of Jesus does not change the reality of our human propensity for sin, but it offers us the hope & promise that God is present with us always (Emmanuel), even in tragedy.

**The January 2020 Emmanuel Prayer Calendar & Epistle Newsletter are available in print! Also available, the current issue of the Our Daily Bread Devotional. Pick yours up today.**



## CALENDAR ITEMS

- Saturday, Dec. 28  
Christmas I Worship at 6pm; NO Saturday School or GIFT tonight
- Sunday-Friday, December 29-Jan. 3,  
Pastor Dave is on Vacation.
- Tues, Dec. 31—NO  
Men's Bible Study
- Saturday, January 4  
Saturday School & GIFT at 5pm; 12 Days of Christmas Bell Ringing Worship at 6pm. Don't forget to bring your BELLS!
- Sat, Jan. 18—Annual Meeting (3:30pm) and Potluck (4:45pm); Worship & Covenant Renewal at 6pm

## Scripture Readings — Christmas I

### Isaiah 63:7-14 — The LORD's Mercy Remembered

7 I will recount the steadfast love of the Lord, the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. 8 For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely.” And he became their Savior. 9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. 10 But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them. 11 Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people. Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit, 12 who caused his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, 13 who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. 14 Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the Lord gave them rest. So you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Hebrews 2:10-18 — Perfect Through Suffering

10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. 11 For he who sanctifies & those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, 12 saying, “I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.” 13 And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Behold, I and the children God has given me.” 14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all

those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. 16 For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. 17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-23

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 2nd Chapter.

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

13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” 14 And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt 15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.” 16 Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. 17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: 18 “A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.” 19 But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.” 21 And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. 23 And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Prayers of the Church

A: With joy and confidence, let us pray to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for the needs of all people throughout the world.

*A brief silence*

A: Dear Father, thank you for the gift of your Son. Thank you for making us his brothers and sisters, and for giving us the privilege of calling you Abba. Thank you for making us your family! Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: Guide and protect your Church. Let it cherish and share the gifts of life, forgiveness, and union with your dear Son. Give it grace to proclaim them boldly and faithfully; and to bestow them generously, so that the family you have created in him may grow and flourish. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: Innocent children were killed by Herod as he ruthlessly pursued the newborn King. We pray for our sisters & brothers across the world who are tortured and killed because they name Jesus as Lord. Protect them from evil. Keep their faith strong and their hearts pure. By their witness to the Babe of Bethlehem, call their tormentors to repentance and to faith.

Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: Bless and protect our military; police; first responders; and all who protect life and liberty. Grant them wisdom, integrity and courage. Let the innocent, the weak, and the vulnerable call on them confidently. Bring them safely home to their loved ones; and heal those who are wounded in body, mind or soul. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: We sing of Jesus, the Sun of Righteousness, risen with healing in his wings. Let the light of his countenance shine

upon everyone troubled by pain, confusion, sorrow, sin, or grief. Especially we pray for [NAMES]. Restore them to life, health and hope. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: Lord, keep safe those who have died trusting in your promised mercy. Comfort all whose grief runs deep during this season of joy. Keep us close to Jesus. You kept our Savior, and his earthly parents, safe throughout their exile, and brought them into the Promised Land. We pray that you would bring us through the dangers and sorrows of this life into the eternal home you have promised to those whom you name as your beloved children. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

A: Hear and mercifully grant us, dear Lord, all that we ask that conforms to your good and perfect will for us, for your Name's sake.

**C: AMEN.**

### **Suggested names to be remembered in worship:**

Pastor Dan Berkland, Leitha Bothun, Kara Bothun, Dan Grimsrud, Barb Steffenson, Philip Coolidge, Kelly Stoyles, Diane Boelter, Dick Stanley, Pam Hammon & Katie, Waldemar & Kathy Gies, etc.