

WELCOME TO EMMAUS LUTHERAN!



THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Sunday, December 22, 2024



GOD'S DIVINE SERVICE TO US:

WELCOME! What a blessing to gather together to worship the One True God! The Lord will bless your worship as he brings His gifts to you through Word and Sacrament. May we all respond with prayer, praise and thanksgiving. **We invite you to prepare for worship in silence and prayer.** Remembering your Baptism, you are encouraged to make the sign of the cross when you see this symbol ✝ in the bulletin. **If you are a guest, Pastor Olsen would love to meet you and we ask that you sign our guest Book located in the front hallway.**



WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN: Worship is a time for the entire family to be together to hear the Word of God, for faith comes by hearing (Rom. 10:17). Therefore we encourage parents and children of all ages to sit together in the service. Understanding it is difficult for little ones to sit for long periods, ***Totes for Tots*** activity bags are available as you enter church (*by the information table*) for children to use during the worship service.

Each bag contains books and quiet toys. Please return the bags and their contents after the worship service. Thank you! A ***Cry Room*** is also available in the Preschool/Mrs. MacKenzie's room (east hall), where you can listen to the worship service.



DON'T UNDERSTAND THE WORSHIP SERVICE? If it is your first time, some things may seem foreign. Worship does not come naturally we have to learn it. It does not come on the first try; the first hour in a foreign country the language and customs may be foreign. The liturgy is the special activity of the baptized people of God. It has its own special language like we do in our workplaces. It has its own customs like we do in our families. Every Sunday we learn more of worship and faith. The liturgy is where God

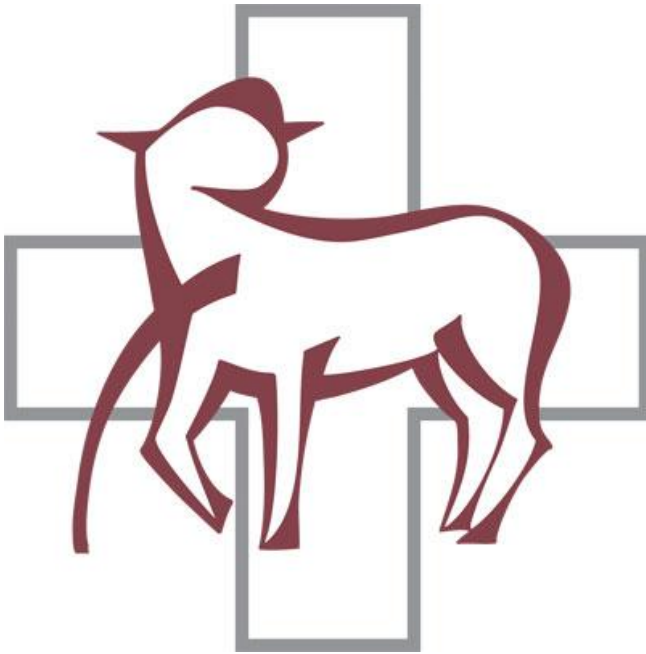
reveals Himself to us and gives us His gifts. Here we learn who He is and how to respond to Him. The words of worship come from the Scriptures and its form has been used for 2,000 years. So don't worry if it all seems strange. You learn by practicing - join us each week!

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the House of the Lord...'" Psalm 122:1



PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

RESTROOMS are located on each side of the sanctuary. There is a baby changing table located in the girl's locker room on the west side. We also have a **Family Restroom** (handicap accessible & baby changing station) located at the southwest corner of the building, just outside the Church Office.



DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Three
Pg 184

Prelude

Welcome

Divine Service
Lutherans follow an order of worship based exclusively on Scripture and focused completely on Jesus. Through the Word and Sacraments, God speaks to His people.

Opening Hymn

338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Choir v. 1 Congregation v. 2



Choir 1 Come, Thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
Cong. 2 Born Thy peo-ple to de-liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for-ev-er, Now Thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e-ter-nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a-lone;



Dear de-sire of ev-'ry na-tion, Joy of ev-'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it Raise us to Thy glo-rious throne.

Text and tune: Public domain

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

Invocation

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

Summary:

Hymn writer Charles Wesley begins this hymn by alluding to scriptural prophecies of Christ, and not only Christ's first coming, but what He brings in His second coming. (Isaiah 9:6; Luke 1:67-75; Isaiah 61:1-2; 2 Peter 1:3-4)

Invocation is from the Latin for "call upon"; the words spoken at the beginning of the service; serves as a reminder of Holy Baptism.

P = Pastor

L = Liturgist/Lector

C = Congregation

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalms 32:5

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. [John 20:19-23]

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Kyrie is Greek for "Lord, have mercy." It is the first prayer of the congregation in the Divine Service; it is a cry for mercy that our Lord and King will hear us and help us in our needs and troubles.

Canticle Hymn & Lighting of the Advent Candles

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Choir: *Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

Congregation:

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

Refrain
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp). The first three staves contain the main melody with lyrics. The fourth staff is the start of the refrain, and the fifth staff continues it. The lyrics are: '1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.' The refrain lyrics are: 'Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!'.

Summary:

Each stanza of this hymn concentrates on a different biblical name for Christ, making this hymn a rich source of Christian meditation. (Isaiah 7:10-14; Isaiah 11:1-5, 10-11; Matthew 1:23)

Choir: *O root of Jesse, standing as an ensign before the people, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage; Come quickly to deliver us.*

All: v. 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

Choir: *Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel! O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel. You open and no one can close, You close and no one can open: Come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and the shadow of death.*

All: v. 5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. *Refrain.*

Choir: *O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting: Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.*

**All: v. 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.**

Choir: *Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel! O Emmanuel,
our King and our Lord, the anointed for the nations and their Savior. Come
and save us, O Lord our God.*

**All: v. 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.**

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Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might,
that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your
grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Salutation shows the special relationship between the congregation and the pastor, God's representative. It is a greeting found often in the Bible.

The Collect is the pastor's first prayer in the name of the people, as he speaks for the congregation. It "collects" the theme for the day in a concise way.

Old Testament: Micah 5:2-5a

²But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. ⁵And he shall be their peace.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Summary:

The promised King shall come forth and He shall bring security and peace.

Gradual

Adult Choir

Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion (Kenneth Kosche)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

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The Gradual is a response of praise between the Old Testament and Epistle readings.

Epistle: Hebrews 10:5-10

⁵When Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’” ⁸When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second.

¹⁰And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

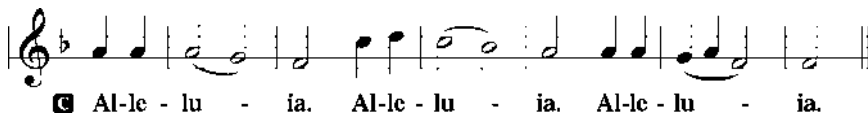
L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Summary:

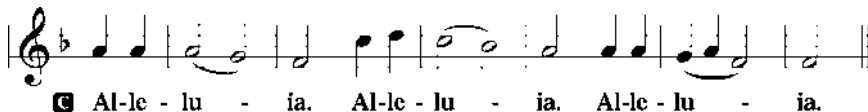
The sacrifice of Christ is a one time for all sacrifice

Alleluia



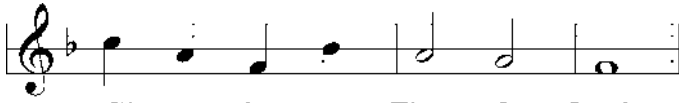
Alleluia is Hebrew for “praise the Lord” and is a word of joy and gladness.

Choir: *Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel.*



Holy Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

[P] The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.



Hymn of the Day

356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

Text and tune: Public domain

Summary:

Mary was uniquely favored among women—chosen by God to give birth to His Son! She responded with firm faith in God's word of promise carried to her by the angel Gabriel. (Luke 1:26-38; Isaiah 7:14)

Sermon

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

Offering

Please place your offering in one of the collection plates located at the back of the sanctuary. Extra offering envelopes are available on the hymnal cart. If you would like to contribute electronically, please sign up at www.emmausfortwayne.org and click on "Give Online" or use Vanco Mobile, available from the App Store. Thank you for your support of the ministry at Emmaus!

The Sermon: The preacher proclaims God's Law and Gospel for the hearers.

The Offering symbolizes the "spiritual worship" of Christian lives offered in response to God and unites the faithful in an act of fellowship.

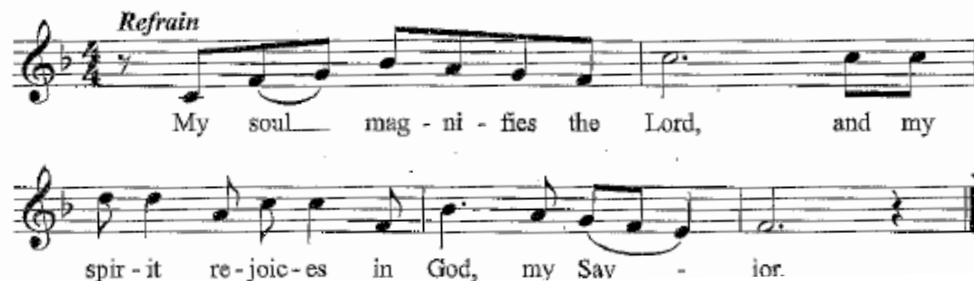
Voluntary

Luke 1:46-55

Magnificat (Kenneth T. Kosche)

Choir: *My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God,
my Savior.*

Congregation:



Choir: *For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.*

All: Refrain

Choir: *He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away. He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed Forever. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

All: Refrain

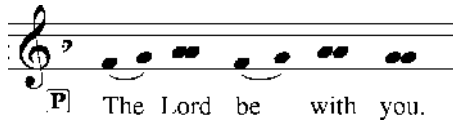
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Prayer of the Church

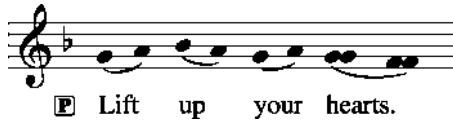
The Prayer of the Church include prayers that what has been heard may be taken to heart and that God would take care of our needs.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

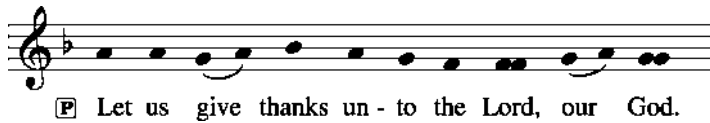
Preface



2 Timothy 4:22



[Colossians 3:1]



Psalms 136



P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Preface is a proclamation of praise and thanksgiving that begins the Service of the Sacrament. A dialogue between pastor and the people used since the Early Church.

The Proper Preface is a special prayer said before the Lord's Supper that emphasizes the key themes of the feast, occasion, or season of the Church Year.

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

The Sanctus is Latin for "holy."

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it
is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;
and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who

The Lord's Prayer is the model prayer Jesus taught to the disciples (Matthew 6:9-13). Sometimes it is called the Our Father, after the first words of the prayer.

tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to
temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The words spoken by Christ when He instituted the Sacrament of the Altar; the pastor speaks these very words of Christ at the consecration of the bread and wine.

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

C A - men.

Pax Domini is Latin for "peace of the Lord." In anticipation of the blessings to be received, the pastor and people announce the peace of God to one another.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

Agnus Dei is Latin for "Lamb of God"; we adore the Savior who is present in the Holy Meal.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution

Our Holy Communion Practice

In Holy Communion we are joined in a personal way with Christ and with one another as we receive the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins. Therefore, out of faithfulness toward God, and in sincere love that seeks to guard the spiritual well-being of all who would commune, Emmaus practices Closed Communion.

Holy Scripture clearly teaches that those communing together be unified in their confession of the faith, and also that those who commune unworthily do great harm to themselves. When a person partakes of the sacrament, he/she is also confessing his/her unreserved agreement with the doctrine and practice that is proclaimed from the altar and pulpit of which the Sacrament is administered. Therefore, we ask you to refrain from communing if you are not a member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. All others are still welcome to come forward, crossing your arms to receive a blessing.

Please speak with the pastor about receiving instruction to learn what Scripture teaches and our church confesses. We pray fervently for the day when Christ returns and all divisions will cease. Thank you for respecting our practice.

In the Distribution we receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

Distribution Hymns

933 My Soul Rejoices



1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the
2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the



great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me
great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He



fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and
shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion



bles - sing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might - y and
halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the



ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy
wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the



sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,
to - ken All that was spo - ken To A - br'ham's off - spring



Love and re - vere Him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!
God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

Summary:

*The Magnificat from
Luke 1:46-55.*

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Hymn

Adult Choir

The Truth Sent From Above (R.V. Williams/adapted)

This is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love; Therefore don't turn me from your door, but hearken all both rich and poor. The first thing which I do relate, is tht God did man create, The next thing which to you I'll tell, woman was made with man to dwell. Then after this 'twas God's own choice to lace them both in paradise, There to remain from evil free, except they ate of such a tree. And they did eat, which was a sin, and thus their ruin did begin; Ruined themselves, both you and me, and all of their prosperity. Thus we were heirs to endless woes, til God the Lord did interpose, And so a promise soon did run that He would redeem us by His Son.

-Herefordshire Carol

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362 O Sing of Christ



1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind-ness of the Lord,
2 What Ad-am lost, none could re - claim, And Par - a - dise was barred
3 He came to that which was His own, But He was not re - ceived;
4 Lord Je - sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A - mong us here on earth



E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.
Un - til the sec - ond Ad - am came To mend what sin had marred.
Yet still through Him God's glo - ry shone, And some His name be - lieved.
As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.



Up - on our frail hu - man-i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace
For when the time was full and right God sent His on - ly Son;
To these He gave the right to be The heirs of heav'n a - bove,
Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,



The full-ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.
He came to us as life and light And our re - demp-tion won.
Born not of hu - man an - ces - try But born of God in love.
That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

Summary:

So many gifts given because of the birth of the Son of God.

(John 1:1, 4, 10-14; Colossians 1:15-20)

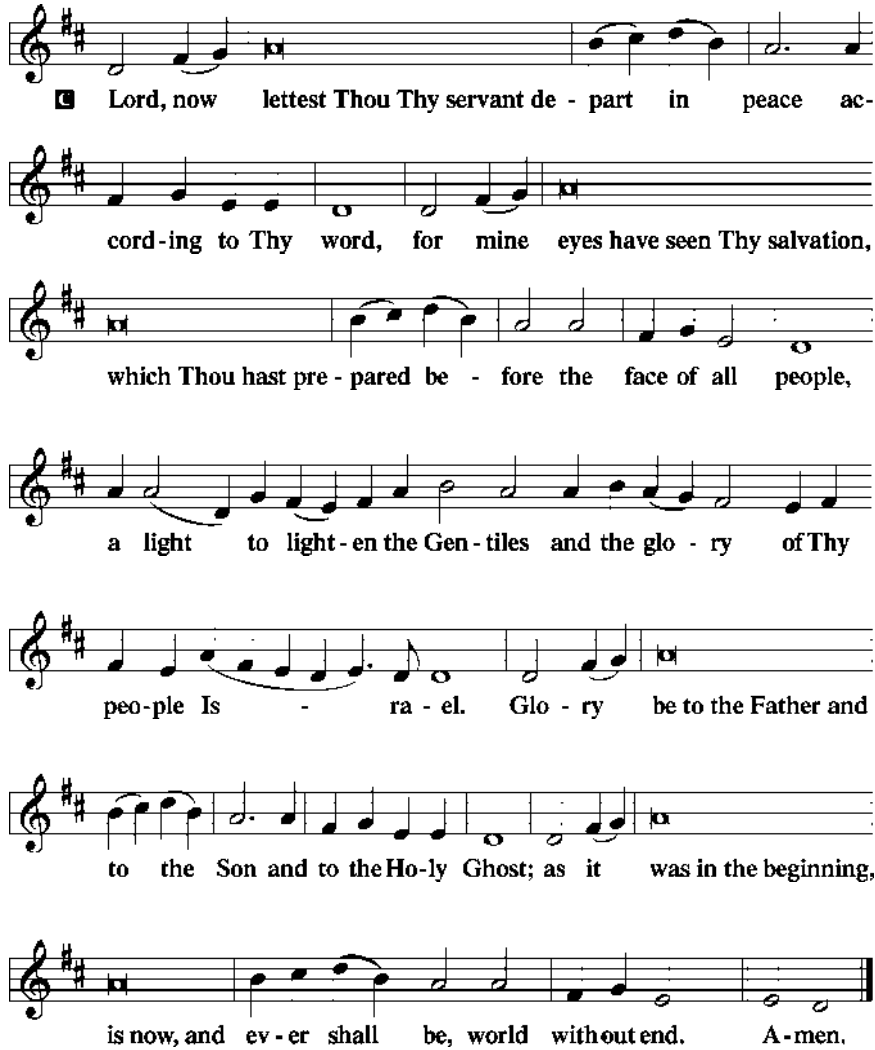
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Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

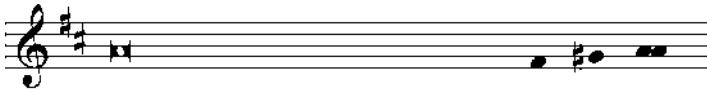


Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A-men.

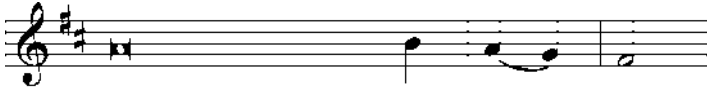
The Post-Communion Canticle is a hymn of thanks.

Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Salutation and Benedicamus

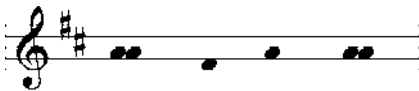


P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



C And with thy spir - it.



A Bless we the Lord.

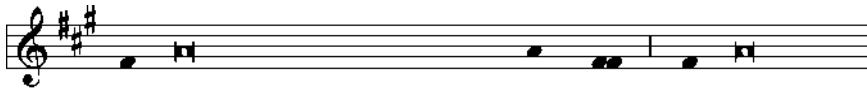
[Psalm 103:1]



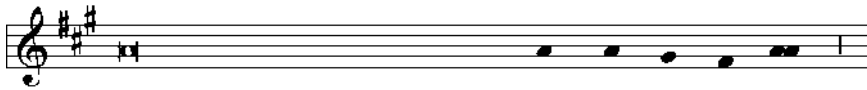
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26




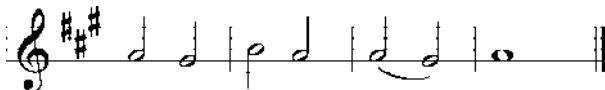
P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and  give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

The Benediction is God's blessing for the congregation given through the pastor at the very end of the service.



Closing Hymn

353 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from
2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are
3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of
4 Je - sus comes in joy and sor - row, Shares a - like our



realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
hopes and fears; Je - sus comes, what - e'er be - falls us,



Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!
To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia!
Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
Cheers our hearts and dries our tears; Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.
Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.
Al - le - lu - ia! Com - forts us in fail - ing years.

Text and tune: Public domain

Summary:

One last hymn as we prepare for His coming on Christmas, reminding us of what this coming will bring. (Zechariah 9:9; Luke 2:14; John 14:18; Matthew 25:31-34)

Announcements

Dismissal

P Go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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CHRISTMAS AT EMMAUS

Join Us

Christmas Eve Candlelight

7 pm

Christmas Day

9 am





Sunday School & Bible Classes



We invite you to join us as we study and learn God's Word.

Please ask for help, if you need directions to these classes:

Nursery (for Infants through 2 year olds) will be open during Sunday School/Bible Class time in the Pre-School Room (east hallway).

Preschool—Grade 1 Students will meet in Mrs. Hardman's/Kindergarten Room (front hallway).

Grades 2—5 will meet in Mrs. Dahnke's/Grade 5 Classroom (west hallway).

Grades 6-8 will meet in the Library (west hallway).

High School Students/Adults are invited and encouraged to gather in the gym for Bible Study with Pastor Olsen.



Participating in Today's Service

Preacher: Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III

Liturgist/Lector: Seminarian Andrew Berg

Communion Assistant: Rev. Dr. Robert Bennett

Acolyte: Hunter Durlacher

Elder: Mr. Stan Veit

Organist: Mr. Timothy LaCroix

MISSION OF EMMAUS LUTHERAN:

Empowered by God's gift of never-ending love in Word and Sacrament and responding to the forgiveness won for us by Jesus Christ on the cross,

the mission of the family of Emmaus Lutheran is to

COURAGEOUSLY CONFESS CHRIST

through worship, life together, teaching and service.

UNITY ✝ FAMILY ✝ FAITHFUL ✝ EDUCATION ✝ CONFSSIONAL

This Week at Emmaus

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
Acolyte: Trapper Durlacher
Elder: Jacob Bushur

Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Divine Service
Acolyte: Erik Olsen
Elder: James Heeren

Sunday, December 29

1st Sunday after Christmas

9:00 a.m. Divine Service
Acolyte: John Stockinger
Elder: James Heeren

No Sunday School or Bible Class



COURAGEOUSLY CONFESSING CHRIST

8626 Covington Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Phone: 260-459-7722 FAX: 260-459-7766

Church: www.emmausfortwayne.org

School: www.emmauslutheranfw.org

Check out our YouTube Channel:
Emmaus Lutheran Fort Wayne



The Ministry of Emmaus is eager to serve you!

Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III, *Pastor*
Home: 260-267-5180
revolsen@emmausfortwayne.org

Elizabeth Berg, *Church Secretary*

Timothy LaCroix, *Music Director*

Karen Detwiler, *Family Care Coordinator*

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. 

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“LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR”

December 22 – Advent IV – Whether the hamlet of Bethlehem (Micah 5:2) or gestating babies (Luke 1:41-44), the God of Christmas loves to elevate what seems insignificant. Indeed, the heart of the Gospel consists in exalting those of humble estate (Luke 1:52). Rejoicing in the Lord who creates, redeems, and calls regardless of size, skills, or circumstances, the sanctity of life delights to declare nothing less!

Life Thoughts in the Church Year are designed to help pastors and congregations see the church year through the lens of the sanctity of human life. *Life Thoughts* are based on the appointed readings from *Lutheran Service Book*. www.lutheransforlife.org

Remember in Prayer this Week

Hospitalized/Sick/Recuperating

Layla Stockinger, continuing recovery from leukemia

Carol Rose, recovering from surgery

Pamela Richter, continuing to experience health issues

Aaron Arnold, father of Lori Bushur, recovering from multiple surgeries

Adam Connelly, friend of Karen Detwiler, continued trouble with cancer

Charlotte Bultemeier, Brad Bultemeier's step-mother, in Memory Care at Story-Point West.

Bob Hoffman, Stacey Durlacher's father, experiencing health issues

Faith Ells, (26 years old), friend of Barbara Cox, undergoing cancer treatment

Sandra Hensley, mother of Kenzie Hensley, Gr 3 teacher, who is experiencing health issues

Harry, grandfather of Kenzie Hensley, Gr. 3 teacher, who recently lost his sight and is beginning training to adjust to this change.

Janet Shady, Ron Crismore's sister, hospitalized with cardiac problems

Kelsey Zimmerman, friend of Amanda Heeren, undergoing treatment for leukemia.

Mark FCG Peggy Calloway, Colbert Family, Durlacher Family, Wini Fritz, Marian Hamilton, Peters Family, Bonnie Robbins, Jim Rose Family, David & Amy Rosenkoetter.

Pray for:

For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.

Serving in the Armed Forces: **James Rockrohr**, brother of Theodore Rockrohr, serving in the U.S. Marines; **Paul Rockrohr**, brother of Theodore Rockrohr, serving as Chaplain in the U.S. Navy; and **Travis McGehee**, who has returned from training.

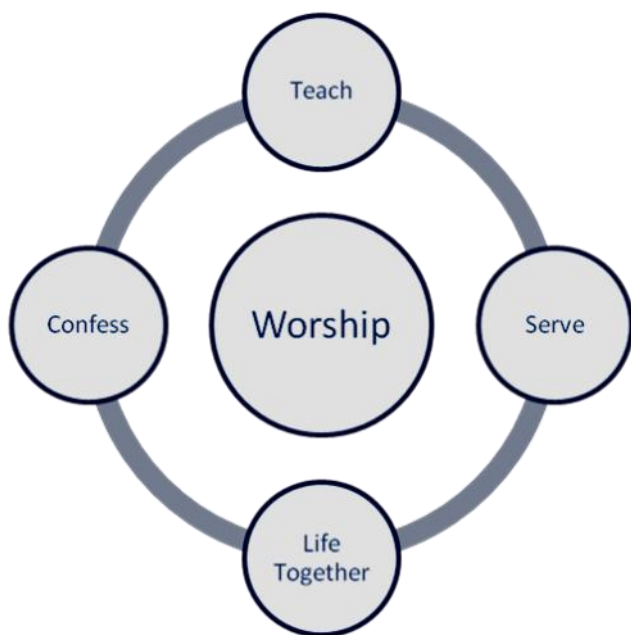
Please Note: As prayer requests come in we will keep them on the prayer list for one month, unless specifically requested otherwise.



EMMAUS NEWS & NOTES

For the week of December 22, 2024

DONE IN LOVE



NURTURING THE FAITH

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Please join us as we learn and study God's Word.

Sunday School Classes

Nursery (for Infants through 2 year old's) will be open during Sunday School/Bible Class time in the Preschool Room (east hallway). **Preschool (3 yr olds) - Gr. 1 Students** meet in the Kindergarten/Mrs. Hardman's classroom (front hall). **Grade 2-5 Students** meet in the Grade 5/Mrs. Dahnke's classroom (west hall). **Grade 6-8 Students** meet in the Library (west hall). **High School students** can attend the Adult Bible Class.

Adult Bible Class

Join us immediately following Sunday service. All are invited and encouraged to join us as we continue our study of **Stewardship of Life: Responsibility for God's Good Gifts**. Sadly we often think of Stewardship or the topic is mentioned and people run the other way. "Oh, here it comes. The Church needs money so we are going to talk Stewardship." Pastor Olsen is seeking to remove this stigma regarding stewardship and bring it back to its proper place. We take care and responsibility, managing rightly what God has given to us, His good gifts. By changing our thinking, by helping to rightly understand stewardship of our whole life, we will endeavor to love God and love our neighbor through more aspects of stewardship than just money. Come and join us and see first the many gifts He gives and how we, as His children, can use those gifts for His glory and for our neighbor.

Thirsty Thursdays

No class this Thursday, December 26.

New Wednesday Nights

Keep your Wednesday nights open for a new Bible Study class coming next month. More details to follow.

DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS

Portals of Prayer

We have the devotion booklets for January thru March 2025. Please feel free to pick one up from the table in the front hall.

FY 2024-25 Tithing commitment as approved by the Members of Emmaus on Sunday, July 21st.	
Weekly Tithing Commitment	\$7,663.00
Tithing Received Last Week (plate and electronic)	\$6,341.70
Overage (Shortfall)	(\$1,321.30)
YTD Tithing Commitment	\$183,912.00
YTD Tithing Received	\$152,212.13
Overage (Shortfall)	(\$31,699.87)
Long-Term Commitments/Obligations (updated 12/18/24)	
Mortgage Balance	\$977,082.85
Line of Credit Balance	\$0.00
Concordia Lutheran High School Congregation Assessment Balance	\$42,383.33

Worship Attendance

Sunday, December 15
Worship: 105 Bible Class: 51

Midweek Advent, Dec. 18
Worship: 52

LIFE TOGETHER

New

KRINGLES FOR CHRISTMAS

Yes, you read that correctly! But we have a VERY limited quantity. There are **five** blueberry cheesecake and **one** apple cinnamon kringles left. Take them home today for a delicious Christmas morning treat! See Barb Kanning or any member of Women’s Guild.



WEEKLY SHUT-IN VISITS

If you are physically unable to attend the Sunday morning worship service, including short-term recoveries, we would be happy to drop off a bulletin, the News & Notes, as well as a copy of the sermon. (We deliver on Mondays). Please contact the church office, 459-7722 and press “3”. *Dave & Joan Kendall*

PRAYER CHAIN

Here's an easy, but important way to serve at Emmaus! Become part of our Prayer Chain! When a prayer request has been received, you will receive a phone call with the information, then you call the next person on the chain. No set/specific time, just make a phone call to the next person and then include the individual/situation in your prayers. Need more information? Contact Peggy Kreigh, 260-710-2872.

GREETING CARDS—ONLY \$1.00 EACH

Our Women's Guild has a nice variety of Dayspring cards on the carousel at the back table. Stop by before or after service and browse the many choices. ALSO, if you want unique, blank notecards, how about our Emmaus cards at \$6.00 for a 12 pack? They were designed by Bill Schmidt and are perfect for ANY occasion. We all love to receive cards and notes. Take the time to do it, and share your love and prayers.

MEMBER CALLER

Are you on the Emmaus Member Caller list? With inclement weather season upon us, now is a great time to sign up. This tool is used sparingly, and only to notify the congregation of special announcements or a cancellation. Please call Elizabeth Berg (459-7722) to be added to the list. Remember to add the phone number **855.248.7295** to your caller id or your address book as Church Call so that it will be properly identified.



OTHER

WORSHIP ANEW—Broadcast

Broadcast weekly on Sundays at 7:00 a.m. on NBC's Channel 21.2, 8:00a.m. on MyTV - Frontier 9, Digital 21.3 and Comcast 2 52; 11:30 a.m. on WINM-TV 12/38 - TCT; and 4:00 p.m. Sunday and 10:00 a.m. Monday on Comcast 55 and Frontier 25 [PA]. Today's program with Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer is **"One of Us"** — The Old Testament gives our newborn Savior the title, "Immanuel," which means "God with us." We have eternal peace and joy by having a God who is One of Us.

PROJECT CONNECT BOOOKLETS

These booklets, produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries, offer a subject matter expert's practical guidance on a variety of topics that pose real-life challenges to us, within a Christ-centered, Law and Gospel context—what a powerful combination! You can find a variety of these booklets in the circular rack just inside the entrance to the sanctuary.

This week's featured brochure is: ***"The Truth About Angels"*** - Today's media features many stories on angels. The New Age Movement suggests that each of us has a "personal angel" and encourages us to get in contact with it. Do angels really exist? Can we see them? What is their purpose? Explore the biblical evidence of angels and their purpose inside this booklet.

CROSS CONNECTIONS

S.O.S. at Cross Connections: The Biblical counseling ministry at Cross Connections has a Serve our Servants fund (S.O.S) that provides free counseling for all active duty military, police, fire, and EMT personnel and their families. If you or somebody you know would benefit from these services please speak with pastor or call Cross Connections at 260-373-0213 to learn more.

THRIVENT CHOICE

This is the time, year-end, that we should all check our Thrivent Choice dollars we've earned with our products we own. If you have an online account, please access it at: thrivent.com with your password. If not, call the Thrivent office at

1-800-847-4836 and say, "**Choice Dollars**" at the prompt. Even if it is a very small amount, every dollar counts. And, be sure to designate either Emmaus Church or Emmaus School in Fort Wayne, IN -- there are two others in IN! Thanks for your help. Questions? Call Barb Kanning at 260-432-5228.





CHRISTMAS AT EMMAUS

Join Us

Christmas Eve Candlelight

7 pm

Christmas Day

9 am





END OF YEAR *Giving*

**30% of charitable contributions
occur in December.**

*If you want to keep your dollars close to home,
here are a few options.*

Adopt-A-Student

Make a direct impact with a donation to this Emmaus program. It serves students with much needed financial support; giving them an opportunity to attend Emmaus and receive a Christ-centered education.

Emmaus Endowment

Right now, this fund benefits with a **double match** from the Lutheran Foundation! This fund directly supports the school and its operating costs.

LSGO

Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization (LSGO) is a program that allows individuals and businesses to reduce or eliminate their state taxes by funding scholarships for families wanting a quality, Christian education. Donors receive a 50% state tax CREDIT up to their total state tax liability. To learn more, go to www.lutheransgo.org and click on the DONOR tab.

Contact Gregg Kiess to get started with one of these programs.

UPCOMING EMMAUS EVENTS

Dec. 23-
Jan. 3

Christmas Break—No School

Dec 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7 pm

Dec 25

Christmas Day Service at 9 am

Dec 25-27

Church Office Closed

Dec. 29

Divine Worship at 9 — NO Bible Study or Sunday School

Jan. 1

Church Office Closed