Second Sunday of Advent December 8th, 2024



Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church Lancaster, Pa.

Blessed by God+++Grounded in Faith+++Serving in Love

Welcome to worship at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We believe "Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us to eat and drink." (Small Catechism, Martin Luther) Children who do not yet receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward to the altar rail for a blessing. During the Celebration of Holy Communion, we offer two alternatives: a gluten free wafer and grape juice. If you would like the gluten free wafer, please inform the pastor when he/she comes to offer you the body of Christ. If you would like grape juice, please inform the assisting minister as he/she offers the blood of Christ. Please note you will still need a cup for the grape juice. Any questions please ask an usher.

The worship service for this morning is printed in this booklet. Hymn numbers refer to the hymnal <u>Evangelical Lutheran Worship</u> found in the pew rack.

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Are you worshipping with us for the first time? Please use a "Welcome Card" and let us know who you are. If you would like to receive additional information about our congregation, write us a note on the back of the card.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church 540 West Walnut Street Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17603 Phone (717) 397-6195 office@elclancpa.org www.elclancpa.org

Pastor: Rev. Timothy W. Sadler, MDiv., RBCC Pastor's Cell: 717-752-5832 pastor@elclancpa.org

Minister of Music: Dr. Rodney Warfield

Emmanuel Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We are a companion congregation with Mbalizi Lutheran Church in Mbeya, Tanzania, a congregation of the Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. We support ELCA missionaries Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson serving in Arusha, Tanzania.

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A Celebration of Word & Sacrament (Based on Setting 4)

Bold type following "C:" is spoken/sung by the congregation. P = Presiding Pastor A = Assisting Minister L = Lector

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE	Lift Up Your Hands, O Mighty Gates	
<i>(</i> Turo fi	om Psalmodia Evangelica 1789)	by Franklin Ritter

† THE GATHERING †

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. 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: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

All Earth Is Hopeful

ELW # 266



4 En una cueva Jesús apareció, pero_en el mundo está presente hoy. Vive_en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está; y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946 Musie: TODA LA THERRA, Alberto Taulé Spanish text and rune O 1993 and English text © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Littirgica, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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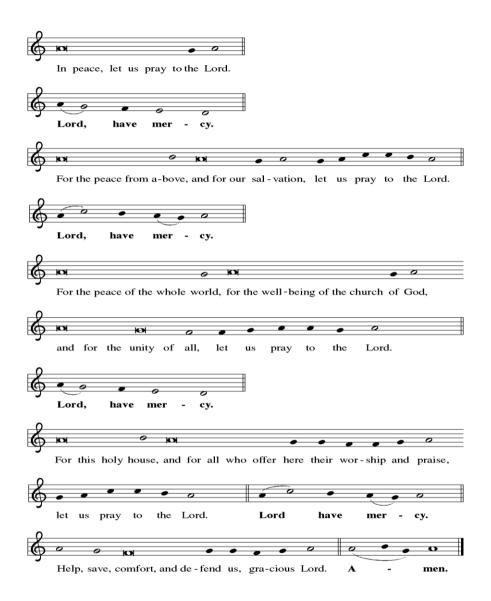
GREETING (ELW p. 147)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.



KYRIE (ELW P. 147)



CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 148)



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PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 124)

P: Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P: We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.

Second Sunday of Advent—Congregants light two candles

Verse Two of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" ELW #257 is sung and Blessing offered when lighting the first candle.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

0 cap - tive all things O come, O come, Em - man and 1 u - el, ran - som 2 Ο come, O Wis - dom on high, from em - brac - ing come, O come, O 3 0 Lord of might, as to your tribes on 4 Ο come, O Branch of Jes se, free your own from Sa - tan's . O Is ra - el. lone - lv ile that mourns in ex here and nigh: far in strengthand beau - ty come and stay; an - cient times you lepths of hell your nai's height Si in gave the law from depths of tyr an - ny; peo ple save, Refrain 0 0 un _ til the Son of God ap - pear. your will and teach us guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice! cloud, and maj - es in ty, and awe. and give them vic - t'ry the grave. o'er Em - man u - el shall come to you, O \mathbf{Is} ra - el. 5 O come, O 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 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near. Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. Refrain 7 O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one: refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new. Refrain 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Refrain Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. composite Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent. Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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† THE WORD †

God speaks to us in Scriptures read, sung, and preached.

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

L: A reading from Malachi.

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.

¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, 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 descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. 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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Luke 1:68-79

L: The psalm will be read responsively between the lector and congregation.

⁶⁸ Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,

you have come to your people and set them free.

⁶⁹ You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of your servant David. ⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies, ⁷¹ from the hands of all who hate us,

⁷² to show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy covenant.

⁷³ This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:
⁷⁴ to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship you without fear,

⁷⁵ holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.

⁷⁶ And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

⁷⁷ to give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

⁷⁸ In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

⁷⁹ to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Glory to the Father, (+) the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

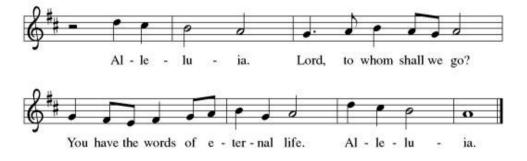
L: A reading from Philippians.

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge. ³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able, to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW P. 151)



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GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

- P: The holy gospel according to Luke.
- C: Glory to you, O Lord.

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ 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 the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

- 'Prepare the way of the Lord,
 - make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

P: The gospel of the Lord.C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Children/Youth/Young-at Heart Story

SERMON

Time for reflection



Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW #264

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Prepare the Royal Highway



Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: BEREDEN VÅG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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CREED (ELW p. 152)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate. was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven. he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints. the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each prayer petition will end with; "Lord, in your mercy,"

Please respond with; "receive our prayer."

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words. A wave or a bow may be preferable to a handshake or hug in light of public health concerns. Please be seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

by Mark Hayes



† THE MEAL † God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE GATHERING OF GIFTS & PREPARING OF THE TABLE

Please stand as you are able.

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Offertory-ELW p. 182



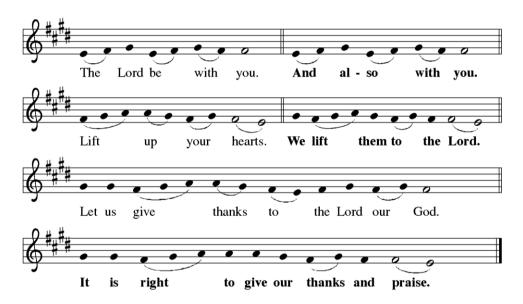
Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978 Ludueran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERING PRAYER

- A: Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: Amen.

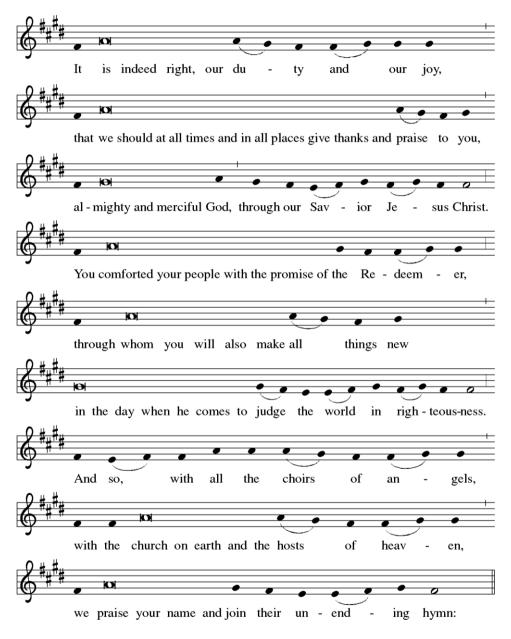
GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Dialogue (ELW p. 152)

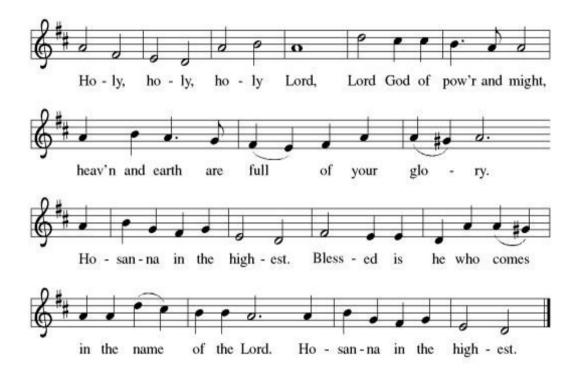
The presiding minister continues:

Preface (ELW p. 153)



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HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (ELW p. 153)

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 154)

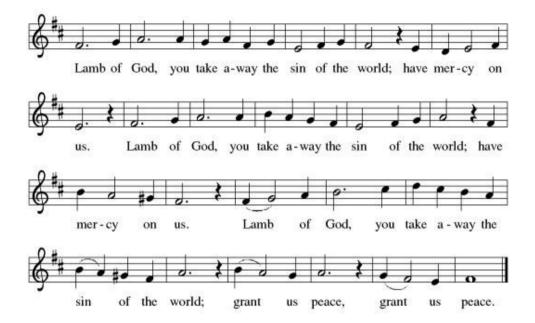
P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (ELW p. 154)

- P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.
- C: Thanks be to God

LAMB OF GOD



Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We believe "Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us to eat and drink" (<u>Small Catechism</u>, Martin Luther).

The presiding minister may say:

- P: The body of Christ, given for you.
- P: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen.



MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION:

Thank You, Lord Freedom is Calling ACS 1092 ACS 903

HYMN SUNG DURING DISTRIBUTION: O Lord, How Shall I Meet You ELW #241

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O Lord, How Shall I Meet You I. 0 Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right? 2 in fet - ters, groan - ing; you L came to set me free. lay 3 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me. 4 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who in deep-est gloom, sit Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light! stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me. L Your thirst for my sal - va tion pro cured my lib - er - ty. who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom. Oh. kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high love be - vond all tell - ing, that led you to em -Oh. brace hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O All glo - rious Sun, now come. low - ly that may please you to do in spir - it all best. that will not fail leave me as earth - ly rich - es fly. or in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race. forth your beams so cheer - ing and guide us safe - ly home. send

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. composite Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Please stand, as you are able after all have communed:

P: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

† THE SENDING †

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING (ELW p. 155)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.In the name of the Father, the Son (+), and the Holy Spirit.Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

Hark the Glad Sound

ELW #239

Hark, the Glad Sound!



Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

DISMISSAL

- A: Go in peace. Christ is with you.
- C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

by Stan Pethel

Sermon Notes

The Weekly Messenger

Introduction to the day

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally, all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

Weekly Schedule

Monday, 9 th		Nothing Scheduled*
Tuesday, 10th	9:00 am	Conference Meeting*
Tuesday, 10th	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting*
Wednesday, 11	th 8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Meeting*
Wednesday, 11	th 10:00 am	Bible Study*
Wednesday, 11	th 11:15 am	Mid-week Advent Devotion*
Wednesday, 11	th 12 noon	Lite Lenten Luncheon*
Wednesday, 11	th 1:00 pm to 4:00	pmPastor Tim's Office Hours*
Wednesday, 11	th 4:30 pm	Meeting with LIFT*
Thursday, 12 th ·	8:00 pm	Al-Anon Meets in Chapel Basement*
Friday, 13th		Nothing Scheduled*
Saturday, 14th		Nothing Scheduled*
Sunday, 15th	9:00 am	Sunday School*
Sunday, 15th	10:15 amWo	rshipThird Sunday of Advent*
*Every day of the	week AA will be meeting from 3:3	80 to 5:30 pm in the basement of the chapel.

Attendance for December 1st, 2024

Sunday School—20 Worship—29

Today's Worship Team and Volunteers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please read as there are weekly changes and additions.

Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 7:00 p.m.

<u>Thank You</u>

Thanks to all who returned pledge cards and Time and Talent sheets. All responses have been compiled and given to the appropriate committee chairpersons.

Parish Helper Deadline

Deadline for the JANUARY Parish Helper is Sunday, December the 15th. Please use <u>Parish Helper or PH</u> in the email subject line.

Sunday Morning Schedule

The current Sunday morning worship schedule starts with Sunday School at 9:00 a.m., followed by Sunday Worship at 10:15 a.m. After worship everyone is invited to enjoy Coffee in the Courtyard, weather permitting.

Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes for 2025 are available in the rear of the nave.

Greeting

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words. A wave or a bow may be preferable to a handshake or hug in light of public health concerns.

Weekly Messenger Announcement Deadline

The weekly bulletin is printed the Wednesday before the Sunday that it is used. The deadline for announcements will be Tuesdays. Please, have all information emailed to the office with 'Weekly Messenger' in the subject line. Thank you. **Office@elclancpa.org**

Hospital Visitations

If you or someone you know from this congregation is admitted to a local or regional hospital, please contact the pastor or the church office immediately. No longer can we rely on hospitals to notify us for the hospital admissions. Pastor Tim at 717-752-5832 or church office.



New Logo and Website

Check out Emmanuel's new logo and the website, now online at <u>www.elclancpa.org</u>.

Please feel free to take the bulletin home. Bulletins returned to the basket will be recycled.

Continued on page 34

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Christmas Eve Flowers

If you would like to sponsor poinsettias for the chancel on Christmas Eve, please complete the information below and place the form in the basket at the back of nave. The Worship & Music Committee is suggesting \$7.50 per flower to defray the expense. Please remit cash or check with this form.

Name (optional)):
Name (optional)	

In Memory of ______

In Honor of _____

To the Glory of God will be used if the above items are left blank.