

FIRST SUNDAY  
*Advent*

## Welcome to Emmanuel !

November 29, 2020

*“It is wonderful to worship with you today!”*

## Introduction to the Day

*“Stir up your power and come!”*

The psalmist’s plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore.

When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

**All are welcome** here at Emmanuel regardless of your faith affiliation.

All parts of today’s worship service are printed in this bulletin, including words for the songs.

With the recent surge in Covid-19 cases, Advent services will be online only. We will not be able to worship together at the church, except for the Pastor, a few musicians, worship assistants and technicians.

This worship service will be broadcast and live streamed through our Facebook page, and on our website while containment measures are in place. Even if you are not able to watch live, the services will be recorded. You can find us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/EmmanuelSouderton/>

and on our website at:

<http://emmanuelchurch.net>

You can also check the Facebook page or website for ongoing updates, for daily devotion videos with Pastor John, and for information regarding Emmanuel’s E-Meal program, including what to donate, how to volunteer and the number of meals being served during the crisis.

Lastly, please remember that the expenses of the church go on, even during this time of containment. The best way for you to keep your contributions current is to do so through our online giving program, which is found on our website, and can be accessed using the following link:

[Online Giving to Emmanuel](#)

During this time of containment, in-person pastoral care is limited. If you need to contact Pastor John, please call or text his mobile phone at 914-275-3106 or email him at [jheidgerd@gmail.com](mailto:jheidgerd@gmail.com).

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*“Prepare the way of the Lord.*

*Make straight paths for him.”*

**(Luke 3:4)**

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## THE SERVICE

### PRELUDE

*TBD*

### SOLIST AND BELLS – VERSE 1

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (257)*

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.**

## ADVENT LITANY - WEEK 1

At every beginning there is a yearning  
for the one who is coming.

O Emmanuel,

**Wake us up to your coming.**

We gather together to expect the unexpected  
and imagine the unimaginable.

O Emmanuel,

**Wake us up to your coming.**

We wait for the day  
when God will recycle tanks into tractors  
and transform minefields into soccer fields.

O Emmanuel,

**Wake us up to your coming.**

We stay awake by telling stories  
that offer a glimmer of a future  
and agitate dormant hope within us.

O Emmanuel,

**Wake us up to your coming.**

Jesus, we welcome your presence now  
with the lighting of this candle,  
whose flame brings warmth to winter  
and fills this place with the glow of hope.

**Amen.**

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

*The Advent Candle is lit as the following is sung.*

### SOLIST AND BELLS - VERSES 1 AND 2

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (257)*

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
embracing all things far and nigh:  
in strength and beauty come and stay;  
teach us your will and guide our way.

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives  
all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of  
one another.

Gracious God,

**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.**

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.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

*Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying (436)*

**1** Wake, awake, for night is flying,  
the watchmen on the heights are crying;  
awake, Jerusalem, at last.

Midnight hears the welcome voices,  
and at the thrilling cry rejoices:  
"Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.

The bridegroom comes! Awake;  
your lamps with gladness take!"

Alleluia!  
Rise and prepare  
the feast to share;  
go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.

**2** Zion hears the watchmen singing,  
and all her heart with joy is springing.  
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.

Her dear friend comes down, all glorious,  
the strong in grace, in truth victorious:  
her star is ris'n; her light is come.

Now come, O Blessed One,  
Lord Jesus, God's own Son.

Sing hosanna!  
Oh, hear the call!  
Come one, come all,  
and follow to the banquet hall.

**3** Gloria! Let heav'n adore you!  
Let saints and angels sing before you,  
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.

Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming,  
lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming,  
with angel choirs around your throne.

No eye has caught the light,  
no ear the thund'ring might

of such glory.  
There we will go:  
what joy we'll know!  
There sweet delight will ever flow.

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

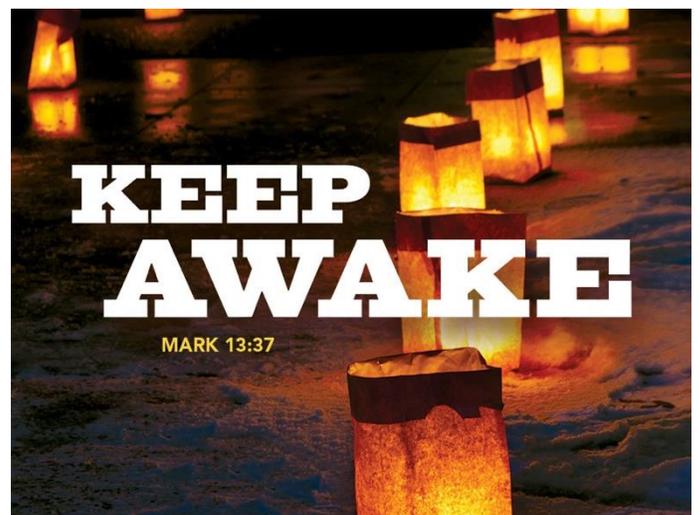
Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

By your merciful protection waken us to the  
threatening dangers of our sins and keep us  
blameless until the coming of your new day, for you  
live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*



**FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9**

A reading from Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble  
at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed

We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds  
are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us  
into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.

Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

*Read Responsively*

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,  
leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned  
upon the cherubim.

**In the presence of Ephraim,  
Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength  
and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us,  
and we shall be saved.

**O LORD! God of hosts,  
how long will your anger fume  
when your people pray?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us,  
and we shall be saved.

**Let your hand be upon the one  
at your right hand,  
the one you have made  
so strong for yourself.**

And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your name.

**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us,  
and we shall be saved.**

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (VERSE1)

*Open Your Ears, O Faithful People (519)*

**1 Open your ears, O faithful people,  
open your ears and hear God's word.  
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,  
God has come to you.**

Gospel  
Reading

## GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### GOSPEL RESPONSE (REFRAIN)

*Open Your Ears, O Faithful People (519)*

**God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!  
God has spoken words of wisdom,  
hallelujah!**

**God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!  
God has spoken words of wisdom,  
hallelujah!**

*please be seated*

## SERMON

*The Rev. John T. Heidgerd*

*After the sermon, please stand as you are able for  
the Hymn of the Day.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People (256)*

**1 "Comfort, comfort now my people;  
tell of peace!" So says our God.  
Comfort those who sit in darkness  
mourning under sorrow's load.  
To God's people now proclaim  
that God's pardon waits for them!  
Tell them that their war is over;  
God will reign in peace forever.**

**2 For the herald's voice is crying  
in the desert far and near,  
calling us to true repentance,  
since the reign of God is here.  
Oh, that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way.  
Valleys, rise to greet the Savior;  
hills, bow down in humble favor.**

**3 Straight shall be what long was crooked,  
and the rougher places plain.  
Let your hearts be true and humble,  
as befits God's holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord  
now on earth is shed abroad,  
and all flesh shall see the token  
that God's word is never broken.**

## INVITATION TO PRAYER

Let us now join together in prayer as one people of God, even as we await the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

## PRAYER INTRO (VERSES 1-2)

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace: (247)*

**1 Come now, O Prince of peace,  
make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
reconcile your people.**

**2 Come now, O God of love,  
make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
reconcile your people.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*At the end of each petition, the minister will say  
"Come Lord Jesus."*

*The congregation responds:*

*"Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

## PRAYER CONCLUSION - (VERSES 3-4)

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace: (247)*

**3 Come now and set us free,  
O God, our Savior.  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
reconcile all nations.**

**4 Come, Hope of unity,  
make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
reconcile all nations.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Let us now share a sign of God's peace with each other.

*Please be seated.*

## OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Offerings will not be collected.  
Please place your offering in the plate on the table  
at the entrance to the gathering space.*

*Offerings may be submitted electronically using the  
this link: [Online Giving to Emmanuel](#),  
by US Mail, or by delivery to the office  
during E-Meal distribution hours*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**God of abundance, we bring before you the  
precious fruits of your creation, and with  
them our very lives. Teach us patience and  
hope as we care for all those in need until the  
coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## ANIMA CHRISTI (THE SOUL OF CHRIST)

*(Please close your eyes in meditation as we invite a  
spiritual communion with Jesus.)*

Jesus, may all that is in you flow into me.

May your body and blood be my food and drink.

May your passion and death be my strength and life.

Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given.

May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross.

Let me not run from the love which you offer.

But hold me safe from the forces of evil.

On each of my dyings shed your light and your love.

Keep calling to me until that day comes.

When with our saints, I may praise you forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as  
Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## COMMUNION SONG

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (490)*

**1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descending  
comes full homage to demand.**

**2 King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture,  
in the body and the blood,  
he will give to all the faithful  
his own self for heav'nly food.**

**3 Rank on rank the host of heaven  
spreads its vanguard on the way;  
as the Light of light, descending  
from the realms of endless day,  
comes, the pow'rs of hell to vanquish,  
as the darkness clears away.**

**4 At his feet the six-winged seraph,  
cherubim with sleepless eye,  
veil their faces to the presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry:  
"Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, Lord Most High!"**

## BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in  
believing, so that you may abound in hope by the  
power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG - (VERSES 1-3)

*Fling Wide the Door (259)*

**1 Fling wide the door, unbar the gate;  
the King of glory comes in state;  
the Lord of lords and King of kings,  
the Savior of the world who brings  
his great salvation to the earth.  
So raise a shout of holy mirth  
and praise our God and Lord,  
Creator, Spirit, Word.**

**2 He is the rock of our belief,  
the heart of mercy's gentle self.  
His kingly crown is holiness;  
his scepter is his loveliness;  
he brings our sorrows to an end.  
Now gladly praise our king and friend,  
and worship him with song  
for saving us from wrong.**

**3 Oh, happy towns and blessed lands  
that live by their true king's commands.  
And blessed be the hearts he rules,  
the humble places where he dwells.  
He is the rightful Son of bliss  
who fills our lives and makes us his,  
creator of the world,  
our only strength for good.**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace to set people free  
to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE (VERSE 4)

*Fling Wide the Door (259)*

**4 Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ;  
our hearts are open wide in trust.  
Oh, show us now your lovely grace,  
upon our sorrows shine your face,  
and let your Holy Spirit guide  
our journey in your grace so wide.  
We praise your holy name,  
from age to age the same!**

From sundaysandseasons.com

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## Advent and Christmas Bell Ringing

There are so many activities  
on the "Do Not" Covid-19 list.

Bell Ringing is not one of them!

Calling all bell ringers  
for Advent and Christmas.

We are looking for a small team  
of bell ringers  
for each of our Advent Services  
to learn and ring

2 verses of "O Come O Come, Emmanuel"

We are also planning 1-2 bell carols  
for Christmas Eve Services.

If you are interested in taking part,  
please contact  
Zach Dean or Pastor John.

First Rehearsal -  
Saturday 11/28 @ 10 AM



# Emmanuel Worships !

## *Advent Update from Pastor John*

One of the main themes of Advent is waiting - waiting with great expectations as we anticipate the arrival of Jesus on Christmas Day. While we wait, we watch, we hope, we pray, we are stirred up as the story of Emmanuel's birth unfolds - and the promise of peace on earth and goodwill to all becomes real.

This year the theme of waiting takes on an expanded significance. We wait for the beginning of a new presidential administration. We wait for a vaccine to bring an end to this devastating pandemic. We wait for the results of tests. We wait news of returning back to school. We wait to hear about a possible job.

However, the season of Advent is about more than waiting. Advent teaches us that we wait - indeed we wait - but we wait in hope - confident in God's promises to come and be with us - to be our Emmanuel. So even though we wait this year for different things - we still wait in hope. And we will not be disappointed.

We also wait for the next time we can worship together in-person. That is an important part of the rhythm of Advent - we wait together and we hope together and we receive God's promises - together.

While we are not worshipping in person, I'm hoping we can find other opportunities and ways to wait and hope together. Today, I'm extending an invitation to join in two additional online gatherings each week during Advent. We will offer online worship services on each Wednesday evening during Advent. You will find details about this on the next page.

In addition, I will be offering Monday evening Advent bible studies to allow us to go more deeply into the themes of waiting and hoping as we long for God's promises to be fulfilled. We will use Zoom meetings to allow for greater interactivity and conversation among participants. Please look for an invitation to join the meeting in upcoming emails and Facebook posts. The topics for each week are:

- 11/30 - Advent 1 - Waiting and Watching
- 12/7 - Advent 2 - Waiting and Hoping
- 12/14 - Advent 3 - Waiting and Trusting
- 12/21 - Advent 4 - Waiting and Wondering

While this Advent will be different, I'm hopeful that we can still capture the wonder that builds this time of year with each week as we lead up to Christmas.

In this bulletin, you will find invitations to participate in Advent activities so you feel the wonder of Advent, even though we will not be worshipping or gathering as we have in the past.

For more information, please see the following:

Bell Choir Announcement - page 8

Church Decorating - page 9

Midweek Online Advent Services - page 10

Poinsettia Ordering - page 10

Make your own Advent Wreath - page 11

Angel Tree Toy Drive - page 14

Disaster Relief for Honduras - page 15

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services are still being planned and we have not determined if they will be online, outdoors, or indoors as yet. Hopefully, by December 15<sup>th</sup>, we will know for sure and publish some information.

I'm looking forward to sharing these Advent moments with all of you in the coming weeks. I will miss our in-person gatherings, but we will wait for that day that will come soon.

Peace.

+ Pastor John +



*Even though we are not having in-person worship this Advent, we still want to decorate the church.*

*Mark the Date:*

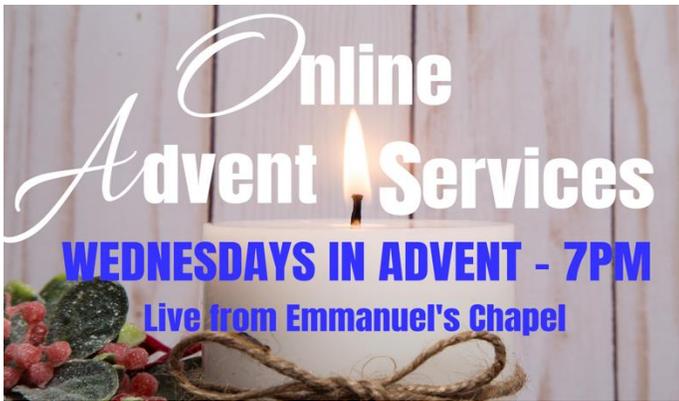
*Friday, December 11, 2020*

*7 PM - 9 PM*

*Watch for Sign-Up Genius Page around December 1.*



# Emmanuel Worships !



Join Pastor John (*and maybe a special guest or 2*) on Wednesday evenings during Advent as we live stream midweek worship from Emmanuel’s cozy and reflective chapel.

Each worship service will be about 30 minutes in length and will be designed for the entire family to participate. You are encouraged to light your own advent candles each week as we come closer and anticipate the coming of Jesus on Christmas Day.

The services will include some music, candlelight prayers, a scripture reading, and a meditation on the participants in the Advent story. Part of the meditation will include a kid-friendly personal reflection done by one of our new PUPPETS!

Each week will feature the following participants:

- Advent 1 (12/2) – Zechariah and Elizabeth**
- Advent 2 (12/9) – Joseph**
- Advent 3 (12/16) – The Angel Gabriel**
- Advent 4 (12/23) – Mary**

Advent is a season of waiting and this year that takes on an even larger significance as we await a new Presidential administration, we await a Covid-19 vaccine, and we await a time when life can feel “normal again”. Each of the participants in the Advent story will share their reflections on what they felt as they waited more than 2,000 years ago.

Let’s turn all those feelings of anticipation toward the one who is always worth waiting for – our coming Emmanuel – the God With Us!

**If you don’t have an Advent Wreath to light, don’t worry! There are some great tips in the Sunday’s KIDS column on the next page!**



## Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

*Please return to church office no later than Sunday, December 20.*

Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Enclose check or cash donation)

**Please check 1 or more, and write neatly for bulletin acknowledgement**

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Thankfulness to God for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given By:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Following the Sunday, December 27 Service:

I would like to take the poinsettia home.

Please donate to a homebound member.



# Emmanuel Nurtures !

## Knitters and Crocheters !

*“Come and gather to make shawls  
for those in  
need of comfort.”*



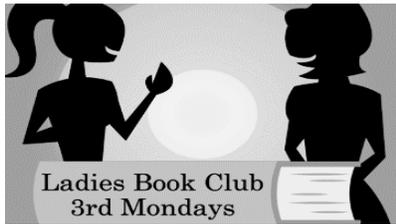
**Next Meeting:  
Sunday, Dec. 6 – 1PM**

**And every first Sunday of the month.**

**In Emmanuel’s Parlor –  
safe social distancing**

**Please wear your mask!**

*Instruction available for all interested.*



**Next Meeting  
December 14 @ 7PM  
Book: “TBD”**

*Join the ladies of Emmanuel for fun  
conversation and fellowship –  
and always a good read!*

For information, e-mail Mary Anne Morral  
[morral@verizon.net](mailto:morral@verizon.net)



**On Facebook  
Mon-Sat 8AM**

**“Stay  
Connected to  
God’s Word”**



## Light an Advent Wreath – at home!



Hey Sunday’s KIDS – Did you know that you can have your own Advent Wreath, at home? That’s right, many families love to light their home Advent wreath as a

way of growing closer together as we get closer to Christmas.

And you don’t even need a big gold ring, or one pink and three purple Candles. There are many different ways to make a home Advent wreath.

It could be as simple as this: Take blue and purple pipe cleaners and weave and tie them together in a circle. Place 4 candlesticks or white tea lights at the north, east, south and west points on the circle. Have one larger candle in the center to light on Christmas Day to remember the birth of Jesus. If you want something more decorative, use the idea above, and add some green Vines (fake, for safety) around the pipe cleaners and candles.

Of course, you can purchase an Advent wreath kit in a store or online. There are many affordable sets. Just “Google It”.

Many families like to have Advent devotions at home, on Sunday evenings, but anytime during the week will do. Here’s a link to some nice family devotions published by our friends at Upper Dublin Lutheran Church:

<https://udlc.org/adventfamilydevotions>

You might also want to gather with your family on Wednesday night at 7PM and join Pastor John for a 30-minute Advent Worship service, live-streamed from Emmanuel’s Chapel. Information about that is on page 10.

We feel sad that we won’t be together in church during Advent, but that doesn’t mean we can’t keep Jesus close to our hearts.

Ms. Ann Marie, Ms. Debbie, Ms. Taylor



# Emmanuel Nurtures!

## Awaken Us!



Dear Lord God,  
awaken us,  
that we may be ready  
when your dear Son comes,  
that we may receive him with joy  
and serve you with pure hearts;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

(attributed to Martin Luther. [*Die Gebete Luthers*, #10])

### Special Prayer Concerns

- + For our Bishop, Rev. Patricia Davenport and her staff.
- + For hurricane victims in Honduras and other Central American countries.
- + For our nation as it transitions to a new administration.
- + For victims of the Covid-19 pandemic, suffering from the disease or the economic impact.
- + For all front-line workers who are caring for those suffering from the Covid-19 virus.
- + For an effective Coronavirus vaccine to be developed and distributed swiftly.
- + For an end to violence, and for peace to be dared.

## For our Homebound Members

Doris Alderfer	Betty Frese
Jacqui Bond	Rita Fritz
Dominick De Salvo	Louella Gehringer
William De Turk	Kathryn Stover
Helen De Turk	Faye Wetzel
Norma Detweiler	Dorothy Wohlgenuth

## For Health and Healing Members of Emmanuel

Roy Becker	Faye Landis
Anthony Campolei	Debbie Mc Elwee
Elaine Cash	Bob Renner
Bob Cole	Kermit Schnable
Pat Conard	Rhys Shelmire
Craig Freed	Harry Thompson
Pat Harpel	Floyd & Ruth Yothers

## For Friends of Emmanuel

- Karen Bauer (friend of Deb & Pat McElwee)
- Cathy Busser (friend of Pastor John)
- Donna Clemens (friend of Janel and Barry Gibson)
- Dennis Beer (friend of the Kulps)
- Jim Clark (friend of Caren and Doug Landis)
- Luca Condo (friend of Ruth Miller)
- Helen Freed (Craig Freed's Mom)
- Sharon and John Garner (Jen Casta's Parents)
- Sabrina Haap (Ruth Miller's Niece)
- Donald Heller (Shirley's Brother-in-law)
- Hildegard Lamparter (Wife of former Pastor Robert Lamparter)
- Dixie Kephart (Darlene's Mother)
- Marvin Krupp (Friend of Roy Becker)
- Ed Natali (David's Brother)
- Neal Maiers (Friend of Deb & Patrick McElwee)
- Alicia Ranberg (Friend of the Crouthamels)
- Stewart Schrauger (Julie Freed's Brother)
- Michael Smith (friend of Cheryl Starke)
- Eric Sykes (Anita & Joe's Son)
- Pam Valenti (Lou Gehringer's Sister)
- Alexander & Sylvia Wagwicz (Friends of DeSalvos)
- Suzanne Willauer (Ed Cash's Sister)
- Chase Ziegler (Christman's Great-Grandson)

## For Those Away at School

Samantha Plinke

*In order to keep our Prayer List up to date, names will remain for four weeks unless otherwise notified*



# Emmanuel Serves !

## **E** The E-Meal Ministry



## 55,000 Meals Handed Up

Thanks Be To God!

### Average Daily Meals Served per Month

March	93
April	163
May	244
June	197
July	179
August	204
September	201
October	311
November.	286

I am running out of words to describe the ways in which Emmanuel’s E-Meal Ministry has proven to be such a blessing to our community – and how the community is a blessing to the E-Meal Ministry.

What God has done with a little bit of faith is truly

amazing. You might call it a miracle – but it is not done with magic.

If I had to encapsulate into a formula, the way in which the E-Meal Ministry has responded and grown in these 9 months, it would be something like this:

### Show Up

### Show Up Often

### Show Off

Showing up is often the most important element of success for any venture. Emmanuel’s E-Meal ministry is right here in the community – seeing the people come forward in need and connecting with them showing the love of Christ by extending the welcoming hand of Christ with a meal.

Showing up often – especially in tough times is just so important. Not only are we there, but we are there every day. No other food ministry in the area has a six day per week schedule providing seven days of

food. Our neighbors in need know that we will be there – not just to feed them each day – but that we are walking the path along with them – not just for one day a month – but for the long haul.

Now I know this sounds a bit brash – but showing off is important as well. We need to tell the story – to help people all around the area see the need and respond to it. That’s why we continually update the street sign. That’s why we share our milestone celebrations. That’s why we develop and cherish our community partnerships. That’s why we keep telling stories – stories like this one.

On November 25, the E-Meal ministry had its largest single day distribution ever – over **1,400 meals.**



Most of these came in the form of Thanksgiving meal boxes which contained all the ingredients for a full Thanksgiving feast, including 1 of the 102

delicious smoked hams donated by Leidy’s meats, one of our super generous community partners. The other items in the dinner came from generous cash or food donations from Emmanuel’s members and neighbors. Thanks be to God for your generosity – especially during these hard economic times.

There is still more work to be done, as you can see by the numbers of meals served these past two months. We will continue to show up, show up often, and show off.

Later this week, I will be making a presentation to the Souderton-Telford Rotary, and organization that does so much good for our community – an is now interested in how they can support Emmanuel’s E-Meal Ministry. It’s an honor to be asked to present, and to invite this group to become one more ally in the fight to eliminate hunger in the Indian Valley. I’m sure I will have more to tell you about that relationship in the coming weeks.

I also have to thank our wonderful corps of volunteers which has been growing in recent weeks. We are so grateful for those who have stepped up to serve, especially on those busy days when so many people come to be fed. If you are interested in volunteering, signing up is easy. Just visit our sign-up genius page at: <https://rb.gy/47vkgh>.

May God grant you a blessed Advent Season.  
+ Pastor John +



# Emmanuel Reaches Out !

# 2020 Christmas Gift Drive



**Help a Local  
Foster Child  
Have a  
Merry Christmas  
This Year!**



Emmanuel is partnering with Salvation Army Children's Services to gather Christmas gifts for the Foster Children in their care.

We are asking you to help  
by purchasing 1 or more gifts from the following list:

Number	Gift	Number	Gift
11	2-3 Year Old Boy	5	6-8 Year Old Boy
11	2-3 Year Old Girl	6	6-8 Year Old Girl
2	2-3 Year Old Gender Neutral	2	6-8 Year Old Gender Neutral
2	4-5 Year Old Boy	1	9-10 Year Old Girl
4	4-5 Year Old Girl	1	9-10 Year Old Gender Neutral
2	4-5 Year Old Gender Neutral		

## There are Two Ways to Participate This Year

Choose your gift(s)  
by picking an ornament  
off of the Angel Tree  
in the church gathering space  
starting Sunday, November 22.

Choose your gift(s) from the  
virtual Angel Tree  
on our Sign-Up Genius page:  
<https://bit.ly/2KgkoOj>

- Return **unwrapped** gifts by Sunday, December 6.
- Attach ornament, or hand-written tag to identify it
- Suggested value per gift - \$20 - \$30.

Questions:  
Contact Cindy Crouthamel  
215-721-1953  
[ccrout@prodigy.net](mailto:ccrout@prodigy.net)



# Emmanuel Reaches Out !

Having some excess canned foods from our Thanksgiving food campaign, Emmanuel donated cans of pork chunks and green beans, along with some diapers to the relief effort. These young ladies are gathering supplies to send them through an organization in Honduras called ADASBA, a private non-profit foundation that works independently of the Honduran government and the related corruption regarding relief supplies. We have the best of assurances that the supplies will go where needed.

The same is true of Lutheran Disaster relief. We can feel confident that any funds raised will be used in the areas of greatest need. Please complete the form below and have it accompany your gift to support the victims in Honduras, and lift the spirits of our Honduran neighbors in Souderton who are so concerned about their loved ones back in Honduras.



On Nov. 2, Hurricane Eta, a powerful Category 4 storm, hit Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua. Throughout Central America, at least 171 people died. Winds as high as 150 mph caused power outages and structural damage while heavy rains caused catastrophic flooding and landslides, damaging homes, crops, roads and bridges.

Just two weeks later, Hurricane Iota made landfall in Nicaragua, 15 miles from where Hurricane Eta had made landfall. Iota was the first Category 5 hurricane of the 2020 season, but it weakened to a Category 4 hurricane as it made landfall. It brought strong winds and rains to areas already devastated by Hurricane Eta, hampering any ongoing recovery.

To assess the immediate needs and initiate a response, Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with many companion churches and ecumenical partners in the region, including ACT Alliance, Iglesia Cristiana Luterana de Honduras, Comisión de Acción Social Menonita, Church World Service, Iglesia Luterana Augustina de Guatemala and Iglesia Luterana de Nicaragua "Fe y Esperanza." While the extent of the damage is not yet known, we will accompany devastated communities from immediate relief through long-term recovery.

Your gifts designated for "Hurricane Response" will be used entirely (100%) for direct response until it is complete. Emmanuel is gathering funds throughout December to donate to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Last week, Pastor John was approached by three young women who live in Souderton but came originally from Honduras, one of the nations with the most significant damage. Members of their families still live in Honduras and were among the victims.

## Hurricane Relief Donation Form

*Please return to church office no later than Sunday, December 20.*

Donation - \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Enclose check or cash donation)*

**Please check 1 or more, and write neatly for bulletin acknowledgement**

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In Thankfulness to God for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Given By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

*Bulletin Sponsorships Available for the 2020 and 2021*

## Sunday Schedule

Online Sunday's KIDS – 9:30 AM

Online Worship – 10:00 AM

### Contact Us:

69 W. Broad Street • Souderton, PA 18964  
Church Telephone: 215-723-7514

Email: [Emmanuel@emmanuellutheranchurch.net](mailto:Emmanuel@emmanuellutheranchurch.net)

Website: [www.emmanuellutheranchurch.net](http://www.emmanuellutheranchurch.net)

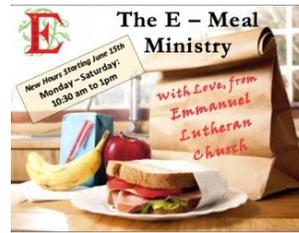
Facebook.com/EmmanuelSouderton

### Church Staff

Reverend John T. Heidgerd, Pastor  
Mobile Phone: 1-914-275-3106

Email Address: [jheidgerd@gmail.com](mailto:jheidgerd@gmail.com)

Rev. Richard G. Miller, Jr., Pastor Emeritus  
Marlene H. Natali, Parish Deacon  
Michael Shoemaker, Facilities Manager



## E-Meal Volunteers – Please sign up online

<https://rb.gy/47vkgh>



## What's Happening @ Emmanuel

11/29/2020 – 12/06/2020

		1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent
Sun 11/29	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Sunday's KIDS Online Online Worship Service
Mon 11/30	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate Online Advent Bible Study
Tue 12/01	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Wed 12/02	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate Online Advent Worship
Thu 12/03	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Fri 12/04	8:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM	Morning GodCast Blessings of Hope Truck Breakdown E-Meal Distribution
Sat 12/05	8:00 AM 10::30AM – 1PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution
Sun 12/06	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  Sunday's KIDS Online Online Worship Service

## Bible Quiz

After Mary learned she was pregnant with God's Son, what relative — also miraculously pregnant — did she go visit?

- A. Esther
- B. Elizabeth
- C. Anne
- D. Anna

Answer: B (See Luke 1:39-41)