

**FIRST SUNDAY  
OF**

*Advent*

**November 28, 2021**

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

**Souderton, PA**



## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Making Christ Known  
Through Worship, Nurture, Service, and Outreach



## Welcome to Emmanuel !

**November 28, 2021**

### First Sunday in Advent

*"It is wonderful to worship with you today."*

**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. Worship has returned **INDOORS** for the remainder of the Fall and Winter seasons.

**Masking is optional and is highly recommended if you have not been vaccinated.**

**Socially distant seating is recommended between people and families that do not live in the same household.**

**Singing is permitted without masking.**

**Sharing of the Peace will still be done in a "touchless" fashion. Please share the peace with those around you by offering a sign of peace, a wave, or a friendly nod.**

**Offerings will not be collected. If you have brought an offering, please place it in the plate at the entrance to worship.**

**Holy Communion will be distributed today with both bread and wine. You are requested to come forward to receive.**

**More information about the Distribution of Holy Communion may be found on page 9.**

**At this time there will be no coffee hour in the Gathering Space.**

**Sunday's KIDS is taking a break this week, following Thanksgiving.**

### Emmanuel Worship is Online

This worship service will be broadcast and live streamed through our Facebook page, and on our website. 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://www.elcsouderton.org>

Please check the Facebook Page or Website for ongoing updates of all the great things happening at Emmanuel, including Pastor John's daily GodCasts.

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)

### Introduction to the day

Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks.

The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Jesus' contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man."

With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

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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*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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

### *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (257 – v1)*

**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.**

*(continued in next column)*

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.**

### *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (257 – v2)*

**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.**

*Please be seated.*



## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who alone does wonders,  
who lifts up the lowly,  
who fills the hungry with good things.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of  
our God.

God for whom we wait,

**in the presence of one another,  
we confess our sin before you.  
We fail in believing  
that your good news is for us.  
We falter in our call to tend your creation.  
We find our sense of self in material wealth.  
We fear those different from ourselves.  
We forget that we are your children  
and turn away from your love.  
Forgive us, Blessed One,  
and assure us again of your saving grace.**

**Amen.**

God, in Christ Jesus,  
has looked with favor upon you!  
Through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
+ your sins are forgiven.  
You are children of the Most High,  
inheritors of the eternal promise,  
and recipients of divine mercy.  
God strengthens you anew  
to follow the way of peace.

**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 alert us to the  
threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for  
your life of justice, for you live and reign with the  
Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I  
will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel  
and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time  
I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for  
David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness  
in the land.

In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will  
live in safety. And this is the name by which it will  
be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 25: 1-10 (read responsively)

To you, O LORD,  
I lift up my soul.

**My God, I put my trust in you;  
let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame  
who are treacherous.

**Show me your ways, O LORD,  
and teach me your paths.**

Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.

**Remember, O LORD,  
your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

Remember not the sins of my youth  
and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

**All your paths, O LORD,  
are steadfast love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant  
and your testimonies.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People (256 – vs. 1-2)*

**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.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## GOSPEL RESPONSE

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People (256 – v3)*

**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.**

## SERMON

*The Rev. John T. Heidgerd*

*At conclusion of the sermon, please stand as you are  
able for the SONG of the Day*

## SONG OF THE DAY

*Lost in the Night (243)*

**1 Lost in the night do the people yet languish,  
longing for morning the darkness to vanquish,  
plaintively sighing with hearts full of anguish.  
Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?**

**2 Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow?  
Shall those who have light no light let us borrow,  
giving no heed to our burden of sorrow?  
Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?**

**3 Sorrowing wand'ers, in darkness yet dwelling,  
dawned has the day of a radiance excelling,  
death's deepest shadows forever dispelling.  
Christ is coming soon! Christ is coming soon!**

**4 Light o'er the land of the needy is beaming;  
rivers of life through its deserts are streaming,  
bringing all peoples a Savior redeeming.  
Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!**

## 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

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace (247- vs 1-2)*

**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 Jesus, quickly come."*

## PRAYER CONCLUSION

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace (247-vs. 3-4)*

**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.

## 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 link on Emmanuel's website, by US Mail, or by delivery to the office during E-Meal distribution hours.*

## MISSION MOMENT

*Atiya Waters –  
Salvation Army Children's Services*

## Welcome Atiya Waters



***Did you know  
that November is  
Foster Care  
Awareness  
Month?***

That's right – and today we welcome our friend Atiya Waters, the Orphan Care Ministry Coordinator at Salvation Army Children's Services (SACS), to tell us

more. A Foster and Adoptive Mom herself, Atiya has been with SACS for over 20 years living out her passion to serve children in need of families to love and support them in nurturing foster care environments or transitioning children into their "forever families". Atiya will also talk to us about our Angel Tree drive this year and the children we are helping enjoy a blessed Christmas. Atiya will be around after worship to talk and answer any questions you might have. We are so grateful to have Atiya worship with us today.

## OFFERING SONG

*Let Us Go Now to the Banquet:(523)*

### *Refrain*

**Let us go now to the banquet,  
to the feast of the universe.  
The table's set and a place is waiting;  
come, ev'ryone, with your gifts to share.**

**1 I will rise in the early morning;  
the community's waiting for me.  
With a spring in my step I'm walking  
with my friends and my family. *Refrain***

**2 God invites all the poor and hungry  
to the banquet of justice and good  
where the harvest will not be hoarded  
so that no one will lack for food. *Refrain***

**3 May we build such a place among us  
where all people are equal in love.  
God has called us to work together  
and to share ev'rything we have. *Refrain***

## OFFERING PRAYER

Together, Let us pray,

God of our waiting and watching,

**we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives  
to the service of all your people.  
Prepare the way before us  
as we meet you in this simple meal,  
through Christ Jesus,  
our pathway and our peace.**

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you,  
almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people  
with the promise of the Redeemer,  
through whom you will also make all things new  
in the day when he comes  
to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY HOLY HOLY *You Are Holy* (525)**

**You are holy, you are whole.  
You are always ever more  
than we ever understand.  
You are always at hand.**

**Blessed are you coming near.  
Blessed are you coming here  
to your church in wine and bread,  
raised from soil, raised from dead.**

**You are holy,  
you are wholeness,  
you are present.  
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!  
Sing hosanna in the highest!  
Sing hosanna!  
Sing hosanna to our God!**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.*

## 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNTION

Come to Christ's banquet.  
Feast on God's gift of grace.

**Thanks be to God.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All God's people are invited by our Lord,  
Jesus Christ to receive Holy Communion.*

*We receive these gifts of Christ's body and  
blood in faith, trusting that in this meal our  
Lord comes to us, forgives our sins, renews us  
in faith and leads us into new life.*

*Today, the Lord's Supper will be offered with  
both bread and wine. Lutherans hold to the  
understanding that Christ's Real Presence in  
body and blood is there with the bread and  
wine and the gathered community of saints.*

*Please approach the chancel area, starting  
with the first row and using the middle  
aisle. All wine or grape juice is in individual  
cups. On your way to the chancel area, please  
pick up a cup of wine or grape juice. Then  
proceed to the Pastor or Assisting Minister  
where you will receive a communion wafer.*

*The Pastor or Assisting Minister will place the  
wafer in your cupped hand, after which you  
may consume the wafer, and the wine or juice  
in your individual cup. As you return to your  
seat via the side aisles, please deposit the used  
communion cup in the designated container.*

*If you wish to receive gluten-free bread, please  
signal to the Pastor or Asst. Minister.*

*If you do not wish to receive Holy Communion,  
you may receive a brief blessing. As you  
approach, please place your hands across your  
chest in the form of the St. Andrew's cross. (X)  
(when all have been communed, please rise as you are able)*

## SONG DURING COMMUNION

*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!"**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Most High God,  
you have come among us at this table.  
By the Spirit's power,  
form us to be bearers of your word,  
sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,  
through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

The God of hope  
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that we may abound in hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
through Christ Jesus + for whom we wait.

**Amen.**

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## SENDING SONG

*Fling Wide the Door (259 vs 1-3)*

**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. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Fling Wide the Door (259 – v.4)*

**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!**

*Worship Assistants*



Hosts– Higgins-Keller and Snyder Families  
Assisting Minister – Jen Casta  
Music Leader – Matthew Chegezy  
Tech Support – Bob Cole/Evan Freed  
Singers – Jane Vogel/Merril Christman  
Sunday's KIDS – Thanksgiving Break



# Emmanuel Worships



Calling All  
Singers,  
Bell Ringers  
and Musicians



## Christmas Eve Worship

Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

5:00 PM – Family Service,  
featuring Las Posadas

**All Children are welcome to join  
in the Las Posadas parade.**

7:30 PM – Candlelight Service  
Special readings and music.

Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

10:00 AM – Christmas Day

Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>

10:00 AM Worship  
Service of  
Lessons and Carols

Advent and Christmas Choir  
Rehearsal Times

Rehearsals on Wednesdays

12/1, 12/8, 12/15 and 12/22

Bell Choir – 6:30 -7:15PM

Voice Choir – 7:30 – 8:45PM

*Don't worry if you missed  
the first rehearsal!*

The choirs had their first rehearsals on Wednesday, November 17 and we had a very nice turnout for both Bell and Voice Choirs.

Priscilla Landis has selected some beautiful pieces for Christmas Eve, and for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Advent. One of the Christmas pieces brings the Bell and Voice Choirs together. Our plan to offer special music this year, after one year without it, is shaping up very nicely.

There is still plenty of room to bring in new singers, ringers, or instrumentalists. The next rehearsals will be on December 1.

[Click Here](#) to sign up

or Go to:

<https://bit.ly/30w37sz>



# Emmanuel Worships

**Emmanuel  
Get's Ready  
for Christmas**



On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent,  
the Community gathers  
for a glimpse at  
the Christmas to come!



**Friday, December 10  
@ 7PM**

+++++



**Let's get our beautiful  
worship space ready for  
Christmas.**

**Join Us For**  
  
Christmas Wreath Decorating  
Christmas Crafts  
Christmas Songs  
Christmas Cookies  
and interactive Christmas Fun!

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

to SIGN UP to come  
and to bring Christmas Cookies  
or go to

**<https://bit.ly/3laHV2J>**



# Emmanuel Worships

## An Update from Pastor John

### *“A week of contrasts”*



***Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea (Micah 7:18-19)***

It's been an interesting week – this last week of the church's year. We began it last Sunday – celebrating “Christ the King Sunday” - a day to remember that among all the kings and leaders in our lives, there is only one King that will not fail us; only one King who deserves our complete commitment; only one King that we can trust to put first in our lives.

Then we counted down the days to Thanksgiving - not a religious holiday, per se - but one that fits the theme of Christ the King. We commit ourselves to giving thanks for all the blessings we have. We reflect on what it means to put Christ first in our lives, then let the blessings flow.

Then we woke up to “Black Friday” – a day when we fall back into those human habits of self-centeredness and scarcity. We rush around spending money we don't have on things we don't need - with little disregard for those who might be in the way - standing between you and that super deal or hot gift.

Yes - It's been a week of mixed signals – mixed motives – mixed objects of worship. But now it's time to get serious. Because as we close one church year and open a new one, we hear God's word – and God is serious about it. Please pray with me.

*Great and mighty God – you and only you are worthy of our worship – of being put first in our lives. And despite confessing that in our churches and in our hearts – we turn away from you time and time again, looking for salvation in things and ways that always fall short. Lord, as we enter this season of Advent*

*stir up in our hearts a love for you – for your word – for your promises and for your kingdom to come among us. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.*

I think it's good to end the year and enter a new one with this passage - the word of God spoken through the prophet Micah. Micah was known for speaking against the injustices in his day, and for speaking against the hollowness of worship practices of the time. Micah would have seen the disconnect between honoring God, and giving thanks, and then turning away when it seemed convenient or desirable. Micah saw corruption and emptiness in the sacrificial system in place in his day, and hypocrisy in the acts of those who benefitted from it. For Micah, honoring God did not come from killing animals, but from acts of justice and mercy – done in humility and honesty.

This backdrop for this particular passage from Micah begins with dark foreboding – set in a time of faithlessness when the world turned away from God.

Yet, Micah reminds us that there is always hope.

Even when the world seems like such a dark place. Even when it seems as if nobody is serious about God, God remains serious about us.

God never loses faith in us.

God remains full of mercy and compassion.

And though God is disappointed with our lack of faith - our failures to act with justice and mercy – God will never – never – never give up on us. And God will never give up on you.

So today we begin another season of Advent – capping off this confusing week with a message of hope. Hope that despite our mixed allegiances -

God never abandons us.

God never stops calling to us.

God never stops promising good things for us.

God never stops loving us.

Advent reminds us that God sent himself to live with us as Emmanuel – to show us God's own nature as a human and also to remind us that God will soon come again and bring with him the days of justice and mercy for all.

+ Pastor John +



# Emmanuel Worships

## A History of Advent (from *thegospelcoalition.org*)

Many churches lit the first of their Advent candles today. Even churches averse to liturgical practices

find a way to mark the Advent season, if only by marking the days remaining until Christmas.

This is some of the story behind Advent.

### Unknown Start

The earliest dating of Advent is impossible to determine. The start of Easter in Christian history is far more obviously tied to Passover (albeit with different methods for dating), and Christmas came to be associated with the birth of Christ because of it falling during the December Solstice, the darkest day of the year in the northern hemisphere. The coming of the Light of the World made a lot of sense in so much darkness. Within a few centuries of church history, both Easter and Christmas took on special meaning due to their use in commemorating the life of Jesus.

In the early centuries of the church, Advent almost certainly arose because of the fixed dating of Christmas. Once December 25 became Christmas, it was the center of gravity for the latter half of the year—a perfect balance to Easter in the first half. In this way, Advent took on significance the same way Lent did: both were preparation for the more significant season on the horizon.

By the fourth century, the first written evidence of Advent is found in modern Spain and Europe. Probably the earliest official mention of Advent practices comes as the Council of Sargossa (AD 380) met to answer a gnostic-inspired movement called Priscillianism.

The heresy essentially held to a harsh form of dualism—light vs. dark, body vs. soul—so perhaps the celebration of the incarnation made theological sense as a counterbalance to this heresy. The council was not committed to any specific dating of Advent, though, and only suggested people attend church daily between December 17 and 29.

By the fifth and sixth centuries, more firm dating of the Advent season can be found in historical records—as well as Advent sermon series.

### Double Meaning of Advent

Unlike modern Advent ceremonies, most celebrations of Advent in history had a twin focus. The Latin word *adventus* was the translation of the Greek *parousia*—a word used for both the coming of Christ in human flesh and his Second Coming. Advent, then, always tended to focus on both.

For the first two weeks of Advent, the church would reflect on the Second Coming. Disciples would chasten their hearts, confess sins, and spend time hoping for the quick coming of the Lord. The last two weeks of Advent would then transition to focus on the first *parousia*, Christ in the manger.

This double meaning in Advent history signals an important reality in the liturgical calendar: Advent and Christmas are never held as a full re-enactment of the life of Christ but point to our place between the Resurrection and Second Coming. Advent and Christmas are not merely about the coming of Jesus, but about everything since the birth of Jesus.

### Advent Today

The rise of Advent services today is somewhat unique in Protestant evangelicalism. I cannot think of a single, large-scale controversy over the lighting of candles and reading of Scripture during these weeks. Perhaps this is due to the corporate nature of bearing witness to the commemoration of Jesus's birth, which fails to raise as many alarms as other traditional practices in the church.

Part of the rise of Advent, too, has been the widespread adoption of Christmas by so many in the West, religious or secular. For many churches, rather than compete against the secular expressions of Christmas, they find it better to focus instead on the advent of the King of Kings, so lighting candles and reading appropriate passages is a positive approach to preparation for the day to commemorate Christ's birth. Numerous Advent devotionals, calendars, and homespun methods of marking the season have sprouted up in recent years as a result.

Often downplayed, however, in Advent celebration, is the twin focus of both the Incarnation and the Second Coming. Both themes make Advent instructive, not only historically but also in terms of biblical theology. We are a people who do not merely look back to the one moment God broke into history. We also await his coming again in glory, when the King's reign shall be on earth as it is in heaven.



# Emmanuel Nurtures !



## Upcoming Group Activities at Emmanuel

Hi Friends!

We are taking a little break this week after Thanksgiving, so we won't have any in-person class today. But we will be back next week as we observe Advent – the time of waiting for Jesus to come.

Please remember to bring and wear your masks every week. Anyone in the Sunday's KIDS room must wear a mask.

We all need to wear masks indoors at church to help keep people from getting sick. We know it's not fun to wear a mask, but if everyone does wear a mask, we can be together, and be safe.

We hope you all had a great Thanksgiving with your families and friends. Some of you may have had a Thanksgiving gathering for the first time in two years, because of Covid. That was something to be really thankful for this year.

We are thankful for all of you – for your smiles, for your enthusiasm, for the way in which you love to learn about God by participating in Sunday's KIDS. We're looking forward to getting back together next week.

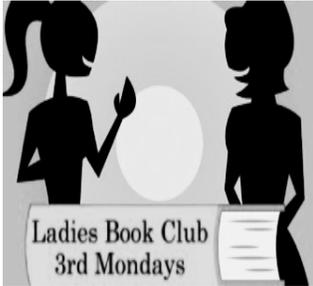
Let's learn even more about this on Sunday. Join us– in person at 10 AM on Sunday, and online at 9:30 AM on Sunday or anytime after that.

Remember, God Loves You – and so do we!

Ms. Ann Marie, Ms. Carole, Ms. Debbie, Ms. Macey and Ms. Taylor



On Facebook  
Mon-Sat 8AM  
"Stay  
Connected to  
God's Word"



**Next Meeting**  
Monday, December  
20 @ 7PM  
*Christmas Book  
Exchange*

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

**Meet in Emmanuel's Choir Room**

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

\*\*\*\*\*

## Knitters and Crocheters !



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

**Next Meeting:**  
Sunday, Dec 5 –  
1PM

**And every first Sunday of the month**

**In Emmanuel's Parlor**

*Instruction available for all who are  
interested.*

\*\*\*\*\*



# Emmanuel Nurtures !

## For our Homebound Members

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



In Our  
Prayers...

### Special Prayer Concerns

*In the sure and certain hope of the resurrection, Emmanuel announces the death of Richard Coll, father of Mike Coll. Visitation will be on December 1, 2021 at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Sellersville beginning at 9:30 AM, with a funeral service following at 11:00. Please hold the Coll family in prayer in the coming days.*

- + For our Bishop, Rev. Patricia Davenport and her staff. For Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and the ELCA Churchwide staff.
- + For the Souderton Area School District to act in the best interest of students and to cease the vitriol plaguing discussions on masking and race issues.
- + For hurricane victims in Honduras and other Central American countries.
- + For those experiencing homelessness, especially as the weather gets colder.
- + In thanksgiving to God for vaccinations being available for children and for an end to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- + In thanksgiving for God's guiding spirit and providence as we continue the work being done through the E-Meal Ministry.
- + For an end to the abusive enslavement of people who are being trafficked for profit.
- + In Thanksgiving for the skills and commitment of the volunteers from Eight Days of Hope, who have made such a difference in the transformation of Meleny's House.

## For Health and Healing Members of Emmanuel

Roy Becker	Richard Landis
Anthony Campolei	Deb Mc Elwee
Elaine Cash	Ann Renner
Marilyn Detwiler	Harry Thompson
Faye Landis	Floyd and Ruth Yothers

## For Friends of Emmanuel

John Becker Sr. (Roy Becker's Father)  
 Dennis Beer (friend of the Kulpes)  
 Jim Clark (friend of Caren and Doug Landis)  
 Richard Coll (Mike Coll's Father)  
 Luca Condo (friend of Ruth Miller)  
 Shiela Coward (friend of Rita Fritz)  
 Alicia and Mike Daniels (friends of Julie Freed)  
 Donna and Kevin Dietz (friends of Rita Fritz)  
 Helen Freed (Evan Freed's Grandmother)  
 Sharon and John Garner (Jen Casta's Parents)  
 Sabrina Haap (Ruth Miller's Niece)  
 Kathy Heckler (Daughter in law of Gloria & Gerry Heckler)  
 Eric Heckler (Grandson of Gloria & Gerry Heckler)  
 Deborah Holcombe (Pastor John's sister-in-law)  
 Hildegard Lamparter (Mother of Priscilla Lamparter)  
 Todd McDaniels (Friend of the McElwees)  
 Ed Natali (David's Brother)  
 Neal Maiers (Friend of Deb & Patrick McElwee)  
 Shirley Moyer (Friend of Louella Gehringer)  
 Katie Parsons (Friend of the McElwees)  
 Patrick Family (Friends of Julie Freed)  
 Richard Plinke (friend of Gerry and Dave Blaich)  
 Alicia Ranberg (Friend of the Crouthamels)  
 Ari Richter (Friend of Caren and Doug Landis)  
 Stewart Schrauger (Julie Freed's Brother)  
 Michael Smith (friend of Cheryl Starke)  
 Joan Stankus (Mother of Andy Stankus)  
 Tom Swanson (friend of the Mc Elwees)  
 Eric Sykes (Anita's Son)  
 Chase Ziegler (Christman's Great-Grandson)

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



# Emmanuel Nurtures!

## A true thanksgiving: *Martin Luther on giving thanks*

By [Timothy J. Wengert](#) (From Living Lutheran 11/24/21)



“For all of this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey him.” With these words in his Small Catechism, Martin Luther concludes his paraphrase of the First Article of the Apostles’ Creed. The point is clear: We owe God thanks

for all God gives to us.

But there is a trap here that we can easily fall into. Just because we ought to do something for God doesn’t mean we can do it—or, in Luther’s succinct language: “An ‘ought’ never implies a ‘can.’”

The problem with thanksgiving (let alone praise, service and obedience) is twofold. On the one hand, we try to turn it into a “must,” and we put on our smiley face and say thank you. Every time my Aunt Gladys gave me wool socks for Christmas, I was faced with the same dilemma: I had to write a thank-you note, but I wasn’t thankful at all. Hypocritical thanksgiving is the very opposite of true thanks.

On the other hand, we imagine that we can manufacture true thanksgiving on our own, and we take credit for being thankful (or feel guilty when we aren’t). But this isn’t true thanksgiving either.

Like all Christian good works, thanksgiving comes spontaneously. We’ve experienced this with children or grandchildren. When they are truly thankful, it’s written all over their faces and they come running up to us with hugs and kisses. Otherwise, their parents whisper in their ears, “Come on, say thank you!” To which they moan, “Thanks for the socks.” So, too, with God.

What creates thanksgiving is not our attitude but God’s gifts. That is why, in his explanation of “I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth” from the First Article, Luther lists all the things he can think of that God has specifically given him: body and soul with their physical and mental capacities, shoes,

clothing, food, drink, house, farm, wife, children, fields, livestock, property and all necessities for life.

Though our lists may vary, true thanksgiving arises not from our work at “being thankful” but out of God’s gifts, which include protection from “all danger ... and evil,” as Luther goes on to say in the Small Catechism. Luther doesn’t mean to suggest that nothing bad will ever befall us, only that, when we are shielded from harm, danger and evil, this protection comes from God.

If you want to be thankful but you can’t do it, make a list of God’s gifts of creation. Or use Luther’s—you’ll run out of ink and paper before you get to the bottom, and like him, you may suddenly realize that “all this is done out of pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness of mine at all” (*First Article*).

Some people concentrate on the word “Father” when explaining this article. Luther instead concentrates on the word “creator” and turns “Father” into an adjective: “fatherly.” In 1531, when Luther added an explanation to the words “Our Father in heaven,” his oldest child was 5 and he had discovered his own fatherly heart. “With these words God wants to attract us,” he writes (*introduction to the Lord’s Prayer*).

In the Bible, we deal with loving children and a loving, divine parent. Thanksgiving will come spontaneously as we discover this “pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy.”

But still we fail. We take so much for granted, or we fake it, or we break our arms patting ourselves on the back. That’s when a second aspect of Luther’s explanation comes to our rescue in the form of the Second Article of the creed: there Luther repeats the word “ought” or “owe” but in ways that are nearly impossible to capture in English. Jesus Christ “has purchased and freed me ... not with gold or silver but ... with his innocent (in German, *unschuld*, meaning “non-owed”) suffering and death.”

We owe everything to God. Jesus, truly human and divine, owed God nothing but gave up everything for us. The result, according to Luther? “He has done all this in order that I may serve him in eternal innocence.” There’s that word again. We belong to Jesus, we live in his kingdom, and he frees us from debt.

Thanksgiving arises not because we owe it to God—even though we do—but spontaneously, because Jesus made us his own and frees us to “thank and praise, serve and obey.” Amen! Or, as Luther paraphrased that word in this same explanation, “This is most certainly true.”



# Emmanuel Serves !

## Meleny's House Update Giving Thanks for an Amazing Job done by Amazing People



HOPE has come to 75 W. Broad St.

It turned out to be an early Advent present – the building out of three apartments, bringing to life Emmanuel's former parsonage that had been empty for so long, and only a shell for the last five years.

HOPE came in the form of 45 volunteers from an organization called Eight Days of Hope – a traveling team of skilled contractors and tradespeople that has begun to turn the dream of Meleny's House into a reality.

By now, most of you have seen the photos of the transformation that took place day by day over the past two weeks. Every day - framing, plumbing, electric, heating and A/C units, windows, capping, insulating, bath fixtures, drywall, taping and spackling – working miracles in such a short time.

I would often go into the house while they were working and comment “you guys are great” or “you are all amazing”. Their response – “God is great. God is Amazing.”

AMEN to that! Our great and amazing God sends great and amazing people into our midst to do great and amazing work.

On Friday, November 19, we held an Italian Fiesta in honor of these wonderful people of God to say THANK YOU for all they did in the two weeks they were with us. We may never meet them again – but they will never be forgotten for the gift of love and hope they gave to Meleny's House.

Here are some photos from the celebration.





# Emmanuel Serves !

## E-Meal Ministry Updates

This year, it was really a blessing to work with our friends at Zion Mennonite. The collaboration between our two churches gave us access to more items, more volunteers and an additional distribution outlet for those who found it more convenient in the evening.



**169,000 meals handed “up”**  
**Over 100 Thanksgiving Boxes too**  
**Thanks Be To God!**

Tuesday, November 23 was a near-record distribution day for E-Meal with over 1,900 meals “handed up” and in partnership with Zion Mennonite, over 100 Thanksgiving Boxes were distributed. We had amazing demand for our bagged lunches, distributing over 300 single meals. Wow.

Last Sunday, volunteers from both churches gathered at Emmanuel to pack the boxes. We packed 200 boxes of food – more than we needed – but don’t worry, the extra food will go to good use, and some will carry over for Christmas, which will be on us before we know it.

It was a busy, busy day for our volunteers who kept up an amazing pace preparing and serving during the distribution time. We owe those folks a debt of “thanks” for their efforts to make sure nobody went hungry on Thanksgiving in the Indian Valley.

### E-Meal Volunteers Are Needed!

In addition to the boxes of food, which included a Leidy’s-donated ham, fresh veggies from Garden of Health, and lots of other donated food, our neighbors got a bag of cleaning products, and Thanksgiving-themed paper products, to make for a festive day of celebration.

*We have a particular need for volunteers on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during the 10:30 – 1:00 shifts.*

Please take time today and sign up to volunteer. Signing up is easy. Click the following link to sign up.

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

And, if you can support the E-Meal ministry financially, please click here for a link to do so easily and securely:

[Online Giving to Emmanuel](https://rb.gy/47vkgh)  
(bit.ly/3iRyXn)



# Emmanuel Reaches Out !

Come and find out more about one of our newest partners in ministry, "Along the Way" – and their commitment to providing FREE child care to single mothers who need access to child care during evenings and weekends. Kristina Valdez and April Matt will be on hand to welcome you and speak with you about the organization and how we might be

An important event for "Along the Way" to be hosted at Emmanuel

able to help them increase their capacity to serve even more single mothers in need.

**We'll gather on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1PM to 2PM in the "Gathering Space".**

Everyone is invited!

For more information, please visit their website at:

<https://www.alongthewaypa.org>

*Give the gift of child care*



**to provide a pathway out of poverty for single mother families**



WE WILL BE JOINED BY LOCAL LEADERS INCLUDING:

- STATE REP ROSEMARY BROWN
- STATE REP MAUREEN MADDEN
- MAYOR, TARAH PROBST
- MONROE COUNTY BUSINESS OWNERS
- MONROE COUNTY CITIZENS

**WHAT:**

**COMMUNITY GATHERING**

learn how you can help expand the pathway of support!

**WHEN:**

**FRIDAY DEC 3, 2021**

**WHERE:**



&



**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

**1774 SULLIVAN TRAIL TANNERSVILLE, PA 10AM-11AM**

**69 W. BROAD ST SOUDERTON, PA 18964 1PM-2PM**

We'll give you all the tools you need to be successful!

*Learn more today!*



*Pathway Campaign*  
**ALONG THE WAY**

Along The Way provides free in-home child care services by fully vetted caregivers so single moms who work 2nd/3rd/weekend shifts (when schools/daycares are closed) can provide for their families, knowing their kids are safe, well-cared for & have the stability they need to thrive.

A single mom without child care can't work, meaning she can't get out of poverty.

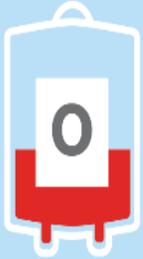


# Emmanuel Reaches Out !

**EMERGENCY  
NEED**



**Emmanuel Announces New Monthly Blood Drives in partnership with the American Red Cross**



Type O blood is the first to run out during a shortage due to its high demand.

Types O+ & O- blood are the most in-demand blood types, helping patients facing life-threatening conditions & emergencies.

Type O blood donors are incredibly important to maintaining the blood supply in your community. Give blood with the Red Cross: [rcblood.org/donate](http://rcblood.org/donate)



*Be a part of the lifesaving cause.*



**TUESDAY'S BLOOD DRIVE IS FULLY BOOKED!**  
**40 APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.**

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

**OUR NEXT BLOOD DRIVE WILL BE  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28 FROM 2PM-7PM**

**5:00, 2021**

**7:00 PM**

**Emmanuel's Fellowship Hall**

Sign Up as a donor at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)

Or call Deb Seeley at 215-206-5837

To sign up for you.



# Emmanuel Reaches Out !

A Request from the Help for Honduras Partnership

Will you help us raise \$12,000 to help the people of Honduras rebuild their lives?



“Help for Honduras” was formed earlier in 2021 to bring together non-profits in PA and Honduras to bring relief

to a nation devastated by two Category 5 hurricanes last year. Even now, the country suffers with many lacking clean water, electricity, food, and health services.

## The “Help for Honduras” Partnership Made a Difference.

The partnership worked together to raise \$11,000 to ship over \$200,000 worth of relief supplies to people in Honduras. This was an amazing return on investment, but only made a small dent in the need. It’s time to launch a new Campaign to send more supplies to a suffering nation and its people.



## Meet Crisel Maria



Crisel is a 14-year-old girl living in Santa Barbara, Honduras. Born with Spina Bifida, the wheelchair in which Crisel is seated

came from the supplies sent to Honduras in June. It’s the first wheelchair that Crisel has ever had. Taken for granted here in the US, in much of the world, a wheelchair is a treasured, life- enhancing miracle.

## How You Can Help

- Make a tax-deductible donation of any amount by check payable to **Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Send to 69 W Broad St. Souderton PA 18964.** indicate Help for Honduras on the memo line of the check.
- Make an online donation on our secure website: <https://bit.ly/3iRyXn2> Please note “Help for Honduras” in the comments area. A donation of \$200 or more will sponsor a pallet full of new supplies. We have a goal of 20 pallets to send this time.

## The “Help For Honduras” Partnership



ADASBA Honduras



Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Souderton PA



Hands In Service Warrington PA



Help to Help Souderton PA



Souderton/Telford PA Santa Barbara Honduras



Though These Hands Lehigh Valley, PA



# Emmanuel Reaches Out !

*Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."*



These words from the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew's gospel are a reminder that God broke into the creation without a safe, clean home to be born in, and Jesus lived without any guarantee of a warm bed during the years of his ministry on earth.

What better way to celebrate Christ's birth than with the gift of hope for someone who has been experiencing life without the security of a place to call their own?

Sanctuary Village is a non-profit organization that is building a community of tiny houses in the Holmesburg section of Philadelphia. This community will provide safety for the residents – both physically and emotionally. A home with others who know their struggles, but with the ability to lock their own door. This will provide residents with the security they need to begin rebuilding their lives, and preparing to successfully transition back into community and a permanent place to live.

Whether your donation is simply a gift in honor of the Savior, or a present to honor the people who matter most to you, it will have an impact.

Christ came to change the world with God's love. God's love, working through the hands of Christ's followers, can still change the world, one life at a time!

Need a gift that both honors your recipient and offers hope? Give the gift of a Sanctuary Village donation. Your gift will help to build a tiny house - and a big opportunity - for a person experiencing chronic homelessness.

When you make a donation as a gift, and provide the name and address of the recipient, we will send an acknowledgement and a simple wooden ornament with the Sanctuary Village logo to your gift recipient, or if you prefer, we will send the acknowledgement and ornament directly to you, so that you can present it yourself!

More information can be found at [www.tinyhousecommunity.org](http://www.tinyhousecommunity.org)

## Fundraising Opportunities for Sanctuary Village and the "Tiny House" Project

Your gift of	is enough to provide
\$ 10	A Welcome mat for a tiny house
\$ 15	Towels for a resident
\$ 20	Paint to brighten up a tiny house
\$ 25	Bed linens for a resident
\$ 35	Window curtains for a tiny house
\$ 50	Shelving for a tiny house
\$ 100	Dorm size fridge for a tiny house
\$20,000	An Entire House!

Checks for your alternative gifts can be sent to:  
Treasurer, Sanctuary Village  
816 Columbia Avenue  
Lansdale, PA 19446

*Sanctuary Village presents*

# A SNAZZY JAZZY CHRISTMAS

**TODAY**

performed by board member and accomplished opera singer  
**Hazelita Fauntroy Hayes**  
*accompanied by Rose Coleman*

*Join us for a performance of holiday favorites with a jazz twist – just in time to energize you for the holidays!*

3pm on Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>  
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
2211 Mainland Road, Harleysville, PA

**SUGGESTED DONATION AMOUNT: \$15**  
*Payment online in advance or at the door*

*Masks required for in-person attendance. The concert will also be livestreamed. Visit [www.tinyhousecommunity.org](http://www.tinyhousecommunity.org) for more info!*



# Emmanuel Reaches Out !

Angel Tree  
Christmas Gift  
Drive  
Closes on  
December 5.



One of the great community connections Emmanuel has made over the past two years is our partnership with the Foster Care and Adoption services of the Salvation Army. Did you know that their offices are now in Souderton – on main street in the red brick building? Yes they move in just a few months ago, and we have been expanding this partnership ever since.

This year – Emmanuel hosted the Salvation Army group for a 3-month training program called HALO – designed to provide skills and support to Foster Parents and the children in their care. We were so pleased to offer classroom space for this – and in return, our partners helped us set up a fully equipped internet meeting space in the parlor!

The next event in our partnership will be the annual Angel Tree project, which launches on November 14. In the picture in the next column, you see Emmanuel's own angels, Gerry Blaich, Cindy Crouthamel and Ann Marie Heidgerd hanging the paper angels on the Christmas Tree. Each angel has a child's name on it, and information about the child for someone to purchase and give an appropriate Christmas gift to one of the nearly 100 foster children in the care of the Salvation Army services.



Starting on Sunday, November 14, please visit the Angel Tree and take home an angel, or two or three, and buy gifts for these children who need a little extra love in their life. **The Angel Tree program will continue through December 5,** at which time all gifts (unwrapped please) need to be brought to Emmanuel.

Later that week, a team of volunteers will wrap, organize, and distribute them to the Salvation Army, who will give them out on December 11 at their annual Christmas Party.

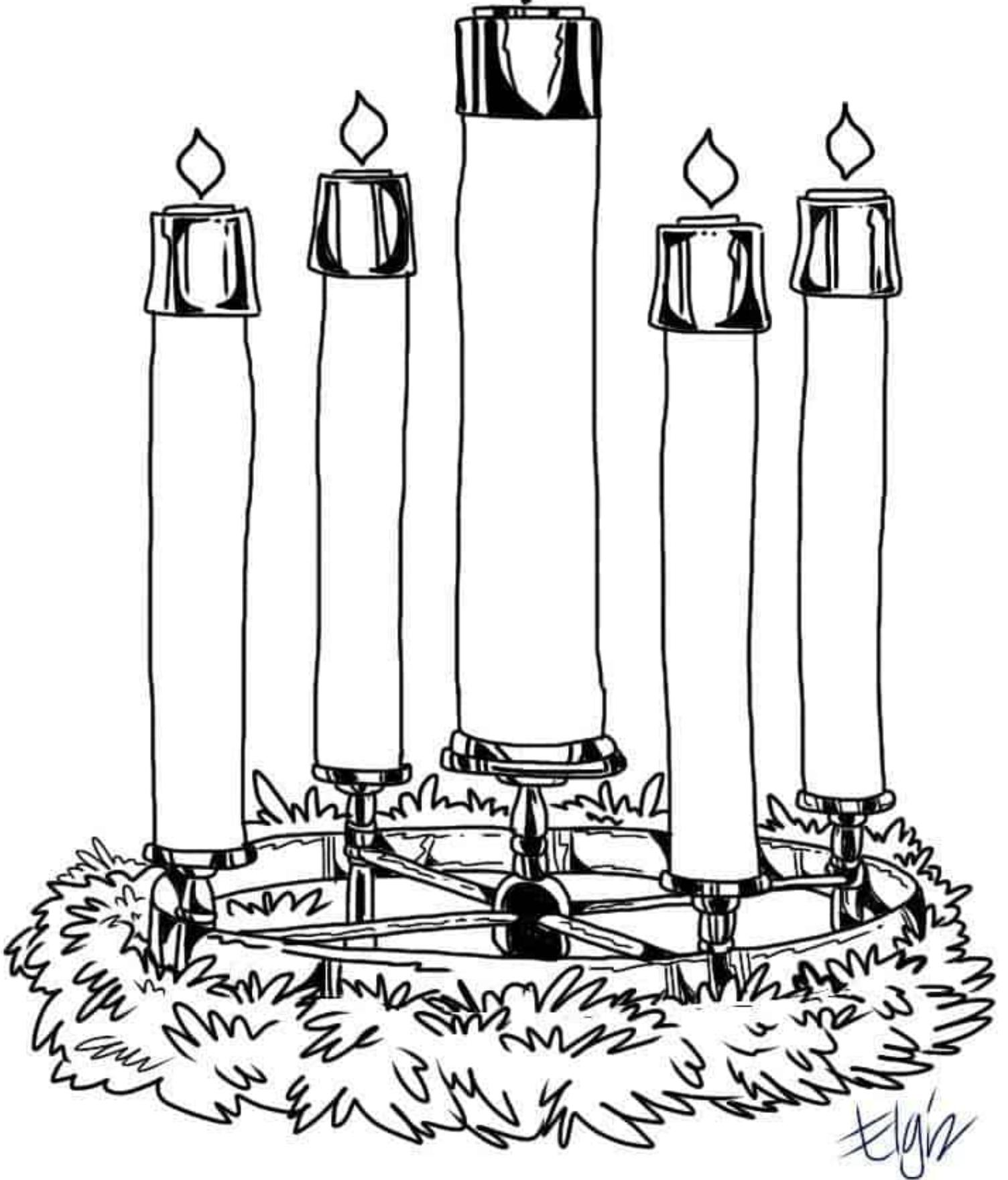
Thank you all for the support you have given the Angel Tree program in the past, and for participating this year as well.

Thanks be to God!



Foster Care & Adoption

# Advent





# Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Current Sunday Schedule

Online Sunday's KIDS – 9:30 AM

Online and In-Person Worship – 10:00 AM  
**\*INDOORS beginning October 24, 2021\***

Sunday's KIDS In Person – 10:00 AM

## Contact Us:

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

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

Website: [www.elcsouderton.org](http://www.elcsouderton.org)

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)

Ann Marie Heidgerd – E-Meal Coordinator  
Rev. Richard G. Miller, Jr., Pastor Emeritus  
Marlene H. Natali, Parish Deacon  
Debbie Seeley, Parish Administrator  
Michael Shoemaker, Facilities Manager

*Bulletin Sponsorships are available  
for the remainder of 2021 and now  
available for 2022*



## E-Meal Volunteers

Please sign up online

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

## What's Happening @ Emmanuel

11/28/2021 – 12/5/2021

First Sunday in Advent		
Sun 11/28	8:00 AM 9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Women's Sobriety Group Sunday's KIDS (Online) Worship Service (NO Sundays KIDS)
Mon 11/29	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushu Karate AA Meeting
Tue 11/30	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 2:00 PM – 7PM	Morning GodCast Upper Bucks Pastors Study Group E-Meal Distribution Red Cross Community Blood Drive
Wed 12/1	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushu Karate Bell Choir Rehearsal Voice Choir Rehearsal
Thu 12/2	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushu Karate
Fri 12/3	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 1:00 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Along the Way Kickoff Event
Sat 12/4	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution
Second Sunday in Advent		
Sun 12/5	8:00 AM 9:30 AM 10:00 AM 10:00 AM	Women's Sobriety Group Sunday's KIDS (Online) Worship Service Sunday's KIDS

?? ? ?

## Bible Quiz

Complete this proverb: "Like snow in \_\_\_\_\_ or rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool."

A. springtime  
B. summer  
C. seedtime  
D. autumn



Answer: B (See Proverbs 26:1, ESV)

# You Are Invited

*Serve With Us*



*Worship With Us*



*Grow With Us*



***Come!***

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Home  
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***Provided With Love. For Those In Need.***



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