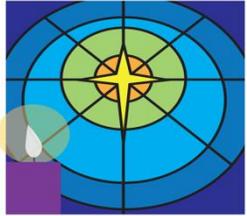




Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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



Welcome to Emmanuel !

First Sunday in Advent November 27, 2022

*“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. If you would like to sing with music, books are provided in the racks on the back of the seat in front of you. The song or page number is provided for easy look up.

UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS IN PLACE

Masking remains optional, but highly recommended for unvaccinated individuals and for those at an elevated risk of infection. Masking is **REQUIRED** to sit in the balcony.

Please observe distancing, from anyone with whom you do not share a residence, when choosing seating or when standing in line for communion.

If you are a visitor worshipping with us today, we are blessed by your presence. Please sign the guest book in the Gathering Space, so we can keep in touch.

This is a service of Holy Communion. All God's people are invited to the table by our Lord Jesus Christ. You will find instructions for Holy Communion later in the bulletin.

Coffee Hour will follow the worship service. All are invited to share in this time of fellowship.

Restrooms are located in the hall off the Gathering Space immediately to the left. Please see a member of our host families for assistance.

Parents with children are welcome to use the children’s activity bags, located by the entrance to the Worship Space. If needed, our nursery room is at the end of the hall off the Gathering Space.

Please silence your phones, but feel free to post pictures, videos, tweets or texts to social media. We love using technology to share the Word of God!

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>

By attending this worship service, you agree to be photographed or included on video recording and Emmanuel Lutheran Church reserves the right to include your image or likeness in promotional material, in print or online, related to its mission and ministry.

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

SERVICE OF HEALING



During the Distribution of Holy Communion, we will offer a service of healing for those who would like anointing or personal prayers. After receiving communion, you may visit the prayer station at the rear of the worship space where you will be met by a prayer partner.

Introduction to the day

O Come! O Wisdom from on high!

The “O” Antiphons have been sung since the early days of Advent preparations in the church. They so beautifully reflect the longing of the world for the coming of the promised Messiah.

The season of Advent is a time when we reflect on these longings for God’s wisdom, restoration, hope and presence. In each of the four weeks prior to the celebration of Christ’s birth, we will give voice to those longings and how they are resolved in the birth of the long-expected Jesus.

This week we examine our longing for wisdom.

***"Prepare the way of the Lord.
Make straight paths for him."
(Luke 3:4)***

THE SERVICE

PRELUDE

“Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland” (BWV 659)
by Johann Sebastian Bach

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) – Verse 1

**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

O Wisdom,
proceeding from the mouth of the Most High,
pervading and permeating all creation,
mightily ordering all things:
come and teach us the way of prudence.

The Spirit and the church cry out:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

All those who await his appearance pray:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

The whole creation pleads:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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) – Verse 2

**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 Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be God’s name forever.
Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.
Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

God of new beginnings,

**we confess
that we have not welcomed your holy reign.
We have strayed from your paths.
We prepare for war instead of peace.
We dishonor one another and your creation.
Purify us with your refining fire
and set us again on your way of love,
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,
and welcome your coming among us.**

Amen.

People of God,
a new thing is growing in our midst,
a tender branch,
a living sign.
By water and the Spirit
you are joined to this wonder.
You have put on + Christ,
and your sins have been washed away.
Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

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.**

**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!**

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 save us from the threatening
dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the
way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the
Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning
Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established
as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 122 (*Read Responsively*)

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”

**Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;

**to which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the name of the LORD.**

For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.

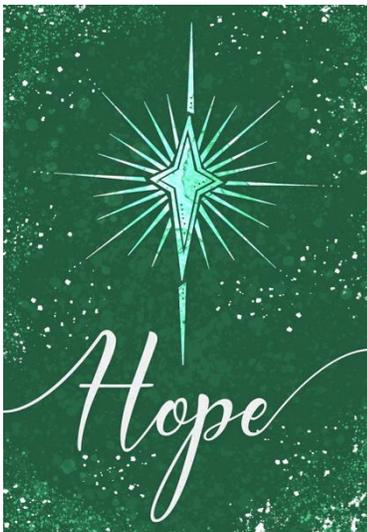
**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
“May they prosper who love you.**

Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.

**For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.**

Because of the house of the LORD our God,

I will seek to do you good.”



SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

A reading from Romans.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Verses 1-2)
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.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.

Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL RESPONSE (Verse 3)

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (256)

**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 Hymn of the Day*

HYMN OF THE DAY

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.**

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

"O Come O Wisdom

The congregation responds:

"Come Lord Jesus, quickly come."

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.

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.*

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.

Eternal God,

**you make the desert bloom
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.
Receive these simple gifts
of bread, wine, and money,
and make us messengers
of your mercy and love
for all in need of your healing and justice.
We ask this through Christ our Savior.**

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;**

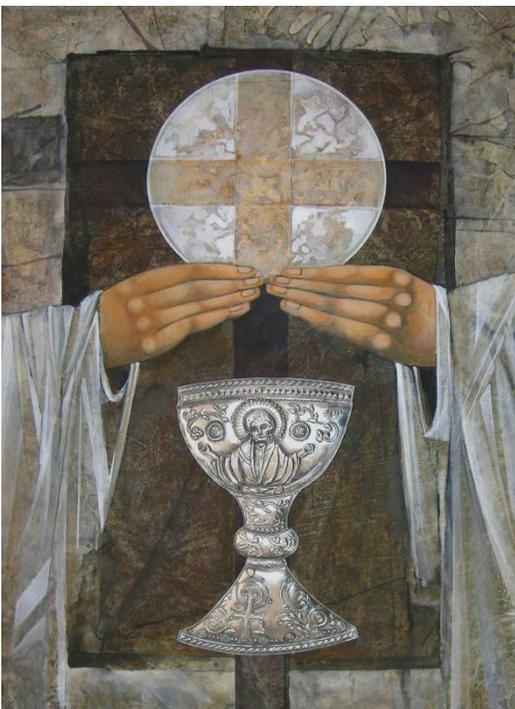
**and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God, who has come to save you.

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

Wait for the Lord (262)

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!**

(Repeat Several Times)

Each Winter As the Year Grows Older (252)

**1 Each winter as the year grows older,
we each grow older, too.
The chill sets in a little colder;
the verities we knew
seem shaken and untrue.**

**2 When race and class cry out for treason,
when sirens call for war,
they overshout the voice of reason
and scream till we ignore
all we held dear before.**

**3 Yet I believe beyond believing
that life can spring from death,
that growth can flower from our grieving,
that we can catch our breath
and turn transfixed by faith.**

**4 So even as the sun is turning
to journey to the north,
the living flame, in secret burning,
can kindle on the earth
and bring God's love to birth.**

**5 O Child of ecstasy and sorrows,
O Prince of peace and pain,
brighten today's world by tomorrow's,
renew our lives again;
Lord Jesus, come and reign!**

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

Faithful God,

in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in
the body and blood of Christ.
As we wait for the day
when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.
Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
+ bless you now and forever.

Amen.



Host Families – Higgins/Synder
Families

Leading and Preaching – Pastor John

Music Leader – Richard Spotts

Asst. Minister – Macey Coll

Sound – Owen Laird

Video – Dominic Higgins

Singers – Merrill Christman,
Jane Vogel

Healing Prayer – Corey Gilbert

Sunday's KIDS – Thanksgiving Break

SENDING SONG - (Verses 1-3)
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (244)

**1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.**

**2 The watchers on the mountain
proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches
with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting;
the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
the bridegroom is at hand.**

**3 The saints, who here in patience
their cross and suff'rings bore,
shall live and reign forever
when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
the Lamb they shall behold;
in triumph cast before him
their diadems of gold.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

SENDING SONG - (Verse 4)
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (244)

**4 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free!**



**Musical Notes
From Today's
Organist
– Richard Spotts**

Dating from around 1523, “Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland” is a hymn-text penned by the Protestant reformer Martin Luther (1483–1546). Of Patristic origin, this Lutheran chorale is a transliteration of “Veni redemptor gentium” from the Latin Christmas hymn “Intende qui reges Israel” by Ambrose of Milan (340–397).

The melody—which was composed by Luther and also possibly his musical colleague Johann Walter (1496–1570)—is based upon the original plainchant and was first published in the “Erfurt Enchiridion” in 1524. “Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland” may be considered to be from the “Leise” tradition—a pre-Reformation medieval German carol idiom derived from liturgical plainsong wherein complex chants were reformulated into stanza form while maintaining the figurative characteristics of the plainsong original.

Today’s prelude setting by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) comes from a collection known as “Die Achtzehn Großen Orgelchoräle” (BWV 651–668)—a compilation of chorale preludes derived from his tenure as court organist in Weimar and prepared in Leipzig during the final decade of his life (1740–1750).

Together with the “Orgelbüchlein”, the “Schübler-Choräle”, the third book of the “Clavier-Übung”, and the “Canonic Variations”, “The Great Eighteen” represent the apogee of Bach’s sacred organ works.



Emmanuel Worships



O Come,
O Wisdom

It's hard to believe that we are coming to the end of another year – a year that has had its joyful moments – but also a year of struggle – with a war in Ukraine, economic instability at home, a stubborn pandemic and another spate of gun violence. As we approach the end of the year, we become more aware of our longings. The season of Advent that we are about to enter is a season of longing – longing for our long-expected Jesus.

This Advent, I'd like us to examine these longings together – to better understand them and to see how those longings are resolved in God's promises brought to life in the coming of Jesus to our world.

These longings are expressed in the famous hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel", based on the ancient "O Antiphons" or chants of Advent. God's people have expressed their longings through these chants since the 8th century, and they are just as relevant today as they were then.

The first of the "O Antiphons" we will examine is the longing for wisdom expressed in the chant

*"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."*

The call for wisdom is one of our most basic longings. In a world where things seem so complicated – where things that were once "black and white" are now clouded in shades of grey, we need wisdom to help us sort

things out. There's only one place where such wisdom can be found – in pleading for wisdom from the God on high, and the ability to see the world the way God sees it.

Our world is changing rapidly – and the pace of change can be disorienting and unsettling – to the point of instilling a sense of fear and foreboding in our hearts. Left unchecked, these feelings of fear can progress into feelings of anger and hatred directed against the people who are responsible.

When we feel fearful in a world of change, that fear is really a longing for wisdom – a desire for the ability to sort out what is happening and make sense of it; with the result being that wisdom has the power supplant fear with trust – and place us on a trajectory of peace with the world around us.

The wisdom we long for, however, is not a wisdom we can attain on our own. It is a wisdom that only God has, and only God can provide through God's Holy Word, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit – and through the coming Emmanuel – God's living presence in the lives of God's faithful people. This is our true longing – our desire to be in the presence of God.

One of our natural tendencies in prayer is to ask God to intervene in the world so that God's will can be done – almost in spite of our inability or unwillingness to be an agent of God's will in the world.

What would change if we reframed that prayer and asked God for wisdom so that God's will could be done through our own words and actions?

O Come, O Wisdom from on high. Let that be our prayer this Advent – a prayer that our fears and misgivings about the current times be replaced with wisdom, trust and love for one another.

+ Pastor John



Emmanuel Worships

Christmas Choir Rehearsals Begin This Week.



CHRISTMAS CHOIRS REHEARSALS

Emmanuel is blessed this Advent and Christmas season to have Richard Spotts help us prepare for special music for the Christmas Eve candlelight service. The service begins at 7:00 PM with extended preludes and special music and continues at 7:30 PM with the Christmas Eve liturgy.

Rehearsals for all choirs will be held on the following four Wednesday evenings:

November 30 December 7
December 14 December 21

The Bell Choir (using our completely refurbished bell octaves) will meet at 6:30 PM, followed by the vocal choir beginning at 7:30 PM.

The bell choir will be working on the following music:

**A setting of “Puer Nobis” and
“Bescançon” by Anne Krentz (b. 1960)**

“O Jesulein süß” by Beverly Simpson

The vocal choir will be singing the following pieces:

“Torches” by John Joubert (1927–2019)
[“Carols for Choir” book 1, page 150] Stanza 1: SATB unison; stanza 2: SA (possibly SATB parts); stanza 3: SATB parts.

“Sussex Carol” by David Willcocks (1919–2015)
[“Carols for Choir” book 1, page 96] Stanzas 1 and 2: SATB unison; stanza 3: SA; stanza 4: SA descant, TB melody.

**Calling all singers and ringers.
Christmas Choir
rehearsals begin!**

“See amid the winter’s snow” by John Goss (1800–1880), arranged by David Willcocks (1919–2015)

[“Carols for Choir” book 1, page 103] Stanza 1: SATB unison, parts on refrain; stanza 2: TB unison first phrase, SA unison second phrase, parts on refrain; stanza 3: SA unison, parts on refrain; stanza 4: TB unison, parts on refrain; stanza 6: SATB unison, SA descant, TB melody.

Thanks to Richard’s curation of our music library, these are all lovely, rewarding pieces that should be simple enough to do in the time we have allotted. That said, they are also pieces that can be modified easily to adapt to the skill level of those who are able to join us.

Richard would like us to spread the word so we can muster large enough choirs to make the evening a success. He is looking forward to seeing everyone on November 30 for the first rehearsal.

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Welcome New Members

What a blessing it was to receive into membership at Emmanuel two new members at last week’s Christ the King Service. We welcomed Ryan Bevan and Troy Slemmer who affirmed their



baptismal promises as they officially joined our community of faith. Welcome Ryan and Troy to the Emmanuel family!



Emmanuel Nurtures !

SAVE THESE DATES
It's a busy few months
at Emmanuel

**Sunday,
Nov. 27**
The First
Sunday of
Advent



O Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

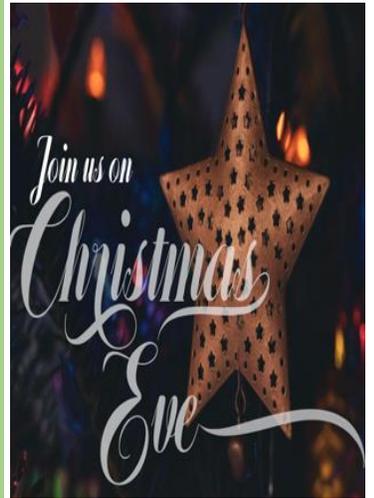
11/27 – O Come,
O Wisdom from on High

12/11 – O Come,
O Dayspring

12/4 – O Come,
O Branch of Jesse

12/18 – O Come, O
Come Emmanuel

**Saturday,
December 24**
Two Worship
Services:
**5 PM and
7:30 PM**

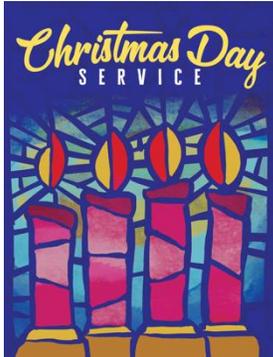


5:00 PM – Family Service featuring “Las Posadas” – a fun and kid-friendly remembering of the first Christmas.
7:30 PM – Traditional worship service with candlelight and special music. Come at 7:00 PM for an extended musical prelude.



**Saturday,
December 3-11 AM**
March with
Emmanuel in
Souderton's Annual
Parade

**Sunday
December 25
10 AM**
Come and Worship the
Newborn King
(in your PJ's)

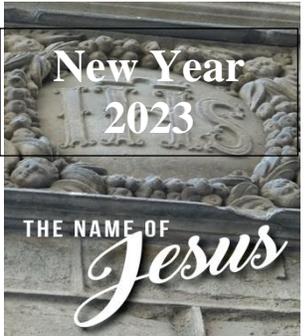


**Friday, Dec 9
6 - 8PM**
Get the
church ready
for Christmas



[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up for decorating
Or go to: <http://bit.ly/3EQU4sN>

**Sunday
January 1, 2023
10 AM**
Service of Lessons
and Carols



**Sunday, Dec 11
2 – 4 PM**
“Christmas is
Coming!”
Festival



Emmanuel
Nurtures !

Children and Youth
Ministries at Emmanuel



“A Different Kind of
Sunday School”



We started
Advent a little
early by making
some neat
Advent
wreaths with
our students.
They learned
that one of the
most important

themes we think about in Advent is
HOPE – the hope we have in Jesus
to come and save the world.

Just another example of the ways
SUNDAY'S KIDS are learning about
how God blesses us as they grow into
mighty people of faith

Sundays at 10 AM

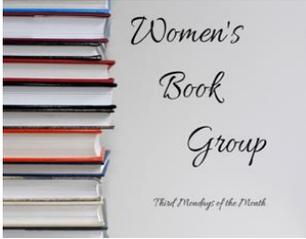
You don't want to miss
SUNDAY'S KIDS !

Next Event,
Friday, December 2:
6PM – 8PM
**Celebrating
the coming of
Christmas**
An evening of Christmas
activities at Emmanuel.
For middle and high school youth.
Fun – Faith – Friends
Every First Friday of the month!
Contact Amanda Higgins
for details.
Mark your calendars for upcoming “First
Friday” events:
December 2
January 6, 2023 * February 3, 2023
March 3, 2023 * April 14, 2023



Emmanuel Nurtures !

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Next Meeting
December 19, - 7PM

Annual Christmas Book Exchange

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

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Knitters and Crocheters



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

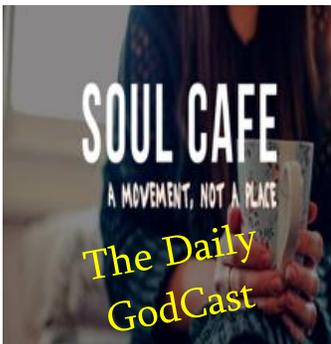
Next Meeting:

Sunday, December 4 – 1PM
And every first Sunday of the month

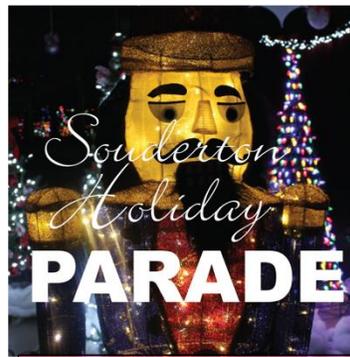
In Emmanuel’s Parlor

Instruction available for all who are interested.

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On Facebook
Mon-Sat 8AM
“Stay Connected to God’s Word”



Everyone Loves a Parade!

Members and Friends of Emmanuel
Let’s show Souderton our Christmas Spirit
By marching in this year’s
Souderton Holiday Parade
Saturday, December 3rd
– 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Meet at Indian Crest Middle School
[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up
Or go to: <http://bit.ly/3V4nkFR>



**Sunday,
December 11
2PM – 4PM**

**Another signature Emmanuel Event
You Don’t Want to Miss!**

- * Christmas Crafts * Carol Sing
- * Wreath Decorating
- * Christmas Cookie Cavalcade
- * Pictures with “You Know Who”

And it is all FREE of charge!

[CLICK HERE](#)

To let us know you are coming
To donate cookies
Or help with Crafts and serving refreshments
or go to: <http://bit.ly/3OjzjEs>



Emmanuel Nurtures!

Starting at the Ending

By Cory Driver November 21, 2022

From "Living Lutheran"



Happy New Year! As another church year begins, and as we enter a time of waiting for the coming of the Messiah, we start with stories about the end of days. The "last days" and the "coming of the Son of Man" are the times when massive change will interrupt the normal ways of doing things. Various biblical authors predict the days differently. Some, as J.R.R. Tolkien put it, envision "everything sad will become untrue." For others, the end time will be one of judgment and retributive justice. What do our lectionary texts tell us about this era?

Isaiah 2 is a favorite in our house. My eldest just entered elementary school and has begun what I suppose is the inevitable fascination with guns and things that shoot. My partner and I long for the days when weapons—and nerf guns—will be refashioned into something that provides nutrition and means of celebration rather than strife and tears. But before swords are hammered into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, another, more drastic change happens in the era of God's kingdom.

Mount Zion is relatively humble today. It's roughly 2,500 feet high—about 200 feet lower than the nearby Mount of Olives and lower than Mount Hermon in the north, Jabal Musa (traditional location of Mount Sinai) in the south, and Mount Nebo in the east. Yet Isaiah says this humble hill where God chose to live will be elevated to become the chief of mountains. This geological event isn't an end to itself but marks a beginning of an invitation.

Foreigners (like us!) from all over the world will stream toward God's house to ascend the mountain of the Lord (Isaiah 2:2-3). Instead of mountaineering and tourism, education will be their goal. They will cry out to be taught the ways of the Lord so they can walk in God's paths. God's good and perfect law will go out from Zion, and the Word will go out from Jerusalem. The prophet's vision is that this spreading of the knowledge of God's statutes will lead to a positive peace. The Word of God will personally judge and mediate among all peoples.

With God's wisdom guiding humanity in justice in all ways, warfare will make no economic sense. Instead of building and training for war, people will devote their time and resources to food production and celebration. Curiosity => education => justice => peace => increased food production => international feasting. This rosy picture of the last days envisions international harmony as a "peace dividend" after God's justice is universalized.

Jesus portrays a different vision of the end of the age and his return. He says this time is similar to the days of Noah, where normal life continued right up until people were swept away. Some will be in a home, and some will be in a field. One will be taken; one will be left—without notification or warning. It will be as if a thief broke in during an unexpected part of the night, the time the householder was least concerned. Jesus says explicitly that he will come when least expected (Matthew 24:44). (For this reason, never be worried when someone predicts Jesus' cataclysmic return—if someone expects it, it's not that time!) Indeed, even Jesus doesn't know when he will return—that information is only for God the Father. In a situation in which neither Jesus nor anyone else knows when he will return, the only possibility is to remain vigilant.

How do we remain vigilant? Matthew's Gospel goes on to present several parables on the matter. I think we could do worse than returning to Isaiah's vision. As we wait for Jesus' arrival, we could learn to walk in the ways of the Lord, to yearn for wisdom and justice, and to learn the actions that lead to a full and just peace. This will transform societies and economies in ways that lead to rejoicing with former strangers and former adversaries. As we wait for the advent of Jesus, let us not stand by idly, but prepare for the days to come in ways that we know delight our God.



Emmanuel Nurtures!



Special Prayer Concerns

- +For our Bishop, Rev. Patricia Davenport and her staff. For Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and the ELCA Churchwide staff.
- + For Victims of severe snowstorms in the Great Lakes region of New York State
- + For newly elected leaders to govern with compassion, wisdom and integrity.
- + For hurricane victims and victims of recent flooding in Honduras and other Central American countries.
- + In thanksgiving for exceeding our goal in raising \$16,000 to build desks for student in Honduras and to help relieve suffering in other ways.
- + For an end to the war in Ukraine and for a spirit of comfort and peace to surround the victims of violence and uprooting.
- + For a solution to homelessness in our community and for the 600+ people who are now homeless in Montgomery County. May shelter be found as the weather turns colder.
- + For relief from the impact of inflation on prices for families already struggling with choices.
- + In thanksgiving for God's guiding spirit and providence as we continue the work being done through the E-Meal and Bread Drop Ministries – and for the volunteers, donors and partners that give so much so that people don't go hungry.

For Members Serving in the Military

Philip Coll – if you want to send a message, letter, or a care package to Phil, please contact Kathleen Coll

For our Homebound Members

Dominick De Salvo Helen De Turk Norma Detweiler	Betty Frese Louella Gehringer Faye Landis	Dorothy Rodemer Faye Wetzel
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For Health and Healing Members of Emmanuel

Roy Becker Anthony Campolei Elaine Cash	Fred Crouthamel Marilyn Detweiler Lester Hallman	Martin Hichens Floyd Yothers Ruth Yothers
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For Friends of Emmanuel

Erin Bauer (friend of Alison Laird)
 John Becker Sr. (Roy Becker's Father)
 Dennis Beer (friend of the Kulps)
 Craig Benner (Vanessa Benner's father-in-law)
 Frank Birchill (E-Meal client)
 Lee Bruder (friend of the Koinonia Group)
 Josh Butler (friend of the Mc Elwees)
 Luca Condo (friend of Ruth Miller)
 Alicia and Mike Daniels (friends of Julie Freed)
 Lou Farrell (Director of Bread Drop Ministries)
 Helen Freed (Evan Freed's Grandmother)
 Sharon and John Garner (Jen Casta's Parents)
 Collins Gibson (Grandniece of Rev. Serena Sellers)
 Sabrina Haap (Ruth Miller's Niece)
 Kathy Heckler (Heckler's Daughter in Law)
 Eric Heckler (Grandson of Gloria & Gerry Heckler)
 Mary Rose Himes (friend of Pastor John)
 Juliette Himes (Mary Rose's daughter)
 Deborah Holcombe (Pastor John's Sister in Law)
 Tammy Houston (sister of MCIU teacher, Miss Sharon)
 Ed Ianarelli (friend of the Harubins)
 Alan Keel (friend of Caren and Doug Landis)
 Tom Krupp (Friend of the Beckers)
 Hildegard Lamparter (Mother of Priscilla Lamparter)
 Valerie Landis (daughter-in-law of Caren and Doug Landis)
 Christopher Marley (Son of Juanita Marley)
 Richard Moore (friend of Ruth Miller's Daughter)
 Ed Natali (David's Brother)
 Katie Parsons (Friend of the McElwees)
 Alayna Pagano (Friend of Jane Vogel)
 Connie Petrie (Friend of the Harubins)
 Patrick Family (Friends of Julie Freed)
 Richard Plinke (friend of Gerry and Dave Blaich)
 Christine Quigg (friend of the Crouthamels.
 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)
 Rusty Voaks (nephew of Rev. Serena Sellers)

Please help us manage the prayer list by letting us know when God has granted healing and wholeness so we can rejoice and remove a name that no longer needs to be especially recognized.



Emmanuel Serves!

The E-MEAL Ministry
at Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Monday – Saturday 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
"Souderton's Community Church"

www.elcsouderton.org
69 West Broad St. Souderton, PA 18964 215-723-7514
emmanuel@emmanuelchurch.net
facebook.com/EmmanuelSouderton/

Emmanuel E-Meal Update 303,000 Meals "Handed Up" Thanks be to GOD!

On Saturday, November 19, Emmanuel's E-Meal Ministry held its annual Thanksgiving Dinner Box distribution – with the result being the largest single-day distribution in the short history of the E-Meal program – over 3,000 meals "handed up" for the first time – and surpassing 300,000 meals in 2 years and 8 months of service.

Indeed - Thanks be to God!



We celebrated this latest milestone with Angela who came on Saturday to pick up a Thanksgiving

box for her family. Angela's family is one of 170 families that received boxes this year. Yes – that's another record.

Of course, we don't like to celebrate milestones that point us to a deep need in our community, but we do celebrate a God who is providing so much through the E-Meal Ministry that we can help those in need and bring a Happy Thanksgiving to their homes.

As we move on toward our Christmas distribution, we are grateful to the Souderton Care and Share, which will donate 150 Christmas stockings to give the children in our E-Meal family some needed joy this season. We've also been working with our friends at Hands in Service to provide toys and some stocking stuffers.

We still need help to build our Christmas packages. This year, we are looking for donations of gift cards, stocking stuffers, Christmas Candy and personal care items. Complete information about the Christmas drive is on the next page.

We know that rising prices have taken its toll on all the families in our community – but even more so on families already in a time of need. Please continue the generous support that E-Meal has come to rely upon as we work to end hunger in the Indian Valley and beyond.

Thank you.

+ Pastor John +

E-Meal Volunteers Are Needed!

Please take time today and sign up to volunteer. Dates are available through **December 31, 2022**. Signing up is easy.

Click the following link to sign up.

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

E-Meal Donations Are Needed!

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://bit.ly/3iRyXn2)
(bit.ly/3iRyXn2)



Emmanuel Serves !

Please help support this year's E-Meal
Christmas Dinner
and Stocking Distribution

The E-MEAL Ministry

at Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Volunteers
Always Needed

Provided With Love.
For Those In Need.

Over
300,000
Meals "Handed Up"



Monday – Saturday 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

"Souderton's Community Church"

www.elcsouderton.org

69 West Broad St. Souderton, PA 18964 215-723-7514

emmanuel@emmanuelutheranchurch.net

facebook.com/EmmanuelSouderton/



Christmas Dinner Boxes and Stockings to be distributed

Thursday,

December 22

10:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Please Help Us Meet the Increasing Need This Year

- Cash Donations
- Gift Cards
- Christmas Candy
- Personal Care Items
- Stocking Stuffers



Thanks to the generosity of our local businesses and neighbors throughout the Indian Valley, the E-Meal Ministry is pleased to provide Christmas Dinner Boxes and Christmas Stockings for our neighbors in need.

Thanks be to God for these wonderful partners

Alderfer's Poultry Farms
Care & Share – Souderton
Quakertown Food Pantry
Garden of Health Food Bank

Leidy's Meats
The Shepherd's Shelf
Hands In Service
Community Donations

For More Information – Contact Us
Emmanuel Lutheran Church – E-Meal Program
215-723-7514 – www.elsouderton.org
On Facebook: EmmanuelSouderton



Emmanuel Reaches Out !

**Gracias Emmanuel
Muchas, Muchas Gracias!**



A Note of Thanks from Jessmy Trochez

Dear friends of Emmanuel Lutheran Church,

November is a month of giving thanks, when we take the opportunity to thank God in a special way for all the blessings received during the year. Today, I thank God for giving us the opportunity to serve and, above all, to be able to give to all those who need it the most.



I want to say a very special thank you to our church and to our community for having so much kindness in your heart for all the sisters and brothers in Honduras, especially in my home region of Santa Barbara.

Because of your kindness and generosity, we have made it possible for 1,000 children to have a decent place to sit in their classrooms so they can learn and thrive. The “Drive for 1000 Desks raised over \$16,000, exceed our goal by \$2,000!

With the help of God, WE DID IT!

Nothing fills me more with joy than being able to see two communities with different customs and traditions united in the love of Christ – and making everything possible.

What more can I ask of God than to see our church open its heart and renew its faith every day – living out that faith in kindness, love and compassion toward others.



I just want to thank God and thank all of you for letting me be part of this wonderful family - The Emmanuel Lutheran Church Family.

Thank you very much God bless you,

Jessmy

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Quinceanera Celebrated at Emmanuel

On Sunday, November 20, a quinceanera party was held in Emmanuel’s Room A. It is likely that it was the first time such a celebration was held in our building. A quinceanera is a traditional Latin American birthday party for a young woman when she turns 15. It is a traditional “coming of age” celebration not unlike a sweet 16 party.



The guest of honor was Christina Sagastume (to Pastor John’s left), Jessmy’s cousin and the daughter of Bayron and Gleny Sagastume, who

flew here from Honduras to participate in the Food and Cultural Festival and our worship service the next day. Christina would have had her quinceanera in Honduras, but because of the travel plans, it was an honor that we were able to celebrate with her here in Souderton.



Emmanuel Reaches Out !

Only 5 Slots Remaining to Fill our Next Blood Drive.
Sign Up Today.

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, November 29, 2002

2:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Sign Up Online Today:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=Emmanuel>

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

© 2010 The American National Red Cross, MidAmerica #10389 Oct. 2010

Angel Tree – 2022 One more Week left To Help Children in Foster Care



The Angel Tree has been set up in the Gathering Space and once again we will work with our partners at Salvation Army Foster Care and Adoption services to provide toys for foster children at Christmas.

Each angel hung on the tree 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. The value of the gift should not exceed \$20.

Starting on Sunday, November 13, 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 4, at which time all gifts (unwrapped please) need to be brought in 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 10 at their annual Christmas Party.

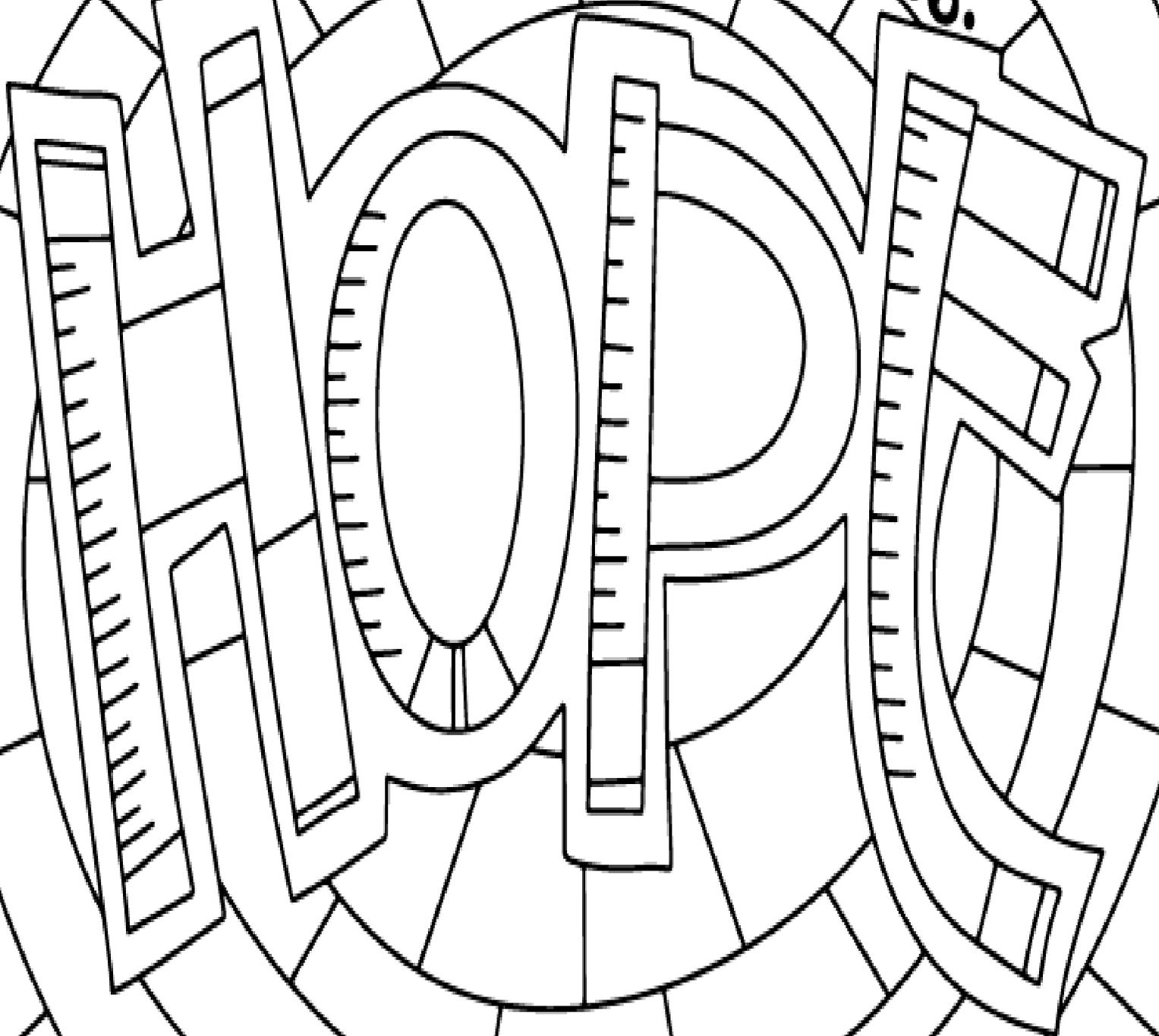
Thank you all for the support you have given the Angel Tree program in the past, and for participating this year as well.

Thanks be to God!



Foster Care & Adoption

COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS.





Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

Current Sunday Schedule

Adult Discussion Forum – 9:00 AM
First and Third Sundays

Online and In-Person Worship – 10:00 AM

Sunday's KIDS – 10:00 AM

Coffee Hour – 11:00 AM

Contact Us:

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

Email: Emmanuel@emmanuelchurch.net

Website: www.elcsouderton.org

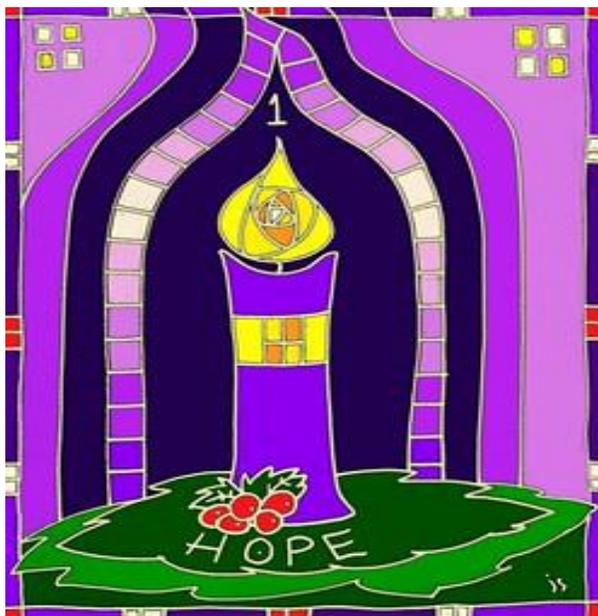
Facebook.com/EmmanuelSouderton

Church Staff

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

Email Address: jheidgerd@gmail.com

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



*Bulletin Sponsorships
are now Available
for 2023*



at Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Monday – Saturday 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

"Souderton's Community Church"

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E-Meal Volunteers

Please sign up online

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

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What's Happening @ Emmanuel 11/20/22 – 11/27/22

Sun 11/27	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	First Sunday in Advent Worship Service Sunday's KIDS Coffee Hour
Mon 11/28	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate Property Ministry AA Group
Tue 11/29	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast Upper Bucks Pastor's Study E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Wed 11/30	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Thu 12/1	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Fri 12/2	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 6PM – 9PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution First Friday – Christmas Party
Sat 12/3	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Souderton Holiday Parade
Sun 12/4	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Second Sunday in Advent Adult Forum Worship Service Sunday's KIDS Coffee Hour

You Are Invited

Serve With Us



Worship With Us



Grow With Us



Come!

Be part of Souderton's
Community Church

**The
-MEAL
Ministry**



Home
of

Provided With Love. For Those In Need.



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

69 W. Broad St, Souderton PA 18964

www.ELCSouderton.org • 215-723-7514