

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024



WELCOME TO EMANUEL

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please ask an usher.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT EMANUEL

Recognizing that we live in a broken world, Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness. As members of Emanuel Lutheran Church and children of a loving and merciful God, we acknowledge that this reconciliation extends to people of any gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, race, culture, physical or mental ability, economic circumstances, relationship status, or any person that has ever experienced pain or oppression. Because members of different communities may have been excluded from the Church in the past, we wish to make explicit our welcome to all. It is for this purpose that we affirm that ALL people are welcome here, just as they are, contributing their individuality to the wholeness of the Body of Christ.



SERVING TODAY

- Presiding Minister Pastor Mark Olsen
- Worship Leader Vicar Christine Pelfrey
- Assisting Minister..... Sayee Kannah
- ReadersKylie Hazard and Geneva Swanson
- Advent Wreath Candle Lighters Gweyee Kannah
- Communion PreparersDiane Troutman
- Guest Director of MusicAndy Foreman

EMANUEL MUSICIANS

Rebekka Almond, David Altschuler, Sarah Asmar, Ash De Las Casas, Andy Foreman, Trey Hazard, Linda Helmke, Morgan Hunt, Kathryn Lees, Dan Luddy, Honoka Masuyama, Hannah Maynard, Andy Nagle, Kari Olsen, Ayako Ota, Morgan Pope, Joel Reuning-Scherer, Jane Roets, Austin Tewksbury, Rachan Vamsi, Anna VanDeBerg, Pastor Nancy Wright

AV TECHNICIANS

Paul Christianson, David Counterman, Baker Wainscoat

ALTAR FLOWERS

Given to the glory of God

Though not expected, when it happens, applause is a spontaneous expression of our thanksgiving to God for the gifts of music and of musicians that enrich our lives and enhance our worship.

Soli deo gloria – Glory to God alone

INTRODUCTION

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.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

C: **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: God of mercy,

C: **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

L: God of might,

C: **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

L: God in our midst,

C: **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

L: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C: **Amen.**

1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,
3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,

once for our sal - va - tion slain;
comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;
high on thine eter - nal throne;

thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
all the saints this world re - ject - ed
Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,

join to sing the glad re - frain:
thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:
claim the king - dom as thine own.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
 Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

*KYRIE

(Cantor) *All :*
 Lord, ___ have mer - cy. Lord, ___ have mer - cy.

(Cantor) *All :*
 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, ___ have mer - cy.

(Cantor) *All :*
 Lord, ___ have mer - cy. Lord, ___ have mer - cy.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

C: **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.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

R: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

C: **Amen.**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verse 1)

ELW 257

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.

The children are now dismissed for Sunday School.

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 33:14-16

In the Old Testament, “righteousness” often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today’s reading, Jerusalem’s future name—“The Lord is our righteousness”—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.

¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵In 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. ¹⁶In 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.”

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: FIRST THESSALONIANS 3:9-13

Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

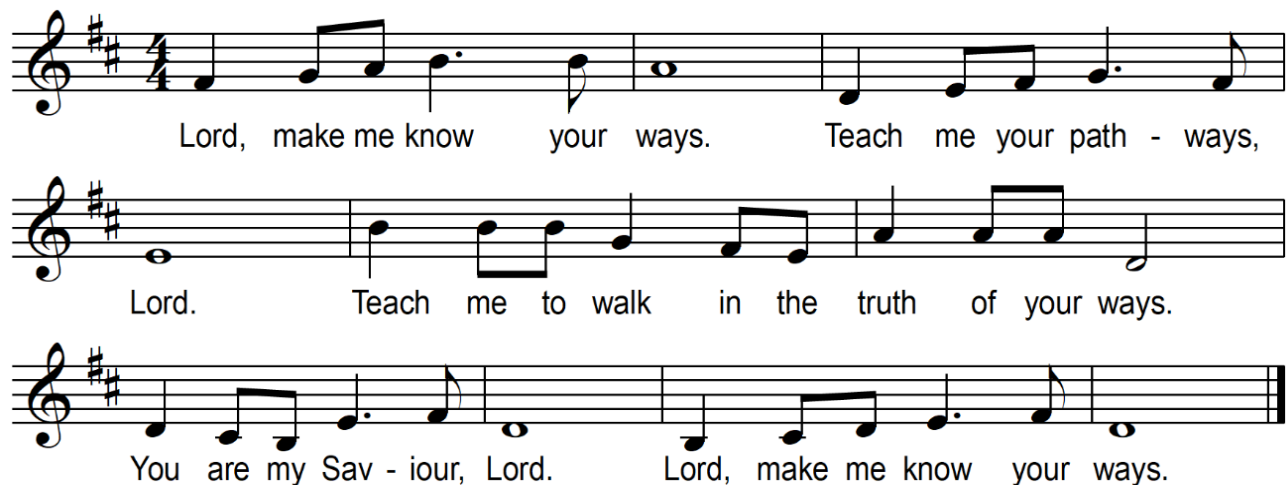
⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And 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.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, make me know your ways. Teach me your path - ways,
Lord. Teach me to walk in the truth of your ways.
You are my Sav - iour, Lord. Lord, make me know your ways.

***GOSPEL: LUKE 21:25-36**

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ “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. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “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, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ 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.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

Pastor Mark Olsen

ELCA GATHERING REMIX

**Sayee Kannah
Brittany Caldwell
Harrison Arcand, Trey Hazard
Maureen Leyes**

Emanuel Youth & Young Adults reflect on their participation in the ELCA Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE), Youth Gathering, and Young Adult Gathering this past summer.

1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.

when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
 and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
 the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003

Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

*APOSTLES' CREED

A: Let us join together in professing our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 The holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **receive our prayer.**

*PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

We offer each other a sign of God's peace.

OFFERING MUSIC

Show Me Thy Ways, O Lord (Psalm 25)

Walter Pelz

Emanuel Choir and musicians

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



*We offer our gifts – our time, our talent, and our treasure - to God,
in thanksgiving for all that God has given us.*

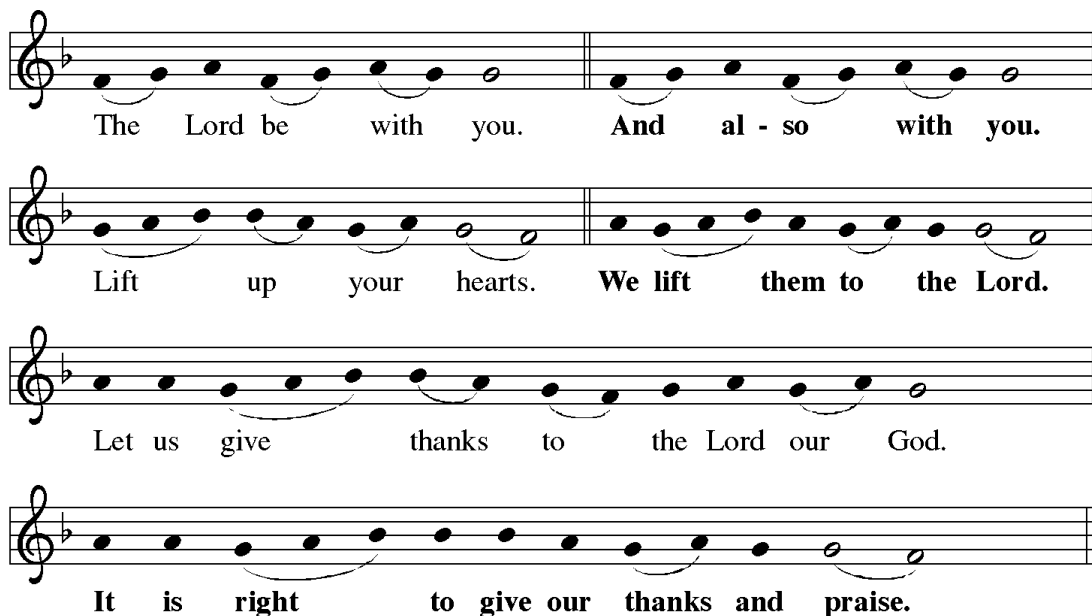
*To make your gift online, scan the code using your
phone's camera or QR scanner app.*

*OFFERING PRAYER

A: Creator God,

C: **you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us.
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food
that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly__ Lord. god of__
power__ and__ might.____ Heaven and earth are__
full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in__ the__ high -
est. Bles-sed is he, O bles-sed is__ he who__
comes in the name of the Lord.____ Ho - san - na in the__
high - est. Ho - san - na__ in__ the high - est.

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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

C: 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**

All Are Welcome at the Table!

P: God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

This is the Lord's Table and all are welcome to receive the bread & wine of communion.

Gluten-free wafers are served by the communion assistant in the middle and white grape juice is available in each communion tray, as needed.

The ushers will guide you out of your pew down the center aisle to the front of the church. Once you receive communion, please return to your seat by the side aisles. If you would like to receive communion at your seat, please let an usher know. If, for any reason, you choose not to receive the bread and wine, we invite you to come forward for a blessing.

***LAMB OF GOD**

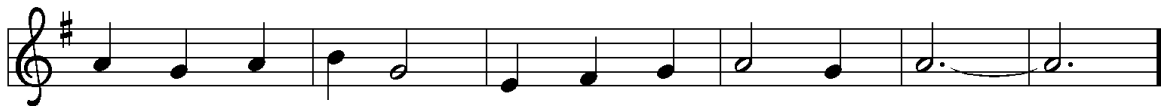
Lamb of God, you take__ a - way the sins of the
world, have mer-cy on__ us. Lamb of God, you
take__ a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on__
us. Lamb of God, you take__ a - way the
sins of the__ world, grant us peace._____



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Generous God,

C: we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation.

We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace.

We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.

***BLESSING**

P: God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ✠ bless and keep you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

He Came Down

ELW 253

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional
Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949
Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

***DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C: Thanks be to God.

LIVING OUT OUR DISCIPLESHIP – WAYS TO HELP AND SERVE



The Emanuel Food Pantry serves hundreds of meals each month and helps to support our neighbors with basic needs. Thank you to all who have donated to help this cause! Your continued support is needed and appreciated.

For December, we are asking for rice and canned soup.

BE PART OF EMANUEL'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

There are many ways to serve in worship and all are welcome to volunteer! Please use the corresponding QR codes to sign up for a service. For assistance signing up, please contact Morgan in the church office. 860-525-0894 | adminassist@emanuelhartford.org



Serve as Assisting Minister
Coordinator: Maureen Leyes
(860) 212-5492



Assist with Communion
Coordinator: Valerie McDonald
valeriexyz@cox.net
(860) 965-6936



Participate in Music
Contact Jonathan Reuning-Scherer
Scan QR for more information

Read the Lessons

Contact Lynn Sherman
lynnsherman480@gmail.com
(860) 550-0518

Parishoners of all ages are welcome!

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Host Coffee Hour

Individuals, ministry teams, or other organizations are invited to sponsor our after-service coffee hour. Contact Monique Jennings at moniquegray400@gmail.com.



Sponsor Altar Flowers in memory or honor of someone. Your donation of \$75 will cover the cost of the flowers.



Prayer Shawls are available in a basket in the Narthex for anyone to take for themselves or to give away. Baby blankets and a larger supply of shawls are available in the lounge of the Parish Building. Please be in touch with a member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry Team (Bobbee Canfield, Lynne Strecker, and Lynn Sherman) with questions.

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

Connor Mansbach † Michele Brennan † Karin Gottier † Bert Johnson † Betsyann Carter †
Anne Louise Swanson † Lee Sherman † Jennings-Marzett Family † Mckenna Jobes †
Brooklyn King † Elaine Wilson † Vito Vitrano † Monique Jennings † Rae Ann Gremel †
Harris Kannah

Homebound: Elaine Wilson † Joan Johnson † Anna-Lisa Johnson † Peggy Zachariasen

Emanuel Lutheran Church

311 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Office: 860-525-0894 | Emergency: 860-365-9510

www.emanuelhartford.org | www.facebook.com/emanuelhartford



Pastor Mark Olsen

Senior Pastor—extension 1

pastorolsen@emanuelhartford.org

Hannah Maynard

Education Coordinator

Hannah.Maynard@emanuelhartford.org

Vicar Christine Pelfrey

Intern—extension 2

Christine.Pelfrey@emanuelhartford.org

Morgan Pope

Administrative Assistant—extension 5

adminassist@emanuelhartford.org

Jonathan Reuning-Scherer

Director of Music

Jonathan.rs@emanuelhartford.org

Rachel Blank, Natalie Fulmer, and

Maeghan O’Laughlin

Nursery Staff

Kate Bozzo

Operations Manager—extension 4

Kate.Bozzo@emanuelhartford.org

Rachid Chelali

Sexton

Naomi Ngoma

Community Life & Outreach—extension 3

Naomi.Ngoma@emanuelhartford.org

Mazmur Sihite and Iman Quansah

HIU Interns 2024-2025