

Announcements

Hanging of the Greens—Thank you to all who stayed after worship last Sunday and decorated our sanctuary for Advent and Christmas!. Many hands made our season bright.

Advent Candle Lighting—Help is needed to light the Advent Candles this month and Christmas Eve! Families and groups are welcome to work together. A signup is on the red bulletin board.

Wednesday night meal—Join us again on this week for food and fellowship at Dinner Church, Wednesdays at 5:30. Our special Christmas Dinner will be Wednesday, December 18th.

Cookies Fudge & Soup Sale December 14th—The United Women in Faith Cookies Fudge and Soup Sale is this coming Saturday, December 14th from 8 a.m.-Noon. Baked Goodies are welcome from anyone for the sale! We'd love to see your holiday favorite. Signup is by the office.

Help needed as part of our Treasurer Team—Barb Steele is stepping down after serving as our treasurer for several years. We are looking for someone to work as part of a team to fill the role, potentially a person to help with payroll while others do the accounting. If you are interested please connect with our Finance Chair Paul Sagers or Pastor Ben.

Sharing our Time and Talents— Check the red bulletin board for how you can share your time and talents in new ways in 2025!

“The Weary World Rejoices” Advent Devotional—is available today and online! Meeting times will be Tuesday nights at 6pm (Zoom), Wednesday afternoons 2pm (St. James), and Wednesday evenings after Dinner Church.

“Charlie Brown Christmas” Worship Series — will run throughout Advent. The choir and children will offer a program during worship on Sunday, December 22nd.

Christmas Eve Worship — Join us for worship on Christmas Eve at Emmanuel! At 10 a.m. we will gather for a Family Worship, offering a Children’s Storytime and Hymn Sing. Candlelight and Communion Worship will be offered at 8 p.m.

Emmanuel Prayer Joys and Concerns

- ♥ For the family of Don Pritzl who died of a heart attack in the woods.
- ♥ For the family of Vida’s friend Bob who died last Saturday.
- ♥ For Steve DeLooze who is having surgery to remove fluid from his heart.

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We welcome. We worship. We Witness.



Preparing for Peace

Luke 3:1-6

December 8, 2024

Prelude

Welcome — PASTOR BEN MORRIS

Choral Gathering — Come Now, O Prince of Peace — BLACK 2232—VS 1

Call to Worship

Children of God, prepare the way! The Word of God is coming!

We come to listen and receive God's Word among us.

Children of God, the prophets call to us now and from generations past,
urging us to prepare and refine our hearts
for the coming of the Word of God. Are you listening?

We come to listen and prepare to receive God's Word among us.

Children of God, this is the mark of our preparation:
that passion for God's Word would burn within us,
cleansing us and renewing us to reflect God's love throughout the world.

**May God ignite our passion for God's Word that has come among us
as we listen, prepare, and receive all that God has for us today.**

Hymn – O Come, O Come Emmanuel — RED 211

Advent Affirmation of Faith — ALL

**We believe in the coming of the Light that shatters all darkness
and brings love to all people.**

**We believe in peace, and that one day
all nations shall enter the house of God,
where love and mercy flow like a mighty river.**

We believe in a hope that casts out fear.

**We believe in waiting patiently
for the coming of the Lord,
knowing it is Christ who restores us and leads us to salvation.**

We believe in being ready,

**for Christ comes at unexpected times and places,
in the form of strangers, friends, and family.**

**We believe that we are called to welcome one another,
just as Christ has welcomed us.**

We believe that the Holy Spirit helps us

live in harmony with one another,

and prepare our hearts and our lives for the birth of a child who is called

“Prince of Peace,” “Emmanuel,” “God with us.” Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Children's Moment - PASTOR BEN

Advent Candle Lighting— SALVATION ARMY TEAM

Offering

Offering Response — Doxology — RED 95

Choral Anthem — Are You Ready Little Town? — CHOIR

Scripture — Luke 3:1-6

God, we thank you for your Word.

The story of your grace.

Sermon — Preparing for Peace — PASTOR BEN

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Hymn— I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light — RED 206

Benediction

Postlude