

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
324 College Avenue, Modesto, California 95350
(209) 523-4531

www.emanuellutheran.org

Staff

Presiding Minister

Rev. Dr. Lyn Crase

Pianist

Barbara Vukich

Administrative Assistant

Paula Braxton

Day Care Director

Laura Marquez

Bookkeeper

Maria Ojeda

Council Officers

President

Dennis Strand

Vice President

Chris Paulsen

Treasurer

Bob Reuter

Secretary

Janice Watkins

This Week's Assistants

Assisting Minister:

Suzanne Wilke Reader: Barbara Crawford

Ushers: Janice & Tom Watkins

Welcome to Emanuel

WELCOME GUESTS AND VISITORS!

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. We are glad that you have come to worship with us. Please help us to know you by introducing yourself to those you encounter and please be sure to sign our quest book (located on the stand in the Narthex).

• LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available. •

Children/Youth & Family/ELDC:

Council member - Brett Owen

Spiritual Life:

Council member – Chris Paulsen

Worship:

Council member - Martha Strand

Outreach:

Council member — Chris Paulsen

WELCA

Pat Smith

Resource:

Bob Reuter, Treasurer

Stewardship —

Property — Dennis Strand

Fellowship:

Council member—Janice Watkins

Social Media:

Council member - Brett Owen

Endowment Team

Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Pastor Lyn, Dennis Strand, Chris Paulsen, Janice Watkins

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday - 8 am to 3 pm Friday - 8 am to 2 pm

DECEMBER 10, 2023

PRELUDE

WELCOME Pastor Lyn Crase

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING (Candle of Peace)

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, v. 1, 2

Page 18

OPENING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

Page 19

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

Amen

P: God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

P: Everlasting God,

you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.

We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness

that make us reluctant to work against oppression.

We are complicit in systems of exploitation.

We choose comfort over courage.

We are careless with creation's bounty.

Look upon us with mercy.

Turn our hearts again to you.

Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways

for the sake of our waiting world.

Amen

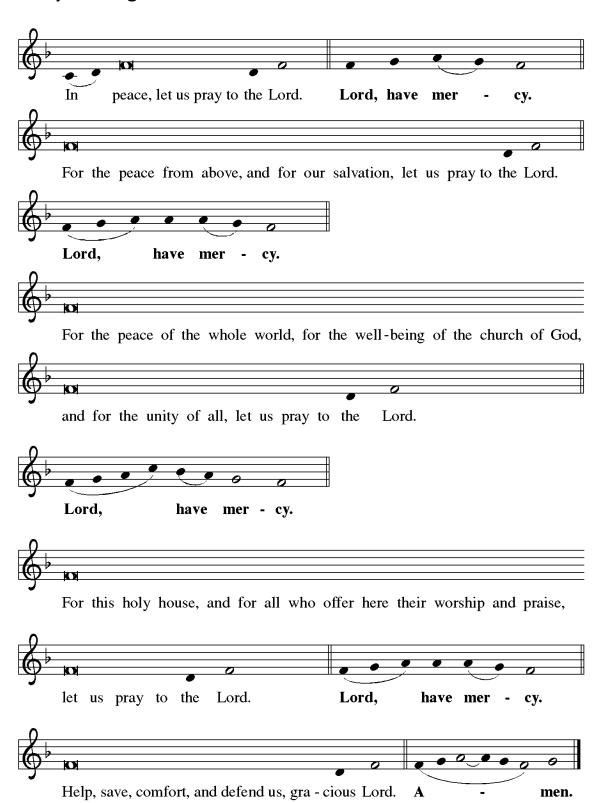
P: Hear these words of assurance:

God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

Amen

KYRIE—everyone sings



THIS IS THE FEAST



Continued on next page ——->

THIS IS THE FEAST (continued)



GREETING

P: 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

P: Let us pray together....

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.

PSALM: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD; you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

²You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins.

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.

- ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- ¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- ¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 1.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (REPEATED) Please be seated.

SERMON Pastor Lyn

HYMN OF THE DAY

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

Page 20

APOSTLE'S CREED

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed:

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......congregation responds with "receive our prayer."

A: Please sit or kneel as comfortable.

SHARING THE PEACE

The sharing of peace is an individual and communal act of forgiveness.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY

The offering is our response to God's grace and mercy.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: God our provider,
by your merciful hand
abundance springs up from the earth.
Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.
Let them be a sign of your steadfast love
and faithfulness for all people,
through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

A: In recognition of God's forgiveness, mercy and grace let us continue with the Great Thanksgiving.

P: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord

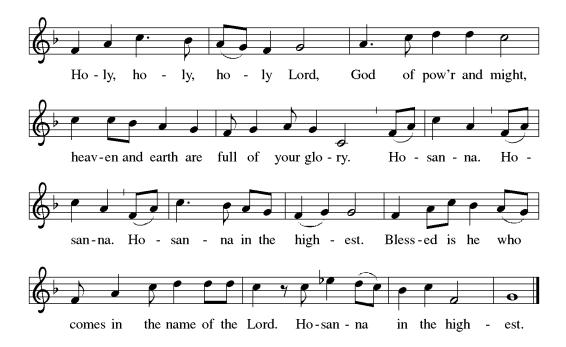
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

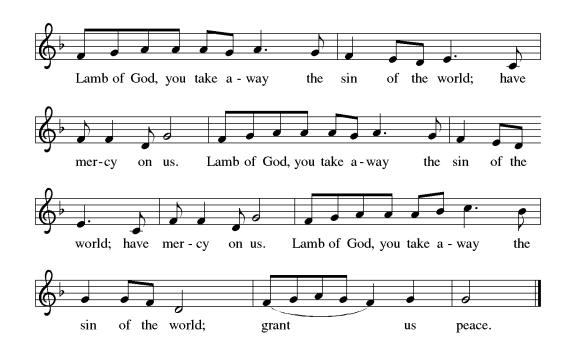
now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come, take your place at the table.

We practice continuous communion. All are welcome. White grape juice is available for those who prefer that instead of wine. Gluten free wafers available.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMNS

Hark, the Glad Sound! Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn Page 21

Page 22

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Generous God,

in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen

BLESSING

P: The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit

→ remain upon you now and forever.

Amen

SENDING HYMN

How Firm a Foundation

Page 23

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Bible Readings for December 17 - Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm: Psalm 126
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

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Announcements: Week of December 10, 2023

Thank you everyone for the notes, cards, and good wishes on the anniversary of my ordination! A very special thank you for the stunningly beautiful crystal clergy collar and the creative musical performance of Rhinestone Collar by the Emanuel Singers! That was a total surprise! It was not only fun but a blessing to be able to celebrate with you, partners in ministry, this milestone in my life!

In deep appreciation,

Pastor Lyn



Emanuel Lutheran Church Candlelight Communion Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24th at 5 pm



Drew Shank is working on his Eagle Scout Project. His project benefits Emanuel Lutheran Church's property. If you'd like to donate, please indicate "Eagle Scout Project" in the memo line of your check. *Thank you.*



Scan QR code for easy giving



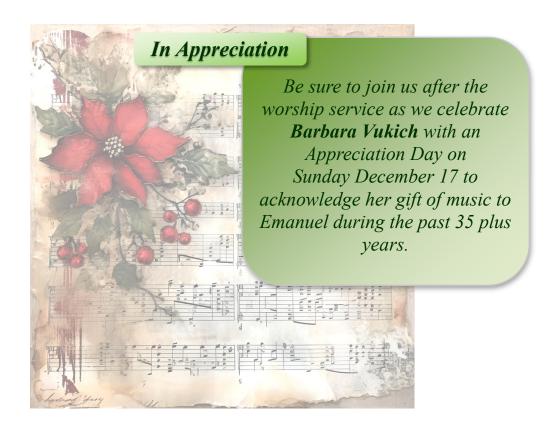


<u>From Dave Henke</u>: The Christmas light show is ready for viewing! Lights, singing characters, and special song, "Oh What a Glorious Night" by the Sidewalk Prophets. **2521 Piazza Ct. in Modesto.**





Please save the date and join us for Neighborhood Christmas Caroling, Wednesday, December 13th, at 6:00. We'll gather at the Holtz home (926 Mt. Vernon Drive) for a bowl of soup prior to a bit of caroling in the neighborhood. Then, we'll return for cookies and a warm drink. Bring a warm jacket and a flashlight. Please sign up in the Narthex. If you forget to sign up, come anyway. The more voices, the better!



Adult Senior Day Care

Emanuel Lutheran Church continues its search for a volunteer program coordinator. For more information, contact the Pastor.

Ongoing Announcements

Food For Faith (FIGS) now has a location to accept donations of non-perishable food. We will collect food for them every 1st Sunday.

Text Study: Every Tuesday, year-round, in Luther Hall at noon. We discuss the lessons for the next Sunday. Come anytime you are available, leave early if you need to, bring your lunch. Generally, this lasts about an hour and 15 minutes....give or take.

The Men's Bible Study Group meets at 7 am on Wednesday mornings at The Secret Garden Restaurant, 2401 Orangeburg Ave.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study — 1:30 pm in Luther Hall. Join anytime.

Hosts are needed for Coffee Hour. Please see the sign-up sheet in Luther Hall.

We are asking for donations to help support the Coffee Hour. A donation container will be available on a table in Luther Hall.

Coin Jar -- Your spare change makes a difference! Proceeds go to Outreach.

Quilting Bee -- meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 10:00 am. All are welcome & all skill levels as well. If you can use scissors and/or tie a knot, there will be a job for you!

Lydia Circle — usually meets the 2nd Monday of each month, at the home of Marsha Waggoner - 916 Kenilworth Ct. at 1:00 pm. Please be sure to check the weekly calendar in the bulletin for any updates! We use the GATHER magazine as our Bible Study. All women of Emanuel are invited to join us.

Leah Circle meets on the third Monday of the month at 1:00 pm at The Park Independent Senior Living Community in Modesto.

Rebecca Circle meets every 3rd Thursday at 1:30 pm in member's homes. All are welcome! **Miriam Circle** meets every 4th Monday at member's homes. See Melissa Molina for more information.

The Shower Shuttle and Laundry Shuttle are actively taking care of our homeless communities, and the needs remain the same: personal hygiene items, etc. *Thank you all for your contributions to this Ministry, Marilyn and Chuck Rowland*

Lutheran Disaster Response and Lutheran World Relief directed donations go directly to the people most in need.



HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Week of December 18 - 22 — 10 am to 2 pm

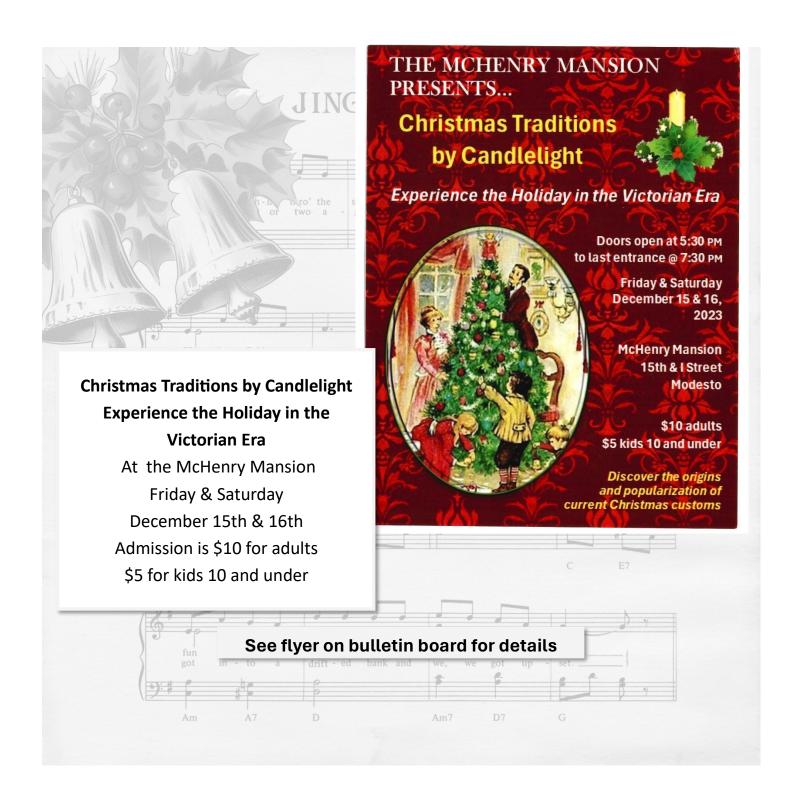
December 25 — <u>CLOSED</u> Christmas Day

December 26 — CLOSED Christmas

December 27 - 29 — 8 am to 12 pm

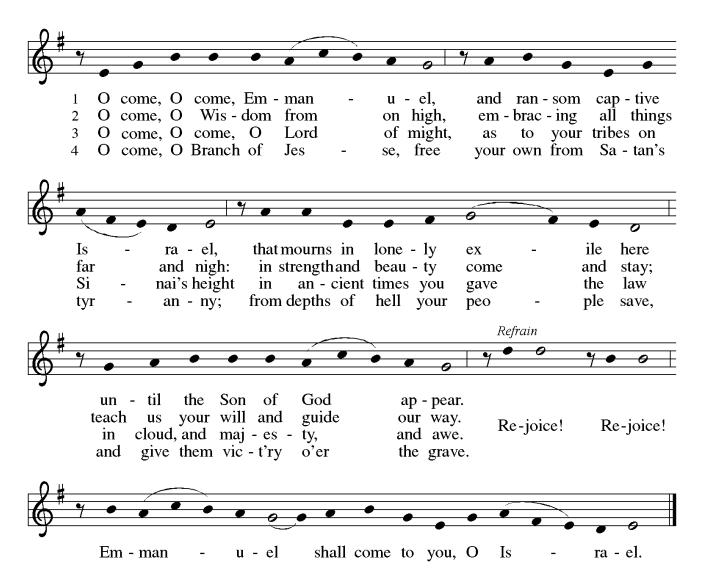
January 1, 2024 — <u>CLOSED</u> New Year's Day

Upcoming Community Holiday Event



Advent Candle Lighting, sing verse 1 & 2

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

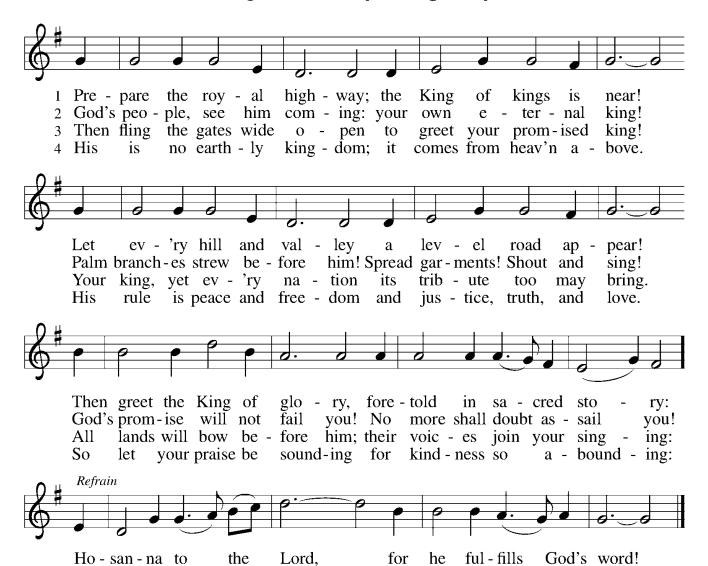


Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. composite Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent. Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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Entrance

Prepare the Royal Highway



Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship* Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent. Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Hymn of the Day

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

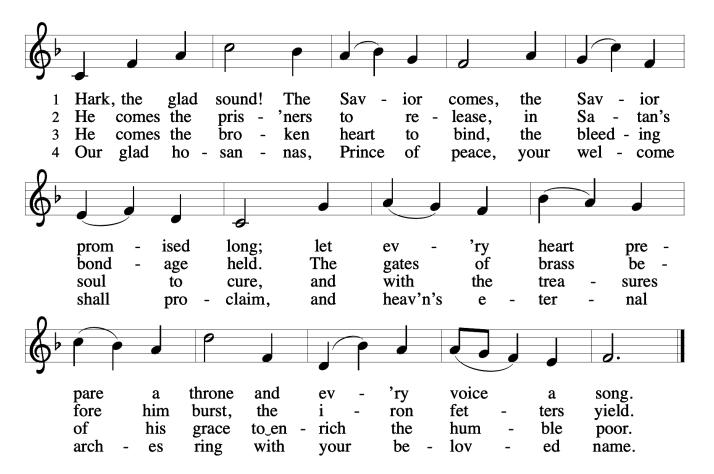


Text: James Lewis Milligan, 1876-1961, alt. Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Bancroft, 1904-1988 Music © Estate of Eldred Bancroft. B. Burrows, Executor.

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Communion Hymn

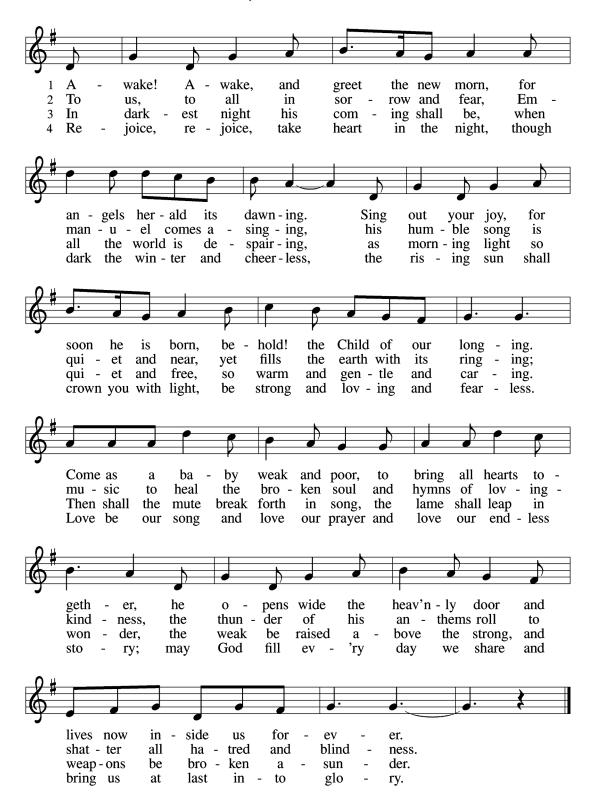
Hark, the Glad Sound!



Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

Communion Hymn

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

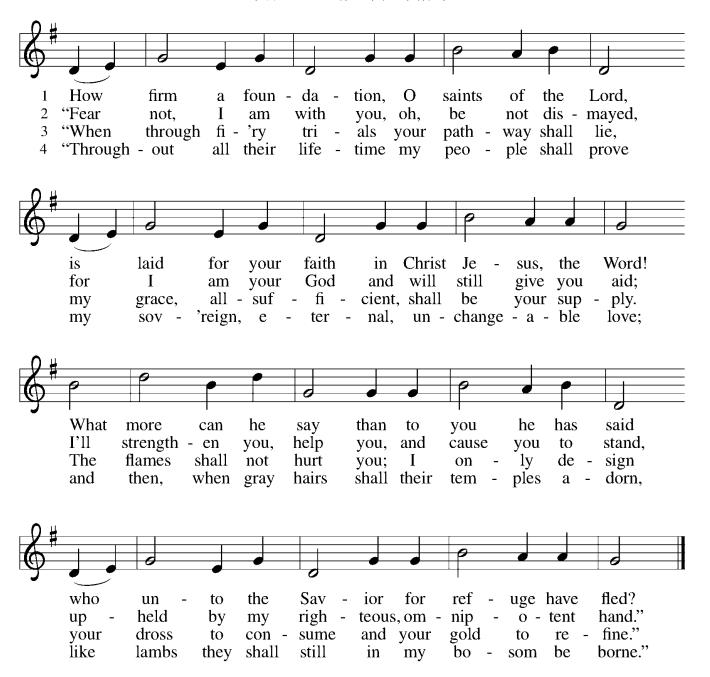


Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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Sending Hymn

How Firm a Foundation



Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt. Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

Prayer Requests: December 10, 2023

- Prayers for health, healing and strength for Nancy Leo, friend Kim Petersen & Marlisa Ferreira
- Prayers for healing from a recent accident for John, son of Jack & Pat Smith
- Prayers for health & well-being for Kyle Ollenborger, grandson of Dennis & Martha Strand
- Prayers for recovery & healing from a heart procedure for Richard Clark, brother-in-law of Martha Strand

On-going Prayers:

- 1. Laura Marquez—health & well-being
- 2. Salonen family—prayers for the gift of a healthy granddaughter
- Kyra Loretelli—peace of mind & well-being (Marquez)
- Michelle Meyers—recovery from a broken arm (Schmidt)
- 5. James Nelson—health & healing
- 6. Lisa Poston—healing & well-being
- 7. Jennifer Turner—health & well-being (Dieterich)
- 8. Eliot Furlan—healing & well-being (Dieterich)
- Terry Martinez—comfort & healing (Crawford)
- 10. Peace & comfort for the family of Barbara Bauman
- 11. Lena Shirley & family—well-being; daughter Jennifer—successful relocation
- Alexandria—a good outcome/surgery (Watkins)
- 13. Aaron Strait—employment

- 14. Infant Calvin Clark Simon—complete healing and well-being (Simon)
- 15. Ray Simon—strength & healing
- 16. Cara Lee—recovery & healing (Crawford)
- 17. Tom & Barbara Norquist—well-being
- 18. Rose Epting—healing
- 19. Pat Smith—healing, peace & a sense of God's presence
- 20. Sue Allen—healing & well-being
- 21. Darcy Moreno—physical recovery (Ashlock)
- 22. Stephanie Detmer—healing/cancer treatments (Kraft)
- 23. Stephanie—healing/cancer treatments (Obermeyer)
- 24. Vicki—health issues (Wilke)
- 25. Dee Corrin—health (Nelson)
- 26. Brendon—health, well-being & friendship (Mckenzie/Schmidt)
- 27. Clarice Soares, Debora Bauer, & Diane McCoy—healing & health (Tchmola)

CALENDAR | DECEMBER 11 - 17

Monday, December 11

10:00 am Piecemakers Quilting Bee: Luther Hall

1 pm Lydia Circle: Meets off-site

6 pm Sergio cleans the Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 12

10 am Organ Practice: Sanctuary

12 pm Text Study: Luther Hall

Wednesday, December 13

6 am Radiant Men's Breakfast: Luther Hall & Kitchen

7 am ELC Men's Bible Study group meets at The Secret Garden

Restaurant, 2401 E. Orangeburg Ave. in Modesto

1:30 pm Bible Study: Luther Hall

6 pm ELC Christmas Caroling hosted by David Holtz, 926 Mt. Vernon Ave.

in Modesto

Thursday, December 14

10 am Organ Practice: Sanctuary

6 pm Task Force Meeting: Church Office

Friday, December 15

ALL DAY Set up for ELDC Christmas Program: Luther Hall, Augustana &

Kitchen

6 pm ELDC Christmas Program: Luther Hall

Saturday, December 16

OPEN

Sunday, December 17

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS SUNDAY

9:30 am ELC Worship Service 10:45 am ELC Sunday School

11 am Barbara Vukich Appreciation: Luther Hall 11 am ELC Soup Lunch: Luther Hall & Kitchen

3 pm Radiant Leadership Meeting 5 pm Radiant Worship Service



Our Mission

To share Christ's unconditional love with everyone.

Our Vision

Emanuel's vision is to be loving, supportive, and welcoming, as we reach out in service and in witness to our neighborhood and the city beyond.

We share a passion to nurture people in all stages and circumstances of life.

We, as disciples of Christ, minister to our changing community in challenging cultural times.

