

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023

# **Emanuel Lutheran Church**

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

Kathleen Reuter

Reader:

Lois Owen

Ushers: Bruce & Donna Vickroy

# 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 guest 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

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9:30 AM

#### **PRELUDE**

**WELCOME** Pastor Lyn Crase

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING (Candle of Love)**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, v. 1, 2, 3 & 4

Page 17

#### **OPENING HYMN**

Savior of the Nations, Come

Page 18

#### 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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

God keeps the promise made to David to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

#### FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Instead of David building a house (temple) for God, God promises to establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Centuries later, after the Babylonian exile, no king sat on the throne. Even then, however, the people of Israel remembered this promise and continued to hope for a king, the messiah, God's anointed.

**PSALM:** Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

<sup>1</sup>Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

<sup>2</sup>For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

<sup>3</sup>"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

<sup>4</sup>'I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.'"

<sup>19</sup>You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people:

"I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.

<sup>20</sup>I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him.

<sup>21</sup>My hand will hold him fast and my arm will make him strong.

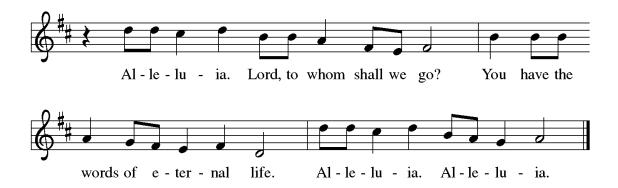
<sup>22</sup>No enemy shall deceive him, nor shall the wicked bring him down.

<sup>23</sup>I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.

#### SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27

Paul closes his letter to the Romans by praising God because, in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, God has revealed the promised, divine plan of salvation for all humanity. Paul proclaims this gospel of Christ in order to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**P:** The Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 1.

Glory to you, O Lord.

**GOSPEL:** Luke 1:26-38

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people from little known places. This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in this gospel.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (REPEATED)** Please be seated.

SERMON Pastor Lyn

**HYMN OF THE DAY** My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness Page 19

#### 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,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>My faithfulness and steadfast love are with him, and he shall be victorious through my name.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup>I will set his hand on the sea, and his right hand on the rivers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup>He will say to me, 'You are my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

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

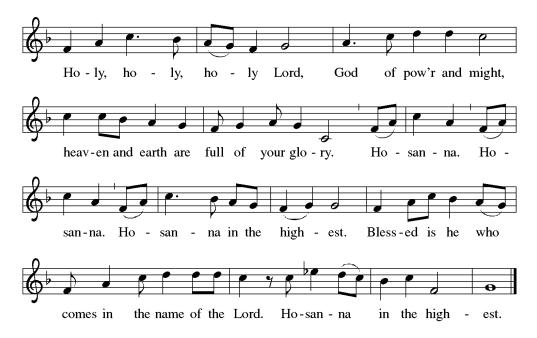
**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

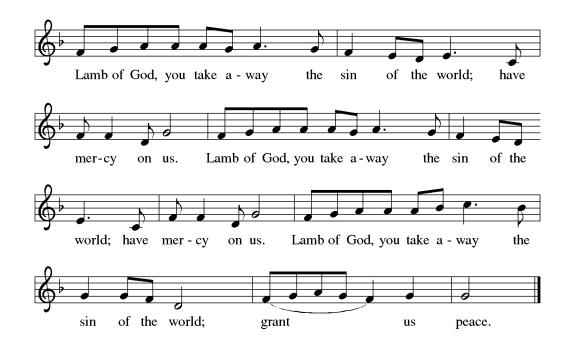
#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**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**

Canticle of Turning
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Page 20, 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

Joy to the World

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#### DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

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# Announcements: Week of December 24, 2023

## **Bible Readings for December 31 - Lessons & Carols**

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10 Second Reading: Psalm 98 Third Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12 Fourth Reading: John 1:10-18 Fifth Reading: Luke 2:15-21



# Emanuel Lutheran Church Candlelight Communion Christmas Eve TONIGHT 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.** 



## 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. On break until January 10th.

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**

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

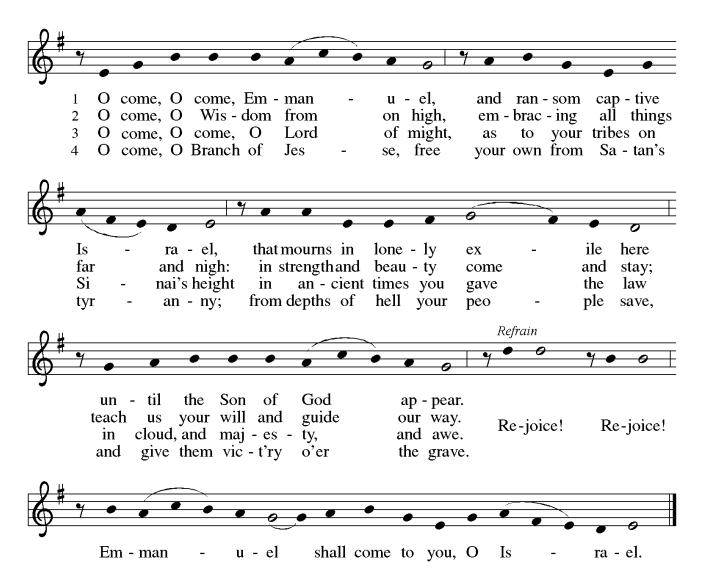
**December 26 — <u>CLOSED</u> Christmas** 

December 27 - 29 — 8 am to 12 pm

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

## Advent Candle Lighting, sing all verses

# 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**

# Savior of the Nations, Come



- 1 Say ior of the na tions, come; vir gin's son, make here your home.
- 2 Not by hu man flesh and blood, but the mys tic Breath of God,
- 3 Won-drous birth—oh, won-drous child—from his throne, a vir gin mild!
- 4 From God's heart the Sav ior speeds, back to God his path-way leads;



0 heav'n and earth: God has cho-sen birth. Mar - vel now, such a the Word of God made flesh. was fruit of wom - an. blos - som fresh. Mar - y's Ver - y God, and ea - ger now his run! son, race to van-quish death's com-mand, back to reign at out God's right hand. to

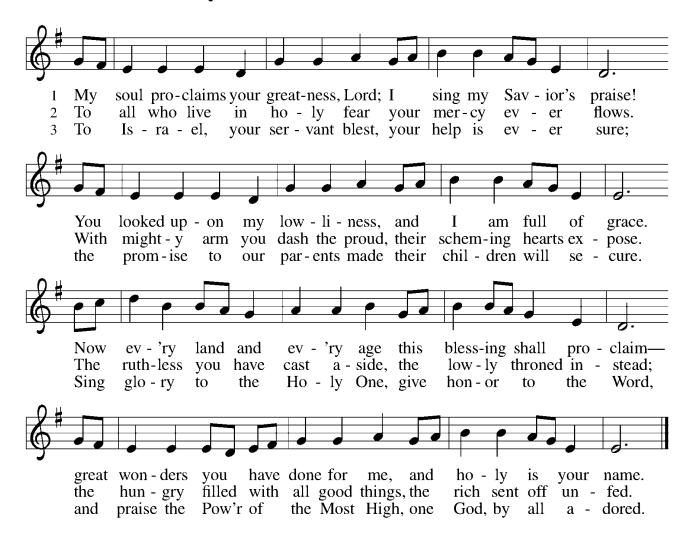
- 5 Now your manger, shining bright, hallows night with newborn light. Night cannot this light subdue; let our faith shine ever new.
- 6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, virgin's son, incarnate Word!
  To the holy Trinity praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. hymnal version Music: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524 Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

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## **Hymn of the Day**

# My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



Text: With One Voice, 1995, based on the Magnificat

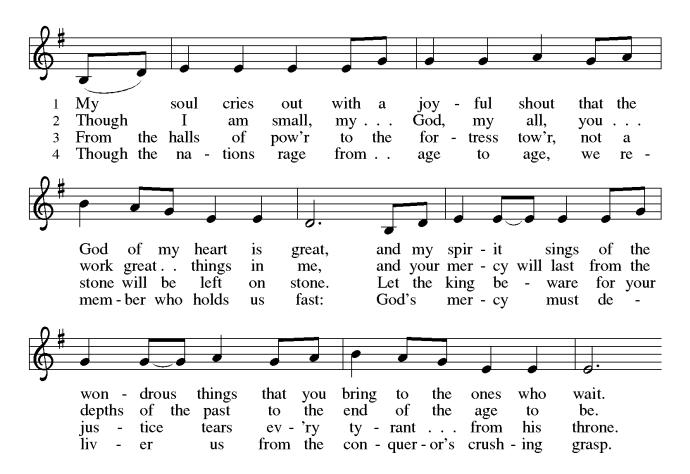
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

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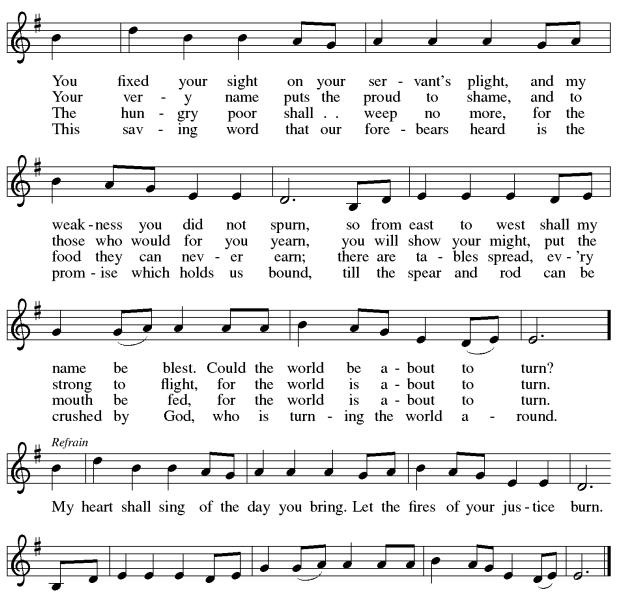
## **Communion Hymn**

# Canticle of the Turning



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## **Communion Hymn (Canticle of the Turning, continued)**



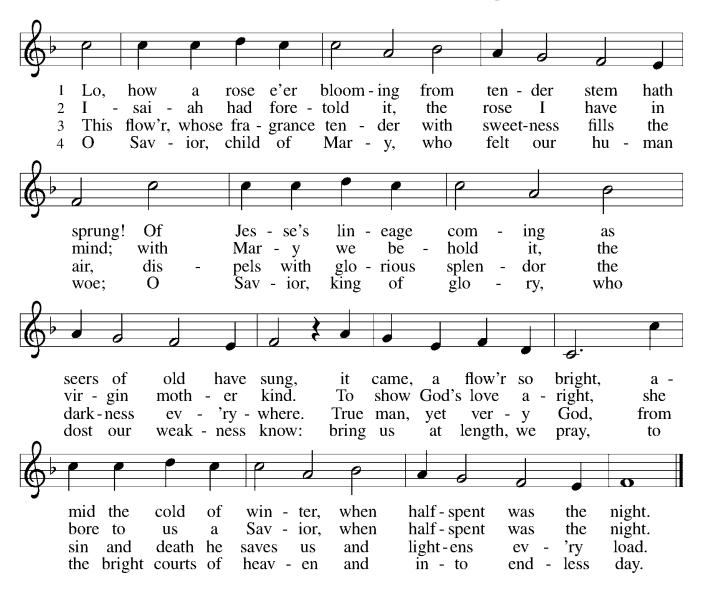
Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
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## **Communion Hymn**

# Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1–2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4 Music: ES IST EIN ROS, Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesünge, Köln, 1599

## **Sending Hymn**

# Joy to the World



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

# Prayer Requests: December 24, 2023

Philippians 4:19-20 ...God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen

#### **On-going Prayers:**

- 1. Richard Clark—recovery & healing (Strand)
- 2. Kyle Ollenborger—health & well-being (Strand)
- 3. John Smith healing (Smith)
- 4. Nancy Leo—health, healing & strength (Petersen/Ferreira)
- 5. Laura Marquez—health & well-being
- 6. Salonen family—prayers for the gift of a healthy granddaughter
- 7. Kyra Loretelli—peace of mind & well-being (Marquez)
- 8. Michelle Meyers—recovery from a broken arm (Schmidt)
- 9. James Nelson—health & healing
- 10. Lisa Poston—healing & well-being
- 11. Jennifer Turner—health & well-being (Dieterich)
- 12. Eliot Furlan—healing & well-being (Dieterich)
- 13. Terry Martinez—comfort & healing (Crawford)
- 14. Peace & comfort for the family of Barbara Bauman
- 15. Lena Shirley & family—well-being; daughter Jennifer—successful relocation
- Alexandria—a good outcome/surgery (Watkins)
- 17. Aaron Strait—employment
- 18. Infant Calvin Clark Simon—complete healing and well-being (Simon)
- 19. Ray Simon—strength & healing

- 20. Cara Lee—recovery & healing (Crawford)
- 21. Tom & Barbara Norquist—well-being
- 22. Rose Epting—healing
- 23. Pat Smith—healing, peace & a sense of God's presence
- 24. Sue Allen—healing & well-being
- 25. Darcy Moreno—physical recovery (Ashlock)
- 26. Stephanie Detmer—healing/cancer treatments (Kraft)
- Stephanie—healing/cancer treatments (Obermeyer)
- 28. Vicki—health issues (Wilke)
- 29. Dee Corrin—health (Nelson)
- Brendon—health, well-being & friendship (Mckenzie/Schmidt)
- Clarice Soares, Debora Bauer, & Diane McCoy healing & health (Tchmola)

## CALENDAR | DECEMBER 25 - 31

**Monday, December 25** 

Office Closed — Merry Christmas!

Day Care will be closed December 25th through January 1st

**Tuesday, December 26** 

**ECHOES DEADLINE** 

Office Closed — Christmas Holiday

Wednesday, December 27

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

**Thursday, December 28** 

10 am Organ Practice: Sanctuary

Friday, December 29

6 pm Sergio cleans the Sanctuary

Saturday, December 30

(No events are scheduled)

Sunday, December 31

**NEW YEAR'S EVE** 

9:30 am ELC Service of Lessons & Carols

2 pm Radiant New Year's Eve Service

# **⇒ HAPPY NEW YEAR!** €



# **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.

