



*4th Sunday in Advent*

*December 21, 2014*

**Emanuel Lutheran Church**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**324 College Avenue, Modesto, California 95350**

**(209) 523-4531 • [www.emanuellutheran.org](http://www.emanuellutheran.org)**

# Welcome to Emanuel

Communion Service 9:30 a.m..... Page 3  
Announcements and Prayer Concerns ..... Page 14

## Staff

### **Presiding Minister**

Pastor Bill Ruth

### **Organist & Choir Director**

Barbara Vukich

### **Day Care Director**

Laura Marquez

### **Bookkeeper**

Robin Swearingen

### **Secretary**

Paula Braxton

## Council Officers

### **President**

Suzanne Wilke

### **Vice President**

David Holtz

### **Treasurer**

Bob Reuter

### **Secretary**

Debbie Van Diepen

## **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 filling out a worship attendance form (located in your bulletin) and placing it in the offering plate.*

- **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** are available. •

*(Please ask an usher)*

### Children/Youth & Family:

Council member – Mary Murray

### Spiritual Life:

Council member – Lois Owen

### Worship:

Council member – Suzanne Wilke

### Outreach:

Council members – David Holtz and Karl Williams

### Resource:

Bob Reuter, Treasurer

Council members – Tom Hardin and Brian Skustad

### Fellowship:

Council member – Rue Knoll

### Technology/Communications:

Council member – Mike Epting

### Volunteer Coordinator:

Council member – Debbie Van Diepen

### Endowment Team

Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Pat Norquist, Rob Shank, Bill Reinheimer

# 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2014

9:30 AM

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## PRELUDE

*Fantasy, Trio and Toccata on  
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Austin C. Lovelace

## WELCOME

## GATHERING SONGS

*I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve  
Angels We Have Heard on High*

Red Book #271

Red Book #289

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Please rise.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(A brief silence for reflection.)* Gracious God,

**C have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

## THE LIGHT OF ADVENT

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

In your Son, Emmanuel,  
you have shown us your light  
and saved us from the power of sin.

Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.

Increase our longing for your presence,  
that at the celebration of your Son's birth  
his Spirit might swell anew in our midst,  
for he is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

C **Amen**

Four candles are lit as the hymn is sung.

Verses 1, 2, 3 & 4

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

Red Book #247

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

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.

C **Amen**

P Please be seated.

## FIRST READING

*2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16*

Bible page 278

L A reading from Second Samuel.

*Instead of David building a house (temple) for the Lord, the Lord 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, the Lord's anointed.*

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup>the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." <sup>3</sup>Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: <sup>5</sup>Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. <sup>7</sup>Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" <sup>8</sup>Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; <sup>9</sup>and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. <sup>16</sup>Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** (Luke 1:46b-55)

*Canticle of Turning*

Red Book #723

**SECOND READING**

*Romans 16:25-27*

Bible page 1037

L A reading from Romans.

*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.*

<sup>25</sup>Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic

writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith — <sup>27</sup>to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

P Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## THE GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

Bible page 931-932

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, chapter 1.

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

*In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people (Mary) from little-known places (Nazareth). 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 his gospel.*

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be

born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

**GOSPEL RESPONSE** (*See previous page for Gospel Acclamation*)

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### SERMON

Pastor Bill Ruth

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

Red Book #265

### NICENE CREED

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**A** With longing and hopeful expectation, let us pray for the church, the world,  
and all those in need. You are invited to kneel. (*A brief silence*)

**Response: *Your mercy is great.***

### **SHARING THE PEACE**

**P** Please rise.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Please be seated as we collect the offering.

### **TITHES & OFFERINGS**

*Lost in the Night*

Kyle Haugen

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**A** God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and  
with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need  
until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

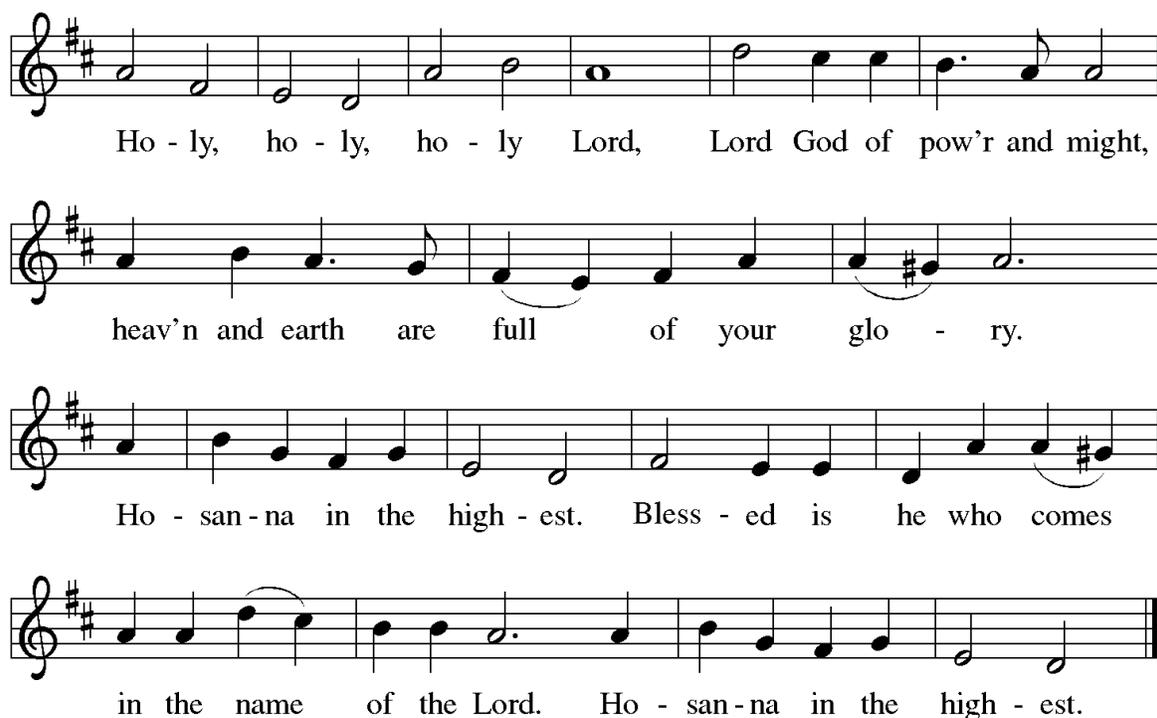
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C 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. 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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## 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:

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

P With this bread and cup we remember your Word  
dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.

**C Come, Lord Jesus.**

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us.  
Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

C **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 Come to Christ, who comes to us in this holy supper.

Please be seated.

*We will practice continuous communion at the altar rail. All baptized Christians are welcome to commune.*

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*That Boy-Child of Mary  
Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Red Book #293

Red Book #295

## COMMUNION BLESSING

P Please rise.

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

C Amen

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Lord God, we give you thanks that you have fed us even now with the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us as healing oil and sheltering comfort to those in need, and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

## BLESSING

P God most high, God with us, God poured out on us, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

## SENDING OF COMMUNION MINISTERS *(If needed)*

L Let us Pray...

C **O God of tender compassion, as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger, bless those who leave this assembly to share the gifts of this table with our sisters and brothers who are *homebound*. May they be sustained by the love and prayers of this community, and by the Bread of life that satisfies all hunger, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## BIRTHDAY BLESSING

P Let us pray:

C **God of all creation, we offer you grateful praise for the Gift of Life, and especially the gift of the lives of our sisters and brothers who stand before us this day and who recall this month the day of their birth. They rejoice in your gifts of life and love, family and friends.**

**Bless them with your presence and surround them with your love that they may enjoy many happy years, all of them pleasing to you. We ask this grace and blessing for each one of them through Christ our Lord. Amen**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING HYMN**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Red Book #257

**All: verses 1, 3, 7; Women: verse 2; Men: verse 4**

**DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Charles W. Ore

**THOSE WHO SERVED US TODAY**

Presiding Minister..... Pastor Bill Ruth  
 Assisting Minister..... David Holtz  
 Acolyte..... Alora Skustad  
 Lectors ..... Dianne Santana, Susan McCready  
 Song Leader .....Marilyn Rowland  
 Communion Assistant.....Dianne Santana  
 Usher/Greeter ..... Shank/Skustad  
 Altar Team .....Kathy Obermeyer



# Announcements

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The flowers this morning are given by the Holtz family in thanks to God for the gift of loving relationships in marriage



**Adult Bible Study** is taking a break and will resume in the New Year.

**2015 Altar Flowers Calendar** has been posted in the Narthex.

## **Giving Tree: Thank You**

The positive response to the giving tree appeal was amazing. It demonstrated the wonderful kindness and generosity of Emanuel's congregation. You have made a real difference in the lives of others. Thank you so much!



**Christmas Eve Service**  
Wednesday December 24th at 7:00 pm



## **Year-End Financial Plan – Don't forget Emanuel!**

Another year is about ended. Have you fulfilled your pledge? Have you considered making an extra donation to Emanuel Lutheran Church or a special donation to the Endowment Fund? This is the season for giving! These donations are deductible on your taxes and may help you save paying extra taxes.

The Endowment Fund earnings help pay for the maintenance and upkeep on our facilities and campus. An example was helping pay for the extermination of our unwelcome guests, the "TERMITES". Only the earnings of the Endowment Fund can be used for capital expenses and ministries. This means the fund will be earning money in perpetuity for our church.

The Finance Committee appreciates your donations and we thank you for your Time, Talent, and Tithing support of Emanuel Lutheran Church. We wish you all a Christmas full of wonder and joy, a celebration of the birth of our Lord!

On behalf of the members of the Finance Committee,

*Robert Reuter, Treasurer*



# Poinsettias are given to the glory

The Troedson/Beasley families in to the glory of God and in honor of their families.

The Owen Family in memory of Millie and Buzz Calkins & Betty and Harlan Owen.

Marsha Waggoner in memory of Carl and her parents, Phil & Norty Benner.

Pauline Cummings in memory of her husband Robert.

Mary Lou Dieterich in memory of her husband Robert Dieterich.

Joyce Bachmann in honor of the Terry family in Phoenix.

Sherm and Connie Petersen in honor of family.

Elaine D. Ixcot in memory of her sons and daughter, Jim, Kim and Gregory.

Jack and Pat Smith in memory of loved ones.

Rue and Gary Knoll in memory of Tana Knoll, Silas and Mada Windham.

Tom and Jeanne Hardin in memory of Dewey and Jennie Pierini & Buddie and Carrie Hardin.

Sue and Van Allen in memory of Charlie Allen.

The Armes family in memory of Alexander Armes.

Dennis and Carolyn Crenwelge in memory of Martin and Elvira Beyer & Gilbert Crenwelge and in honor of Flora Crenwelge & Nate and Cora Silva and family.

The Barton family in memory of Beth Langhoff & Hugh Barton.

William Teaney in memory of Myric and Dora Locke & James Wysong.

Kathy and Eric Obermeyer in memory of Mark Obermeyer.

Suzanne Wilke in memory of her parents George and Dorothy Anderson & David and Jodie Anderson her brother and sister-in-law.

Pat and Dick Norquist in memory of Margaret and Tenney Norquist, Glen and Ethel Bradshaw and Robert Bradshaw.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

MON 22	TUE 23	WED 24	THUR 25	FRI 26	SAT 27	SUN 28
<b>ECHOES DEADLINE</b>		OFFICE CLOSED  <b>Christmas Eve</b>	OFFICE CLOSED  <b>Christmas Day</b>	OFFICE CLOSED		9:30 am Communion Service
		<b>Day Care Closed thru Jan 1</b>	<b>Adult Bible Study</b> will resume in the new year.			10:45 Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Women's Bible Study @ J. Hardin's	<b>No Confirmation Class</b>	7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service				

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Date	Presiding Minister	Assistant Minister	Lectors	Communion Assist	Acolyte	Usher Greeter	Altar Care
Dec 24	Pastor Bill Ruth	Kathleen Reuter	W. Teaney P. Barton	Paula Barton	Allie Shank	Clarke Family	Kathy Obermeyer
Dec 28	Pastor Bill Ruth	Paula Barton	S. Wilke M. Epting	William Teaney		Fox Family	Lois Silva
Jan 4	Pastor Lee Heim	Bill Reinheimer	L. Owen K. Reuter	Lois Owen	Emily Cline	Owen Family	

## WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

December 24 Christmas Eve	December 28 Service of Lessons & Carols
Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]	Isaiah 9:2-7 Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:26-35, 38 Luke 2:1-7 Luke 2:8-15 Luke 2:22-40



# Prayer Requests

**New Prayer Requests:** Laura (a friend of the Norquists)—healing and well-being (P. Norquist)

**Our Members:** Drew Shank; Ben Knoll; Lori Knoll; Susan Hayes; Dianne Santana; Carolyn Crenwelge; Bob Dailey; Marilyn Rowland

**Our Homebound Members:** Harvey Hardel, Florence Broden, Kay Altmas, Shelda Fritts; Alma Johnson, Betty Mason; Esther Johnson

**Our Family:** Sharon & Harold (Owen); Meghan Ewald (Smith); Torrie & Nathan (Teaney); Marsha Schlipman (Nelson); Geraldine Walton (Hollmann); Ian McKenzie and Marian McKenzie (Schmidt); Steve Jeske (B. Norquist); Don Harlow (Virginia Dall's son-in-law); Trevor Jeske (Steve's son) (B. Norquist); Heide Brockmann (Petersen); Harry Belletto (Ixcot); Suzanne Stiver Lie (Reinheimer); Claudette Gaydon (Lori Skustad's aunt); Rusty Skustad (Skustad); Reta, Edgar, Bianca (Wise); Riegan family (Scott)

**Our Friends:** Dawn, Keith and Ed (Dieterich); Doyle Williams, Gene Loftis (Teaney); Nancy (Owen); Donna (Waggoner); Roger Warner (Schmidt); Melissa Gates (D. Norquist); Alice Cumbie (D. Norquist); Kathy Laughton, Loy Rodriguez & Lorna Sloan (Hardins); Donna Thayer (Petersen)

**We Pray for Peace** in the Middle East, and for all those serving in our armed forces.

**Ryan Dangerfield, USAF** in Lakenheath Air Base, England and **Joey Sabel, USMC** in Louisville, Kentucky (Marilyn & Chuck Rowland's grandson & grandson-in-law), **Timothy Kramer** in Afghanistan (Megan Armes' brother), **Ryan Powell** (grandson of Yvonne Troedson) USN, Connecticut.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Fill the church with your Spirit, that it may be a messenger of peace and goodwill. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Anoint the leaders of nations to protect and care for those who are vulnerable, weak, poor, and oppressed. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Fill us with gratitude for sun, moon, and stars as we today mark the shortest day of the year and welcome the light. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Shelter all who are hungry and homeless, strengthen all who are perplexed or afraid, and comfort all who are grieving or ill. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Draw near to all in this assembly who will travel or welcome others this week, who are expecting a child or struggling with infertility, and who face the holidays with eagerness or anxiety. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With Mary we ponder the mystery of your grace, and give thanks for those who have gone before us in the faith. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, faithful God, as we watch and wait for your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**