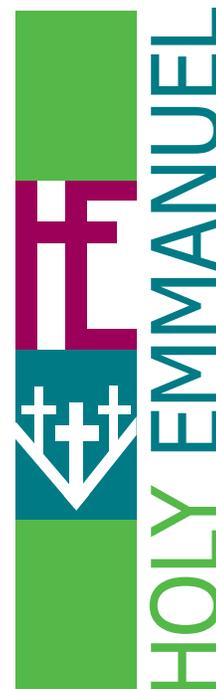

4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT DECEMBER 18, 2022



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

HYMN: “Savior of the Nations, Come” (LSB #332)

**Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin’s Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav’n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.**

**From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.**

**Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.**

(Text/tune C.1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission LSBHymnLicense.net#100014389)

INVOCATION

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:

Pastor: The fourth candle on our Advent wreath reminds us of the angels who announced the Savior’s birth.

People: Their song of joy rings across the centuries to fill the darkness of every heart with the light of glory and of love.

Pastor: Illumined by that light we pray,

People: Lord of hosts, for the ministry of angels we give You thanks. Fill the dark night of a fallen world with the angels’ good news of great joy that a Savior comes to us. Christ the Lord! Amen.

NARRATION: John the Baptist Prepares the Way

(The VanVleet Family)

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the desert of Judea saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah; “A voice of one calling in the desert, prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.”

HYMN: “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” (LSB #344)

**On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!**

NARRATION: The Announcement to Mary

(The Affeldt Family)

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings you who are highly favored! The Lord is With you.” Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

(The Wiech Family)

But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever. His kingdom will never end.”

HYMN: “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” (LSB #393)

**Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, Little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, Angels singing,
Bells are ringing, Tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!**

**Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, Heard the story, Tidings of a Gospel true.**

**Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, Greet the morrow;
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!**

(Public Domain)

NARRATION: Jesus’ Birth

(The Cayko Family)

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

(The Darling Family)

He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

HYMN: “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” (LSB #374)

**Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the Undefined, To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His favor.**

**Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefined But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the king of glory!**

(Public Domain)

NARRATION: Angels Announce the Savior Has Come

(The Thiel Family)

There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

(The Peterson Family)

And suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests.” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has told us about. So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby who was lying in the manger.

HYMN: “It Came upon the Midnight Clear” (LSB #366)

**It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to all,
From heav’n’s all gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.**

(Public Domain)

SERMON: Isaiah 7:10-14 "Signs of Love"

OFFERING

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SONG: "Holy Holy Holy Lord" *(Peter Scholtes)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory.
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory.**

(C. 1987 F.E.L. Publications. Used by permission. CCLI 522460)

IN THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION WE BELIEVE *our Lord Jesus Christ comes to us with His body and blood given and shed for the forgiveness of sins (Matt 26:26-28). In it we are united with him and with the whole Church. Baptized and confirmed Christians who believe, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that Christ's body and blood are present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament, who acknowledge their sin, set aside any refusal to forgive (Matt 6:15), are sorry, repent (Mark 1:15) and look to Christ alone for forgiveness and strength to live the new life, are welcome to eat and drink at the Lord's table in remembrance of Him. (1 Cor 11:25-25) If you have any questions, please speak to the Pastor or a Lay Minister before communing.*

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

BLESSING: (From John 3:16,17)

Pastor: God so loved the world,

People: That he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Pastor: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,

People: But to save the world through him.

Pastor: The grace of God the Father, the love of God the Son, and the fellowship of God the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: Amen.

HYMN: "God Loves Me Dearly" (LSB #392)

**God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation,
God love me dearly, Loves even me.
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.**

**I was in slav'ry, Sin, death, and darkness;
God's love was working To make me free.
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.**

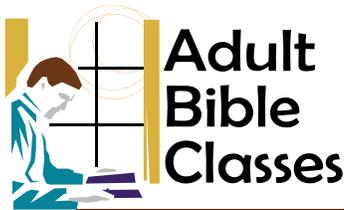
**He sent forth Jesus, My dear Redeemer,
He set forth Jesus And set me free.
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.**

(Public Domain)



Family Faith Fellowship Sunday's at 10:45-11:30am in the fellowship hall. Our first study unit will be a look at "God's Tools", as we discuss Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the work the Holy Spirit does through these tools to stir and preserve faith in Christ.

Just a reminder, Family Faith Fellowship is NOT just for parents and their children. All are welcome to join us as we grow spiritually stronger as God's redeemed family.



Adult Bible Classes which meet each Sunday at 8:30am, and each Tuesday at 11am, in the fellowship hall will be studying the Gospel of John. This Gospel was inspired by the Holy Spirit and written by the apostle John, specifically to help us grow in our knowledge and understanding of Jesus, and come closer to him as the Savior.

H.E.Y. - Holy Emmanuel Youth for 6th to 12th grade

Holy Emmanuel Youth and Redemption Lutheran church (1.5 miles from Holy Emmanuel) will be combining our two youth groups. We are excited to partner together. Our plan is to have a monthly fun activity, fundraising on occasion for our mission trips, and most importantly continue to study God's Word together. Our fun activities will always be the third Saturday of every month. For any questions please see Chris Krentz



Little Blessings

is for ages 3-5, pre kindergarten.
10:45-11:30am Sunday Mornings



If you have not picked up your
2023 offering envelopes,
They are available on the table in the narthex



Open Arms Mission Statement: Following Jesus Words, "Feed My Lambs" John 21:15
Open Arms Christian Early Childhood Center Nurtures Young Children in a Christian Environment

Statement of Purpose: Open Arms Christian Early Childhood Center, a ministry of Holy Emmanuel Lutheran Church, offers families a caring, nonjudgmental and supportive Christian environment. The loving and secure age-appropriate environment is culturally sensitive and encourages children to learn through play. Children's development is enhanced by opportunities which meet the individual needs of the whole child with in the following learning domains; Spiritual, The Exploration of Arts, Approaches to Learning, Language and Literacy Communications, Cognitive; Mathematics, Scientific Thinking, and Social Systems, Physical and Movement, Social and Emotional.

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday 7:00am-6:00pm Phone Number: 952-888-5116

Dawn Regan, Director of Open Arms, Email: eccdirector@openarmsecc.org

Randy Regan, Chief Business (Enrollment Info): Email: adminasst@openarmsecc.org



VEAP DRIVE

During the month of December, Holy Emmanuel Lutheran Church and Open Arms Christian ECC will be hosting a collection of paper products and other specialty items to improve the lives of people in need in our communities.

Items needed:

Paper products: towels, tissues, toilet paper, Personal Care Products (deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, tooth brushes)

Diapers (size 3-adult)
Tampons, Sanitary Napkins
Dish Soap.

Any monetary donations will also be appreciated

Please place your items in the VEAP bin in the narthex.

Thank You for your support.

Gayle Cedergren, Holy Emmanuel, VEAP Representative

PRAYER MINISTRY

Please include the following friends and happenings in your personal prayers

For God's Blessing On Their Medical Treatment - Richard St Martin

Our Home bound & Those In Care Centers - Pat Hibben - John Arne - Vera Marko - Jerry & Sharon Bliven - Lorraine McKay - Marion Michalik - Stan Cherveney

Our Local & Global Mission Ministries

-Rev Dr. Dan & Dr. Joan Jastram, Northern Asia (Recipients of our "Together In Mission")

-Rev. Bliidi Minely, Liberia, Africa (Recipient of our "Care Barrels")

Local & Global Concerns

-For a spirit of unity and Godliness among the leadership of The United States of America and President Biden

Birthday's This Week

18-Dec Carole Frey
18-Dec Kana Anderson
21-Dec Mary Thiel
23-Dec Anita Bakalar

Anniversary's This Week

Holy Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Dec 24, 4:00 PM
Christmas Eve Worship
Dec 25, 9:30 AM
Christmas Day Worship

The Greatest Gift!

Don't Forget to Pick Up Your Gift!
The baby Jesus lying in a manger bed is God's free gift to us! He's the Savior who comes to rescue all of us from the life destroying effects of sin. Sadly, many fail to receive that gift and miss out on God's blessings. Please don't let that be you! Come and join us for Christmas worship, and learn of the Savior who's here for you!

