

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Pastor James L. Castello

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First Sunday of Advent — November 29, 2015

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Emanuel’s mission is to witness to the good news of salvation through Christ to individuals, the community and the world through discipleship and service.

LBW—Lutheran Book of Worship WOV—With One Voice

*** Please stand as you are able**

PRELUDE *People, Look East*

(10:30) Sunday School children: *Jesus Loves Me* (chorus in “sign”)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING – *The Gift of Hope*

Light of Hope -Alison Storch and Blake Biederstedt

(8:00) Knepley family (10:30) Kolodziejczyk family

We begin the season of Advent with expectant and believing hearts.

L

C We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God’s word.

L During Advent we confront the darkness that so often exists around us.

C We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God’s word.

L During Advent we confront the doubt that so often resides within us.

C We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God’s word.

L During Advent we confront the division that so often occurs between us.

C We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God’s word.

Candle lighting and reading

Light of Hope - Alison Storch and Blake Biederstedt

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

C Amen.

P Let us come before God in confession.

To you, O God,

C we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

P Sisters and brothers, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near.

C Amen

*** HYMN LBW # 26** *Prepare the Royal Highway*

*** GREETING**

P From the one who was, who is, and who is to come: Grace and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

*** HYMN OF PRAISE** *(I Heard the Bells)*

Lift up your heads, you mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near, the Savior of the world is here.

Unbar the gate, fling wide the door, your heart to God’s design restore.
Adorn its walls with all things right, with peace and love and joy and light.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

(10:30) **Special Music:** *Amen* -Blake Biederstedt

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days

Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

- A The word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25:1-10

¹To | you, O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

³Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love
and for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one

another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

- A The word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *(What Child Is This)*

What feast of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven?

What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given?

This, this is God's good news, the word come down from heaven.

Oh, listen, hear and sing! Glad tidings now are given!

*** GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36**

[Jesus said: ²⁵"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.

²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and

drunkenness and the worries of this life,
and that day does not catch you
unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will
come upon all who live on the face of the
whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying

that you may have the strength to escape
all these things that will take place, and to
stand before the Son of Man."

P The Gospel of our Lord
C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN LBW # 30 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

SERMON

* **HYMN LBW # 34** *Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel*

* APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

TITHES AND OFFERINGS (8:00) *Amen* -Blake Biederstedt
(10:30) *I Saw Three Ships*

OFFERTORY *(please remain seated) (O Come, O Come, Emmanuel)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(please remain seated)*

A Emmanuel has come, is here, and is coming soon. Let us join in prayer for the church, the earth, and those who are in need, that all receive what God promises to give.

A brief silence.

A Come to the church, saving God. Grant to your people your redemption. Stand with all Christians who are persecuted for the faith. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Come to the earth, creating God. Protect the lands from environmental disasters. Nurture the animals and plants that you have made. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Come to the nations of the world, sovereign God. Inspire all leaders to work for justice. Bring peace to Jerusalem. We pray for peace in. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Reveal yourself to this congregation and to our community, gracious God. Deepen our love for one another. In this season, give us compassion for all who suffer, and keep us from selfish excess. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Loving God, you bring to yourself all the faithful who have died. Strengthen us in holiness until with all the saints we come to see you face to face. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Come to all in need, mighty God. Protect those who suffer injustice. Comfort those who live in fear. Heal the sick. Accompany the dying. We pray especially for... Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Receive our prayers, merciful God, and make us ready to receive you when you come through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

* **LORD'S PRAYER** *(Away in a Manger)*

Our father in heaven, all praise to your name!

Your kingdom among us, your will done the same

By mortals and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone:

Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.

The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;

As we forgive others, our sins take away;

In times of temptation, we ask you be near;

From evil deliver your children most dear.

For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign.
And yours is the power; all things you maintain.
To you be the glory, resounding again.
From all of creation forever! Amen.

*** BENEDICTION**

*** HYMN LBW # 35** *Hark the Glad Sound!*

POSTLUDE *On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry*

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Altar flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Joe & Julie Kohout in honor of their 22nd
wedding anniversary.

Cantata

The musicians of Emanuel will be presenting the annual Christmas Cantata on Sunday,
December 13 during the special **9:00 a.m.** service. Entitled "The Bells of Glocken," it
tells the tale of a kingdom whose ruler gives a gift of four bells to his people, one each for
hope, peace, love and joy. When the king dies, the bells fall silent and the people become
frightened and angry. They long for a new king who will bring them salvation.

The music and songs are sure to put the spirit of Christmas in your hearts. Invite
some friends, refreshments will be served!

Caring Corner for November — Christmas Cheer

Canned/non-perishable food items for Christmas Cheer of Henry County. Please check
expiration dates!! And NO microwavable food, please. Think complete meals!

Statistics

Thurs., 11/19 (42) communed 40 Sun. 11/22 75+82 (157) Offerings \$4,384.26 (\$290
Bldg Fd; \$55 Wrlld Hngr; \$16.76 Sun Sch; \$20 After Sch Cl; \$5 mem to Bldg Fd-N.Strayer)
Simply Giving 11/169 - 11/22 \$475 Gen Fd; \$120 Bldg Fd

Your help is needed!!

Sound board operators are needed for: 10:30 Dec. 6; 10:30 Dec. 20; 10:30 p.m. Dec. 24;
10:00 a.m. Dec. 25; 8:00 Dec. 27. Please sign up today on the bulletin board in the
narthex or talk to Shelly Storch or Peggy Snyder!

WELCA (Women of the Church) General Meeting

Mark your calendar now to come and enjoy the musical program by the Brown PK's at the
WELCA meeting on December 3, 7:30 p.m. For our "gifting", check the Caring Corner
and take a tab. It will have the size and sex needed for socks to be given to our "Angel
Tree Recipients". Let's help warm their toes and hearts this Christmas season.

Christmas Concerts:

December 6: The Ridgeville Community Choir, along with the Junior Choral Society ,
will present a Christmas concert on Sunday, December 6 at 2:00 p.m. at St. John Lutheran
Church, corner of Henry County Roads U & 16. There will be seasonal choral anthems
and carol singing with strong quartet and brass ensemble accompaniment. Freewill
offering will be taken to help with expenses.

December 7: The Community Band will present a Christmas concert at our church at
7:00 p.m.

December 13: The Henry County Chorale will present a Christmas Concert on Sunday,
December 13 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1075 Glenwood Avenue. Many
beautiful selections will be performed highlighting the splendor of the Christmas season.
Soloists include Kelley Ketchum, Dan Seedorf, Terry Courter, Dale Overlander, Frank
Rosiak, with accompanist Ruth Labie, percussionist Marv Mt.Castle, flutist Carol Pelltier,
and harpist Julie Parsell. The chorale is under the direction of Janet Lyne. A free will
offering will be collected at the door, benefitting both the chorale and St. Paul Lutheran
Church.

December 16: Toledo Symphony presents "The Sounds of Christmas!" on Wednesday,
December 16, 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 16976 Co Rd Q1. Tickets are
Adults \$20; Student \$10; children 5 and under are free. Call 419-758-3522 for
information or to purchase tickets.

Flower Chart

The new Flower Chart for 2016 is hanging in the narthex. Why not pick out your day early and sign up! Flowers, as of now, are still \$20.00.

Free Holiday Meal

The Napoleon Police Officer's Association and The Napoleon American Legion Post 300 is offering a free holiday meal on Saturday, December 5, from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Napoleon American Legion Hall, 500 Glenwood. Dinner includes: Ham, Roast Beef, Potatoes and More. Music by Vibration Craze DJ Mike Foreman. This is free and open to all.

Serving Today

Pastor James L. Castello

Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes

Worship Assistants - 8:00 Joan Collier 10:30 Richard Landversicht

Sound Board - 8:00 Maxine Eickhoff 10:30 Ryan Kohout

Acolytes - 8:00 Nate Brubaker & Jayce Brubaker

10:30 Carter Burken & Elijah Wolf

Ushers - 8:00 Kevin Gerken, Kelli Burkhardt, Terri Sedam

10:30 Larry Ashbaugh, Rupert Schweinhagen, Chris Peper

Altar Guild - Shelly Storch & Gayla Yaney

Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Carol Castello (419-592-0847) or cjcast@yahoo.com

This Week

Tuesday 11:30 a.m. Miriam Circle at Rick's

7:00 p.m. Dartball at Wesleyan, Bryan

Wednesday 3:15 p.m. After School Club

3:30 p.m. 6th grade catechism

5:00 p.m. Soul Food

5:30 p.m. Emanubells

6:30 p.m. 7th grade catechism

6:30 p.m. Choir

7:30 p.m. 8th grade catechism

7:30 p.m. Living Spirit

Thursday 9:00 a.m. Bible Study

7:30 p.m. WELCA General Meeting

Saturday 3-8:30 p.m. private party

December Worship Schedule

Please take note of these special services!

December 6

Worship at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion will be offered at **BOTH** services.

December 13

ONE service at 9:00 a.m.

Cantata

December 20

8:00 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Program

December 24

5:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

10:30 p.m. Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion

December 25

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

December 27

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship