

# Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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## First Sunday in Advent † December 1, 2019

LBW-Lutheran Book of Worship    WOV-With One Voice  
\* Please stand as you are able

**PRELUDE**    *Advent Hymn*    -Choir

### RINGING OF THE BELL

### CALL TO WORSHIP

A    Christ has come! Christ has died! Christ has risen! Christ will come again!

**C    This is the faith of Emanuel Lutheran Church!**

A    When we look at the world around us, we see the darkness of war, we see broken relationships, we see sin everywhere.

**C    We long for Christ to come again and bring light to our world.**

A    The word of the Gospel is that Jesus Christ lives among us, bringing truth and light as a present reality.

**C    We worship as those who have a glimpse of that reality, and we long for its fullness. We are those who labor to make Christ's light more visible on earth.**

A    Let us praise God, that the light of Christ shines on in the darkness. To God be the glory forever and ever.

**C    Amen.**

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

### PRAYER

A    Our Father, we long for the simple beauty of Christmas; for all the old familiar melodies, words, and symbols that remind us of the birth of Jesus. Let us yearn for your renewed presence among us as we celebrate and expect the coming of your Son.

Before such mystery we kneel, as we follow the example of the shepherds and wisemen and bring you the gift of our love. We pray, Lord Jesus, that as we begin this four week journey of expectation and hope, we may do all things in a manner well pleasing to you. May all we do and say bring honor to your name.

May the joy and spirit of Advent and Christmas remain with us now and forever. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who came to save his people from their sins.

**C    Amen.**

### ADVENT LESSONS

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

### THE SANCTUARY EVERGREENS

**HYMN LBW # 70**    *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

### THE CHRISTMAS TREE

**HYMN**            O Christmas tree! O Christmas tree!  
How richly God has decked thee!  
O Christmas tree! O Christmas tree!  
How richly God has decked thee!  
You bid us true and faithful be,  
And trust in God unchangingly.  
O Christmas tree! O Christmas tree!  
How richly God has decked thee!

### THE CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA

**SPECIAL MUSIC**    *"I Wonder as I Wander"*    -Mackenzie Piercefield

### THE PARAMENTS AND ADVENT COLORS

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

### THE ADVENT CANDLES

**SONG**    *"Light One Candle"*    -Choir, Children, Bells

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**    -Laura Ellis-Kruse

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING

**HYMN LBW # 71** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

## THE BELLS OF CHRISTMAS

*Joy to the World* -Terry Hershberger

## THE NATIVITY

**HYMN LBW # 41** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

## THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS

**SPECIAL MUSIC** Give a Gift -Joleen Brubaker

## ADVENT CREED

We believe in God the Father, creator of heaven and earth.  
The one who is full of patience,  
who is not afraid of silence,  
who does not need to fill each moment with activity and noise.  
The one who is beyond bluster and flurry,  
and who does not jostle for attention.

We believe in God the Son, Savior of creation,  
who slipped into Bethlehem one night, mostly unnoticed,  
who lived thirty years without headlines or hurry,  
who frequently took time alone with his patient Father,  
who waited for the right time to become the suffering servant,  
who stood quietly before the noise of his accusers,  
whose silence overpowered their words,  
who died, then rose again on a quiet Sunday morning.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens, empowers, renews and refreshes us,  
sometimes arriving with obvious power,  
sometimes with the quiet breath of a whisper.

We believe in one God  
who patiently waits for us,  
and who longs for us to do the same.

**OFFERING** *We Want to be Ready* -Choir

**OFFERTORY** Doxology for Advent (tune: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel)  
(We will sing this in “plainsong” style: no musical accompaniment. The choir will lead you.)

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

**A** God of hope, you are sending your messenger to prepare your way, to ready our hearts and minds for your coming.

**C** **Soon, the dawn from on high will break upon us.**

**A** You heal the brokenness that keeps us far from you, from one another, and from your good earth.

**C** **God of hope, you make straight what is crooked.**

**A** You fill the deep valleys and lower the steep mountains that challenge us in our daily lives.

**C** **God of hope, you make smooth the rough ways.**

**A** You forgive our sins as we forgive one another, calling us always to a life of wholeness.

**C** **God of hope, make us instruments of your peace.**

**A** You save us from our enemies, from all the forces of evil in this world, and from the power of death.

**C** **God of hope, let us shine your love on all creation.**

**A** You bring light to all who suffer in darkness, showing us how to live without fear.

**C** **God of hope, use us to show others your compassion.**

**A** You guide our feet into the way of peace.

**C** **Soon, the dawn from on high will break upon us. Amen.**

**\* LORD'S PRAYER** *(please stand as you are able)*

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C 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**

**BENEDICTION**

The choir will lead the benediction song. (tune: Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful)

The Lord bless and keep us, look with love upon us.  
Be gracious and cause his face to shine with peace!  
Glory to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!  
The Savior close beside us, God's love from harm to hide us,  
The Spirit's pow'r to guide us forevermore!

**POSTLUDE** *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

Thanks to Karri, Joe, all the musicians, Laura, Phyllis, the altar guild, and everyone who helped and supported our special service today.

**HANGING OF THE GREENS**

Today's service incorporates an old Christian tradition called "Hanging of the Greens." In this simple ceremony, a congregation decorates their church with Advent and Christmas decorations. This is done on or directly before the start of the Advent season in preparation for Christmas, and today is the first Sunday of Advent. The service will involve the placement of evergreens, candles, altar paraments, the Advent wreath, the Nativity, and other special decorations. Biblical passages and other readings will help explain the significance and meaning behind these items.

It takes the cooperation and help from many people to make a service like this happen. Your efforts are appreciated.

**Altar Flowers**

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Bill & Mary Jo Moden in honor of family; and by the family of Janice Rohrs in honor of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**We pray for people having birthdays this week ...** Deb Borstelman, Alexandra Jewell, Janice Rohrs, Gertrude Schuette, Carter Bowen, Julie Callaway, Diana Zachrich, Jeremiah Bischoff, Philip Bowen, Maggie Mohler, Kelly Piercefield, Tonya Walker, Frances Aderman, Abby Allison, Dennis Clausen. **and wedding anniversaries ... and for all the military...**

**Church Decorating**

Thank you to all who helped with the church decorating yesterday! You did a great job!

**Annual Reports**

All committees and boards are asked to have their annual reports in to the church office by the end of December. Thank you!

**Caring Corner for December - Angel Tree**

Once again for Christmas, we are "adopting" children from Project: We Care. Our "Angel Tree" is located in the overflow area. Decorated with paper angel "ornaments" which are numbered to help with the sorting of gifts, each "angel" will list a boy or a girl with the age or a family with the number of family members and a gift suggestion taken from the family's application form. Choose a gift to buy, wrap, and "label" it by (LIGHTLY) attaching the paper angel, and return it underneath the tree **no later than Wednesday, December 11**. Any gift cards do not need to be wrapped; simply enclose in an envelope and "label" it with the angel. Please give these to Julie Callaway, Gayla Rohrs or Maxine in the church office. **PLEASE have the Angel Tree gifts to the church by DECEMBER 11.**

**Flower Chart**

The new flower chart for 2020 is hanging in the narthex. January 5<sup>th</sup> is still open, if you would like to have flowers on this day, please sign up now. If you pick a day and there is not enough room, please leave a note in the church office with your information.

### **Card Shower**

We were notified by the family of Janice Rohrs that Janice is turning 90 years old on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and she would love to receive birthday cards from her Emanuel family, her address is: U866 County Road 11, Liberty Center, OH 43532.

### **Bloodmobile**

A Red Cross bloodmobile will be at the Ridgeville American Legion on Monday, December 2, 12 to 6 p.m.

### **Community Band Concert here at Emanuel**

The Napoleon Community Band, under the direction of Pam Kazmiezczak, will perform their annual Christmas Concert on Monday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. The concert will be at Emanuel Lutheran Church on Scott St. in Napoleon, OH. Come and hear some of your favorite Christmas tunes, along with some new ones, played by our local musicians.

### **Christmas Concert**

A Trans-Siberian Orchestra Tribute by Siberian Solstice present The Angel's Gift on Sunday, December 15 at 7 p.m. at St. John's United Church of Christ, corner of St. Rt. 108 and Co. Rd. J between Napoleon and Holgate. Everyone is invited beginning at 5:30 p.m. for appetizers and other treats to enjoy before the concert. A Free-Will Offering will be taken to defray the band's expenses.

### **A Christmas Concert**

The Toledo Symphony Orchestra will perform a Christmas concert on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 starting at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 16976 County Road Q1, Napoleon. Join us for a special night of Christmas music. Ticket prices are \$20 for adults; \$10 for students; ages 5 and under are free. Tickets are available Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the church office or by calling the church office at 419-758-3522 to reserve tickets.

### **Statistics**

11/21 (27)      11/17 (163)

Offerings: \$4145 (\$17 Sun Sch; \$100 Good Sam; \$50 Soul Food; \$100 Together We Can)

Simply Giving 11/25 : \$65 Gen Fd; \$20 Bldg Fd

### **This Week**

Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	WELCA General Meeting
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Soul Food
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	11:00 a.m.	Naomi Circle Christmas Lunch

### **Serving Today**

Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes

Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning

Sound Board - Jeff Sharpe

Acolytes - Ava Good & Taryn Kolodziejczyk

Ushers - Denny Ehlers, Paul Mowery, Lenny & Lana Sonnenberg

Altar Guild - Phyllis Kloos & Laura Ellis-Kruse

Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Phyllis Kloos (419-260-6582) or  
phyllis\_kloos@yahoo.com

### **Volunteers needed**

Please consider volunteering as lay assistant, sound board operator, or usher for our worship services. You can sign up for one week or for a month. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex or talk to Ronnie Rohrs or Melinda Dachenhaus to volunteer. WE NEED YOU!!!

### **Communion for Christmas**

Christmas Eve 5 p.m. service will be Matt Van Gilder doing the service and Pastor Denise Brown doing the communion. Christmas Eve 10:30 p.m. service Pastor Denise Brown will have a short message and communion. Christmas Day 9 a.m. service will be Matt Van Gilder doing the service and Pastor Denise Brown doing the communion.

### **Brandon Oyer Family Benefit**

Brandon's family has been struggling both financially and emotionally with the health of their daughter Isabel. Now Brandon must have knee surgery and will be off work for up to 4 months. Sunday, December 8, 11 a.m. until gone at St. John Lutheran Church at 6 & 66 South of Archbold. Brookview Chicken BBQ, dine in or drive thru, ½ BBQ Chicken, Baked Potato, Apple Sauce, Bake Sale, 50/50 drawing need not be present to win. 50/50 tickets available at The Corner Gallery, Archbold.