

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Missionary to Tanzania, Cynthia Holder Rich & Mark Rich

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Third Sunday in Advent † December 15, 2019

LBW-Lutheran Book of Worship WOV-With One Voice

* Please stand as you are able

PRELUDE *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* -Catechism Bells

RINGING OF THE BELL

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Light One Candle -Choir & Bells

CALL TO WORSHIP A Wake-up Call: Psalm 108

A Get up, wake up, come on everyone!

C Today has begun, don't miss a thing!

A The music rises in our hearts.

C Feel the beat, join the rhythm.

A Sing! Dance the wonder! Sing the rhyme!

C We'll call the sun into the sky.

A We'll raise the roof with our praise!

C We'll shout our thanks for all to hear!

A Up, up, up, we lift you high, O God,

C Up through the stars and out the other side!

A All of space and time sings your love.

C Through clouds and cities your glory rings.

A Up, up, you lift us up,

C Out of our troubles, out of our pain.

A We call for help and you answer,

C Again and again:

A "I love you. I will never leave you.

C Where ever you go, I will lead you.

A All the earth is mine,

C Everywhere you go, I'm there already.

A Everything you go through, I'm there at work,

C Nothing stands against me."

A O God, you are our help and our hope,

C Our power and our victory!

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Caroling Medley -Catechism Bells

OFFERTORY *(you may remain seated)*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;

Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

PRAYERS *(you may remain seated)*

A Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A Holy God, we rejoice that your promises take on flesh in Jesus. Grant patience to your church awaiting the fulfillment of your reign of justice and peace.

Restore in us the hope that we are called to proclaim to the world. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Life-giving God, we rejoice that you coax flowers from the desert and water from the wilderness. Send rain to parched fields and sun to flooded plains.

Nurture all that lies sleeping under frozen ground. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Almighty God, we rejoice in your authority as Prince of peace. Deliver us from those who wield power through unjust and oppressive ways. Raise up prophets to speak your truth in this and every nation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Gracious God, we rejoice that you dwell in human bodies. Renew signs of your joyful presence in people of all shapes, sizes, ages, and abilities. (*We pray especially for . . .*) Empower all to embrace their callings and the gifts of your Spirit. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Generous God, we rejoice that you create us to praise you. Strengthen the voices and hands of all who prepare to celebrate Christ's birth with music, dancing, and proclamation, in worship and in the community. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Eternal God, we rejoice that all who die in Christ are raised to new life. We thank you for the lives of those who have prepared the way for us and have now joined the great cloud of witnesses. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

C 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

HYMN LBW # 45 *Oh Come, All Ye Faithful*

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - "JESUS CHRIST IS BORN"

CHRISTMAS STORY

SONG *Bethlehem Lullaby*

CHRISTMAS STORY

SONG *Angel Song*

CHRISTMAS STORY

RAINBOW RINGER SONG *Away in a Manger*

CHRISTMAS STORY

SONG *Twinkle, Twinkle*

CHRISTMAS STORY

SONG *Three Wise Men*

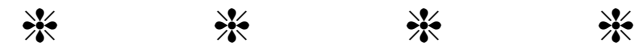
CHRISTMAS STORY

SONG *Deck the Halls*

CLOSING HYMN LBW # 39 *Joy to the World*

POSTLUDE *Here We Come A-Caroling*

Parents: please pick up your Sunday school student from the basement after the hymn.



Altar Flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Judy Demmel in loving memory of Neil Demmel; and by Rita Michael in loving memory of Norma Strayer's birthday.

Wedding

Congratulations and God's blessing to Zachary & Laura (Yaney) Klein who were married at Emanuel yesterday!

We pray for people having birthdays this week ... Alex Bustamante, Grace Rowland, Sharon Panning, Alexander Bogert, Bryant Dachenhaus, Charlee Glick, Tom Hoffman, Natalie Long. and wedding anniversaries ... Brian & Deanna McCabe, Jim & Carol Castello, Hugh & Sue Schink, Gene & Christine Walters. and for all the military...

Thank You

I would like to thank all the people who worked to help present the children's Christmas program today. Your help was invaluable. The children have worked hard to present the story of Jesus' birth to our congregation. I pray that all of you have a blessed Christmas with your friends and family. Denise Etzler, Christmas Program Coordinator.

Baptism and Holy Communion

The Bishop has informed us that Jeannine Grimm is approved to serve as a Synodically Authorized Minister for Emanuel Lutheran Church in Napoleon on a provisional basis. She is approved to administer the Sacraments (Baptism and Holy Communion) while the congregation is currently without ordained pastoral leadership.

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!

Newly Elected Church Council Board Members

You are invited to attend the December council meeting on Monday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. Executive Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. And there will be a time for fellowship with desserts following the meeting.

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee has no new developments to report at this time. Our last interview with a candidate was in late August, and we have had no other candidates referred to us by the Synod since that time. We are thankful that it appears Emanuel will have an interim Pastor toward the end of January. A verse from one of our recent Gospel readings very much applies to the situation we are experiencing during this Advent season. Romans 15:13 reads: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." The Call Committee is confident that in due time the Holy Spirit will provide the spiritual leader who is right for Emanuel. We thank the congregation for their patience during this process.

Christmas Concert

A Trans-Siberian Orchestra Tribute by Siberian Solstice present The Angel's Gift Today, 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

12/8 (154) communed (132)
Offerings: \$5311 (\$10 Bldg Fd; \$50 Soul Food; \$500 Angel Tree; \$23 Sun Sch)
Simply Giving 12/9 : \$90 Gen Fd; \$45 Bldg Fd; \$25 Good Sam; \$25 World Hunger

This Week

Monday	Carpet Cleaning Sanctuary
	Noon Newsletter deadline
	6:30 p.m. Council Executive Board
	7:00 p.m. Church Council
Tuesday	Carpet Cleaning Sanctuary
	7:00 p.m. Dartball here Deshler
Wednesday	5:00 p.m. Soul Food
	6:30 p.m. Choir Party @ Jenny's
Thursday	NO Bible Study

Serving Today

Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes
Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning
Lay Assistant - Laura Ellis-Kruse
Sound Board - Larry Ashbaugh
Acolytes - Ava Good & Taryn Kolodziejczyk
Ushers - 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!!!

Offering Envelopes

The offering envelopes for 2020 will be available in the hallway outside the church offices.

Devotionals

Portals of Prayer and *Christ In Our Home* are available at both entrances. There are both regular and large print editions.

Sunday, December 22, 2019

Children in Preschool through 5th grade should meet in the basement at 8:45 a.m. The children will be singing with the Adult Choir during the lighting of the Advent candle and will be doing the motions/singing along with the Adult Choir on a couple of songs during the service. There WILL BE Sunday School for Preschool through 5th grade following the service as we celebrate the Christmas Story and the Birth of Jesus! The 6th-7th grades will not meet for a lesson, but are more than welcome to join the Preschool/Kindergarten class to help the little ones celebrate Jesus' Birthday! Extra hands are always welcome!

Sunday, December 29, 2019

NO Sunday School

January 5, 2020

First day of Sunday School in the new year for all grades.

We are truly blessed to have an amazing group of teachers that volunteer their time to teach the Youth of Emanuel. Following are the teachers for 2020:
Preschool & Kindergarten: Kim Dickmann, Maxine Eickhoff, Jo Brubaker
1st & 2nd: Denise Etzler
3rd, 4th, & 5th: Kara Behnfeldt, Laura Yaney Klein
6th & 7th: Jamie Bostelman

Larr Etzler's work schedule is changing in 2020, and he will no longer be able to teach the 6th-7th grades on Sundays. Thank you, Larr, for all you have done for Emanuel's youth! Jamie Bostelman has graciously agreed to fill this role. Thank you, Jamie!