

Emanuel Lutheran Church
(A Member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)
Fourth Sunday in Advent – December 21, 2025 9:00 a.m.

Welcome to Emanuel

We warmly welcome all who join us in worship today, especially our visitors. We invite you to join us for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall following worship each Sunday and encourage you to sign our guest book and the friendship records in the pews. A nursery room is available at the back of the church. We also have activity bags available for all children. Please ask one of the Ushers for directions.

Our Mission

Emanuel Lutheran Church shares the love of God the Father, by proclaiming the Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, guided by the Holy Spirit, showing love for all people, lending a helping hand to those in need, and equipping God's people for ministry.

Holy Communion

Emanuel Lutheran Church follows the biblical and historical practice of the Christian Church known as Closed Communion. If you are not a member of an LCMS congregation (or a church body we are in full altar and pulpit fellowship with), and you would like to commune or if you have any questions, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you are a visitor and would like to come forward for a blessing this morning, we welcome you. Please cross your arms at the Communion rail. This blessing is for all ages. If you are unable to come to the front for Communion, please sit near the center aisle.

Serving in Worship: Rev. Dr. Chris Davis

Organist: Kris Street Sound Tech: Harlan Monson

Acolytes: Alyssa Henderson, Alyssa Rethke

Divine Service One (LSB 151)

Opening Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (LSB 357)

Confession and Absolution (LSB 151)

Introit

Psalm 130:5–8; antiphon: Isaiah 64:1

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.

And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence.

Kyrie (LSB 152)

Salutation and Collect of the Day (LSB 156)

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Reading from the Lutheran Confessions

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-17

¹⁰Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the

good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

P This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Alleluia (LSB 156)

Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the First chapter.

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

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Nicene Creed (LSB 158)

Sermon Hymn

Sermon

Offering

Prayers of the Church

Service of the Sacrament (LSB 160)

Distribution Hymns

(LSB 332, 374, 361, 383, 358)

Post-Communion Canticle-Thank the Lord (LSB 164)

Benediction (LSB 166)

Closing Hymn

***“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”* (LSB 359)**

C Praise to You, O Christ.

***“Once in Royal David’s City”* (LSB 376)**