

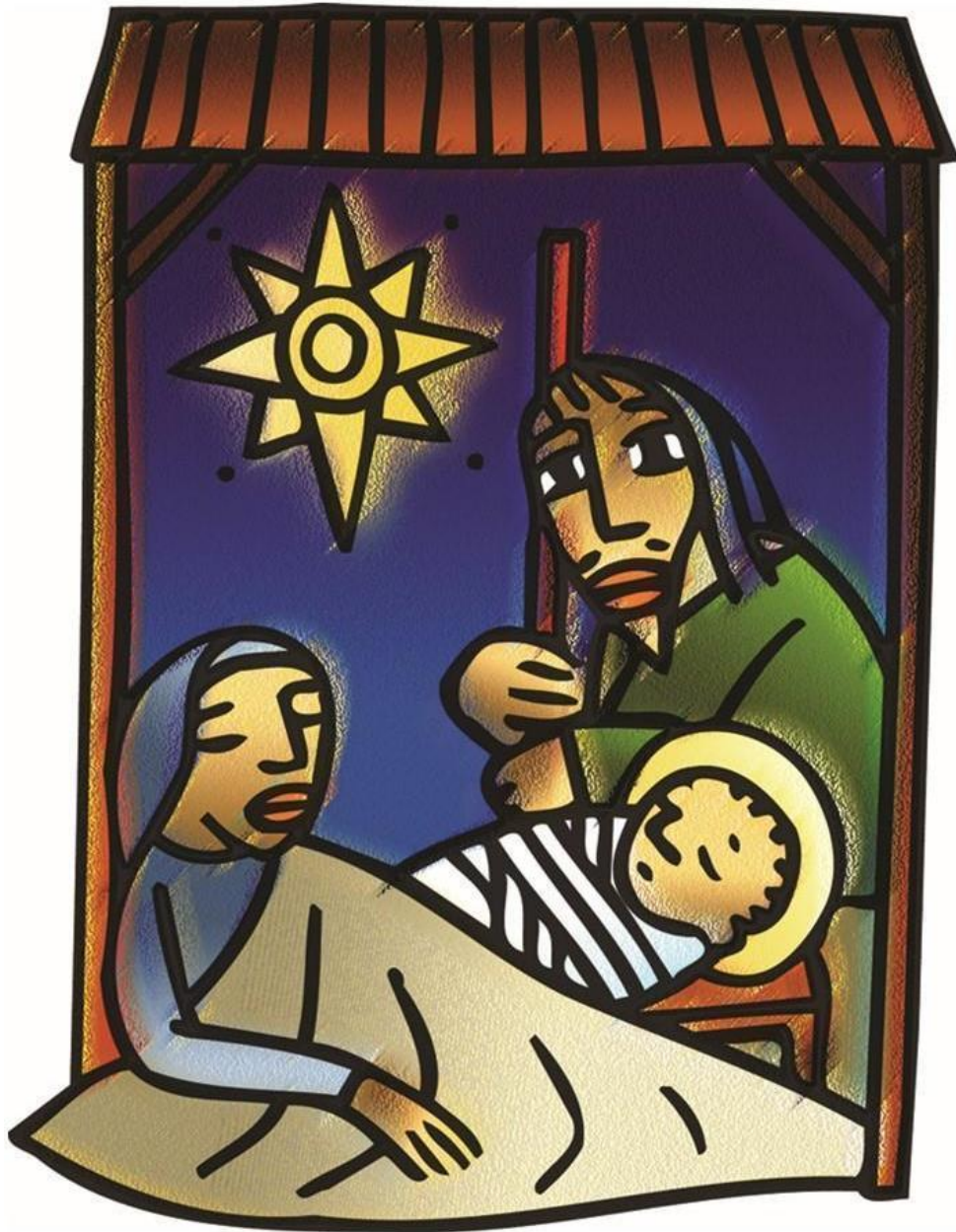


Emmanuel
LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Children's Christmas Eve Service

4 pm Sunday, December 24, 2024

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Vienna, VA
Worship Livestream at www.facebook.com/elcvienna





GATHERING

Prelude

"O Come, Little Children to Bethlehem" arr. Diane Bish. One License FBC-A001379.

Welcome

Welcome to worship at Emmanuel Lutheran Church! You can find bulletins and ways to give online at elcvienna.org. All of our liturgy will be projected in-person. We invite newcomers to our welcome table outside the sanctuary after worship.

Invocation

Pastor: On this high holy day of Christmas Eve, we are gathered together in the name of the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen!

Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful (v.1 and refrain)

ELW 283

- 1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

Opening Prayer

Pastor: Dear God, together we celebrate your gift of love to us, your Son Jesus. Send your Holy Spirit to us now as we worship you, as we hear the Bible story of Jesus' birth, and as we sing our praises to you. In Jesus' name we pray.

All: Amen!

Hymn

He Came Down

ELW 253

- 1 He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;



he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

- 2 He came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
hallelujah forevermore.
- 3 He came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
hallelujah forevermore.
- 4 He came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
hallelujah forevermore.

Text: Cameroon traditional

WORD

Children's Message

Pastor Lydia Posselt

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem v.1

ELW 279

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

A Reading from Luke 2

(We invite all of our Mary and Joseph characters forward.)

In order to count how many people there were so that he could tax them, the emperor told everyone to go to their hometowns to be counted. So Joseph went with Mary, his fiancée, who was expecting a baby at any time, from Nazareth, to Bethlehem. His family was descended from King David, and King



David had lived in Bethlehem. While they were there, Mary delivered a baby boy, wrapped him up tight, and laid him in a feed trough where they were staying because the inns were all full.

Hymn

Away in a Manger v.1-2

ELW 277

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

A Reading from Luke 2

(We invite our angels forward.)

Meanwhile, in the fields, shepherds were watching their sheep during the night. All of a sudden an angel stood right in front of them, and God's glory was shining all around and they were scared to death. The angel told them not to be afraid because there was only good news. "This news is so good," the angel said, "that everyone will be happy. Today in the city of David, the Savior whom everyone's been waiting for was born. I want you to go find him. Here's how you'll know he's the right baby: He'll be lying in a feed trough all wrapped up in strips of cloth." When the angel said that, the skies burst into song, and angels filled up the entire sky, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to those on earth whom God loves."

Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (v.1 and refrain)
270

ELW

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"



Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

A Reading from Luke 2

(We invite our shepherds and animals forward.)

When the angels had gone back to heaven, the shepherds said to each another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and find this baby boy they were talking about." So they ran and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the feed trough, just as the angel had told them. They told Mary and Joseph what the angel had said. about who this child was and would become. Everyone was amazed at their story. But Mary kept this entire story in her heart. The shepherds praised God for all that had happened that night, and went back to their sheep who had been wondering where their shepherds had gone.

Lighting the Advent Wreath: The Christ Candle

Pastor: Let us pray...God of light, we light this Christ candle in celebration of your Son come to us again, and we give thanks.

All: Thank you Lord for your hope, peace, joy, and love come to us in Jesus Christ. Amen!

Sharing the Peace

Leader: May the Peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share God's peace.

*(All of our characters return to their families in the pews
as we sing Joy to the World.)*

Song

Joy to the World (v.1-2) ELW 267

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,



while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

A Reading from John 1

Before there was anything, there was the Word, with God and in God. The Word was God! Everything there ever was in the whole universe came to life through the Word. In fact, there's nothing that the Word didn't make. Life came into being through him. That life lights up for all people to see. It shines in the darkness, and as you know, darkness cannot put out light. And the Word actually became one of us, and lived here on earth with us. You and I have seen his glory, and he is filled with grace and truth!

(We turn on our lights and sing.)

Hymn

Silent Night v.1

ELW 281

- 1 Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

SENDING

Blessing

Pastor: May God who gives us the gift of love, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you always!

All: Amen!

Hymn

I am so Glad Each Christmas Eve v.1 & 5

ELW 271

- 1 I am so glad each Christmas Eve,
the night of Jesus' birth!
Then like the sun the star shone forth,
and angels sang on earth.
- 5 And so I love each Christmas Eve,
and I love Jesus too;
and that he loves me ev'ry day



I know so well is true.

(Text: Marie Wexelsen, 1832-1911; tr. Peter A. Sveeggen, 1881-1959 Text © 1932 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.)

Sending

Pastor: Go in peace and have a Merry Christmas!

All: We will--Merry Christmas!

Sending Hymn

Go Tell It on the Mountain v.1 and refrain 2x

ELW 290

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

- 1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light.

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

Postlude

Canzona on "Antioch" by Michael Helman. One License 10-166.

Thank you so much for worshipping with us!

Join us again in person or online tonight at 6 PM for our traditional Christmas Eve Worship and at 8 PM for Christmas Eve worship with the Revelation.

We continue to celebrate the Savior's birth throughout the holy season of Christmas in person via live-streamed worship next Sunday morning at 10 am.

Offerings can be made at www.elcvienna.org/give or mailed to the church at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, VA 22181.



All Bible Readings come from *God's Word, My Voice: A Lectionary for Children*.

Merry Christmas and God bless you!

Our Mission and Vision

Our mission is to nurture, grow, and share our Christian faith as Lutherans in a multicultural world. We envision Emmanuel Lutheran Church as a welcoming, vibrant, growing, and faith-filled Christian community whose participants generously share their time, talents, and resources in a changing world.

Our Welcome Statement

Emmanuel Lutheran Church welcomes all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome and affirm full participation by all because God welcomes all, regardless of race, culture, national origin, citizenship status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, relationship or socio-economic status, addictions, physical or mental health, disability, imprisonment, age, or other circumstances. OUR UNITY IS IN CHRIST.

Land Acknowledgement

Emmanuel Lutheran Church gathers upon the ancestral lands of the Manahoac people. Find out more about the Manahoac at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manahoac>.

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