



**“He Comes Bearing Gifts”
The Gift of Love**

THE FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

*December 22 & 23, 2018
Emanuel Lutheran Church
New London, Wisconsin*

Welcome to Worship!

“Let’s go to the house of the Lord!”

(Psalm 122:1) We rejoice that you’re here today. Each time we gather, we hear of God’s grace and respond with prayers and songs of praise.

Visitors:

Take a moment to sign a **Friendship Register** located at the end of each pew. Your info helps us get to know you and allows us to stay in touch with you. Restrooms are located at the east end of the entryway, past the Coffee Nook.

Parents with Young Children:

Helping little ones learn to praise God is a messy project! Feel free to choose a place where kids can engage with the sights and sounds of worship. Make use of our ‘busy bags’ from the rack in the entryway. A closed-circuit TV is also located in the parent room to watch and listen to the service. An usher can assist you in locating this room, also called the “Gathering Place”.

Limited Mobility?

For your convenience, there are two areas set aside to accommodate those with wheelchairs, walkers, or other special space needs. Ushers are available to assist you.

Hard of Hearing?

A hearing loop system in place. Adjust your hearing aids to “T” coil. For the best reception, sit on the pulpit side of church, excluding the back four rows. Special receiver packs with earbuds are also available if needed.

LARGE PRINT:

A large print copy of the worship service, including hymns, psalms and service wording, is available in the back of church on the main floor. You may also ask an usher for a copy.

Worship Notes

About the Worship Series:

Our Lord Jesus is coming, bearing real gifts, profoundly important gifts. He came that first Christmas to win forgiveness and give all the gifts that come with it: hope, peace, joy, love. He is coming again at the end of this world to give the gift of resurrection to eternal life. In the season of Advent, we connect Christ's first coming with his second coming. We rejoice in all the unconditional gifts he gives. Each week, more Advent candles are lighted. With growing eagerness and expectation, we look forward to the coming King!

Theme of the Day:

Love is rarely a gift. Typically, when you love someone, it is because you get something in return. You love your spouse in part because of the support and affection he shows to you. You love your favorite teacher because of what she gives you by making learning enjoyable. You love your dog because he is a loyal companion. In such cases, love is not a gift. It is something that is merited...deserved. Now, if you loved a spouse who always treated you like dirt, loved a teacher who taught you nothing, loved a dog that daily bit you, then your love would be a gift. If you love someone who gives you nothing in return, who makes your existence more difficult, then your love is a gift. You are showing undeserved love, which Scripture calls grace.

Love is rarely a gift. However, with God, his love is always a gift. God the Father looks at humanity and he sees us doing the evil we should not do. Just as bad, he sees us failing to do the good that we ought to do. Do we make God's existence easier? No. Instead, God the Son took on human flesh and suffered and died to make atonement for our sins. Yet, he did so gladly. Why? Love! Love that is undeserved. The gift of love!

About the Service:

Throughout the season of Advent, we've made use of a Gathering Rite and a verse of the Day to focus our attention on a central truth from the gospel. At the same time, we've been patient in choosing hymns that emphasize Advent, saving our favorite Christmas carols for the coming week. While the world around us might nearly be exhausted by Christmas songs, we've now readied our hearts for the arrival of God's great love. Advent has prepared us!

Emmanuel has come!

Gathering Rite for Advent

Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. (Spoken)

Confession of Sins

M: When God created the world, he made the crown of his creation—the human race—in his image. Perfect people lived in a perfect world in a perfect relationship with God.

C: **But mankind rebelled against God, bringing sin into the world and death to all. God declared the wages of sin to be death. We too are guilty, and we confess our sinful thoughts, words, and actions.**

M: However, God—who is Love—did not want to be separated from his children forever. He promised a Savior who would bear the punishment for sin, defeat the devil, and break the bonds of death.

O, come, O, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
Un-til the Son of God ap-pear. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
Em-man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

M: When the time had fully come, God sent his Son. Jesus, our Savior, has paid the ransom for your debt; your sins are forgiven. In view of God's mercy, today we light the love candle. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

C: **This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

O, come, my Love, who gives to me Grace un - de - served, un -
 end - ing, free. Help me to share this gift most rare
 That all, God's hope and peace, may share. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 Em-man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

M: In the love of God we go to the world—to our friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors. We regard no one from a worldly point of view. If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

C: **God has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. Jesus, who had no sin, became sin for us; in him we have become the righteousness of God.**

Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

The Word

Prayer of the Day

M: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen. (Spoken)**

Be Seated

Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

*The prophet foretold that God's love for people would be demonstrated
By a special birth, to take place in the little town of Bethlehem.
The One who would be born was God's gift of love to us.*

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”
Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.
He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.
And he will be our peace.

Psalm

Psalm 85

*After the refrain is introduced, The congregation repeats it as indicated.
The verses are sung by soloist/choir.*

Refrain: Solo

Refrain: All

Come, O long ex - pect - ed Je - sus,
Born to set your peo - ple free.

You showed favor to your land, O LORD;*
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
You forgave the iniquity of your people*
and covered all their sins.
Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,*
and grant us your salvation. **Refrain**

I will listen to what God the LORD will say;*
he promises peace to his people, his saints.
Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,*
that his glory may dwell in our land.
Love and faithfulness meet together;*
righteousness and peace kiss each other.
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. **Refrain**

Reading

Revelation 12:1-6

God lets us see Christmas from his heavenly perspective. God did not see a peaceful manger on a silent night: he saw a monster ready to attack us. Why did he send his Son into a world of danger? Because of his love.

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads. Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born. She gave birth to a son, a male child, who “will rule all the nations with an iron scepter.” And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. The woman fled into the wilderness to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.

Stand

Verse of the Day

Psalm 90:14

To prepare our hearts for hearing the gospel, the congregation joins to repeat the soloist in singing “Alleluia!” A verse from God’s Word is then sung to emphasise the main point of today’s gospel and worship.

M: Refrain

C: Refrain



M: Each day fill us with your steadfast love, that we may sing for joy
And be glad through all our days. Alleluia!

C: Refrain

Gospel

Luke 1:39-55

*The Virgin Mary sings her song, “Magnificat!- My soul proclaims!
She praises the love God has shown to her, the nation of Israel,
and the world today.*

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!” And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Be Seated

Hymn of the Day The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came | Hymn #24

Use the red hymnals to sing the hymn

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be Seated

Offering

A JAM Time video will be shown

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Be Seated

New Member Reception (10:30 a.m.)

Hymn

Holy Is Your Name | *The Song of Mary*

The soloist sings the verses and the first refrain. The congregation joins to sing the refrains following verses 2 and 3.

My soul is filled with joy as I sing to God my savior:
you have looked upon your servant, you have visited your people.

And_ ho - ly is your name through_ all gen - er -
a - tions! Ever - last - ing is your mercy to the peo - ple you have
cho - sen, and_ ho - ly is your name.

I am lowly as a child, but I know from this day forward
that my name will be remembered, for all will call me blessed.

Refrain

I proclaim the pow'r of God, you do marvels for your servants;
though you scatter the proud hearted and destroy the might of princes.

Refrain

To the hungry you give food, send the rich away empty.
In your mercy you are mindful of the people you have chosen.

Refrain

In your love you now fulfill what you promised to your people.
I will praise you, Lord, my savior, everlasting is your mercy.

Refrain

Stand

Prayer

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: (spoken) Amen.

Be Seated

Closing Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem | Hymn #65:1-3

- 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.**
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary, And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, The angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing To God the King And peace to all the earth.**

3 How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!
 So God imparts To human hearts The blessings of his heav'n.
 No ear may hear his coming, But in this world of sin
 Where meek souls will Receive him still, The dear Christ enters in.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Presiding Minister: Mark Tiefel
Preacher: Marcus Schulz
Organist: Lynn Schmidt
Soundbooth: Jen Schmitt

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Today's Light Readings

Week 100 - December 24 - December 29

Monday - - - - - 1 Peter 1:1-25
 Tuesday - - - - - 1 Peter 2:1-25
 Wednesday - - - - - Peter 3:1 - 4:19
 Thursday - - - - - Peter 5:1-14
 Friday - - - - - 2 Peter 1:1 - 2:22
 Saturday - - - - - 2 Peter 3:1-18

Prayers and Thanksgiving

Baptism: Crew James Christian on Saturday after service.

Radio Broadcast: The radio broadcast airs Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. on WJMQ 92.3 FM. This week's broadcast was sponsored in memory of Frank Verhagen by his family.

Worship Volunteers

Communion Servers

December 25 (Christmas Day): (9:30) Dave Meyer, Lee Shaw

December 29-30-31: (5:15) Lee Shaw, Skip Boese; (8:00) Peter Krueger, Skip Boese; (10:30) Bruce Davis, Dave Meyer; **(5:15PM)** Dave Meyer

Greeters

December 22-23: (5:15) M/M Steve Christian, Shirley Steingraber; (8:00)

Keith Stern, Tammy Kent, Henrietta Kent; (10:30) Ione Dorschner, Barb Meyer

December 29-30: (5:15) M/M Dan Laird, Angie Kamba; (8:00) M/M Allen Diem, M/M Frank Dobbert, M/M Carlton Begrow

December Ushers

5:15 PM: Kenny Olson; Laurie Thomack; **8:00 AM:** Harry Blum, Danke/Krueger, Bryan/Brady/Barry Hoewisch, Jeff Schabo, Tom Bleck, John Hedtke; **10:30 AM:** Al Tank, Bob Danke, Ed Alexander; **6:30 PM:** Brett Schultz, Zach Mulder

Please sign up in the narthex to usher during the holiday services

Due to our busy week with Christmas services preparations, we will have the attendance & offering numbers from this past weekend in the New Year's Eve weekend bulletins. Thank you.

The Week Ahead

Saturday	5:15 p.m. - Worship Service
Sunday	8:00 a.m. - Worship Service 9:15 a.m. - NO Sunday School 10:30 a.m. - Worship Service 5:00 p.m. - Open Gym - Gym 6:00 p.m. - Bell's Alive - Church Balcony
Monday	Christmas Eve Emanuel Office Closed / No School 9:30 a.m. - St. Joe's Worship Service 2:00 p.m. - Worship Service 3:30 p.m. - Worship Service 5:00 p.m. - Worship Service 6:30 p.m. - Candlelight Worship Service 8:00 p.m. - Candlelight Worship Service
Tuesday	Christmas Day Emanuel Office Closed / No School 9:30 a.m. - Worship Service - Communion
Wednesday	No School Office hours 7:30 - Noon 5:30 p.m. - NO Public School Instruction 6:00 p.m. - NO Mixed Choir Practice - Music Room 7:00 p.m. - NO Crossroads - Youth Room 8:00 p.m. - NO S.O.A.R. - Youth Room
Thursday	No School Office hours 7:30 - Noon 6:30 a.m. - Breakfast Bible Class - Marly's Restaurant 9:15 a.m. - Trinity Terrace Bible Study 6:00 p.m. - NO Adult Hand Bell Choir Practice
Friday	No School Office hours 7:30 - Noon
Saturday	5:15 p.m. - Worship Service - communion
Sunday	8:00 a.m. - Worship Service - communion 9:15 a.m. - NO Sunday School 9:15 a.m. - 12 Best Decisions You Will Ever Make - Comm

	Rm 10:30 a.m. - Worship Service - communion 5:00 p.m. - Open Gym - Gym 6:00 p.m. - Bell's Alive - Church Balcony
Monday	New Year's Eve Emanuel Office Closed / No School 9:30 a.m. - St. Joe's Worship Service 5:15 p.m. - Worship Service - Communion
Tuesday	New Year's Day Emanuel Office Closed / No School

Emanuel Office Holiday Hours:

December 24/25 - closed; December 26/27/28 - 7:30 am - 12pm

Dec 31/Jan 1 - closed; Jan 2 - Office hours resume

**Bible class booklets are available in back of church
with the full descriptions of each class.**

For more information or questions call the office at 920-982-5444.

Fall 2018 - Bible Classes:

The 12 Best Decisions You Will Ever Make - Led by Pastor Heiges in the Community Room; Sundays 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.; **Dec 30**

Winter 2018 - Bible Classes

Wellness for the Glory of God- Led by Donn Fuhrmann MD and his wife Audrey Fuhrmann RN in the Community Room; Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:30.; **January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**

Men of the Outdoors - Led by Rich Platz and Ron Kueck in the Community Room; Sundays 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.
January 13, 20, 27, 3, 10, 17

Minor Prophets - Led by Ed Krause in the Community Room; Wednesday 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. **February 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13**

Sing to the Lord a New Song- Led by Pete Krueger in Classroom/Science Lab; Sundays 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.; *Dates TBA*

Living by the Book- Led by Rich Platz in the Community Room; Sundays 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.; **Starts March 3rd through April 14th, 2019.**

Emanuel News

Greeter Coordinator: We are looking for a coordinator for the greeter program. The main task of this position is making the schedule for the greeters, then distributing the schedules. This is a great program that really helps our visitors feel welcome. If you are interested, please call the office at 920-982-5444.

A Big Thank You: to all those who helped with the Live Nativity Scene, the Parade & to the 38 people who made the chili. This could not have been done without ALL of your help. Thank you !

Blood Drive: The next blood drive is scheduled for January 3, 2019. Please watch for sign-up sheets in Narthex.

2019 Men of His Word Conference: The 10th annual Men of His Word Conference (Theme: BUILT OF THE ROCK) will be held at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Convention Center in Oshkosh on Saturday, February 9, 2019. Please go online at www.menofhisword.org to register and get details about the schedule, breakout sessions, keynote speaker, cost, etc. Hope to see you there!

Life Line Screening: The next screening will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2019. Please call 888-653-6434 to register for your screening and to receive a \$10 discount or visit www.lifelinescreenin.com/community-partners. If you would like to do this but may need some financial help in doing so, please call our office 920-982-5444. We have a few complimentary screenings.

Let It Snow - Let It Snow: Volunteers are again needed to help with the snow removal this winter. We are looking for several people to help, especially to clear things out before services on the weekend. If you are able to help with snow shoveling, even on a rotation, please call the Emanuel Office at 982-5444. Thank you!

FVL News

FVL Christmas Break Office Hours:

Thur., 12/20 & Fri., 12/21 – OPEN 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

12/24 - 1/ 2 – Offices are closed

Thurs., 1/3 – Normal School Office hours resume

Fri., 1/ 4 – Normal SCRIP Office hours resume

FVL Musicfest 2019, will be held 1/27 with performances beginning at noon. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m. Musicfest is currently seeking items or basket donations for the Silent Auction. Interested in helping? Find out more at fvlhs.org/fvl-musicfest or call Megan Beyer at 920-560-5122. Please bring donations to the FVL School Office by 1/7.

Holiday Service Times

Christmas Eve Services:

December 24, at 2:00 & 3:30 & 5:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service:

6:30 & 8:00 p.m.

(Radio Broadcast-6:30 p.m. on WJMQ 92.3 FM)

Christmas Day Service:

Tuesday, December 25, at 9:30 a.m.

Communion (Radio Broadcast-9:30 a.m. on WJMQ 92.3 FM)

New Year's Eve Service:

Monday, December 31, at 5:15 p.m.

Communion (Radio Broadcast-7:00 p.m. on WJMQ 92.3 FM)

Advent & Christmas Devotions

"Family Devotions for Advent & Christmas" (from WELS).

The devotions are for the entire month of December.

"The Twelve Days of Christmas Devotions" (from MLC).

The devotions start on Christmas Day.

Pick these up in the narthex and by the exits.

Advent Scripture Readings

Two readings are suggested for each day in Advent. The first is a prophecy from the Old Testament, the second is the fulfillment of that prophecy in the New Testament.

1st Week

Sun: Gen 3:1-15 & Gal 4:1-7

Mon: Gen 12:1-3 & Acts 3:17-26

Tues: Gen 17:15-21 & Mat 1:1-2

Wed: Gen 28:10-17 & Lk

3:21-22

Thur: Gen 49:8-10 & Lk 3:23-33

Fri: Is 9:2-7 & Matt 21:1-9

Sat: Is 7:10-17 & Mat 1:18-23

2nd Week

Sun: Malachi 3:1 & Mark 1:1-11

Mon: Mal 4:5-6 & Mat 11:7-15

Tues: Isaiah 40:3-8 & Mat

3:1-12

Wed: Isaiah 40:1-2 & John 1:29

Thurs: Is 40:9 & John 1:32-34

Fri: Isaiah 49:1 & Luke 1:30-31

Sat: Haggai 2:6-7 & Luke 2:1-7

3rd Week

Sun: Is 61:1-3 & Luke 4:16-21

Mon: Micah 5:2-4 & Mat 2:1-6

Tues: Is 49:3-6 & Luke 2:25,32

Wed: Isaiah 60:1-6 & Mat 2:1-11

Thurs: Nu 24:17 & Mat 2:1-12

Fri: Jer 31:15-17 Mat 2:16-18

Sat: Hosea 11:1-4 & Mat 1:19-23

4th Week

Sun: Gen 22:15-17 & Lk 2:8-14

Mon: Isaiah 9:7 & Luke 1:30-33

Tues: Isaiah 9:6 & Luke 1:34-35

Wed: Is 53:1-5 & Mat 27:32-44

Thurs: Is 40:11 & John 10:1-42

Fri: Isaiah 45:8 & Luke 2:1-20

Sat: Isaiah 9:1-5 & John 1:1-14



Contact Us

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December 24 - December 30

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