

# *Christmas Eve*

## *December 24, 2023*



4200 Old Warren Road  
Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71603  
Phone - (870) 534-4316  
E-mail - [trinityowr@gmail.com](mailto:trinityowr@gmail.com)  
[www.trinitylutheranpb.org](http://www.trinitylutheranpb.org)  
[www.facebook.com/trinityowr](https://www.facebook.com/trinityowr)  
Bible Class/Sunday School 9:30  
Sunday Worship Service 10:45

# A Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas December 24, 2024

**WELCOME!** And again we say. Welcome! It is indeed a joy to share the good news of our Savior's resurrection with each of you this morning. We pray the hearts of all will be uplifted and encouraged by the blessed Christmas message. Please return to us every Sunday. It is our privilege to share God's Word with you. You are always welcome here in God's house.

## + PREPARATION +

**Pastor:** The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

**People:** **Emmanuel!**

**Pastor:** On those living the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned.

**People:** **Emmanuel!**

**Pastor:** For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given.

**People:** **Emmanuel!**

**Pastor:** Our Lord Jesus is Son of God and Son of Mary:

**People:** **Emmanuel!**

**Pastor:** Oh, come, let us worship Him!

**People:** **Emmanuel!**

## CAROL 379 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;  
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

*Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Public domain

## PRAYER

**Pastor:** Holy Father, we thank You for giving us Your Son, Jesus.

We thank You that in Jesus You came to us when we could not come to You.

We thank You that in Him You opened Your heart to us.  
Send Your Spirit to us now as we hear Your Word, that we may open wide our hearts to You.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Emmanuel.

People: Amen.

+ WORD +

### EMMANUEL PROMISED

#### FIRST LESSON Isaiah 7:14 (*The birth of Jesus is foretold by the prophet.*)

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

#### CAROL 357 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest all things  
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
might - i - ly; To us the path of knowl - edge show,  
tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y pow'r to save,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
And teach us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!



Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Public domain

#### PRAYER

Pastor: O Emmanuel, God with us, Jesus, our Lord:  
We thank You for Your miraculous birth and for Your virgin mother's love.  
Help us to remember that You are always with us every day.  
In Your name, O Emmanuel, we ask it.

People: Amen!

Pastor: And His name shall be called Emmanuel.

People: Our God is with us!

### EMMANUEL OF BETHLEHEM

#### SECOND LESSON Micah 5:2 (*The Savior will come forth from Bethlehem*)

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

## CAROL 361 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove  
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;  
While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love.  
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
We hear the Christ-mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!  
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Public domain

## PRAYER

**Pastor:** Holy Father, Your Son was born of Your love before the world began.  
We praise You for sending Him to us.  
We thank You for His birth in Bethlehem and for His love for us.

**People:** Amen.

**Pastor:** And His name shall be called Emmanuel.

**People:** Our God is with us!

## EMMANUEL IS WITH MARY

**THIRD LESSON** Luke 1:29-34 (*Mary learns she has been chosen as the mother of our Savior.*)

<sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

## CAROL 367 "Angels from the Realms of Glory"



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er  
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your  
5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,  
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.  
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.  
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*  
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;  
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Public domain

**PRAYER**

Pastor: Holy Father, there is nothing You cannot do!  
We thank You that You have kept Your Word.  
Give us all a faith like Mary's, that we may trust Your promises all the days of our life.  
In Jesus' name we ask this.

People: Amen.

Pastor: And His name shall be called Emmanuel.

People: Our God is with us!

***EMMANUEL IS LAID IN A MANGER***

**FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:6-7 (*Jesus is born.*)**

<sup>6</sup> And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**CAROL 364 "Away in a Manger"**

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.  
But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.  
Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,  
I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,  
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
 And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

Public domain

**PRAYER**

**Pastor:** O Jesus, once You laid in a manger, a little baby, weak and helpless.  
 That's how You came among us to draw us to Yourself.  
 Thank You, Lord Jesus.

**People:** Amen.

**Pastor:** And His name shall be called Emmanuel.

**People:** Our God is with us!

***EMMANUEL IS PRAISED BY ANGELS***

**FIFTH LESSON** Luke 2:8-14 (*The angels announce Jesus' birth to the shepherds.*)

<sup>8</sup> And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

**CAROL 368 "Angels We Have Heard on High"**



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

*Refrain*



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo -



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Public domain

**PRAYER**

**Pastor:** Heavenly Father, angels sang to shepherds on the night of Jesus' birth.

Give us faith to join in their joyful song.  
Help us to praise our Savior now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

**Pastor:** And His name shall be called Emmanuel.

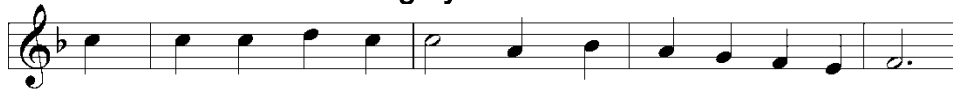
**People:** Our God is with us!

### ***SHEPHERDS RUN TO SEE EMMANUEL***

**SIXTH LESSON** Luke 2:15,16 (*The shepherds go to see the baby Jesus.*)

<sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

**CAROL 383 "A Great and Mighty Wonder"**

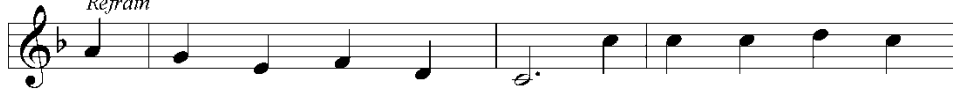


1 A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure:  
2 The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high,  
4 Since all He comes to ransom, By all be He adored,



The virgin bears the infant With virgin honor pure!  
And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky.  
The infant born in Bethl'em, The Savior and the Lord.

*Refrain*



Proclaim the Savior's birth: "To God on high be



glory And peace to all the earth!"

Public domain

**PRAYER**

**Pastor:** The shepherds ran to find You, dear Jesus.  
They knelt before You and worshiped You.  
Help us to find You in the manger of Your Word and worship You always. In Your name, O Emmanuel.

**People:** Amen.

**Pastor:** And His name shall be called Emmanuel.

**People:** Our God is with us!

### ***SHEPHERDS TELL ABOUT EMMANUEL***

**SEVENTH LESSON** Luke 2:17 (*The shepherds tell others about Jesus.*)

<sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.

## CAROL 388 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry-where;

Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*

Be - hold, through - out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light.  
Rang out the an-gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Public domain

## PRAYER

**Pastor:** Holy Father, help us to tell others about Jesus.  
Make us bold and brave like the shepherds.  
Use us to spread the Good News of Emmanuel!

**People:** Amen.

**Pastor:** And His name shall be called Emmanuel.

**People:** Our God is with us!

## SERMON Matthew 1:18-25 "The Story"

### CHRISTMAS CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven & earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, our Lord Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, & came the First Christmas, long foretold by prophets, humbly born in a stable in Bethlehem, announced by angels, adored by shepherds, honored by wisemen, just as the Bible, God's Word that has no mistakes, recorded for us; 100% true God from eternity, 100% true man in history; yet without mixing the two natures;

He came to live a perfect life and take my place under the Law, to be born of a Virgin, live in humility, and proclaim God's Word, to truly suffer God's wrath as a sacrifice for the sins of the world, to redeem me from the power of the devil with His life's blood, to destroy the power of sin and death by His death on the Cross, to rise again on Easter, that I might also rise to new life, and to Ascend to the right hand of the Father; from there He shall Return visibly and in glory on the 2nd Christmas to judge all people.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, Who called me to believe in Jesus, He works in Word and Sacraments to daily strengthen my faith, even as He continually calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian church of all time, and keeps it with Christ Jesus in the one true faith; I believe that at Jesus' Return, He will raise up me and all the dead, and He will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. Amen



## THE OFFERINGS ARE GATHERED “Emmanuel”

Emmanuel Emmanuel  
His name is called Emmanuel  
God with us revealed in us  
His name is called Emmanuel (repeat if needed)

Bob McGee © 1976 C.A. Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com  
CCLI License # 1006349

## EMMANUEL MAKES US CHILDREN OF GOD

### EIGHTH LESSON Galatians 4:4-5 (*Christ is born to redeem those under the law.*)

<sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Isaiah 9:6*

Pastor: This Christmas Eve, we come before our Lord in prayer rejoicing that “for to us a child is born, to us a son is given.”

To us a Child is born, to us a Son is given! Lord, as we hear the angels’ words, “Fear not,” let us take their admonishment to heart. In the face of fears and anxiety, grant us peace in the Savior born for us. O come, let us adore Him,

**People: Christ the Lord!**

Pastor: To us a Child is born, to us a Son is given! Lord, during this season of celebration, cheer those who are lonely or mark this season with a painful grief. Give them the true joy that comes from the Savior born for us. O come, let us adore Him,

**People: Christ the Lord!**

Pastor: To us a Child is born, to us a Son is given! Lord, You chose Mary and Joseph to care for Your Son. Bless all those with whom You have given the vocation of mother or father, grandmother or grandfather that they care for the children entrusted into their care, sharing with them the Savior born for us. O come, let us adore Him,

**People: Christ the Lord!**

Pastor: To us a Child is born, to us a Son is given! Lord, continue to watch over those who suffer in body and spirit. Grant them healing and restoration from their afflictions according to Your gracious will, [*especially* . . .]. Give them peace in their affliction through the Savior born for us. O come, let us adore Him,

**People: Christ the Lord!**

Pastor: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

**People: Amen.**

### LORD’S PRAYER (TUNE 366 It Came upon the Midnight Clear)

Our Father You in heaven live, so we adore Your name,  
Your reign into our heart’s now give, what You wish done, the same  
Oh, give us what we need this day; erase our every wrong  
As, willingly, we set those free who’ve lived in sin so long

Take far from us the tempting thing, all evil put away;  
the land o’er which You rule as King has power that’s here to stay!

Your glory is forever nigh, Your glory wins the day!  
Our Father, You in heaven live, but too You're here always!

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

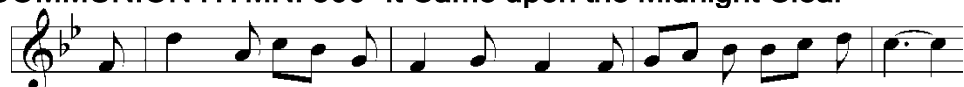
Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God! Feed on them with faith and thanksgiving.

People: Amen.

*(Silent prayer before communion)*

*Dear Father in heaven, as Mary wrapped the infant Jesus in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, we pray that You make ready our hearts to receive Your Son, Jesus, in, with, and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins. Amen.*

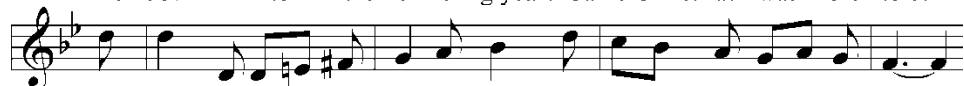
### COMMUNION HYMN: 366 "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,  
4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
When down in-to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was fore-told.



"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all-gra-cious king."  
His word of peace shall to the earth God's an-cient prom-ise bring,



The world in sol-emn still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.  
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.

Public domain

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: We thank You dear Lord, Creator of the heavens and earth, that as You humbled Yourself to be born as a baby in Bethlehem, taking nourishment from Mary, so have You humbled Yourself to be present in this holy meal, that we may feed on You to the salvation of our souls.

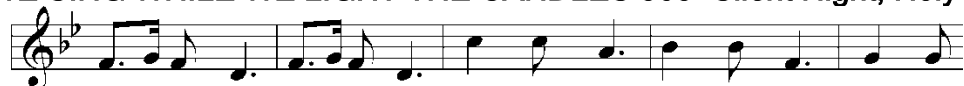
People: Amen.

[All lights off.]

### CANDLE LIGHTING

*(Pastor will give light to the ushers of the church. They will in turn give light to the worshiper nearest the aisle, who will pass it on to the others in the pew. Please hold lighted candles upright, dipping unlit candles into the flame.)*

### WE SING WHILE WE LIGHT THE CANDLES 363 "Silent Night, Holy Night"



1 Si-lent night, ho-ly night! All is calm, all is bright Round you  
2 Si-lent night, ho-ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight; Glo-ries  
3 Si-lent night, ho-ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra-diant



vir - gin moth - er and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild,  
 stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n - ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 beams from Thy ho - ly face With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,



Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
 Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

German Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!  
 Alles schläft, einsam wacht  
 Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.  
 Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,  
 Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,  
 Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

Public domain

### BENEDICTION

Pastor: Children of God, bow your heads to receive His blessing!  
 Emmanuel, fill us all with the joy of His coming to us and the peace of His presence.  
 The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son and the Holy Spirit be with us  
 all!

People: Amen.

### CAROL: 387 "Joy to the World"



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Public domain

Pastor: And His name shall be called Emmanuel.

People: Our God is with us!

May the joy of the Christ child be yours this night.

We welcome you to join us tomorrow morning at 10 AM  
to welcome the Christ Child with worship and song.

POINSETTIAS HAVE BEEN  
GIVEN BY



Sharon Calabretta – “In memory of Loved ones”  
Waymond & Kaye Meins – “Unto Us A Child is Born”  
Lura Campbell – “To Bless all of God’s People”  
Pastor & Donna Marshall – “In Memory of Loved Ones”  
Lynne Russell – “In Memory of Claudette Russell,  
Terry Russell  
Jim Russell”  
Dallas Cossey & Charlene Parker Grant –  
“In Memory of Margaret Cossey  
Dallas Cossey & Charlene Parker Grant – “In memory of  
Nadiene Moore Parker & Charlie E. Parker Jr.”  
Bill & Karen Witt – “For a Blessed Christmas”  
J.P. & Phyllis Dunger– “In Memory of our parents  
Albert & Josephine Dunger  
Virginia & Gilbert Bruhl”  
John & Margaret Alexander– “Thankfulness for Family”  
Don Puddephatt– “In Memory of Susan Puddephatt  
Herman & Mary Schmid,  
Russell & Sue Leibenguth  
Jimmy & Dorothy Herrod–”In memory of Loved Ones”  
Joyce Anne Green “Christmas/Jesus’ Birth”  
Steve & Julie Shorts–”In thanks to God for blessings received”