

# *Emanuel Lutheran Church*

*A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
241 S. Prospect Street, Marion, OH 43302  
740.383.2184 ~ [www.emanuellutheran.net](http://www.emanuellutheran.net)*

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***December 24, 2020  
8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m.***



***Our Ministers This Evening:***  
*Pastor Mark Schuring  
Parish Deacon Ann Thomas  
Organist: Allan Lust  
Sound Technician: Doug Ross*

*While we are not worshipping in-person this Christmas Eve, please join us online and follow along as we stream both services live on our website and Facebook Page. You can also listen to the 10:45 p.m. service on WMRN Radio.*

Visit [emanuellutheran.net](http://emanuellutheran.net) and look for the icons below:



Pre-Service Music

Allan Lust

### Christmas Candle Lighting

Advent hope moves us; Advent love leads us; Advent joy stirs us; Advent peace stills us, that we might affirm our King Jesus. It is time we set flame to this Advent affirmation by lighting the Christ candle.

We believe that Jesus is the Song of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea. He was the long-awaited Messiah whose coming was prophesied. The same Jesus lives today in our hearts. He deserves our highest loyalty and total commitment. In Jesus Christ our hope is fulfilled; our love is consummated; our joy is complete; and our peace is sealed.

Rejoice, a Savior is born. Joy to the world.

“Joy to the World”

#267 (Vs. 1)

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.

### Words of Welcome

P: *The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

C: **And also with you.**

P: *Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, the son of God is born this night.*

C: **God's word has been made flesh among us.**

P: *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.*

C: **Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness on them a light has shined.**

P: *You, O Lord, have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder.*

C: **His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P: *He is also called Emmanuel, for in Him God is with us.*

Entrance Hymn      *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*      #283

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!*

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

A: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last

day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Anthem

Bell Choir (8:15)

First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

Second Lesson

Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem

us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson                      Luke 2:1-20

P: *The Holy Gospel according the St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.*

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Mark Schuring

Sermon Hymn      *"Go Tell It on The Mountain"*      #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!*

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

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the  
earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's  
birth. *Refrain*

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born; and  
God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.  
*Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr.,

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven  
and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the  
third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is  
seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to  
judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the**

**forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

A: Hear us O God, **Your mercy is great.**

Peace

P. *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

C. **And also with you.**

Offering

Offertory

Offering Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Distribution of the Light

*“Silent Night”*

#281

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.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light. Radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885

Sending Hymn

*"Joy To The World!"*

#267

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.

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.

No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Benediction

P: *Grace from God's own heart, peace from the ☩ Child in the manger, and strength from the Spirit of life be blessings for you today and forever. Amen.*

Dismissal

A: Christ is born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Allan Lust



*Thank you to those who have remembered and honored loved ones by donating to one of the “Living Poinsettia” Funds.*



*Living Poinsettias*

GIVEN BY:

Joan Coutts & Mike: Given to the Radio Fund in Memory of Ted and Brent Coutts.

Alicia Mayes: Given to the Good Samaritan Fund in Loving Memory of my husband, Larry, my parents, Evelyn & Floyd Williams, and my brother Carlton Williams.

Elsie Mitchell: Given to the Good Samaritan Fund in Honor of Pastor Mark Schuring and to the Sunday School in Memory of Darlene Schaadt.

Carson Moore: Given to the Radio Fund in Honor of Maxine Marshall and in Memory of W.A. Marshall, Carol Marshall, Ronnie Moore, & Jerry Sonner.

Brian & Christy Penrod: Given to the Roof Fund in Memory of Paul & Eleanor Arndt.

Ed & Matt: Given to Emanuel in Honor of our parents: Ed & Barb Stofcheck and Vicki Primmer; and in Memory of our grandparents and Matt's father, Gary Primmer.

Tom & Cindy Schifer: Given to the Roof Fund in Memory of Beloved Family Members.

Carl & Becky Sloat and Ron Hart: Given to Emanuel in Honor of our grandchildren, Robby, Elora, Taylor & Kyleigh Stiltner

and son-in-law Rob Stiltner; and in Memory of Lloyd, Miriam & Betty Hart, Carl & Elizabeth Sloat and our daughter, Beth Stiltner.

Betty & Jean Smith: Given to the Good Samaritan Fund in Loving Memory of Fred Smith, family and friends.

The LGBT Group: Given to the Building Fund in Celebration of the Christmas season.





Merry Christmas!



Glory to God  
*in the highest.*  
and on earth peace,  
good will toward men.

Luke 2:14, KJV