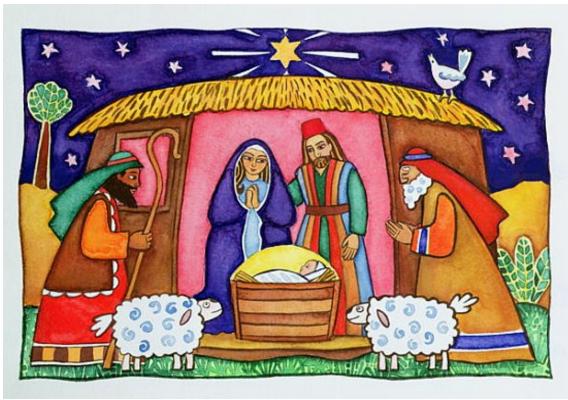
# Emmanuel Church on Mercer Island



Artwork ©Cathy Baxter

# EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD: CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2024

#### Welcome Guests & Visitors

+ Welcome to the Episcopal Church. The mission of the Episcopal Church, as stated in our Book of Common Prayer, is "to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ." We seek to follow Jesus in loving and life-giving relationships with God, with one another, with all people, and with all God's creation. Our worship, beliefs and practices are diverse and reflect influences from Roman Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox traditions as well as on going reflection and prayer about what it means to believe in and follow Jesus Christ in a rapidly changing world. We Episcopalians are also known as Anglicans, part of the worldwide Anglican Communion with origins and ongoing ties to the Church of England.

#### + Welcome to Emmanuel Episcopal Church.

We trace our history on Mercer Island to a first worship service in 1909 and to a prior church building, built in 1914, in an area of the island once known as East Seattle. We have met, worshiped, served at and gone forth in faith from the present church since 1959.

+ Welcome to Our Worship Today. The order for worship that we call the Holy Eucharist is printed, with music, on the following pages. It begins with the Liturgy of the Word: Bible readings, a sermon, an affirmation of faith, prayers, and greeting one another at the Peace. All this prepares us for the Eucharist itself — the word is derived from the biblical Greek word for thanksgiving. Here and elsewhere it may also be called Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper or the Mass.

+ Welcome to Communion. The Real Presence of Christ in the blessed bread and wine is a primary belief in our Anglican tradition. Here at Emmanuel, any and all who are drawn to do so may receive Communion. Additional notes may be found at the appropriate place in today's printed order of worship.

#### + Welcome to Getting Around Here.

• Our nursery and ministries with young children are offered in various ways at various times. Please inquire with an usher, the clergy or other parents, or look for information on our website.

• An accessible restroom may be found across from the stairway outside the west doors of the narthex (the gathering area just beyond the doors of the church proper). Other restrooms may be found up the ramp and stairs at the east side of the narthex.

• Hearing assistance devices, with related instructions, may be found in and borrowed from a basket on a narthex table.

Please let us know how we may better welcome you.

#### Worship and Pastoral Notes

#### A Special Welcome

Merry Christmas! We at Emmanuel recognize that our Christmas worship services uniquely include visitors, returning members, travelers and others. Some of you will feel right at



home here, and we're grateful. If 'all of this' is new or unfamiliar, we hope you will take to heart and appreciate what is easy to follow and meaningful and not worry too much for now about the rest. Please feel free, after the service this evening or another time, to share your questions about the Episcopal Church, our faith and worship, or this Emmanuel parish family.

#### Some Christmas History

Did you know? Early Christians did not initially commemorate Jesus' birth. Worship of a seasonal nature for the first Christians focused on remembering Christ's death and resurrection. It was not until the 4th century that December 25 was designated as the Feast of the Nativity and widely celebrated. The date was likely chosen because it aligned with existing winter solstice festivals.

Aspects of our faith and spiritual devotion unique to Christmas arise from accounts in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Taken together, they tell of the anticipation of Christ's birth in prophecy and Jesus' humble birth in Bethlehem, announced by angels and witnessed by shepherds and wise men.

Over time, many traditions developed, both with reference to and in anticipation of Christmas. These often incorporate cultural influences from around the world. Examples include Advent calendars, crèches, poinsettias, sung carols, and, yes, Christmas trees. Unifying themes of these traditions are hope, joy, family and community connections, and God's gift of salvation in Christ.

The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Interim Rector patrick@emmanuelmi.org

# THE WORD OF GOD

**VOLUNTARIES –** Chorale Prelude on "Irby"

Pastorale in F Greensleeves

After the Voluntaries a period of silence is kept. A bell rings and the People stand, as able.

**THE SALUTATION** *Said by the Celebrant at the church entry.* 

Celebrant	Blessed be God:	Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
-----------	-----------------	-------------------------------

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen

**PROCESSION –** "O come, all ye faithful"

Tune: Adeste Fideles



# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

- *Celebrant* The Lord be with you.
- People And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us Pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

David Willcocks J.S. Bach Richard Purvis

# THE LESSONS

## A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT - Isaiah 9:2-7

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darknesson 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

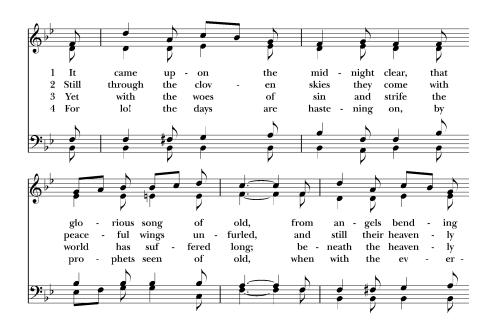
For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.** 

**CAROL** – "It came upon the midnight clear"

shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

Tune: Carol



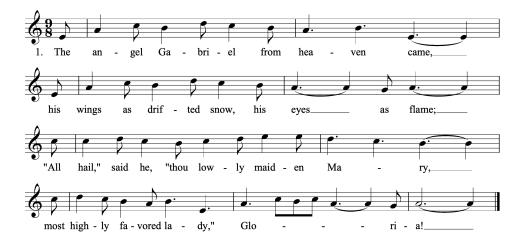


# THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

THE FIRST NARRATION - The Angel Gabriel tells Mary that she will bear the Son of God.



**CAROL –** "The Angel Gabriel from heaven came"



THE SECOND NARRATION – Mary and Joseph must travel to Bethlehem.

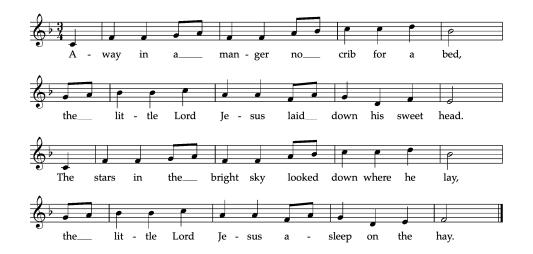


**CAROL –** "O little town of Bethlehem"



THE THIRD NARRATION - Jesus is born in the stable.

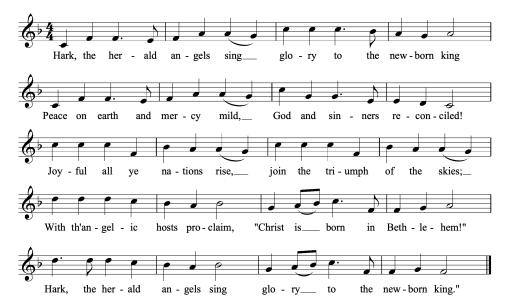




**THE FOURTH NARRATION –** The angels appear to the shepherds.

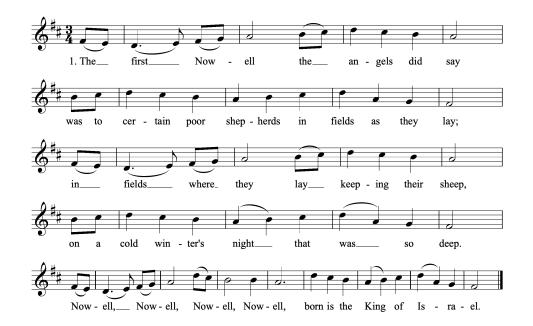


**CAROL** – "Hark! the herald-angels sing"



THE FIFTH NARRATION - The shepherds go to the manger.

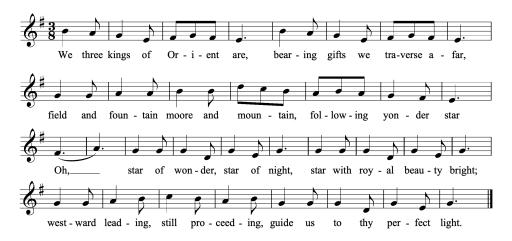




THE SIXTH NARRATION - The Magi (Wise Men) are led by a star.



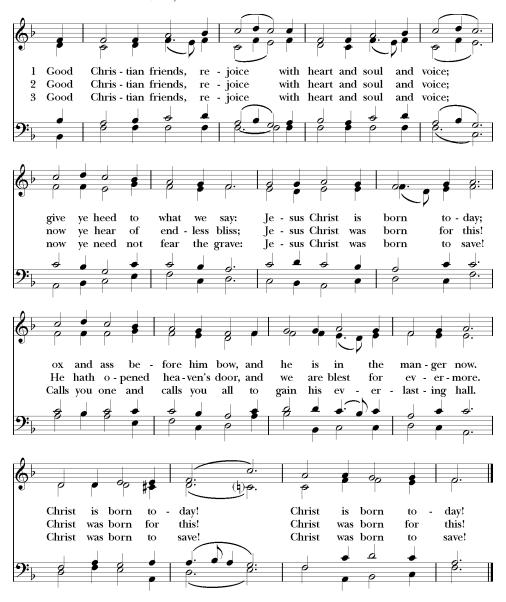
**CAROL** – "Kings of Orient"



#### THE SEVENTH NARRATION – The Word of God has come into the world.

**CAROL** – "Good Christian friends, rejoice"

Tune: In dulci jubilo



Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: In dulci jubilo, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

#### THE HOMILY – The Reverend Brian Gregory

# THE NICENE CREED

#### All stand, as able, and say together

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader Christ our Savior is born: let us worship him with the shepherds; proclaim him with the angels; seek him with the wise; offer ourselves to him with Mary and Joseph, and now together pray to our God: That the people of this world may know your redeeming power and love, O Lord. *Silence.* Christ our savior is born;

#### People O come let us adore him.

*Leader* That the whole church and all faithful people may work for the coming of your kingdom. *Silence.* Christ our savior is born;

#### People O come let us adore him.

*Leader* That the light of your presence may scatter the darkness and bring justice and peace to all people. *Silence*. Christ our savior is born;

## People O come let us adore him.

Leader That with joy and thanksgiving our lives may proclaim your grace and glory; Silence. Christ our savior is born;

#### People O come let us adore him.

Leader That the sick may be comforted, the hungry and homeless, fed and sheltered. Let us remember in particular at this time those for whom our prayers have been asked, including

\_\_\_\_\_, and others we now name aloud or remember silently.

Silence. Christ our savior is born;

#### *People* **O** come let us adore him.

*Leader* That all prisoners, captives and those who are oppressed may find freedom in you. *Silence*. Christ our savior is born;

#### *People* **O** come let us adore him.

*Leader* That all who have died may be born to new life in you; including \_\_\_\_\_\_, and others we now name aloud or remember silently. *Silence*. Christ our savior is born;

## *People* **O** come let us adore him.

The Celebrant may add the following or another Collect.

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore; Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations serve you, all tongues confess and bless you, and all people everywhere love you and show forth your justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* 

# THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you. Please share the Peace of Christ with others.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

# THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Part of our spiritual practice as Christians is to support the mission of the church through financial donations. You can give in the plate or online using PayPal. To donate via PayPal, simply scan this QR code and follow the instructions.

Some information on receiving Communion may be on page 15.

# **OFFERTORY** – "Gesu Bambino"

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows Upon a winter night Was born the Child the Christmas Rose, The King of Love and Light The angels sang, the shepherds sang, The grateful earth rejoiced And at His blessed birth the stars Their exultation voiced.

> O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Again the heart with rapture glows To greet the holy night That gave the world its Christmas Rose, Its king of Love and Light Let every voice acclaim His name, The grateful chorus swell From paradise to earth He came That we with Him might dwell.



#### **OFFERTORY HYMN –** "In the bleak midwinter"



The people remain standing. The Celebrant says

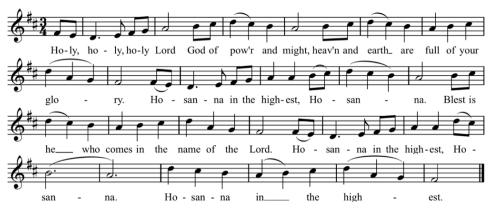
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
<b>People</b>	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
<b>People</b>	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<b>People</b>	It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant continues* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People



The People stand or kneel.

#### Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

#### Celebrant and People We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

#### The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

#### People and Celebrant

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

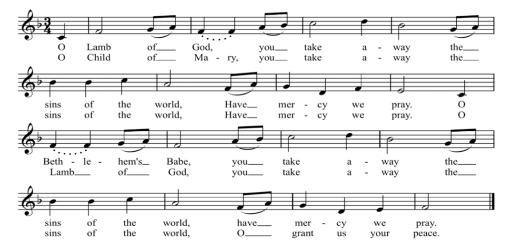
# THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept after which the Celebrant says

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

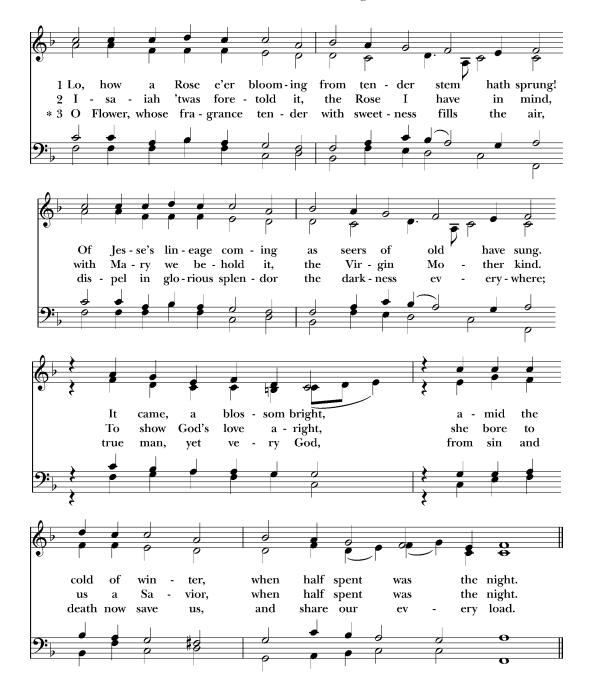
# THE AGNUS DEI



*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

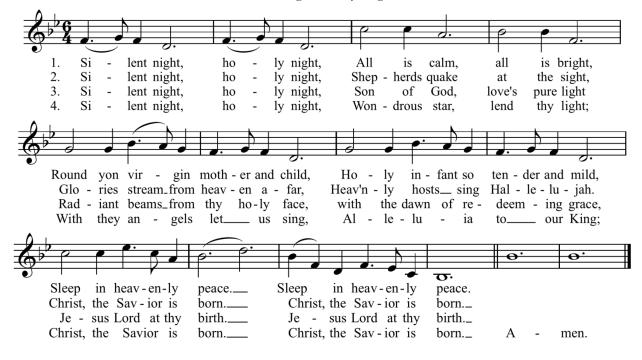
All are welcome to participate in communion at Emmanuel. Primarily our communion takes place at the altar rail. You can stand or kneel. If you want to abstain from the bread or wine, please cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available. If the steps to the altar rail present a challenge for you, you may stand at the bottom of the stairs, or ask an usher to have communion brought to you in your seat.







#### **POST-COMMUNION CAROL** – "Silent night, holy night"



#### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

*The Celebrant says* Let us pray.

#### Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

#### THE BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people.



## THE DISMISSAL

The Celebrant or another clergyperson offers the Dismissal, to which all respond: **Thanks be to God.** 

VOLUNTARY - Improvisation on Antioch

# SERVING THIS EVENING

Eucharistic Minister – Stacy Dimmich

Technology – Carlos Obando

#### Covenant for Our Common Life and Witness Emmanuel Church

We, the members, staff, and clergy of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, aspire to personally and collectively demonstrate and advocate the following principles in all of our relationships.

- 1. We Demonstrate Christ's Command to Love One Another, treating all with generosity, kindness, and empathy. "*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.*" John 15:12
- 2. We Respect the Dignity of Every Person, listening to one another and honoring differences. Jesus said, "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets." Matthew 7:12
- 3. We Speak Truth in Love, sharing our hopes, concerns, and perspectives in a spirit of collaboration. "Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body." Ephesians 4:25
- 4. We Promptly Address Conflicts and Pursue Reconciliation, whenever and with whomever it is needed, seeking to heal and restore broken relationships.

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

- **5.** We Promote Unity, acknowledging that we share a love for this community and its future. "*Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.*" Ephesians 4:3
- 6. We Practice Humility, recognizing the needs, concerns and interests of others alongside our own.

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit." Philippians 2:3a. "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

7. We Pray For Each Other, the Church, Our Community, and Our World.

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for all people." 1 Timothy 2:1

By way of this covenant, we seek to share in a parish community that reflects Christ's love and peace to all, where every person is valued and respected, and where we work together for the common good of the church, our community and our world.



#### **EMMANUEL LEADERSHIP**

\_\_\_\_\_

#### **CLERGY & STAFF**

REV. PATRICK RAYMOND RECTOR PATRICK@EmmanuelMI.org

REV. BRIAN GREGORY ASSOCIATE RECTOR BRIAN@EMMANUELMI.ORG

FRED MCILROY DIRECTOR OF MUSIC FRED@EMMANUELMI.ORG

JULENE LEVIN OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR JULENE@EMMANUELMI.ORG

JOHN PRITCHARD BOOKKEEPER BOOKKEEPER@EMMANUELMI.ORG

#### **VESTRY OF THE CHURCH**

Polly Ogden – Senior Warden Jon Fedele – Junior Warden Bob Baxter Janet Bell Nick Bohlinger Christine Kenyon Jeff Zantek Barb Shephard – Clerk Sue Stiles – Treasurer

HAVE A QUESTION FOR THE VESTRY OF THE CHURCH? ASKVESTRY@EMMANUELMI.ORG

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH 4400 86<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE ~ Mercer Island, WA 98040 206.232.1572 ~ www.EmmanuelMI.org

# CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & MUSIC Thanksgivings & Memorials

Anne & Allan Affleck	In loving memory of our parents; and in thanksgiving for our family.
Barb and David Beatty	In loving memory of our parents, John & Margaret Beatty, Gwen & Ron Stockwell, and Carol Spence.
Pat Angell & Mark Hall	In loving memory of Tom Angell, Bette & Howard Angell, Mary & Hoddy Hall, Dorian & Bob Bersos.
Pam Henderson	In thanksgiving for my family and friends.
Eugenie Ihle	In thanksgiving for the Eschbach and Ihle families.
Mary Kraft	In loving memory of George Kraft, husband, father, and grandfather, Mary, John, and Susannah
Jane Morton	In loving memory of Karen Rowley.
Roy Palmer	In loving memory of Joyce Palmer.
Brooke & Patrick Raymond	In thanksgiving for Eliot, Owen, and Grace, and all the people of Emmanuel Church.
Vyvienne Stumbles	In thanksgiving for family members.
Lucy Vedrich	In loving memory of Tony Vedrich and in thanksgiving for my family; Amanda Vedrich, Lisa, Jim, Sam, and Eli Price.
Peggy & John Way	In thanksgiving for our children & grandchildren; Cameron, Anne, Maddy, Adie, Brian, Briana, Astrid, and Clover.