# Emmanuel Church



EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH PROCESSION & 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.

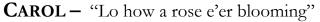
The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Interim Rector patrick@emmanuelmi.org

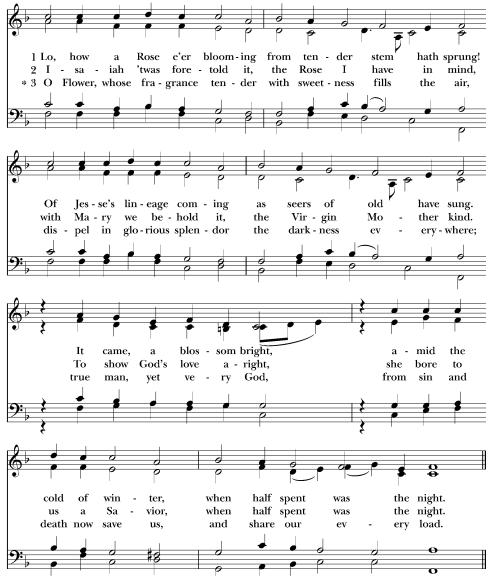
## **GATHERING MUSIC AT 9:30 PM**

**CHOIR CAROL** – "Creator of the Starts of Night"

Paul Thornock

The text of this carol may be found in The Hymnal 1982 at Number 60.





**CHOIR CAROL** – "In the Bleak Midwinter" *The text of this carol may be found in The Hymnal 1982 at Number 112.* 

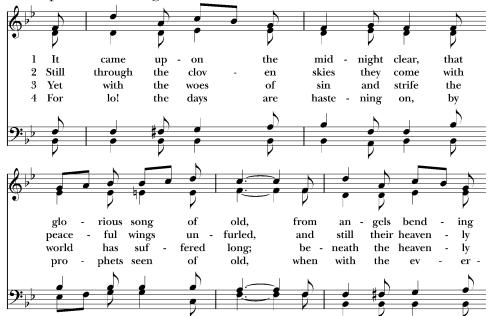
Harold Darke

**CAROL** - "Away in a manger"



**ORGAN MUSIC –** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

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



Paul Manz



# CHOIR CAROL - "Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary"

Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary! For so when he did meet thee, Spake mighty Gabriel, And thus we greet thee. Come weal, come woe Our hymn shall never vary. Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary! Ave, Maria! To gladden priest and people, The angelus shall ring From every steeple, To sound his Virgin birth Alleluia! Ave Maria! Charles Wood

Archangels chant Osanna, And Holy, Holy, Holy, Before the Infant born O thee, thou lowly, Aye maiden child of Joachim And Anna; Archangels chant Osanna. **CAROL** – "The angel Gabriel"



#### CHOIR CAROL - "O Magnum Mysterium"

O Magnum mysterium, et admirabile sacramentum ut animalia viderunt Dominum natum, jacentem in praesepio. Beata Virgo, Beata cujus viscera meruerunt Portare Dominum Jesum Christum. O wondrous mystery And adorable sacrament, That animals behold the Lord born, Lying in the manger. O most Blessed Virgin, Whose blessed body was deemed worthy To bear the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gerald Near

CAROL - "What child is this, who, laid to rest"



**CHOIR CAROL** – "Up! Good Christian Folk and Listen"

George Ratcliffe Woodward

Ding-dong, ding: Ding-a-dong-a-ding: Ding-dong, ding-dong: Ding-a-dong-ding.

Up! Good Chrisian folk, and listen How the merry churchbells ring, And from steeple bid good people Come adore the newborn King: Tell the story how from glory God came down at Christmastide, Bringing gladness, chasing sadness, Showering blessings far and wide,

Born of mother, blest o'er other *Ex Maria Virgine,* In a stable ('tis no fable) *Christus natus hodie.* 

# THE WORD OF GOD

**VOLUNTARY** – Pastorale in F

J.S. Bach

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

# THE CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

The Director of Music sings the Christmas Proclamation Today, the twenty-fifth day of December, unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed man and woman in his own image;

Several thousand years after the flood,

when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant; Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt;

Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the Judges; one thousand years from the anointing of David as king; in the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel; In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome;

The forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus; the whole world being at peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, and nine months having passed since his conception was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary and was made flesh.

Today is the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.



#### THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS CRECHE

Celebrant Alleluia, the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

#### People And we beheld his glory. Alleluia

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who on this most holy night caused your only begotten Son to be born of the blessed and glorious ever virgin Mary for our salvation: Be pleased to hallow and bless this Crib of Christmas wherein are shown forth the wonders of that sacred birth, that all those, who beholding the same, shall ponder and adore the mystery of his holy incarnation, may be filled with your heavenly benediction unto eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

The Procession continues with Vs. 5-7 of "O come, all ye faithful."

# THE SALUTATION AND THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

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

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

### THE SONG OF PRAISE – "Glory be to God on high"

Sung by the Choir

Glory be to God on high,

and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,

we worship thee,

we glorify thee,

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us Pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.** 

# THE LESSONS

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

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. Lector 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 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. Lector The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

# THE PSALM - 96

- Sing to the Lord a new song; \* sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; \* proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3. Declare his glory among the nations \* and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4. For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; \* he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5. As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \* but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6. Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \* Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7. Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; \* ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8. Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; \* bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; \* let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10. Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! \* he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \* let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12. Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, \*when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13. He will judge the world with righteousness \* and the peoples with his truth.

# A READING FROM THE EPISTLES – Titus 2:11-14

Lector A reading from The Epistle of St. Paul to Titus.

For 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.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

#### GRADUAL CAROL - "Angels we have heard on high"

Tune: Carol



#### **ALLELUIA VERSE**



Choir "The Lord said to me: "You are my son, this day have I begotten you"" All sing the Alleluia

# THE HOLY GOSPEL – Luke 2:1-20

All standing, the Priest says to the People The Lord be with you. People And also with you.

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

After the Gospel the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON – The Reverend Patrick Raymond



# THE NICENE CREED

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

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.

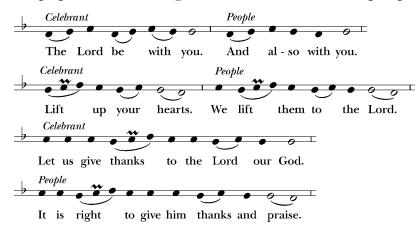


Some information on receiving Communion may be found on page 22.

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer D, The Book of Common Prayer

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says



It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

The Choir Sings Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts Heaven and earth are full of thy glory, Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel.

#### Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

#### Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

#### The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember our Presiding Bishop Sean, our own Bishop Phil and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.



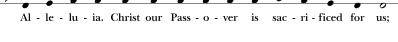
And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

#### 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 Sings



The People Respond

There-fore let us keep the feast. Al-le-lu - ia.

# THE AGNUS DEI AND INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Choir Sings

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

*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.

A cantor sings the Communion Antiphon

In the beauty of holiness have I begotten you like dew from the womb of the morning.

#### **COMMUNION ANTHEM –** "Sing Lullaby"

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now reclining, sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the infant King. Angels are watching, stars are shining over the place where He is lying: sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, sweetly sleeping, sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the infant King. Soon will come sorrow with the morning, soon will come bitter grief and weeping: sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, gently dozing, sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the infant King. Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing, then in the grave at last reposing; sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby! is the babe awaking? Sing lullaby! Hush, do not stir the infant King. Dreaming of Easter, joyful morning. conquering death, its bondage breaking: sing lullaby!

#### **COMMUNION CAROL** – "On Christmas night all Christians sing"

Tune: Sussex Carol



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

Please stand or kneel as you are able. 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.

After the Post-Communion Prayer and during the introduction of the following Carol, the light of the Christ Candle on our Advent wreath will be passed throughout the People.

**POST-COMMUNION CAROL** – "Silent night, holy night" Tune: Stille Nacht Si lent night, ly night, All ho is all is bright, 1. calm, -2. Shep Si lent night, ho \_ ly night, - herds quake the sight, at 3. pure light Si lent night, ho ly night, Son of God, love's Won - drous star, 4. Si lent night, ho ly night, lend thy light; • Round yon vir gin moth - er and child, Ho ly in - fant so ten der and mild, Glo - ries stream\_from heav - en a - far, Heav'n - ly hosts\_\_ sing Hal - le - lu - jah. with the dawn of re -Al - le - lu - ia ho-ly face, Rad - iant beams\_from thy deem - ing grace, With they an gels let\_ us sing, to. our King; 0 ᠊ᡋ in heav-en-ly peace. Sleep in heav-en-ly Sleep peace Christ, the Sav-ior is born.\_\_\_\_ Christ, the Sav-ior is born.\_ Je - sus Lord at thy Je - sus Lord at thy birth.\_ birth.\_ Christ, the Sav-ior is Christ, the Savior is born born.\_ А men.

**THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING** Said by the Celebrant, all responding 'Amen' after each portion.

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. Amen.

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. Amen.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

23



#### THE DISMISSAL

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

Still, still, still, the child's eyes softly close.And Mary, breathless, draws Him, weeping To her heart made pure for keeping,Still, still, still, His bright eyes softly close.

Sing, sing, sing, He hears and sweetly smiles. And kneeling, Joseph joins the chorus With the angels bending o'er us. Sing, sing, He hears and sweetly smiles.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, He breathes a tender sigh, For soon He'll wake the world from slumber, Bringing life and endless wonder, Sleep, sleep, sleep, He breathes a tender sigh. Sleep Holy Jesus, sleep.

### SERVING THIS EVENING

Eucharistic Minister – Sue Stiles Lector/Intercessor – Jane Morton Technolog

Technology - Carlos Obando

Altar Guild - Pam Henderson, Lucy Vedrich, Polly Ogden, Peggy Way



#### 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**

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#### VESTRY OF THE CHURCH

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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

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COVER IMAGE: CELESTIAL VIRGIN AND CHILD, FROM A 'BOOK OF HOURS,' 14<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

# 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<br>Beatty, Gwen & Ron Stockwell, and Carol Spence.                      |
| Pat Angell & Mark Hall   | In loving memory of Tom Angell, Bette & Howard<br>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,<br>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<br>thanksgiving for my family; Amanda Vedrich, Lisa,<br>Jim, Sam, and Eli Price. |
| Peggy & John Way         | In thanksgiving for our children & grandchildren;<br>Cameron, Anne, Maddy, Adie, Brian, Briana, Astrid,<br>and Clover.   |