



## **A Children's Christmas Service**

Emmanuel Lutheran School, grades 3-8

December 14, 2025

4:00 p.m.

## Welcome!

Thank you for joining us this evening at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. This evening's worship is led by the children of our Lutheran elementary school, 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. You will find everything needed to fully participate in the next hour of worship printed for you in this folder. It is our prayer that your time with us will be a blessed part of your Christmas celebration. We add our hope that, in joining us here in worship tonight, you will find many reasons to praise our gracious God for his mercy and love as he has shown them to us in his one and only Son, Jesus Christ.

## For your convenience

For your convenience, please take note of the following:

- **Restrooms** are to the left as you exit the sanctuary.
- **Cry room.** There is a room where children may be quieted to the left as you exit the sanctuary, near the restrooms. A television allows you to see and hear the service.
- **Hearing assistance.** A hearing loop is available in the worship area for hearing aids equipped with a T-coil.

If there is any other way in which we can assist you, please let us know.

### Acknowledgments

All texts reprinted with Onelicense #A-705984

"Fanfare for the Faithful" arr. Michael Kamuf

"God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" Ruth L. Zimmerman

"God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen", and "Away in a Manger" Anna Laura Page, © 2004 Alfred Publishing.

"Behold, a Branch is Growing" Kathy Parra, © 2023 NPH.

"Gaudete!" arr. Michael Burkhardt, © 2003 MorningStar Music.

"Carol of the Star" arr. Donald Moore, © 2010 Alfred Publishing.

"Of the Father's Love" and "Your Little Ones" arr. Kevin Bode, © 2022, 2012.

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" arr. Marty Haugen, © 1992 GIA.



## **Pre-Service Music**

**Piano**

**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

Kaya Gile

**Clarinet**

**What Child is This?**

Sydney Keezer

**Piano**

**Go, Tell It on the Mountain**

Charlotte Redman

**Brass quartet**

**Where Shepherds Watched Their Flock By Night**

English melody

# **Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!**

**Welcome**

**Pastor Gary Pufahl**

**Band**

**Fanfare for the Faithful**

arr. Michael Kamuf

**God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen**

arr. Ruth L. Zimmerman

**Guitar ensemble**

**Silent Night**

traditional

*The congregation is invited to sing along, stanzas 1-2 of hymn 337*

**Tone chimes choir**

**Away in a Manger**

**God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen**

arr. Anna Laura Page

## Hymn

## O Come, All Ye Faithful descant of Sir David Willcocks

*Join the children in singing the hymn*

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 God from true God, and Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
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, to earth he comes!  
Je - sus, to thee\_ be all glo - ry giv'n!

Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels:  
On - ly - be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther:  
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!

*Please stand*

## Call to worship (Psalm 98)

**Pastor Pufahl**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Grades 3-5

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King!

### Congregation

**Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.  
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

### Grades 6-8

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let all their songs employ!

**Congregation**

**The LORD has made his salvation known.**

**He has revealed his righteousness to the eyes of the nations.**

**Grades 3-5**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King!

**Congregation**

**He has remembered his mercy and his faithfulness to the house of Israel.**

**All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

**Grades 6-8**

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let all their songs employ!

**Congregation**

**Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.**

**Break out in joyful song! Make music!**

**Make music to the LORD with the lyre,**

**with the lyre and the sound of music.**

**Grades 3-5**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King!

**Congregation**

**With trumpets and the sound of the ram's horn  
shout for joy before the King, the LORD.**

**Let the sea roar, and everything that fills it,  
the world, and all who live in it.**

**Grades 6-8**

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let all their songs employ!

**Congregation**

**Let the rivers clap their hands.**

**Let the mountains sing for joy together before the LORD,  
for he comes to judge the earth.**

**He will judge the world in righteousness  
and the peoples with fairness.**

**Grades 3-8**

He rules the world with truth and grace  
and makes the nations prove



the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love.

**Pastor Pufahl**

As we gather in your presence, O Lord, may our voices echo the message of hope and joy in Jesus' birth. Empower us to fearlessly and joyfully share the message of your salvation. As the angels rejoiced at your birth so may we rejoice in the fact that the Son of God took on flesh to be our Substitute. Let this service of celebration remind us of your unending love which was given to us in our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **Joy-less life**

**Thyra Bervis**

Do you have joy in your life right now? Families gather together. Friends come over. Gifts are under the tree. Decorations are in the house. Oh, what a joyful time of the year!

**Mason Marquez**

Or is it? Maybe the family can't make it home for Christmas this year. Maybe the relationships with your friends are strained. Maybe you don't have any gifts under the tree or any decorations in the house. Is Christmas still joyful for you or isn't it?

**Skyla Ohm**

Is it worse than that? Life just seems bleak and dim. An emptiness resides deep inside. A restlessness overwhelms your heart and mind. Sins and sorrows grow. Thorns infest the ground. Has your life become so disagreeable that you just don't have any joy?

**Grades 3-8**

No more let sins and sorrows grow nor thorns infest the ground.

## **Joy-filled life**

**Yaslin Velazquez**

If those are the feelings you have right now, listen to the message we will share.  
No matter what kind of life you've led...  
No matter what kind of life you have...  
No matter what kind of life you see in the future,  
A Savior has come!

**Grades 3-8**

He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found.

**Paul Kuether**

No matter where your friends are or how much they care, Jesus is your friend. Whatever your troubles are, Jesus can solve them. Whatever your pain may be, Jesus can overcome it.

**Grades 3-8**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King!

**Autumn Bode**

The joy of Christmas doesn't come on us because of what's in us. It doesn't depend on friends or family or food or festivity. The joy of Christmas doesn't need to be expressed in wide smiles or giddy laughter. No, the joy of Christmas comes on us because of the greatest gift given.

**Grades 3-8**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

**Callen Riesop**

Yes, the joy of Christmas comes on us because of what's in Jesus Christ. And what's in Jesus is peace with God, freedom from sin, comfort in our troubles, and a life that never ends.

**Jacob Urbietta**

And the really joyful part of this message is that this message is for YOU! Listen to this joyful message from the Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter 2.

**Grade 8**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governing Syria. And everyone went to register, each to his own town.

**Grade 7**

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the town of Nazareth, into Judea, to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was from the house and family line of David. He went to be registered with Mary, his wife, who was pledged to him in marriage and was expecting a child.

**Grade 6**

And so it was that while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son, wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

**Grade 5**

There were in the same country shepherds staying out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified!

**Grade 4**

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. For behold, I bring you good news of great joy, which will

be for all people: Today in the town of David, a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

### **Grade 3**

Suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude from the heavenly army, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward mankind.”

### **Grade 7**

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Now let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

### **Grade 6**

When they had seen him, they told others the message they had been told about this child. And all who heard it were amazed by what the shepherds said to them.

### **Grade 8**

But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

## **Behold a Branch is Growing**

arr. Linda Moeller  
grades 3-5

Vocalists: Everett Peter, Charlotte Redman, Yaretzi Velazquez, Silas Weinstein  
Flute: Autumn Bode

*Behold, a Branch is growing of loveliest form and grace,  
As prophets sang, foreknowing; It springs from Jesse's race  
And bears on little flow'r  
In midst of coldest winter, At deepest midnight hour.*

*Isaiah had foretold it in words of promise sure,  
And Mary's arms enfold it, a virgin meek and pure.  
Through God's eternal will  
This child to her is given at midnight calm and still.*

*O Savior, Child of Mary, who felt our human woes,  
O Savior, King of glory, who conquered all our foes,  
Bring us at last, we pray,  
To the bright courts of heaven and to the endless day.*



## Gaudete!

14<sup>th</sup> century carol

arr. Michael Burkhardt

Junior choir

*Gaudete! Christus est natus ex Maria Virgine: Gaudete!*  
*(Rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary: rejoice!)*

*Now the time has come at last, bringing joy and gladness;  
time foretold by sages past, healing earth's deep sadness.*

*Nature marvels at the sight, earth looks on in wonder:  
for the Lord of love and light rends the heav'ns asunder!*

*Christ is born: Emmanuel, hope of ev'ry nation!  
Therefore let us sing noel with the whole creation!*

## Carol of the Star

Donald Moore

Grades 6-8



*A star, a shining star, led wise men on their way  
to find that Beth'lem town where lay a holy babe.  
Venite adoremus Dominum.  
(Come, let us adore the Lord.)*

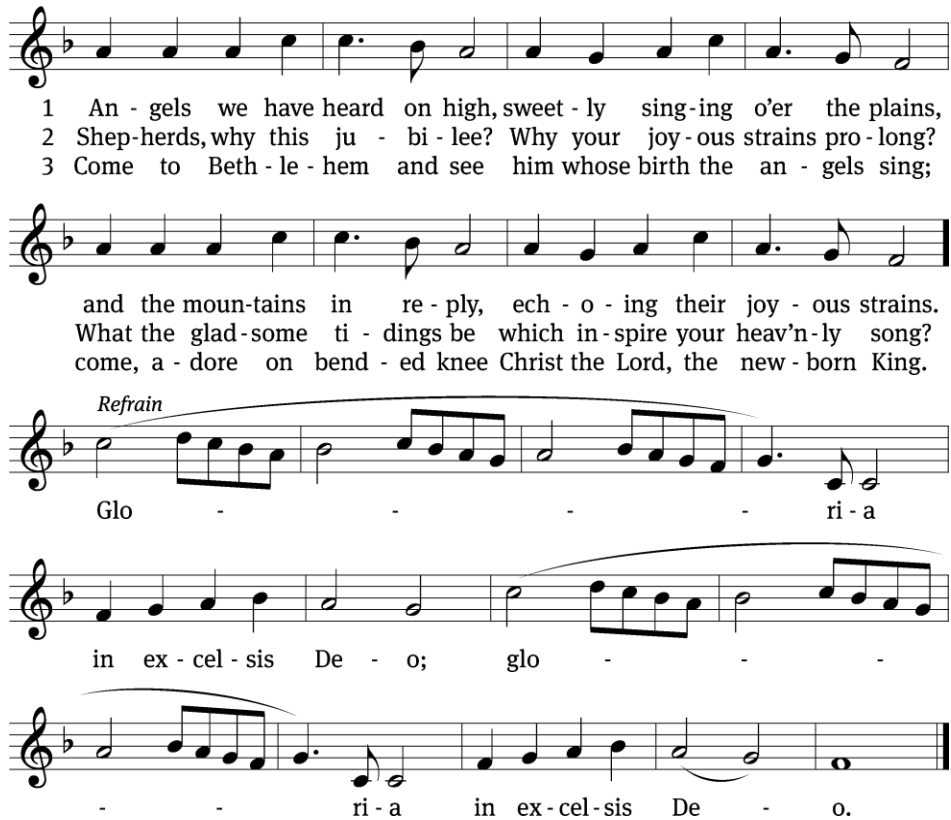
*A star, a guiding star led angels from above.  
To seek a tiny babe, surround him with their love.  
Venite adoremus Dominum.*

*A star, a mighty star did shine o'er all the earth.  
God's love for us it showed, such a humble, holy birth.  
Venite adoremus Dominum.*

## Angels We Have Heard on High

French carol

*The congregation sings stanzas 1 and 3, and the children sing stanza 2.*



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 ti - dings 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.

## Of the Father's Love Begotten

13<sup>th</sup> century chant

Junior choir

*Of the Father's love begotten  
 ere the worlds began to be,  
 he is Alpha and Omega,  
 he the source, the ending he,  
 of the things that are, that have been,  
 and that future years shall see  
 evermore and evermore.*

*Oh, that birth forever blessed  
 when the virgin, full of grace,  
 by the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
 bore the Savior of our race,  
 and the babe, the world's Redeemer,  
 first revealed his sacred face  
 evermore and evermore.*

*Christ, to thee, with God the Father,  
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee  
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving  
and unending praises be,  
honor, glory, and dominion  
and eternal victory  
evermore and evermore.*

## **Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!**

arr. Marty Haugen

Grades 3-8

Guitars: Adeline Clark, Logan Wenzel; Percussion: Hannah Pearson

Clarinet: Penny Weinstein

*Good Christian friends, rejoice,  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today;  
Ox and lamb before him bow;  
And he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!*

*Good Christian friends, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss:  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door,  
And we are blessed forevermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!*

*Good Christian friends, rejoice,  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave:  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all,  
To gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!*



# Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We

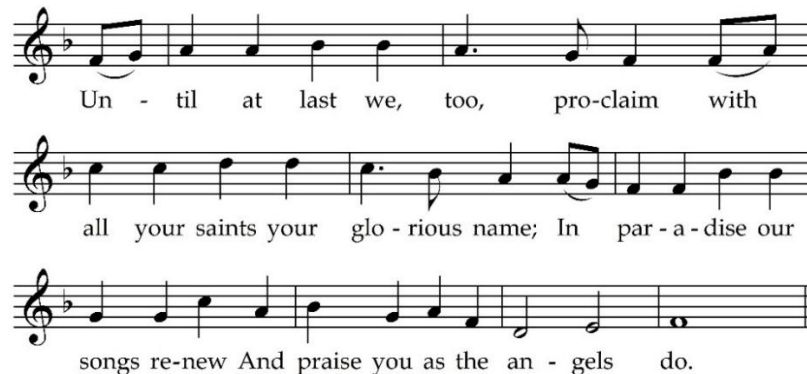
Grades 3-8

*Your little ones, dear Lord, are we and come your lowly bed to see;  
Enlighten ev'ry soul and mind that we the way to you may find.*

*With songs we hasten you to greet and humbly fall before your feet.  
Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night that gave you birth, our souls' delight.*

*Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord, and to us all your grace accord;  
True faith and love to us impart that we may hold you in our heart.*

**All sing:**



## Offering

*Today's offerings will be designated to the overall ministry of Emmanuel Lutheran School. Those wishing to contribute may do so as offering plates are passed throughout the rows.*

## Musical Offering

**Silent Night**  
Ella Krup

*Please stand*

## Prayer (Jacob Urbietta)

### Lord's Prayer

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

## The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you,  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**Welcome**

**Mr. Craig Kiecker**

## Joy to the World

**All sing:**



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -

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.

## Service Participants

Welcome and Greeting

Gary Pufahl, *pastor*  
Craig Kiecker, *principal*

Children

grades 3 - 8

Student speakers

8<sup>th</sup> grade students

Chimes choir

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students  
*Craig Kiecker*

Band

6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students  
*Rachel Severeid*

Guitar ensemble

6<sup>th</sup> grade students  
*Rachel Severeid*

Brass ensemble

Lucas Hahnke, Dane Lieske, Sebastian Mihili, Charlie Meyers  
*Tim Moke*

Accompanists

Kevin Bode, Erin Hahnke, Katie Meihak, Kris Pufahl, Lisa Thiesfeldt

Front cover

Melanie Wiechmann

Inside art work

Autumn Bode, Kaya Gile, Lucas Hahnke, Lea Rosales

Directors

Grades 3-5: Rachel Severeid  
Grades 3-8: Katie Meihak  
Grades 6-8: Kris Pufahl  
Junior choir: Kevin Bode

## Emmanuel Lutheran School Teachers

Preschool - Robin Marten, Cindy Michaels

Kindergarten - Molly Heyn

1<sup>st</sup> grade - Alissa Schroeder

2<sup>nd</sup> grade - Chris Wempner

3<sup>rd</sup> grade – Bethany Ohm

4<sup>th</sup> grade - Katie Meihak

5<sup>th</sup> grade - Natalie Priebe, Kevin Bode

6<sup>th</sup> grade - Andrew Olson

7<sup>th</sup> grade - Mandi Miller

8<sup>th</sup> grade - Kris Pufahl

Principal - Craig Kiecker

## Highlights of Upcoming Emmanuel School Events

December 18.....	Christmas Recital K-4 (12:30 – 1:30), grades 5-8 (1:30 – 2:30)
December 22 - January 2 .....	Christmas break
January 5 .....	Classes resume
January 16-17.....	AZ Lutheran Tip-off Tournament, A-team hoops
February 1 .....	Christian Education Sunday and Church and School Picnic
February 5 .....	Fine Arts Fair, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
February 6 .....	Grandparents Day, 10:00-noon
February 27.....	Fish Fry
February 28.....	Basketball Jamboree, B-team hoops
March 5 .....	Martin Luther College Choir visits
March 6-7 .....	John Henderson Memorial Tournament, A-team hoops
April 10 .....	AZ Lutheran Grade School Track Meet
April 11 .....	AZ Lutheran K-2 Track Meet morning, K-8 Spelling Bee afternoon
April 18 .....	Black Canyon League Track Meet
May 1-2 .....	Musical for grades 5-8
May 3 .....	Song Service (junior and adult choir), 8:00 & 10:30
May 6 .....	Spring Recital
May 8 .....	Band Concert joining AZ Lutheran
May 9 .....	Chess Tournament
May 14.....	8 <sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation Examination
May 15.....	Spring Concert, 6:30 p.m.
May 17 .....	Confirmation Day
May 20.....	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation and Closing Service, 7:00 p.m.
May 21.....	End-of-the-School-Year Party

### EMMANUEL HOLIDAY SERVICES

#### **December 24, 3:30 and 5:00 p.m. – A Service of Lessons and Carols**

Festival service that includes a large choir, instrumentalists, readers young and old, and piano and organ to accompany the Word.

#### **December 24, 6:30 and 8:00 p.m. – Candlelight Services**

A service that includes Christmas Scripture lessons, familiar Christmas hymns, and individually lit candles.

#### **December 25, 9:00 a.m. – Christmas Day**

Festival Christmas Day worship with Holy Communion.

#### **December 31, 3:30 and 6:30 p.m.—New Year’s Eve**

Worship with Holy Communion.

#### **January 6, 6:30 p.m.—Epiphany Candlelight Service**

A quiet candle-lit service celebrating the Epiphany of our Lord.



The faculty and staff of Emmanuel wish you a Merry Christmas! May the Lord continue to bless you and Emmanuel this new year.



**Emmanuel Lutheran**  
715 W Southern Ave.  
Tempe, AZ 85282  
<https://www.elstempe.org>

Christ + Connection + Caring