

# St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

8:30 & 11:00 Services

## *Fourth Sunday in Advent*

**Introduction for the Day:** Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

### *Gathering*

Prelude

*Carol of Hope – Each Winter As the Year Grows Older*  
by Ron Schmoltze

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Karen Natterstad

Anthem            8:30

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel* arr. Karissa Dennis  
– The EmBELLishments

*Please stand as you are able.*

Call to Worship

We gather in preparation

**for good news is about to be proclaimed.**

We gather in expectation

**for joy is about to explode in our midst.**

We gather in celebration

**for we are those people who have said: yes to the manger, yes to love, yes to the  
wholeness of God.**

With preparation and in expectation, let us celebrate!

## Advent Proclamation

## We Are Waiting for Jesus

We are wait - ing for\_\_\_ Je - sus; Je - sus\_\_\_ brings love.

We are wait - ing for\_\_\_ Je - sus; Je - sus\_\_\_ brings love.

Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.

We are wait - ing for\_\_\_ Je - sus; Je - sus\_\_\_ brings love.

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## Confession and Forgiveness

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

**Amen.**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, the God of goodness and lovingkindness, whose Son was sent to save us and whose Spirit is poured out on us and renews us. As people called out of darkness, let us confess our sins and seek mercy from the God of justice and righteousness.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Righteous and merciful God,

**we confess that we have strayed from your ways and walked our own paths. We fall asleep to the needs around us, yet our anxieties jar us awake. We are bound up in systems of unrighteousness and injustice. Restore your people, O God; renew your creation; and have mercy on us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Listen to what God is saying, speaking **love** to those who turn their hearts: the night is far gone, the day is near. All who have a fearful heart, be strong, do not be afraid! God comes in Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May Spirit of holiness fill you with wisdom and might, so that you shall delight in God's ways.

**Amen.**

Gathering Song

**#249 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry**

Advent Greeting

May the love of this season embrace you with God's grace.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

**Advent Candle Lighting - The Gift of Love**

We light four candles.

**And we wait for love.**

We look to the One Joseph will name Jesus.

**Come to us, O God with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.**

We now are ready to celebrate your birth.

**Brighten our world with hope for the future, O Lord.**

This morning we light four candles. The first candle is the light of **hope** for those in times of waiting. The second candle is the light of **peace** for those who are wearied by the circumstances of life. The third candle is the light of **joy** for those eagerly watching for God's promised glory. The fourth candle is the light of **love** for those who carry the wounds of life.

O Lord our God, you break into our world with messages of hope, peace, joy, and **love**. Renew our strength as we wait for your coming. Shine your light for those who live in darkness. Prepare our hearts for the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of us all.

**Blessed be God forever. Amen.** *(The fourth Advent candle is lit.)*

## Advent Response

## Christ Be Our Light

1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2. Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your ho - ly  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone has pow'r to  
 peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gath - ered to - day.

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Word - Generous Giving

*Generosity is not about the amount one gives, but what lies behind the gift, the love and grace of God. Joseph's gift...trust, love, promise, faithfulness to Mary, Joseph, and God.*

## First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.***Please stand as you are able.*

## Advent Acclamation

**Emmanuel**

Em-man - u - el, his name is called  
 Em-man - u - el. God with us, re-veal'd in  
 us, his name is called Em-man - u - el.

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Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the first chapter.

**Glory to you O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord for you.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

Second Reading (preaching text)

2 Corinthians 9:11-12

A reading from 2 Corinthians, chapter 9.

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Pastor Karen Natterstad

*Please stand as you are able.*

Hymn of the Day

**#250 Blessed Be the God of Israel**

*(Prayer Cards will be collected during the Hymn of the Day)*

(8:30 Service)

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

**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,  
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
 and became truly human.

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,  
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
 who 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.

(8:30 please turn to page 8)

(11:00 Service)

## *Service of Holy Baptism for Josephine Brown*

*Please follow along in your Hymnals on Page 227.*

*Please be seated.*

Presentation

*Please stand as you are able.*

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the  
 church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

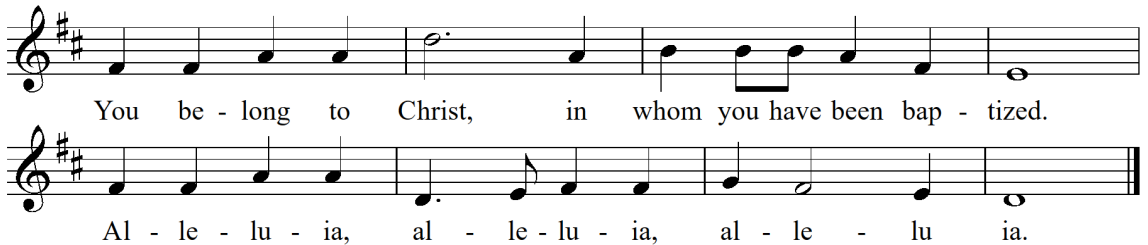
**Amen.**

Baptism

## Baptismal Response

## #212 You Belong to Christ

*You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*



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## Welcome

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

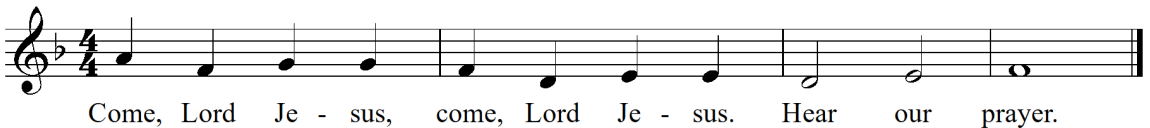
(8:30 and 11:00 Services Continue)

*Usher Volunteers gather for Offering Collection at the Welcome Center.*

## Prayers of Intercession

Waiting and watching for **love** to come upon us, let us pray for the world redeemed, the church reformed, and for all people restored in the coming one.

## Call to Prayer

**Come, Lord Jesus. Hear our Prayer**

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God, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**



## Sharing of the Peace

God, our hope, peace, joy, and love, we rejoice always that you became flesh and made your dwelling among us, even as we long for your return. Let us share that peace of the Lord with all this day and always. Peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## Meal

Musical Offering	8:30	'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime arr. Jason Krug – The EmBELLishments
	11:00	<i>In Silent Slumber Angels Come</i> arr. by Alan Hommerding – Senior Choir, Annette Olson and Brian Smith, Percussion

*In silent slumber, angels come, God's voice aloft, on wings. They, as for Joseph long ago, help dreamers know the things that God Most High requires of them: the will divine to hear. Thus Joseph learned the way his life the Word of God would bear.*

*Good Joseph honored laws he knew, that town and faith impart. Yet, bold with sureness born of trust, took angel words to heart: "Fear not! take Mary as your wife, for in her womb now dwells the Spirit's child, whom you shall call your Lord, Emmanuel."*

*Another angel came to speak when evil powers planned [Nails, spear shall pierce him through,] to slay the innocent and foil salvation from God's hand. [Myrrh is mine its bitter perfume.] So Joseph, with new Moses, fled his home and shop, exiled [The cross be borne for me, for you.] braved living in an alien land, [Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying.] to guard the promised child.*

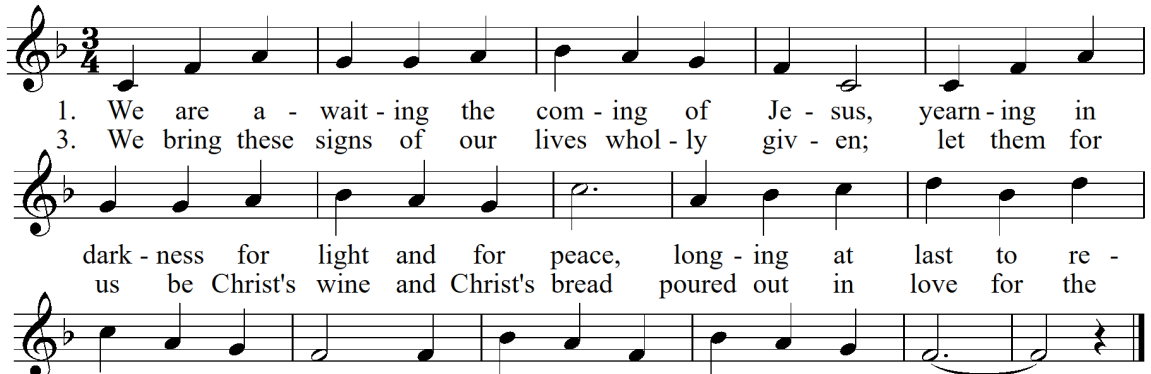
*As Jesus grew in years and grace, Saint Joseph daily strove to shepherd him in rite and craft, to hew his life with love. At Seder table Joseph stood, recalled Egyptian days, he broke the bread and blessed the cup to give God thanks and praise.*

*God once called Joseph in his dreams, gave angel guides through strife, we now are called to dream for God, then live a herald life. God made this good and upright man example for his Son, and for us, too, so as through Christ through us, God's will is done.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Offertory Response

### We Are Awaiting the Coming of Jesus



1. We are a - wait - ing the com - ing of Je - sus, yearn - ing in  
 3. We bring these signs of our lives whol - ly giv - en; let them for  
 dark - ness for light and for peace, long - ing at last to re -  
 us be Christ's wine and Christ's bread poured out in love for the  
 joice on that day when all peo - ple join in this feast.\_\_\_\_\_  
 heal - ing of all and bro - ken that all may be fed.\_\_\_\_\_

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### Offering Prayer

Heavenly Father, you accepted Mary, a daughter who lived out her faith. You accepted Joseph, a son of gentle obedience. Please accept these gifts. They are signs of our faith. They are examples of our **love**. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

#### Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
 and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### Invitation to Communion

Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you.

**Let us share in the feast of salvation.**

*Please be seated.*

Communion Anthem	8:30	<i>Angels, from the Realms of Glory</i> arr. Anna Laura Page – The EmBELLishments
	11:00	<i>What Feast of Love</i> [ELW #487] – Senior Choir

Communion Hymn                      **#266 All Earth Is Hopeful**

*Please stand as you are able.*

Post-Communion Response

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which you have now just received,  
strengthen you and keep you in his love and grace.

**Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Your kingdom, O Jesus, is at hand. We have tasted its bounty. We have touched our  
Lord. Empower us, by this meal, to proclaim your Gospel to all who will hear,  
“Emmanuel! God is with us!” You are the Lord forevermore.

**Amen.**

## *Sending*

Blessing

Isaiah says, “*The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him  
the Gentiles shall hope.*” May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in  
believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

Sending Song                      **#253 He Came Down**

Dismissal

The coming of the Lord is near. Go in peace, prepare the way.

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude                      *The King of Glory Comes* by Aaron David Miller

*A healing Service will follow directly after the 8:30 Service in the Sanctuary.*

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-16**

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup>Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. <sup>13</sup>Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

**Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19****SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7**

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, <sup>3</sup>the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, <sup>6</sup>including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup>To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]; John 1:1-14.

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Tracks 1 and 2  
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