

The congregation is invited - to attend the wedding ceremony of Daryll Wondrak and Maribeth Traveler today, Sunday, Dec. 9th at noon. Cake and refreshments will follow immediately after in the Fellowship Hall.

Children’s K–8 Christmas Eve Service – will be Monday, December 24th, at 4:00 pm. This year’s theme is “Christmas Around the World”. The service will focus on spreading God’s Word to people and nations around the world. The children will be singing familiar Christmas carols in several different languages. Everyone is invited to join us for this special service celebrating the birth of our Savior.

Live Poinsettias - If anyone would like to contribute towards the cost of the live poinsettias that were purchased to beautify the front of our church, please put it in an envelope and mark it “Poinsettias”. You can also give money to Mrs. Conklin in the office.

Children’s Bulletins and Books - We have special bulletins for our children each Sunday. The ushers will have them when they are handing out the weekly bulletins. Please feel free to ask them for this bulletin. Crayons are also available from the ushers. Christian books are also available for ages 0 to 10 + to look at or read during the service! Please ask an usher to direct you to the books so you or your child may pick out an age appropriate book bag or book.

Bathrooms/Baby Changing Tables - are located in the Fellowship Hall, which is the large building in front of the church. (The building closest to the parking lot) There are changing tables in both bathrooms for your convenience. The bathrooms are located on the east end of the building.

Worship Attendance

Sunday, December 2 - 141 (78 - 8:00 am, 63 - 10:30 am)

<u>Income from week ending Dec. 2, 2018</u>	<u>Month Total</u>	<u>Monthly Budget</u>
First Fruits Offering	\$6427.12	\$30,128
School	\$12,170.65	\$14,803
Preschool/Extended Care	\$0	\$5584
Mortgage	\$185	\$185

“Our Christmas Show and Tell”



**Preschool – 1st Grade
Christmas Worship Service
December 9, 2018**

Emmaus Lutheran Church & School

3841 W Sweetwater Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85029

www.emmauslutheran.com

602-843-3853

Welcome to Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church for this Christmas service. We extend a special welcome to those with us for the first time and those with us as guests today, and we invite you to return. We pray that God's message of the Savior born to live, die and rise again for you, gives you peace, comfort and hope. "Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord!" He is the best gift of all!

- *Our worship service focuses first of all on the things God has done for us, especially His gift of salvation in Christ Jesus. Thus our focus is on the Word of God and on the Sacraments of Baptism and Lord's Supper, since those are God's gifts to us and need to be at the center of the Christian life. Secondly in prayer and song we respond to the great things God has done for us. Since this is a Christian worship service, we respectfully ask that you not take flash photography. Thank you for your understanding.*

In talking about the truth of the Christ-child and the focus of Christmas, some Christians in years past stated it this way: *"There are two natures – the divine and the human – inseparably joined in one person. There is one Christ, true God and true man, who was born of the Virgin Mary, truly suffered, was crucified, died and was buried. He did this to reconcile the Father to us and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for all actual sins of mankind (John 1:29)."*

Prayer before worship: *Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Organist: Mrs. Janean Plocher
Worship leader: Pastor Ross Else

This Week at Emmaus

TODAY	Preschool - 1 st grade Christmas Worship Service	9:00 am
	Fellowship Breakfast	10:00 am
TUESDAY	Board of Finance	6:00 pm
	Board of Properties	6:30 pm
WEDNESDAY	Soup Supper	5:45 pm
	Advent Worship	6:30 pm
SATURDAY	Information Class	11:00 am
	Memorial Service for Kathy Boyd	1:00 pm
NEXT SUNDAY	Worship w/Lord's Supper	8:00 am
	Bible Study and Sunday School	9:15 am
	Worship	10:30 am

Announcements

Those with ongoing health and other struggles - Coover Shiffer; Lilly Ventura(surgery); David Conklin (surgery); Rich Tollefson; Joyce Matney; Gary Boyd; Pastor Retberg; Darwin Stellmacher; Jean Bagley; Roger Wilde (surgery); Ricardo Soriano; Barb Wendt; Sandy Griffiths' nephew, Riley Ernst; Kimberly Fritz (cancer); Shaun Eversole (cancer); Chuck Widmann; Barb Widmann; Barb Osborn; Judy Frank; Brad Anderson; Roger Wilde's wife, Carol; Polly Mackenzie; Vince Wallenberg; Ellen King; Diane Scheel; Linda Thompson's friend Kathy Desch (cancer);

Those who are - sick, unemployed, traveling, celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, serving in the military, single, married, parents, children.

Memorial Service - for Kathy Boyd will be Saturday, December 15, at 1:00 pm at Emmaus. You will be able to offer condolences to the family after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

Advent Worship - Advent is a season of preparation and anticipation. Our midweek Advent services will be held at 6:30 PM on December 12th and 19th. A light supper will precede each service at 5:45 pm.

A Night in Bethlehem - A big "THANK YOU" to everyone who helped out in any way to make our annual outreach event a success.

BLESSING

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on them, and I will bless them" (Numbers 6:27).

P: The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The LORD look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #57 - "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Children v. 1, Congregation vs. 2-3

This African-American spiritual hymn was first published in the 1920s in America.

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills, and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.

Children:

1. While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

Refrain:

Congregation:

2. The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.

Refrain:

Congregation:

3. Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain:

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after the service for breakfast and a time of Fellowship.

OPENING HYMN #23 "Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel"

This hymn contains biblical phrases that refer to the Messiah, the Savior - who He is and what He would do. This hymn's origins date back to the first centuries after Jesus' resurrection and ascension. It has been in use in Christianity in various forms ever since.

1. **O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!**
2. **O come, O Root of Jesse, free Your own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of Hell your people save,
And bring them victory o'er the grave
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!**
3. **O come, O Day-Spring, from on high,
And cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!**
4. **O come, O Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!**

Please stand if you are able. Standing is a way of showing reverence in God's presence, and confidence because of his mercy.

INVOCATION

As we speak these words, once spoken over those baptized into the Christian faith, we give thanks that the Triune God has adopted us into his family.

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

The use of the Keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to His church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners but refuse forgiveness to the impenitent as long as they do not repent. (See John 20:21-23) Confession has two parts. The one is that we confess our sins before God, even those sins we are not aware of; the other, that we receive absolution or forgiveness from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting but firmly believing that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven. (Matthew 18:18; Luke 17:3)

P: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, You should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In His great mercy, through the working of His Word, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of God through His called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

LORD, HAVE MERCY (Kyrie)

"Kyrie" is the Greek word for Lord. The expression "Lord, have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

P: Direct our eyes not only to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: With gratitude that we can talk to you as loved children talk to their loving father, we pray:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

GATHERING OF OUR THANK-OFFERINGS

One of the ways we express our thanks to God is through offerings given. Our motive for supporting the Lord's work is gratitude for his grace.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

P: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from our spiritual slumber and apathy.

C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

P: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

HYMN #38 "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" vs. 1 - 4, 8

We cannot help but praise God for the great things He has done. Today we use this hymn, written around 1535, since it beautifully captures the mystery, wonder, and great love of God's gift to the world in sending the Christ-Child. Martin Luther wrote this hymn originally for his children to sing on Christmas Eve. We sing selected verses .

1. **From heav'n above to earth I come To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Where-of I now will say and sing:**
2. **To you this night is born a child Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.**
3. **This is the Christ, our God most high, Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will Himself your Savior be From all your sins to set you free.**
4. **He will on you the gifts bestow Prepared by God for all below,
That in His kingdom bright and fair, You may with us His glory share.**
8. **Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share our misery That you might share your joy with me.**

SALUTATION

This greeting between pastor and congregation has deep roots in Christian worship. (See Ruth 2:4 also) In our worship service it marks the beginning of the Word section and the Sacrament section.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God, you have made this day shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold Jesus in all His glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Our Christmas Show and Tell

Part 1 – A bell



Recitation and passage

Luke 2:14

Hymn #63 “Angels We Have Heard on High”
Children v. 1, Congregation vs. 2-3

Though the author of this well-known hymn is unknown, the roots of it are found in a French folk carol from the 18th century.

Children:

1. Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
 And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Congregation:

2. **Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?**
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song?
 Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Congregation:

3. **Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;**
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Part 2 – A wreath



Recitation and passage

John 3:16

Hymn #38, verses 13-15 Congregation sings vs. 13-15

13. Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
 Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled
 Within my heart, made clean and new,
 A quiet chamber kept for you.
14. My heart for very joy must leap;
 My lips no more can silence keep.
 I too, must sing with joyful tongue
 That sweetest ancient cradle song:
15. Glory to God in highest heaven,
 Who unto us His Son has given!
 While angels sing with pious mirth
 A glad new year to all the earth.

Part 3 – A present



Recitation and passage

James 1:17

Hymn #68 – Away in a Manger Children sing vs. 1 and 3

This song first appeared in a book published in Philadelphia in 1885.

APOSTLES CREED

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. The Apostles Creed is a positive statement of the essential facts of Christianity. It proclaims the clear truths of the Triune God, summarizing the work of Father, Son and Holy Spirit - the truth of Scripture revealed on the pages of the Bible. The basics of this creed have been in use from the days of the apostles.