

 <small>North American Lutheran Church</small>	<b>EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> PO Box 282 308 4th Avenue Grafton, Iowa 50440 Office: 641-748-2736 Parsonage: 641-748-2050 emanluthch@wctatel.net PastorZ@wctatel.net www.emmanuelgraffton.org	WOV - With One Voice CH - Celebration Hymnal LBW - Lutheran Book of Worship
	Pastor: Solveig A.H. Zamzow Organist: Charlotte Cole Acolyte: Ryan Cole	

Advent Kyrie (spoken)

P: O Lord, have mercy and come to us.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation:

**C: Come and teach us the way of prudence.**

P: O Adonai and Ruler of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the Law on Sinai:

**C: Come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.**

P: O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage:

**C: Come quickly to deliver us.**

P: O Emmanuel, our King and our Lawgiver, the anointed of the nations and their Savior:

**C: Come and save us, O Lord our God.**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent  
December 20, 2020**

Prelude: *“Away in a Manger” arr. Gilbert M. Martin*

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness .....LBW p. 77

Apostolic Greeting

Admonition: Almighty God...Amen.

P: Most merciful God

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Hymn: *Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly*.....WOV # 634

*1. Sing of Mary, pure and lowly, virgin mother, wise and mild.  
Sing of God’s own Son most holy, who became her little child.  
Fairest child of fairest mother, God the Lord who came to earth,  
Word made flesh, our very brother, takes our nature by his birth.*

*2. Sing of Jesus, son of Mary, in the home at Nazareth.  
Toil and labor cannot weary love enduring unto death.  
Constant was the love he gave her, though he went forth from her side,  
forth to preach, and heal, and suffer, till on Calvary he died.*

*3. Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son;  
glory be to God the Spirit; glory to the Three in one.  
From the heart of blessed Mary, from all saints the song ascends,  
and the Church the strain reechoes unto earth’s remotest ends.*

Hymn of Praise – *The Magnificat* ..... See Insert

**Prayer of the Day: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the hindrance 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, now and forever. Amen.**

***Lighting of the Advent Candle:***

P: Behold! The Lord your God breathes new life into dead spaces. God’s Messiah is coming into our world as God’s final word — life will triumph over death. Do not be afraid. We light the fourth Advent Candle as a sign of our hope in God’s redeeming love. The Messiah is coming to establish a kingdom in the shape of that very love. And this kingdom will last for ever and ever. Come, Lord Jesus.

**C: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen**

Children's Program: Just a Little Christmas



**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.....LBW # 34 vv 1, 4, & 5**

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

4. O come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by your advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night And death's dark shadows put to flight  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel

5. 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

**Once in Royal David's City.....WOV # 643 v 1**

1. Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed.  
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

**Coventry Carol**

Lul-ly, lul-lay, thou little tiny child, by, by, lul-ly, lul-lay.

1. O sisters too, how may we do for to preserve this day  
this poor youngling, for whom we do sing? By by, lul-ly, lul-lay.

2. Herod the king, in his raging, char-ged he hath this day  
his men of might, in his own sight, all young children to slay.

3. That woe is me, poor child, for thee! And ever morn and day,  
for thy parting neither say nor sing by, by, lul-ly, lul-lay!

**Joy to the World.....LBW # 39 vv 1 & 4**

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Meditation: *Peeking in on the Baby*

**Apostle's Creed.....LBW p. 85**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
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. Amen**

Prayer and Lord's Prayer.....LBW p. 97

Benediction and Amen.....LBW p. 97

Announcements

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**Closing Hymn: Come, Thou Long- Expected Jesus.....LBW # 30**

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus, Born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth thou art.  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

2. Born thy people to deliver, Born a child, and yet a king;  
Born to reign in us forever, Now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thy own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts along;  
By thine all sufficient merit Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Chimes and Postlude

**Members, friends and visitors: welcome to our worship today!** We are glad you are here and your presence is important to all of us. God's blessings to you and yours as we prepare for and celebrate the birth of the Christ Child.

**Please be seated...**after the closing hymn. You will be ushered out from the back of the sanctuary. Please exit through the double glass doors!

**Poinsettia forms...**can be located on the small table in the narthex for those wishing to purchase one or more to beautify our sanctuary for Christmas. It is not too late to do so. Your plants may be taken home after the Christmas Day worship.

**Thank You...**to Brittany Bartz and Marena Henkle for the tremendous work with our Christmas program--made most difficult with Covid-19 in the background as it called for ongoing changes. We likewise appreciate and thank all of our Sunday School teachers for their dedication. There are "Christmas bags" for all children today--look for them as you leave the sanctuary.

**Merry Christmas and a Blessed 2021 to all members and friends of Emmanuel Lutheran Church...**We are sending our best wishes to each of you with praise and thanksgiving for another year of shared ministry. May these holy days be filled with the warmth of love and peace we seek and may we find blessings even in those moments that appear dark and hopeless. We greet you with words from an old Orthodox Liturgy spoken in preparation of the Nativity: *Today the virgin is on her way to the cave where she will give birth in a manner beyond understanding to the Word who is in all eternity. Rejoice, therefore, universe, when you hear it heralded, with the angels and the shepherds; glorify Him who chose to be seen as a new-born babe, while remaining God in all eternity.* Let us hear the proclamation once again, receive the Christ of God and live joyfully as the people of God we truly are.

-Merry Christmas, *Pastor Solveig and Michael Zamzow*

**In anticipation...**of a kitchen remodeling next year, the countertops and old cupboard doors and drawers are being removed by our Property Committee. If you are interested in having any of the items, please contact Michael Cole or call the office for information.

December 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2020		Attendance: 62
General: \$3,451	Benevolence: \$95	SS Offering: \$6.00

**Christmas Eve and Day Offerings...**will be designated as follows: the first \$1500 will go to Benevolence and the remainder will be kept in the General Fund. We thank you for your generous financial support over the last year, despite the unusual circumstances the year has brought.

**Year-end deadline...**for financial contributions to Emmanuel is Wednesday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at noon. Any funds received after will be acknowledged on your 2021 statement.

**New offering envelopes...**will be available to pick up by Christmas Eve.

**The 2019 pictorial directories...**not yet picked up will be marked with your name and available after worship today and also on Christmas Eve, located on the table in the narthex.

**Annual Meeting reports...**need to be submitted to the church office no later than Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be on January 31<sup>st</sup>. If submitting in electronic form, please send in a non-PDF form so Sharon can manipulate it for the report. Any questions, contact the office.

This Week at Emmanuel December 21-27		
Wednesday, December 23	4:30 pm	No Confirmation
<i>This Night Alight!</i>	6:30 pm	Advent Service (virtual)
Thursday, December 24	4, 6, 10 pm	Christmas Eve Services
Friday, December 25	9:30 am	Christmas Day Worship w/HC
Sunday, December 27	9:30 am	Worship No Sunday School

**Thank you...**for the generous Christmas gift from the Church council. It has been an honor to serve Emmanuel the past year and I look forward to the future. -*Sharon Hulshizer*

