Welcome to worship! "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 1:3).

This worship service can be watched live on YouTube, as it happens, anywhere you have an internet connection. Additionally, past services will be archived so you can stay up-to-date or relive your favorite Sunday morning moments. You can find the link on our website or check it out at https://bit.ly/FPClive

Worship Assistant: Sue Vitale Communion: Liz Kenny, Kim Kreider

Ushers: Cindy Stull Candle Lighting: Gill Family

Deacon Greeter: Kim Kreider Audio: Tracey Gill Fellowship: Pot Luck Luncheon

NOTE: Sheet music for the hymns can be found on the next page or pages.



Order of Worship
December 3, 2023

Faith Presbyterian Church of Emmaus

3002 N. Second Street, PO Box 507 Emmaus, Pennsylvania 18049 610.967.5600 office@faithchurchemmaus.org

www.faithchurchemmaus.org



THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP 1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

10:00 AM DECEMBER 3, 2023

THE FIRST NOTE OF THE PRELUDE begins our worship.

Please use the prelude time to turn your attention to God's presence and help. Nurturing our relationships and friendships in fellowship is essential to our life as a congregation, so please continue to do so following our time of worship.

* Those who are able are invited to stand.

FOCUSING UPON GOD'S PRESENCE AND VOICE

PRELUDE

"Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CANDLE LIGHTING & CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The God who makes us feel safe is the God who gives us hope.

Today we light the first Advent candle: the candle of hope.

In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord,

People: we trust in the Lord's goodness. We rely on God's mercy.

We find shelter in God's steadfast love.

Leader: In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord,

People: we walk in the Lord's way. We follow God's example of love.

We keep our covenant promises.

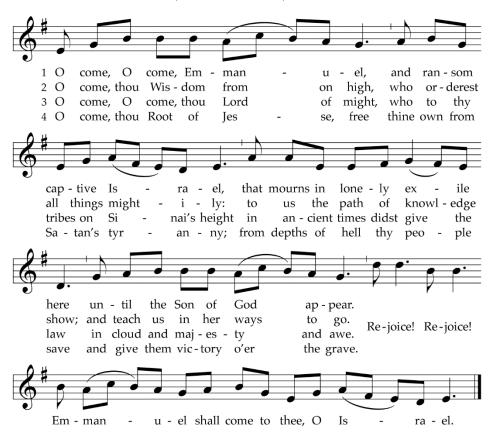
***OPENING PRAYER**

***HYMN #88**

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

vv. 1, 5, 6, 7 (sheet music on next page.)

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



- 5 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
 - Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

 Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)
 Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)
 Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)

 Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)
 Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)

Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)
Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)
Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

LITANY OF AFFIRMATION

Leader: When we are children, our understanding of God is both expansive and personal...God is as close as any friend, yet there's nothing our God cannot do. Somewhere align the way our view of God often gets smaller and controlled. Our imaginations get stunted and God is suddenly distant and abstract, an idea rather than a friend. In this Advent season, as we prepare for the most surprising action God has taken -becoming human as a helpless infant- we offer this prayer of confession.

People: God of mystery and wonder, forgive us for thinking we can contain you and control you. We confess that we forget who you are—a God of delightful surprise and deep belly laughs. Forgive us for assuming you are distant, and for forgetting you know what it's like to be in our skin. You are bigger than what we can imagine, but you know every trial and temptation we face. Revive our imaginations, restore our childlike faith, and renew us with wonder and joy, all for your name's sake.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayers.

(A moment is given for silent confession to God.)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***HYMN OF ASSURANCE**

TEXT & MUSIC BOB MCGEE

Emmanuel, Emmanuel'

His name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us,

His name in called Emmanuel.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY: Christmas Joy Offering

THE WORD OF GOD TO THE CHURCH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

PSALM 46

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

Selah

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

⁶The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

²⁴"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

25and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

26Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²³"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT



*May be sung antiphonally.

This unusual dialogue hymn alternates between the voice of a traveler and that of a watchman, setting up an exchange that creates parallels between the coming of dawn and the birth of Christ. The tune is named for a Welsh town whose name means "mouth of the bending river."

TEXT: John Bowring, 1825, alt.

ABERYSTWYTH

APOSTLES' CREED

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

CALL FOR OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY "You Are My Strength When I Am Weak"
Congregation to sing—Hymn #519



At this time, we are not passing an offering plate.

Please find the plate by the door for in-person giving. See the back page of the bulletin for additional info on how to give. Thank you for your generosity!

DOXOLOGY #606

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION
INVITATION TO THE TABLE
PRAYER w/ LORD'S PRAYER
COMMUNION

PRAYER (in unison)

Lord, we thank you for this meal, which revives hope within us that you are present in us and around us. May your Spirit make our hearts glad to share this life and desire to live in Him.

Help us to care for your world and for each other in the way that Jesus showed us. Until Christ comes again, with all your people in every time and every land we worship you and say, Amen.

***HYMN #114**

"Away in a Manger"

(Sheet music on next page.)

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Savior of the Nations with O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Please feel free to sit and reflect during the postlude or depart and join us in Fellowship Hall.

Music Licensing Information

Prelude Marilyn Biery, OneLicense.net A-713988

Hymn #88 Music Arr. © 1990 John Weaver. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Offertory CCLI 1695793

Hymn #97 Public Domain

Hymn #114 Public Domain

Postlude arr. J. William Greene, OneLicense.net A-713988





This anonymous carol probably originated among Pennsylvania Lutherans in the late 19th century, giving rise to a mistaken assertion that it had been written by Martin Luther. This tune is also by an American but has become the one usually used in Canada and Great Britain.

Faith Life

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023

We hope you'll join us following worship in Fellowship Hall for our Pot Luck Luncheon, which is Sunday Morning Together on the first Sunday of each month.

COMMUNION INCLUSION—INTINCTION

Communion is by intinction this morning. For those needing allergen free foods, the pastor will have brown rice crackers, which are wheat free, gluten free, soy and nut free.

THERE IS NO NURSERY TODAY!



- TODAY: Pot Luck Lunch (see below)
- **December 10—**Cookies and bags for Daybreak; Kids' Music; Fellowship

See the back of this page for a list of SMT's future Sunday and mid-week events. Youth Group News is also on the next page!

POT LUCK LUNCHEON

Following worship this morning, we will gather together for our **Pot Luck Luncheon**. The Ministry to the Congregation Committee invites all to attend! The main course is a **Taco Bar**, which the committee will supply. Side dishes and desserts will be supplied by church friends and family.



CHURCH DIRECTORY



Look for the proof of the directory on the table in the narthex **next** week, once the remaining items from the craft fair have been packed away. Then review your information and make any changes or corrections.

PER CAPITA UPDATE

The per capita payment has portions sent to the Lehigh Presbytery, the Synod of the Trinity and the General Assembly to help pay for the operation expenses of those organizations.



As of 11/30, we have received **\$4,796.00** towards our total payment of \$11,904.00. The apportionment for 2023 is \$48.00 per member.

You can pay your per capita online, or by check made out to Faith Presbyterian Church. Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE UPDATE

As of 11/27 we have 64 pledges at \$222,714.

It's not too late to pledge. You The Ministry of Support committee would like the pledge forms in by November 19, so the 2024 budget process can be started. There are pledge cards in the pews. Mail them in, bring to church, or use the online form which can be found at this link: https://faithchurchemmaus.org/donate/pledge/.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING: THE PERFECT GIFT

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

And the Word became flesh and lived among us...

John 1:14

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the **Christmas Joy Offering**, you honor this gift by providing financial and vocational guidance to **current and retired church workers** in their time of need, through the **Assistance Program** of the **Board of Pensions** and for our **future leaders** at **Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools** and **colleges**.

The **Assistance Program** offers assistance to folks in one of these three categories:

- retired church workers with financial and housing needs
- church workers with urgent financial needs
- pastors with vocational leadership needs

The Christmas Joy Offering provides opportunities for deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic colleges and schools, such as Menuaul School in New Mexico and Stillman College in Alabama.

The **Christmas Joy Offering** will be received and dedicated on **December 17, 2023.**

Faith Presbyterian Church received \$2,380.00 in 2022 for the Christmas Joy Offering.

Please prayerfully consider donating to this worthy cause.



FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EMMAUS

3002 N. Second Street - PO Box 507 - Emmaus, PA 18049 610-967-5600—office@faithchurchemmaus.org Visit us on the web! www.faithchurchemmaus.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday from 9:00 AM to Noon. Closed on Fridays.



Sunday Morning Together brings our church family together for fellowship and special activities. Most activities take place right after worship. Children of God of all ages are welcome!

12/17	Work Camp Cookie Sale
12/24	Fellowship (Christmas Eve)
12/31	Fellowship (New Year's Eve)
1/7	First Sunday Luncheon
1/14	Fellowship
1/21	Fire Safety & First Aid
1/28	Congregational Meeting
2/4	First Sunday Luncheon
2/1	Fastnacht
2/8	Fellowship
2/25	Pretzels & Lent Fellowship
3/3	First Sunday Luncheon & Ice Hockey
3/10	Fellowship
3/17	Vision Team Event



TALENT SHOW: FEBRUARY 4

Sign up to participate in our upcoming talent show!

- ☆ Share a SIGHT; crafts or hobbies you enjoy and can be placed on a table to see.
- ☆ Share a SOUND; something to be heard and/or performed on a stage.
- "S" Foods don't need to be signed up for, but please bring a dish to share for lunch that starts with the letter S. If your last name begins with A-K bring a side dish that starts with the letter S, and L-Z bring something sweet.

Sign up by speaking with Heather Davis, or on the whiteboard in Fellowship Hall.

<u>WORD ON</u> WEDNESDAY (WOW)

Our Wednesday at noon Bible study is meeting again! We're continuing with the Gospel of Matthew. Reading the gospel together helps us process and learn together as we grow together. All are welcome!



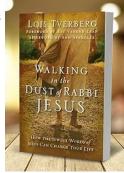
THURSDAY WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

Fall 2023

This group meets Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the homes of our members for coffee, study, laughter, and prayer.

Join us this fall through early December as we study some of Jesus' most important words and stories in light of their Jewish context.

Interested? Contact Anne Laubach or Deanna Robinson.



YOUTH GROUP NEED

Pastor Jo Marchetto, our Youth Group Director, could use some help from us here at FPC. At times, an adult or two are needed to assist in the Youth Group activity, program.

No experience is needed or special skills, just a genuine interest in our youth. The commitment can be flexible. Why not give Pastor Jo a call (phone number is in the directory) and find out what it's all about. You will be greatly appreciated! THANK YOU!

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH! BUT HOW?

Sponsoring a meal for our Youth Groups is a very beneficial and easy way to show your support for our youth. (For a rewarding experience, consider joining them for the



meal and getting to know them better.) <u>It's</u> <u>easy</u> - scan the QR code to schedule/sponsor your meal, or you can call Pastor Jo Marchetto, our Youth Director. What a wonderful way to show interest in and support our youth! <u>Thank you</u>.



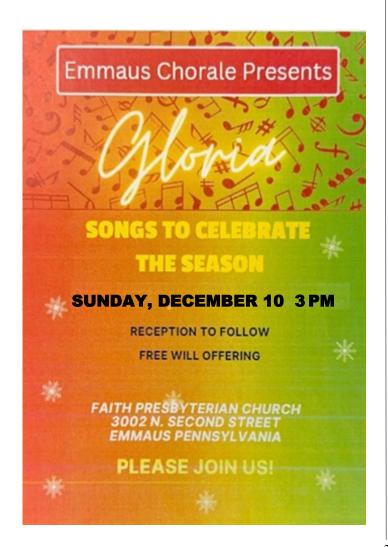
REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

The last three holiday seasons, our Reverse Advent Calendar has been a big success, so we will be doing it again this year.

The calendar began in the middle of November and ends a week or so before Christmas so the items can be dropped off at church (in the narthex), have time to "cool off" and be delivered to the Emmaus Food Bank at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church in January.

The list has been worked to include items that would not be covered by state subsidies. The Mission Committee looks forward to seeing Faith rise to the occasion again this year and help the needy.

Grab your copy of the Reverse Advent Calendar from the table in the narthex.



COLLEGE ADDRESSES Is your information up to date?

- ✓ Contact your deacon
- Email or call the church office.
- Comment on the Facebook group page.
- ✓ A note in the secretary's mailbox

PLEASE UPDATE NOW

610-967-5600 office@faithchurchemmaus.org





TWO WEEKS OF FAITH

This calendar is prepared on the Thursday prior to distribution. Please see the church <u>website</u> for the most up-to-date information.

BR Brick Room FH Fellowship Hall MR Music Room P Parlor

Zoom

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, December 3

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service

11:00 a.m.— Pot Luck Luncheon (FH)

Noon— Confirmation Class

5:00 p.m.— Middle School Youth Group

6:30 p.m.— Senior High Youth Group

Monday, December 4

7:00 p.m.— Emmaus Chorale (S)

7:15 p.m.— Ministry to the Congregation meeting (P)

Tuesday, December 5

7:30 p.m.— Ministry to the Support meeting (P)

Wednesday, December 6

8:00 a.m.— Rotary Food Program (FH)

Noon— Word on Wednesday (P)

5:30 p.m.— Faithful Ringers rehearsal

7:00 p.m.— Faithful Harmonizers rehearsal (S)

Thursday, December 7

9:30 a.m.— Women's Study Group

7:00 p.m.— Narcotics Anonymous (FH)

Friday, December 8

Church Office Closed

7:00 p.m.— Emmaus Chorale Dress Rehearsal (S)

Saturday, December 9

9:00 a.m.- Zumba (FH)

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, December 10

10:00 a.m.— Worship Service

11:00 a.m.— Sunday Morning Together (FH)

3:00 p.m.— Emmaus Chorale Concert & Reception (S&FH)

5:00 p.m.— Youth Group Christmas Caroling

7:00 p.m.— High School Youth Group Book Club)

Monday, December 11

1:30 p.m.- Daybreak Meal

Tuesday, December 12

7:00 p.m.— Session Meeting (BR)

Wednesday, December 13

8:00 a.m.— Rotary Food Program (FH)

Noon— Word on Wednesday (P)

5:30 p.m.— Faithful Ringers rehearsal

7:00 p.m.— Faithful Harmonizers rehearsal (S)

7:00 p.m.— EPNHN (P)

Thursday, December 14

9:30 a.m.— Women's Study Group

7:00 p.m.— Narcotics Anonymous (FH)

Friday, December 15

Church Office Closed

3:00 p.m.— Youth Group Baking Party

Saturday, December 16

9:00 a.m.— Zumba (FH)

10:00 a.m.— Crazy Quilters (FH)

Daybreak – December 11 2023 Per Capita—\$48.00 Spring Flyer deadline—February 18

ARE YOU GETTING THE INFO YOU NEED?

Faith Church has four email lists. Are you interested in being added to one or more of them? Please indicate your interest, add your email address, tear off this tab, and drop in the offering plate.

•	•				
	Weekly Announcements		Quarterly Newsletter		
	Prayer Chain		Emergency Alerts		
Name & email:					

Looking Ahead

Mark Your Calendars!

Dec. 17	Christmas Joy Offering,
	Congregational Meeting
	Work Camp Cookie Sale
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve
Dec. 25	Christmas
Jan. 1	Happy New Year 2024!
Jan. 7	Pot Luck Luncheon
Jan. 28	Annual Congregational Meeting
eb. 2	Talent Show
eb. 4	Pot Luck Luncheon
eb. 23	Youth Group 30 Hour Famine
Mar. 3	Pot Luck Luncheon
	Phantoms Hockey Game