



Emmanuel Church

The Episcopal Church on Mercer Island



Joseph's Dream, T'oros Roslin, Armenian, 1262

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2025

WELCOME GUESTS & VISITORS



We are grateful that you have joined us!

Some notes that may be of help in getting to know us may be found on the inside back cover of this worship leaflet. All that you will need to take part in worship may be found here in this worship leaflet and in the blue Hymnal 1982.

Please let us know how we may better welcome you.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

During Advent, we will be making use of our bells during the time leading up to worship.

8:00 a.m. *The People stand as the Ministers enter*

10:00 a.m. *The Celebrant bids the People to stand as able.*

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY *Said by all*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

8:00 AM **KYRIE ELEISON** *Said by all.*

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

10:00 AM PROCESSION – Hymnal 1982 #54 “Savior of the nations, come”

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us Pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES – Isaiah 7:10-16

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? 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. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 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.”

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM – 80:1-7, 16-18

8:00 Read Responsively, 10:00 Sung by the Choir

1. Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
2. In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
3. Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
4. O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
5. You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6. You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7. Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
16. Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
17. And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
18. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.



A READING FROM THE EPISTLES – Romans 1:1-7

Lector A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 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, 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, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

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.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GRADUAL – Hymnal 1982, #438 “Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord”

THE HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 1:18-25

All standing, the Minister says to the People

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. 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. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

After the Gospel the Minister says

The Gospel of our Savior.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON The Reverend Patrick Raymond

THE NICENE CREED

Enriching Our Worship

All stand, as able, and say together

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,
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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader Holy God, beginning and end of all that is or shall be, hear our prayers as we await the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. *Silence.*

People Give hope to the powerless and humility to the powerful. Turn all hearts to peace and forgiveness wherever there is estrangement, division or violence. *Silence.* Holy God:
Be revealed in our justice and wisdom.

Leader Show your mercy and justice in us and through the witness of all in your Church throughout the world. *Silence.* Holy God:

People **Be revealed in our words and actions.**

Leader We pray for all in need: travelers, refugees, the lonely or discouraged, the hungry and homeless, the sick and the suffering. *Silence.* Holy God:

People **Be revealed in our compassion and care for others.**

Leader Let us remember with thanksgiving and pray for those in our parish who celebrate birthdays today or in the coming week, including _____.

Leader Let us remember in particular at this time those for whom our prayers have been asked, including _____, and others we now name aloud or remember silently.

Leader We remember the dying and the dead, including _____, and others we now name aloud or remember silently. *Silence.*

The Celebrant may add a Collect.

THE CONFESSION

After a brief silence, the Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Minister and People

God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.** *Please share the Peace of Christ with others.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Part of our spiritual practice as Christians is to support the mission of the church through financial donations. You may give in the plate or online using PayPal. To donate via PayPal, simply scan this QR code and follow the instructions.



Information on receiving Communion may be found on page 15.

10:00 OFFERTORY ANTHEM – “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

John Carter

10:00 OFFERTORY HYMN – Hymnal 1982, #268 “Ye who claim the faith of Jesus”

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A, Expanded Language

The people remain standing. The Celebrant says

God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift our hearts to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

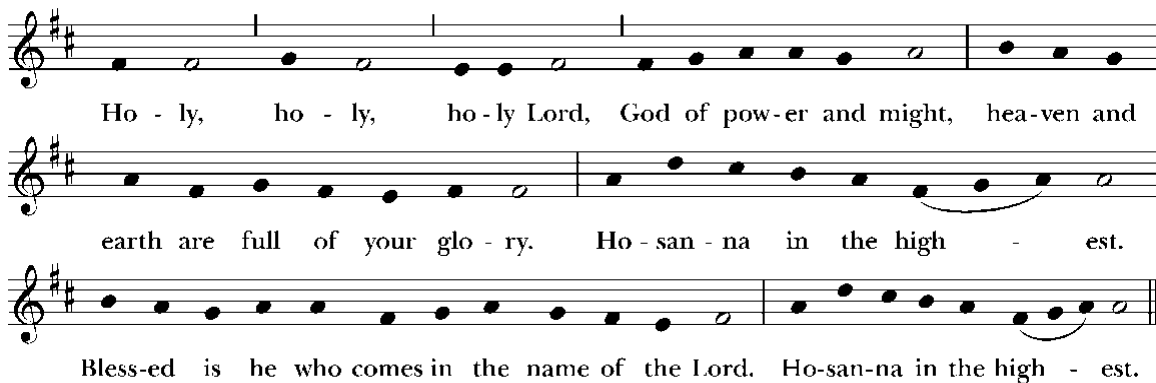
Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

8:00

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

10:00



Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker and of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept after which the Celebrant says

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to participate in communion at Emmanuel. Primarily our communion takes place at the altar rail. You can stand or kneel. If you want to abstain from the bread or wine, please cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available. If the steps to the altar rail present a challenge for you, you may stand at the bottom of the stairs, or ask an usher to have communion brought to you in your seat.

COMMUNION HYMN – Hymnal 1982, #265 “The angel Gabriel from heaven came”

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER. *Please stand or kneel as you are able.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND GENERAL THANKSGIVINGS

Those celebrating a birthday or anniversary are welcomed to come forward. Led by the Celebrant, all pray:

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING *Said by the Celebrant, all responding ‘Amen’ after each portion.*

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. *Amen.*

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. *Amen.*

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen*

PROCESSION – Hymnal 1982, #496 “How bright appears the morning star”

THE DISMISSAL *All respond: Thanks be to God.*

VOLUNTARY – “Savior of the Nations, Come”

J.S. Bach



Welcome Guests & Visitors

+ Welcome to the Episcopal Church. The mission of the Episcopal Church, as stated in our Book of Common Prayer, is “*to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.*” We seek to follow Jesus in loving and life-giving relationships with God, with one another, with all people, and with all God’s creation. Our worship, beliefs and practices are diverse and reflect influences from Roman Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox traditions as well as on going reflection and prayer about what it means to believe in and follow Jesus Christ in a rapidly changing world. We Episcopalians are also known as Anglicans, part of the worldwide Anglican Communion with origins and ongoing ties to the Church of England.

+ Welcome to Emmanuel Episcopal Church. We trace our history on Mercer Island to a first worship service in 1909 and to a prior church building, built in 1914, in an area of the island once known as East Seattle. We have met, worshiped, served at and gone forth in faith from the present church since 1959.

+ Welcome to Our Worship Today. The order for worship that we call the Holy Eucharist is printed on the following pages; hymns are found in the blue Hymnal 1982 or printed in the order of worship. We begin with the Liturgy of the Word: Bible readings, a sermon, an affirmation of faith, prayers, and greeting one another at the Peace. All this prepares us for the Eucharist itself — the word is derived from the biblical Greek word for thanksgiving. Here and elsewhere it may also be called Holy Communion, the Lord’s Supper or the Mass.

+ Welcome to Communion. The Real Presence of Christ in the blessed bread and wine is a primary belief in our Anglican tradition. Here at Emmanuel, any and all who are drawn to do so may receive Communion. Additional notes may be found at the appropriate place in today’s printed order of worship.

+ Welcome to Getting Around Here.

♦ **Our nursery and ministries with young children** are offered in various ways at various times. Please inquire with an usher, the clergy or other parents, or look for information on our website.

♦ **An accessible restroom** may be found across from the stairway outside the west doors of the narthex (the gathering area just beyond the doors of the church proper). Other restrooms may be found up the ramp and stairs at the east side of the narthex.

♦ **Hearing assistance devices**, with related instructions, may be found in and borrowed from a basket on a narthex table.

Please let us know how we may better welcome you.

What You Can Do

by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

When injustice strides so easily,
when evil reigns
and you feel there's little you can do,
remember we are all one.
You are part of the Great Oneness
—some call it the Body of Christ—
and what you do affects the whole.
You can choose goodness.
When you change your life you
change the world.

An immense grace hums beneath
the noise of this world.
When you live in harmony with it,
you intensify the great music of life
that renews the earth.
You are a voice in the chorus,
a string on the Beloved's guitar;
when you change your note
you change the whole chord.



Covenant for Our Common Life and Witness

We, the members, staff, and clergy of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, aspire to personally and collectively demonstrate and advocate the following principles in all of our relationships.

- 1. We Demonstrate Christ's Command to Love One Another**, treating all with generosity, kindness, and empathy. *"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."* John 15:12
- 2. We Respect the Dignity of Every Person**, listening to one another and honoring differences.
Jesus said, "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets." Matthew 7:12
- 3. We Speak Truth in Love**, sharing our hopes, concerns, and perspectives in a spirit of collaboration.
"Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body." Ephesians 4:25
- 4. We Promptly Address Conflicts and Pursue Reconciliation**, whenever and with whomever it is needed, seeking to heal and restore broken relationships.
"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4:32
- 5. We Promote Unity**, acknowledging that we share a love for this community and its future.
"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Ephesians 4:3
- 6. We Practice Humility**, recognizing the needs, concerns and interests of others alongside our own.
"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit." Philippians 2:3a. *"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"* Micah 6:8
- 7. We Pray For Each Other, the Church, Our Community, and Our World.**
"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for all people." 1 Timothy 2:1

By way of this covenant, we seek to share in a parish community that reflects Christ's love and peace to all, where every person is valued and respected, and where we work together for the common good of the church, our community and our world.

Clergy and Staff: The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Interim Rector; Fred McIlroy, Director of Music;
Julene Levin, Parish Administrator; John Pritchard, Bookkeeper

2025 Emmanuel Vestry: Michael Spencer, Senior Warden; Janet Bell, Jon Fedele, Sandy Maloof, Leslie Moore,
Polly Ogden, Marcia Palk, Jeff Zantek; Sue Stiles, Treasurer. askvestry@emmanuelmi.org