



Emmanuel Church

The Episcopal Church on Mercer Island



St. John the Baptist in a Landscape, Giuseppe Bernardino Bison, ca 1790

8:00 A.M.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7, 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.

The People stand as the Ministers enter

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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.

KYRIE ELEISON *Said by all.*

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us Pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES – Isaiah 11:1-10

Lector A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the
ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM – 72:1-7, 18-19

Read Responsively

1. Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
2. That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
3. That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
4. He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
5. He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
6. He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
7. In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
18. Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
19. And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

A READING FROM THE EPISTLES – Romans 15:4-13

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

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name"; and again he says,
"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again,
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him"; and again 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.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 3:1-12

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.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

All stand, as able, and say together

Enriching Our Worship

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

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

Leader We remember all who have died, including _____, and others we now name aloud or remember silently. [*pause*]

We give thanks for all who have gone before us and whose witness has inspired and sustained our faith. *Silence.* Holy God:

People **Be revealed in our hope and perseverance.**

The Celebrant may add an additional prayer.

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.

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:

**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.

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,	And forgive us our trespasses,
hallowed be thy Name,	as we forgive those who trespass against us.
thy kingdom come,	And lead us not into temptation,
thy will be done,	but deliver us from evil.
on earth as it is in heaven.	For thine is the kingdom,
Give us this day our daily bread.	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.

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 ADVENT 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*

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.



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