

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Special thanks to those contributing their time and talents.

Led by:	Pastor Don Dunn
Choir Director:	Margaret Treiber
Praise Team:	Carla Ryan, Vocals Bob Del Mar, Guitar Betsy Pecka, Piano Joseph Hernandez, Vocals

AOD:	Denis Plew
Usher:	Ann Chandler
Greeter:	Christy Price
Liturgist:	Bobbi Dunn
Coffee Hour:	UMW Christmas Cookies
Counters:	Mary Mantz & Louise Ingebrigtsen

Memory Café:	NA
Snack:	NA
Greeters:	NA

Servers for Next Sunday, December 29th

AOD:	Ed Rogers
Usher:	Bob Bluhm
Greeter:	Bob Bluhm
Liturgist:	Ann Chandler
Coffee Hour:	Tura Yount
Counters:	Linda Bryant-Smith & Marilyn Grass



The United Methodist Church of Ephrata

“We Serve God by Serving Others”



The United Methodist Church of Ephrata

WELCOME TO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF EPHRATA!

If this is your first time with us we'd like to thank you for visiting! If you did not receive a Welcome Brochure from a greeter when you entered be sure to pick one up from an usher as you leave. The brochure has more information on our church and its ministries.

At the time of our offering do not feel pressure to put anything in the offering plate. While you are welcome to give, you are our guest and we simply want you to enjoy your time with us!

Hearing assistance available. If you are hearing impaired and would like to use an assisted listening device, please request one from the ushers.

Prayer requests cards are located in the pew box. If you have a need or celebration, fill out the card and place it in the offering plate.

Please join us for refreshments and fellowship after the worship service.

.OUR CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....Don Dunn, pastor@umcephrata.org
Admin. Assistant.....Tresa Poe, office@umcephrata.org
Custodian.....Jamie Downing
Pianist.....Betsy Pecka
Chaplain.....Penny Clees

117 C. Street NW, Ephrata, WA 98823

Office (509) 754-4664

Website: www.umcephrata.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/umcofephrata.org

Church office hours are Mon- Wed 9am-1pm, Thurs 9am-12pm

Happening Today!

Worship, 9:45am

***Garden Oasis Service,
3pm***

Monday, December 23

Tuesday, December 24

No Quilters

***Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service, 7pm***

Wednesday, December 25

**Merry
Christmas!**

Thursday, December 26

**Community Dinner,
5:30pm**

Friday, December 27

Saturday, December 28

Sunday, December 29

Worship, 9:45am

***Garden Oasis Service,
3pm***



- No Quilters Dec 31
- New Years Day, Office Closed Jan 01
- Pastor Gone Jan 02
- Men's Breakfast, 8:30am Jan 04
- Food Box Collection Jan 05



Celebrating Birthdays In December:

Ed Warren (3rd), Pastor Don Dunn (5th), Ed Rogers (11th),
Russell Wentworth (18th), Darryl Pheasant (30th)

Celebrating an Anniversary in December:

Ed & Marlene Warren (24th) - 5 years
Alan & Mark Fulk, (29th) - 30 years
Tom & Vi Baars, (31st) - 8 years

Announcements...

- Please join us for the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service this Wednesday, Dec. 24th at 7pm.
- Community Dinner is this Thursday, Dec. 26th at 5:30pm. All are welcome.
- Global Ministries invites you to give love, joy, hope, and peace through year-end giving's to a mission project at UMCMission.org/GiveLove. These givings transform lives around the world.
- His Helping Hands of the Ephrata Foursquare Church. New distribution center location is 110 W. Division St. (Old Haley's Office Supply). Open Saturdays & Mondays through January 31st from 10am to 2pm. Donations of winter clothing & gear, blankets, sleeping bags, and hygiene products are gratefully accepted.

Amid these busy days, we pause for worship and to remember the heart of this season. Welcome!

(Advent) Prelude

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Rejoice and Believe!

Choir

**Come, O long-expected Jesus, born to set your people free.
From our fears and sins release us; Christ, in whom our rest
shall be.**

Long ago the people were given a sign of God's presence.

**“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and they shall
name him Emmanuel,” which means “God is with us.”**

God's promise to us remains sure and true.

God's Anointed One will soon walk among us, to lighten our
darkness, to restore the joy of our salvation, to save us from our
sins.

Four lights now shine in spite of our despair. Jesus is coming soon.
(Lighting of Four Candles) Carla Ryan & Allison Pheasant

**Prayer: God of mystery, help us accept our gifts of grace that
we cannot begin to understand. Plant a stubborn hope deep in
our hearts as we will be able to embrace the Christ-child when
Jesus is birthed anew in our lives. Teach us your ways of joy.
Amen.**

Prayer List for the Week

Prayers for Health, Healing and Well-Being:

- Rayce & Tiffany Barnes
- Tabatha
- Julea Dunn
- Marie Marsh
- Dick Ross
- Francie Hernandez
- Shirley Johnson
- Kathleen Neuberger
- Kierra Smith
- Jeremy Warren
- Mark Neihenke

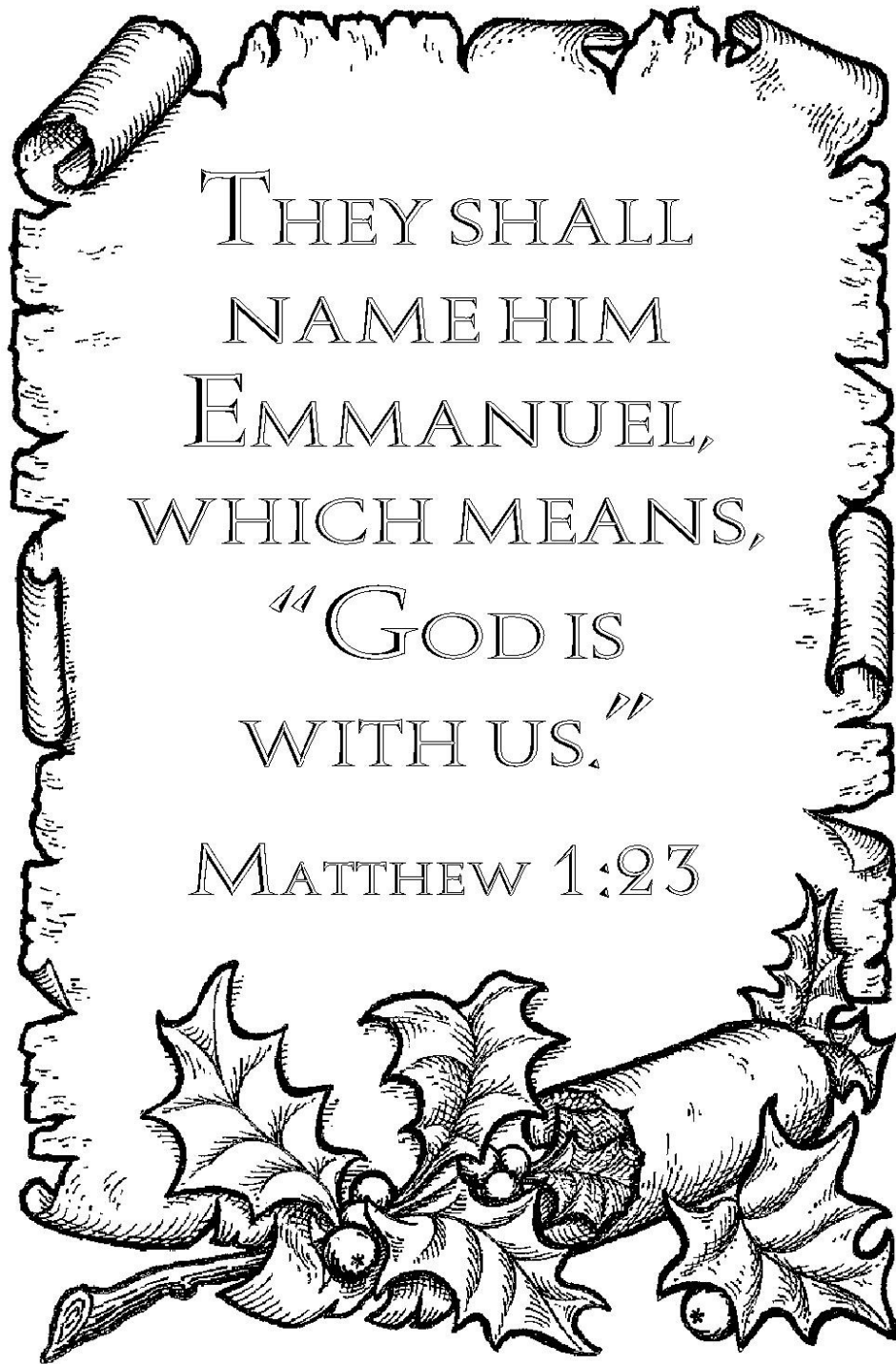


Prayer requests for long term health problems:

Bob St. Clair Jr, Ed Sivula, Ron Gardner, Steven Grass, Brian
Davisson, Renee Muse, Al Davisson, Steve Smith, Justin Town-
ley, Gail Catlow, Joe Hatch, Eleanor Gausman, Dan Anderson,
Randy Senn, Ed Warren, Marlene Fisk Warren,
David Prince, Abbie Thorndike, Dennis Ackerman, Amy Torrens-
Harry, Eric Moulton, Mike Dell, Tom Pheasant, Jessica Smith

**Prayers for our military personnel at home,
abroad, and their families:** Chris Wash,
Kevin Harmon, Michael Oliveira





Welcome

Announcements & Friendship Pads

Call to Worship

God-with-us, Immanuel, comes to give us our own Holy Family, here with the body of Christ this day.
Rejoice and be glad! **Amen!**

Opening Prayer

Praise Team

Call to Confession

Assured that God hears our repentance,
let us turn our minds to the truth,
confessing our sins to God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

Shepherd of Israel, God of hosts,
we have turned away from you,
neglecting the welfare of your creation,
ignoring the plight of your people,
trampling on the creatures and the plants you have made,
taking from Earth what we cannot give back.
We have not helped our neighbors in need,
kept peace within our families,
or tended the vine you have planted in our own lives.
Forgive us and lead us to a more gracious life.
In your compassion, turn us to your way.
Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us,
and we shall be saved. **Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Scripture: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 & Romans 1:1-7

Choir

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25 & Isaiah 7:10-16

*Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
All: Thanks Be to God. Amen.*

Message: “A Sign!”

***Hymn: (Hymnal) #211 “O Come O Come Emmanuel”**

Affirmation of Faith: Hymnal Page 883

Prayers of the People/Lords Prayer

Hymn: (TFWS) #2172 “We Are Called”

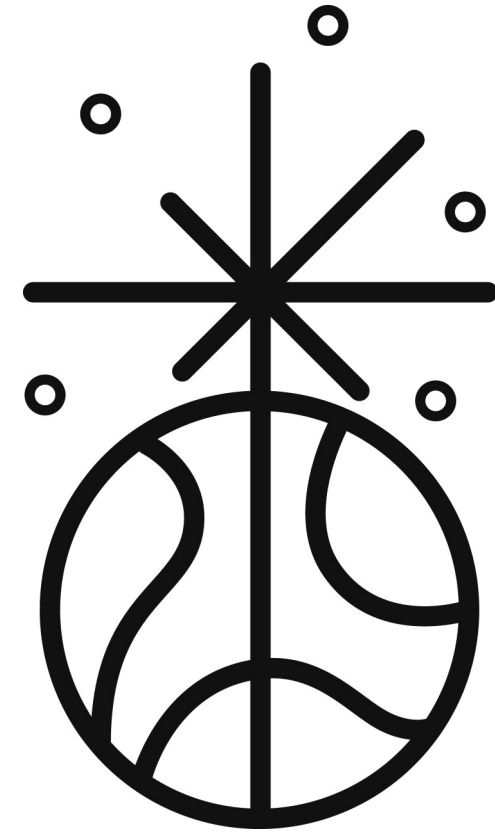
Offering

***Doxology**

***Hymn: (Hymnal) #209 “Blessed Be The God Of Israel”**

***Benediction**

Postlude



Welcome all wonders in one sight,
Eternity shut in a span,
Summer in winter, day in night,
Heaven in earth, and God in man,
Great little one,
whose all-embracing birth
Lifts earth to heaven,
stoops heaven to earth.



***Please join us for fellowship
and refreshments after worship!!!***