



EMMANUEL CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

Emmanuel Episcopal Church has been serving the urban community of greater Boston as a dynamic center for spiritual discovery and renewal since 1860. We explore Christian tradition and foster inquiry through the celebration of liturgy, music, and the arts. We strive for justice and peace. Emmanuel Church welcomes all people without exception to our Eucharistic table. We honor individuals of every age, gender, ethnic heritage, sexual orientation, and religious background, and we respect the dignity of every living being.

December 24, 2024

7:00pm Luke's Nativity Story and Carols

7:30pm Festival Holy Eucharist

Presiding & Preaching: The Rev. Pamela L. Wertz

Deacon: The Rev. Robert Greiner

Conductor: Ryan Turner

Organist: John Dilworth

Subdeacon: Jamie Shore

Crucifer: Rebekah Shore

Torches: Dawn Dreisbach, Mary Blocher

Hymn Sing Lectors: Jane Redmont, Dana Whiteside

First Reading: Ryan Turner

Second Reading: Dawn Dreisbach

Prayer Intercessor: Melissa Fernau

Altar Guild: Glenn Seberg, Mary Blocher

Advent Wreath: Glenn Seberg

Livestream provided by Emmanuel Music

Sexton: Jesse Kieffer

Special thanks to our greeters: Jennifer Coplon, Bob Frank, Sherry Krause Mazza, Elliot Mazza, and Leslie Warshaw,
from Central Reform Temple, and
Cindy Coldren & Galen Gilbert, from Emmanuel Church

Are you visiting or new to Emmanuel?

We'd love to talk with you! Newcomers and Visitors are encouraged to fill out a Welcome Card by using the camera on your smartphone to scan the QR code to the right or at this address:

<https://forms.gle/hxpUdqMnEX12JvLT9>



Paper copies are also available in the pews.

Land Use Acknowledgment

Founded in 1860, Emmanuel Church is located on land once used by the matriarchal Massachusett Tribe for fishing in the estuary of the Quinobequin (now Charles River). Acknowledging this is an expression of our appreciation and a small, first step on the Way of Love, toward respect and accountability to Indigenous or First Peoples, who continue to suffer as a consequence of genocide and forced removal perpetrated by white ancestors of European descent. Our next steps have to do with actions to end violence directed toward them, which occurs when their histories are erased, cultures are trivialized, labor is exploited, and resources are seized. As the current occupiers of this territory, we must amplify First Peoples' voices, honor their dignity, and repent of our complicity in their oppression.

Read more about our Land Use Acknowledgment on our website:

<https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/social-justice/land-acknowledgement/>

Welcome to Emmanuel Church! You honor us with your presence. We are a faith community with a long history of challenging assumptions, of outreach, lively preaching, and mission. We also have a long history of attracting deeply thoughtful people to engage in faith, doubt, music and art, conversation, and fine liturgy. If you are new to Emmanuel Church and would like to learn more, **please fill out a pew card so we can connect.**

Welcome Children! Children are welcome to participate fully in the service. Gift bags by the Baptismal Font in the front of the sanctuary contain drawing materials. **Parents with children, please sit in the front rows so your children can see more than the backs of the heads of other people!**

Communion Invitation: Whoever you are, wherever you've been, whatever you've done, you are welcome to participate in communion here. If you are unable to come forward to receive communion, please speak to an usher before the service begins. The ministers will bring the bread and wine to your seat.

The shape of our worship service with Emmanuel Music, our Ensemble-in-Residence, has been compared to a labyrinth, where communion, or Eucharist (which means thanksgiving) is at the center. The path into the center and the path back out is guided by scripture, prayers and meditations, through speech, music, and silence. We encourage you to participate fully, knowing that you are welcome wherever you are on your spiritual journey.

Is your cell phone turned off? Thanks for checking.

Christmas Flowers & Greens are given to the Glory of God
in memory of The Reverend Al and Doris Kershaw from their family,
and in honor of the friendship and shared life throughout the year between
Central Reform Temple and Emmanuel Church.

*The flowers at the high altar are given to the glory of God and in celebration
of the lives of Eleanor and Richard Konecny.*

At the holiday season, we remember with thanksgiving Emmanuel Musicians who have died:
Susan Bailey, Ed Candidus, Tom Coleman, Mark D'Apolito, Gerald Gray, John Grimes, David Hartwell,
Christopher Hogwood, Robert Honeysucker, Lorraine Hunt Lieberson, Henry Lussier, Gian Lyman, Robert
Manero, Jeanne McCrorie, Richard Menaul, Richard Morrison, Hazel O'Donnell, Elinor Preble, Mary Ruth Ray,
James Ryder, Craig Smith, Sanford Sylvan, Carole Taynton, Donald Teeters, Mary Ann Valaitis Whaley, and
Donald Wilkinson.

Christmas Eve Carol Sing
7:00 pm

Preludes Prelude on "Forest Green"
O Jesulein süß (Lullaby)
Still, still, still (Prelude)

David Bednall (b.1979)
Rebecca Groom Te Velde (b. 1952)
Christopher Tambling (b.1964)

Welcome

Mr. Whiteside and Ms. Redmont

Collect (*Please rise in body or spirit*)

Leader: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Loving Word of God, you have shown us the fullness of your glory in taking human flesh. Fill us, in our bodily life, with your grace and truth; that our pleasure may be boundless, and our integrity complete, in your name. **Amen.**

(*Please be seated*)

Reading Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn O little town of Bethlehem

(*Please rise in body or spirit*)

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.

O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King
and peace to all the earth.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

Hymn 78

FOREST GREEN

Where children pure and happy
pray to the blessèd Child,
where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the mother mild;
where charity stands watching
and faith holds wide the door,
the dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
and Christmas comes once more.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray,
cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

Reading Luke 2:8-12

(Please be seated)

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

Hymn While shepherds watched their flocks by night

(Please remain seated)

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
an angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind
"glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.

"To you, in David's town, this day
is born of David's line
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:

"The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all simply wrapped in swaddling clothes
and in a manger laid."

Thus spoke the angel. Suddenly
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

Hymn 94
WINCHESTER OLD

"All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
to those on whom his favor rests
goodwill shall never cease."

Reading Luke 2:13-14

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Hymn Angels from the realms of glory
(Please rise in body or spirit)

Hymn 93
REGENT SQUARE

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light: [Refrain]

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star: [Refrain]

Reading Luke 2:15-20

(Please be seated)

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Hymn What child is this?

(Please remain seated)

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain: *This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.*

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. [Refrain]

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him. [Refrain]

Reading from *Cloth for the Cradle*, Iona community

When the world was dark
and the city was quiet,
you came.
You crept in beside us.
And no one knew.
Only the few
who dared to believe
that God might do something different.
Will you do the same this Christmas, Lord?
Will you come into the darkness of tonight's world;
not the friendly darkness
as when sleep rescues us from tiredness,
but the fearful darkness,
in which people have stopped believing
that war will end
or that food will come
or that a government will change
or that the Church cares?
Will you come into that darkness
and do something different
to save your people from death and despair?
Will you come into the quietness of this town,
not the friendly quietness
as when lovers hold hands,
but the fearful silence when
the phone has not rung
the letter has not come,
the friendly voice no longer speaks,
the doctor's face says it all?
Will you come into that darkness,

and do something different,
not to distract, but to embrace your people?
And will you come into the dark corners
and the quiet places of our lives?
We ask this not because we are guilt-ridden
or want to be,
but because the fullness our lives long for
depends upon us being as open and vulnerable to you
as you were to us,
when you came,
wearing no more than diapers,
and trusting human hands
to hold their maker.

Will you come into our lives,
if we open them to you
and do something different?
When the world was dark
and the city was quiet
you came.
You crept in beside us.
Do the same this Christmas, Lord.
Do the same this Christmas.

Hymn Silent Night

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Hymn 111
STILLE NACHT

Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **O thou sudden God,
generous in mercy
quickener of new life
giver of new love
irreverent, subversive,
deep source of yearning
startling comforter
bearer of darkness
unmaker of old paths
bringer of strange joy
abundant, disturbing,
healing unlooked for
tender and piercing:
late have I loved thee
O beauty so ancient and new. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

Organ Interlude

**The Holy Eucharist
The Feast of the Nativity**

Introit "Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming"

German folk carol,
Harmonized by Michael Praetorius

Lo how a rose e'er blooming,
From tender stem hath sprung.
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As those of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright;
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.
Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it,
The Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright;
She bore to us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

The Word of God


(Please rise in body or spirit)

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

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

Processional Hymn O Come, all ye faithful
(Please rise in body or spirit)

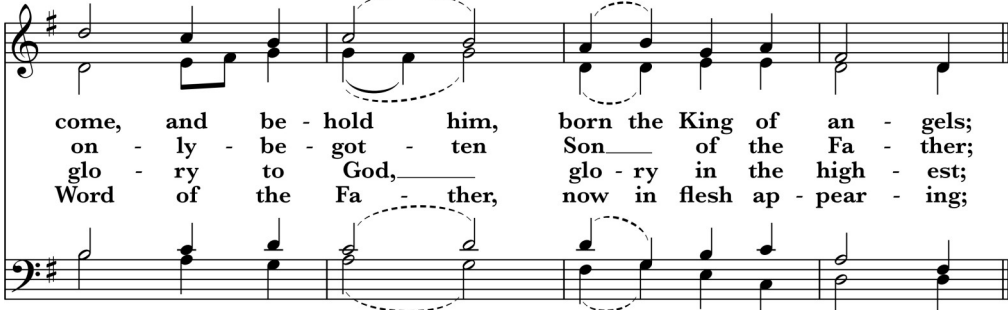
Hymn 83
ADESTE FIDELES



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this hap - py mor - ning;

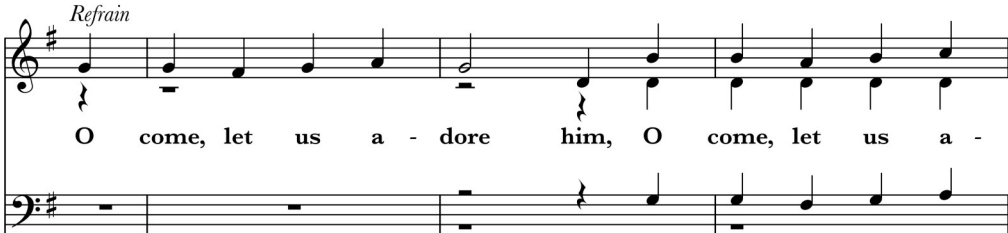


come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
sign, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
Je - sus to thee be glo - ry given;



come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -



dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

The Collect for Purity

Presider: 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.**

An-gels we have heard on high, sing-ing sweet-ly through the night,
and the moun-tains in re-ply ech-o-ing their brave de-light.

Refrain
Glo-ri-a
in ex-cel-sis De-o. Glo-ri-a
- - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Copyright © by permission of Fleming H. Revell Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958)

The Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

The Lessons

First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness--
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Motet Pietá

Under the strained
fabric of her skin, his heart
stirred. She listened,
because he had no father.
So she knew
he wanted to stay
in her body, apart
from the world
with its cries, its
roughhousing,
but already the men
gather to see him
born: they crowd in
or kneel at worshipful
distance, like
figures in a painting
whom the star lights, shining
steadily in its dark context.

John Harbison
Words by Louise Glück

Second Reading Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn Of the Father's love begotten (stanzas 1-2)
(Please rise in body or spirit)

Hymn 82

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -
2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,
3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly

gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,

he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on
and un - wea - ried prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry

are, that have _____ been, and that fu - ture
world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in
and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal

years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____

This hymn may be performed in equal note values: ♩ ♪ ♫ ♬

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt. Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

The Gospel Reading John 1:1-14



The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ ac-cord-ing to John.



Glo - ry to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.



The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you Lord Christ.

Gospel Hymn Of the Father's love begotten (stanzas 3-4)
(See previous page)

Hymn 82
DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

The Sermon

Ms. Werntz

The Creed

(Please rise in body or spirit)

The congregation rises in body or spirit and says these ancient and mysterious words:

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

Prayers of the People *(Please add your intercessions and thanksgivings in the silence)*

Beloved of God, as we gather in this Christmas season, let it be our great joy to let God's Word take us back to Bethlehem and our Lord's birth. Let us hear in story and song the joyful proclamation of God's limitless and unfailing love born in the baby Jesus. And let us pray for the needs of the world: for peace on the earth; for goodwill; for unity within the church and among all peoples.

Silence

Let us remember in Jesus' name the many blessings of our lives. Let us pause to give thanks and praise to God for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. Let us give thanks for tasks that demand our best efforts, and for accomplishments that satisfy and delight us. Let us give thanks, also, for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on God alone.

Silence

Let us remember in Jesus' name those of all ages who are poor and without help, those who are hungry and oppressed, sick and sorrowing, captive or in prison, those who are lonely and those who are difficult to love; and let us pray especially for those who do not know God or who have turned away from God's love.

Silence

Finally, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us but upon another shore, and in a greater light—that great cloud of witnesses, that multitude that no one can number, with whom in the Lord Jesus we are one forevermore.

Silence

Presider: Grant these our prayers, O Holy God, for Jesus Christ's sake, our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

I beseech you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love. (Eph. 4:1-2)

During the Offertory, we invite you to donate online using our Cash.App cashtag \$EmmanuelBostonGive.

If you are visiting or new to Emmanuel, we also invite you to take this moment to complete the Welcome Card online, linked on the inside cover of the bulletin. Paper Welcome Cards and gifts may be brought to the box near the baptismal font at the end of the service.

Offertory Prelude on "Whence is that goodly fragrance?"

Harrison Oxley (1933-2009)

Offertory Hymn Joy to the world! the Lord is come

Hymn 100

(Please rise in body or spirit)

ANTIOCH

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
3 far as the curse is found, far
4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP, Prayer D, p. 372

Presider The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider: It is truly right to glorify you, O God, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na



Presider: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

O God, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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 he 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."

O God, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

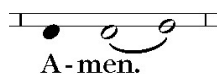
All: **We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Presider: Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the love of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

All:



The Lord's Prayer

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: **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

Presider: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

Fraction Anthem

S164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion

All who desire a deeper relationship with the Holy One may come to the table.

Gluten-free wafers are available at both communion stations.

Non-alcoholic grape juice is available at the baptismal font.

Communion Motet O Magnum mysterium

John Harbison (1938-)

O magnum mysterium
et admirabile sacramentum
ut animalia viderent
Dominum natum
jacentem in praesepe.
Beata Virgo cujus viscera
meruerunt portare
Dominum Christum.
Ave Maria, gratia plena,
Dominus tecum, Amen.

O great mystery
and wonderful sacrament
that even the animals saw
the new-born Lord
lying in a manger.
Blessed Virgin, whose womb
was worthy to bear
our Lord Christ.
Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you, Amen.

Communion Hymn Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Hymn 91

ERMUNTRE DICH

1 Break forth, O beau-teous heav-en-ly light, and ush-er in the
2 Break forth, O beau-teous heav-en-ly light, to her-ald our sal-

morn-ing; O shep-herds, greet that glor-ious sight, our
va-tion; He stoops to earth, the God of might, our

Lord a crib a-dorn-ing. This child, this lit-tle
hope and ex-pec-ta-tion. He comes in hu-man

help-less boy, shall be our con-fi-dence and joy, the
flesh to dwell, our God with us, Im-man-u-el; the

power of Sa-tan break-ing, our peace e-ter-nal ma-king
night of dark-ness end-ing, All hu-man-kind be-friend-ing.

Vocal soloists: Mara Riley, Janet Ross, soprano; Elizabeth Eschen, alto; Jonas Budris, tenor; Andrew Padgett, bass

Instrumentation: violin I/II, viola, cello, bass, organ, oboe I/II, recorder I/II/III

1. Chor

**Das neugeborne Kindelein,
Das herzeliebe Jesulein
Bringt abermal ein neues Jahr
Der auserwählten Christenschar.
("Das neugeborne Kindelein," verse 1)**

1. Chorus

**The new-born baby,
the heart's-beloved little Jesus,
now brings a new year
to the chosen flock of Christians.**

2. Arie B

O Menschen, die ihr täglich sündigt,
Ihr sollt der Engel Freude sein.
Ihr jubilierendes Geschrei,
Daß Gott mit euch versöhnet sei,
Hat euch den süßen Trost verkündigt.

2. Aria B

O humanity, which sins daily,
you shall be the delight of the angels.
their jubilant cry
that God is reconciled with you
has prophesied a sweet consolation.

3. Rezitativ (mit instr. Choral) S

Die Engel, welche sich zuvor
Vor euch als vor Verfluchten scheuen,
Erfüllen nun die Luft im höhern Chor,
Um über euer Heil sich zu erfreuen.
Gott, so euch aus dem Paradies
Aus englischer Gemeinschaft stieß,
Läßt euch nun wiederum auf Erden
Durch seine Gegenwart vollkommen selig werden:
So danket nun mit vollem Munde
Vor die gewünschte Zeit im neuen Bunde.

3. Recitative (with instr. Chorale) S

The angels, which before
shunned you like a curse,
now fill the air in exalted choirs,
in order to rejoice over your salvation.
God, who shoved you out of Paradise
and out of angel society,
now allows you on earth again
to be perfectly happy through his presence:
so thank him with full voice
for the desired time in the new covenant.

(Instrumental Choral:

**Des freuen sich die Engelein,
Die gerne um und bei uns sein,
Sie singen in den Lüften frei,
Daß Gott mit uns versöhnet sei.)
("Das neugeborne Kindelein," verse 2)**

(Instrumental Chorale:

**The little angels rejoice over this,
who are gladly with us and around us,
they sing freely in the air,
since God is reconciled with us.)**

4. Choral A und Arie (Duett) S T

**Ist Gott versöhnt und unser Freund,
O wohl uns, die wir an ihn glauben,
Was kann uns tun der arge Feind?
Sein Grimm kann unsern Trost nicht rauben;
Trotz Teufel und der Höllen Pfort,
Ihr Wüten wir sei wenig nützen,
Das Jesulein ist unser Hort.
Gott ist mit uns und will uns schützen.
("Das neugeborne Kindelein," verse 3)**

4. Chorale A and Aria (Duet) S T

**If God is appeased and our friend,
O happy we, who believe in him,
what can the wicked enemy do to us?
His wrath cannot wrest our comfort from us;
Defiance to the devil and the gates of hell,
their raging is of small use to us,
since little Jesus is our treasure.
God is with us and will protect us.**

5. Rezitativ B

Dies ist ein Tag, den selbst der Herr gemacht,
Der seinen Sohn in diese Welt gebracht.
O selge Zeit, die nun erfüllt!
O gläubigs Warten, das nunmehr gestillt!
O Glaube, der sein Ende sieht!
O Liebe, die Gott zu sich zieht!
O Freudigkeit, so durch die Trübsal dringt
Und Gott der Lippen Opfer bringt!

6. Choral

Es bringt das rechte Jubeljahr,
Was trauern wir denn immerdar?
Frisch auf! itzt ist es Singenszeit,
Das Jesulein wendt alles Leid.
("Das neugeborne Kindelein," verse 4)

5. Recitative B

This is a day that the Lord himself has made,
which has brought his Son into this world.
O blessed time, now fulfilled!
O faithful waiting, from now on satisfied!
O faith, which beholds its object!
O love, which draws God to itself!
O happiness, which perseveres through trouble
and brings God the offering of its lips!

6. Chorale

The true year of jubilation has been brought,
why then should we continually mourn?
Up, revived! now it is the time to sing,
since little Jesus turns aside all sorrow.

"Das neugeborne Kindelein," Cyriakus Schneegaß 1597 (verses 1-4 - mov'ts. 1,3,4,6; source for the other movements)
©Pamela Dellal

Emmanuel Music will offer the final chorale, and then it will be repeated for the entire congregation to join in singing.
Please stand as you are able.

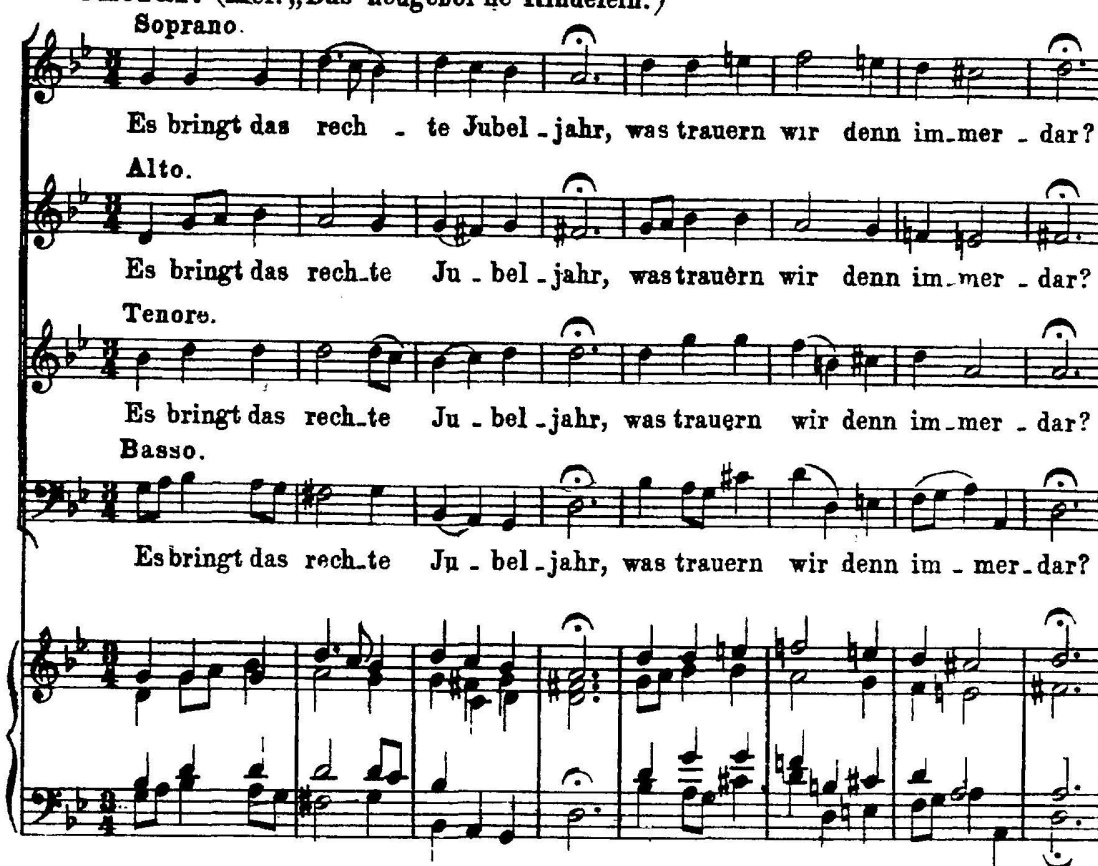
Choral. (Mel.: „Das neugebor'ne Kindelein.“)

Soprano.
Es bringt das rech - te Jubel - jahr, was trauern wir denn im - mer - dar?

Alto.
Es bringt das rech - te Ju - bel - jahr, was trauern wir denn im - mer - dar?

Tenore.
Es bringt das rech - te Ju - bel - jahr, was trauern wir denn im - mer - dar?

Basso.
Es bringt das rech - te Ju - bel - jahr, was trauern wir denn im - mer - dar?



The musical score is written for Soprano, Alto, Tenore, Basso, and piano. The lyrics are: "Es bringt das rechte Jubeljahr, was trauern wir denn immerdar?" repeated for each voice part. The piano accompaniment is in the bottom two staves.

Frisch auf! itzt ist es Singens-zeit, das Je-su-lein wend't al-les Leid.

Frisch auf! itzt ist es Sin-gens-zeit, das Je-su-lein wend't al-les Leid.

Frisch auf! itzt ist es Sin-gens-zeit, das Je-su-lein wend't al-les Leid.

Frisch auf! itzt ist es Singens-zeit, das Je-su-lein wend't al-les Leid.

Post-Communion Prayer (*Please rise in body or spirit*) BCP, p. 365

Subdeacon: Let us pray.

All: **Eternal God, heavenly Author,**
 you have graciously accepted us as living members
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
 and you have fed us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage
 to love and serve you
 with gladness and singleness of heart;
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Howard Thurman

Presider: When the song of the angel is still, when the star in the sky is gone, when kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their sheep, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among people, to make music in the heart.

(BOS Advent)

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Life be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Closing Hymn Hark! the herald angels sing
(Please rise in body or spirit)

Hymn 87
MENDELSSOHN

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.


Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915).

Dismissal

Deacon:  *Deacon*
Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spi - rit.

All:  *People*
Thanks be to God.

Postlude In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J.S. Bach

Welcome Cards may be brought with any gifts to the box at the chancel steps at the conclusion of the Postlude.

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Music Notes

Today's cantata is made possible in part by income from the Young Fund of Emmanuel Church, in memory of Priscilla Young, whose generosity helps to sustain our cantata program.

Pietà

John Harbison

In her poem *Pietà*, from her fourth book of poems, *Descending Figure*, Louise Glück daringly describes Mary's state of mind at the moment she gives birth to the Savior. She is depicted as Mother of Sorrows, aware of the future, in a shadowed Nativity scene. We might be reminded of the portent introduced into the meeting between Mary and Joseph with the blessed Simeon—(Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also).

This Advent meditation is dedicated to my dear friend John Heiss and longtime friend of Emmanuel Music, and in the memory of his son, Frank.

Emmanuel Music is forever grateful for the long relationship with John Harbison and his many artistic gifts.

Pietà, permission pending from The Wylie Agency

©John Harbison

Das neugeborne Kindelein, BWV 122

J.S. Bach

BWV 122 was last presented on January 18, 2015, with Ryan Turner conducting. The vocal soloists were Deborah Rentz-Moore, alto; Matthew Anderson, tenor; and David Kravitz, bass.

Composed for the Second Sunday of Christmas, BWV 122 references a gospel passage from Luke 2:33-40. The reading starts at the moment where St. Simeon predicts that the child is set for a fall and a rising again. The aged prophetess Anna is introduced, and she speaks of Jesus as the savior of Jerusalem. There is a sadness to the reading, not only Simeon's prediction, but also the general sense of uneasiness of all of the participants of what kind of a future this child would have. All of the cantatas for this day celebrate the ending of the old year and the beginning of the new. They also all project a kind of melancholy that is inherent in the readings. This is Bach's only setting of "Das neugeborne Kindelein" in the cantatas, although there is another harmonization in the 371 chorales that may be from a lost work. The lovely minor-mode tune is set in a swinging 3/8 time with many echo and bell effects in both the orchestra and chorus. As befitting the mood, the piece keeps trying to modulate to a happier major mode but is always defeated. It is interesting that the melody itself is not so important, either in the make up of the musical material of the orchestra, or of the shape of the cantata. It is a very wonderful chorus, however, full of marvelous musical detail and melodic distinction. The terrific bass aria with continuo refuses to follow its own device and be happy. Only the first line of texts refers to the "sinner" but the piece stubbornly preaches to that sinner. It is a piece, however, of great profile and marvelous energy. The soprano recitative brings in the chorale in a fully harmonized version played by three recorders; since they are not otherwise used in the cantata, the parts were no doubt performed by the oboe players.

As fine as the cantata is, it is the trio that raises it to the top rank of pieces. There are many references in this trio, many codes, as it were, that place it firmly in our perception. The Siciliano rhythm reminds us of the shepherds and the humble peasant birth. The soprano and the tenor enclose the chorale like the shield mentioned in the text. The whole child warrior image is one that is appealing: think of Joan of Arc. The medieval English poem says it best, "This little babe, so few days old, has come to rifle Satan's fold." Over the gentle dotted rhythm of the continuo the soprano and the tenor sing a

swinging melancholy duet. The interior alto, strengthened by all of the strings, sings the chorale in long notes. There is a hypnotic effect to the piece, a miniature quality that is positively captivating. The tropes that the soprano and tenor sing are often very close in feeling to the chorale lines. Less like the little sermons that we have seen in earlier cantatas containing that form, these comments merely strengthen the sentiments of the text. The alto actually leaves the chorale at the end and joins in the trope to bring the trio to a rich and full conclusion. The accompanied recitative for bass is actually quite lengthy and tries to free itself from the melancholy of the opening aria. The chorale is in block form and brings the piece to a sturdy conclusion.

©Craig Smith, with Ryan Turner

The Bach Institute, sponsored by Emmanuel Music and hosted by Emmanuel Church, seeks to share the deep knowledge and experience of the Emmanuel Music ensemble in performing the sacred cantatas of J.S. Bach. Drawing on fifty years of practical experience offering these profound works in a worship context, we bring a unique perspective on the communicative power and timeless relevance of this music, as well as insights into technique, interpretation, and pacing.

The Bach Institute January 2025 Intensive takes an important leap forward with its proposed focus on "Bach and Society." This year the Institute seeks to engage members of Emmanuel and Boston's wider community by exploring the message in Bach's music and its power to challenge and transform our lives. Bach's cantatas speak vividly and poignantly about the human condition; our aspirations, our failings, and how to create right relationship to God and to our neighbor. This year's Bach Institute will explore how a just society might work from the perspective of the cantata literature. All programs are free - reservation required for each program. **See the schedule of events and make reservations at: <https://www.emmanuelmusic.org/learn-engage/the-bach-institute>**

Emmanuel Church Announcements

Pledging to Emmanuel Church

If you value the worship and programs of Emmanuel Church, and the clergy and staff that support them, please make a pledge for 2025.

A pledge is an indication of the financial support you intend to offer for 2025. A pledge may be fulfilled in one gift, quarterly, monthly, or weekly. A pledge may be fulfilled in advance of 2025 (and so designated) or at any time during 2025.

The amount of your pledge depends entirely on you. Every pledge counts as 1, and the total number of pledges reflects the number of households committed to supporting the parish. No amount of money is too small or too large! For reference, in 2024 Emmanuel received 81 pledges, and the median pledge amount was \$2,500. For a parish of our size, we hope to receive 100 pledges in 2025.

We are 3/4 there..

A pledge may be made by completing a pledge card or by emailing the parish administrator at parishadmin@emmanuelboston.org.

Thank you!

Christmas Continues at Emmanuel

First Sunday after Christmas, Sunday December 29, 10:00am in the Lindsey Chapel (no livestream)

Second Sunday after Christmas, Sunday January 5, 10:00am in the Lindsey Chapel (no livestream)

An invitation from puppeteer Sara Peattie: The First Night Procession is on again!

Large and small flying birds, adorable chickie's, glowing stars and lanterns to carry, and a great shining Wise Owl.

— Meeting at City Hall Plaza, Cambridge Street side, next to the Government Center T station, at 5 PM Dec. 31 New Years Eve. —

The parade leaves at @6 PM, over by 7 PM, with cookies and hot chocolate at the Puppet Lair in the alley behind Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., with fireworks on the common.

RSVP to puppetco@puppetco-op.org or to Sara at (617) 378-5715 Or just come and bring friends and family

Looking to make a world of difference in your Christmas giving this year? Episcopal Development and Relief, which helps people around the globe, has many ways for you to change lives in honor of those you love. You can empower our global neighbors with water, bicycles, business training, and more. For more information, go to the website: <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/gifts/catalog>



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