



December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent and Hanging of the Greens

Rev. Rebekah Rathman-Wingrove, Pastor
Mike Moats, pianist
Pam Nolan, choir director

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EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST VISION STATEMENT

The vision of Emmanuel United Church of Christ is to be a welcoming church family that strives to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. This will be achieved by:

- *Worshiping regularly*
- *Serving God and others*
- *Fellowship*
- *Acts of love and kindness*

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME AND EXPLANATION OF SERVICE

THE BELLS

Explanation of Symbol and Tolling of Bell

HYMN

"Deck the Halls Advent Style"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather as the church to decorate this place of worship.

People: We come as people who are being made into the family of God.

Leader: We bring a tree and wreaths.

People: We bring flowers and greens.

Leader: May God adorn us with love and grace.

People: May our symbols and words bring thanks and praise to God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Loving and merciful God, we come to this Advent season to prepare to receive the gift of your Son. We come to make ready to welcome the Christ into our lives. Open our ears that we may hear the good news of the gospel. Open our mouths that we may sing with joy and celebration. "Glory to God on high, and on earth, peace, among all people." Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BLUE PARAMENTS

Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:8-13

Explanation of the Symbol

Response: "LET US DECORATE WITH BLUE PARAMENTS."

HYMN

"We Hail You, God's Anointed" vs. 1,2,4

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CANDLES

Scripture: John 1:1-5

Explanation of the Symbol

Response: "LET US DECORATE WITH CANDLES."

HYMN

"Arise, Your Light Is Come!" vs. 1,3,4

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GREENS

Scripture: Genesis 1:9-13

Explanation of the Symbol

Response: "LET US DECORATE WITH GREENS."

HYMN

"This is My Father's World"

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Explanation of the Symbol

Response: "LET US BRING IN AND LIGHT THE ADVENT WREATH!"

Lighting of the Candle for the First Sunday of Advent-Chris Neal and Kelsey Johnson

HYMN

"One Candle is Lit"

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE POINSETTIA

Scripture: Matthew 2:7-16

Explanation of the Symbol

Response: "LET US DECORATE WITH POINSETTIAS."

HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" vs. 1,2

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Scripture: Hosea 14:4-8

Explanation of the Symbol

Response: "LET US DECORATE OUR CHRISTMAS TREE."

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CHRISTMAS ROSE

Scripture: Matthew 6:25-29

Explanation of the Symbol

Response: "LET US BRING FORTH OUR CHRISTMAS ROSE."

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Choir

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PASTORAL PRAYER FOLLOWED BY THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Giving God, we have brought forth our paraments, our candles, our wreaths, our greens, our flowers, and our tree. We now bring our offerings and ourselves. We pray that they have a part in Christ coming into our lives. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, O God, because in your own free gift of love you have reached out to us. You have refreshed us at your table, touched our deepest needs, and called us to a life shared in memory and hope. As we begin this Advent season, send us forth to once again wait and prepare for the birth of your Son, filled with love for you and overflowing with love for others. Amen.

HYMN

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

BENEDICTION

Leader: Now may the God who has called us to live in hope and expectation,

People: go with us as we journey in faith,

Leader: towards that new future created by God's love,

People: that has dwelt and continues to dwell among us and in us.

Leader: We go in God's grace,

People: and in God's peace. Amen!

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 1, 2024

SUNDAY WORSHIP: Livestream is at www.facebook.com/euccvalleycity/live

RECORD OF OUR FAITHFULNESS

Attendance: 47 Facebook: 5

Offering: \$1,653.00 Church Bank: \$26.00

CHURCH BANK – If you wish to express a joy or concern for Church Bank, we ask you write them down on the papers provided in the pews and place it in the offering plate by the door. The following week each joy or concern will be posted on the slides before church.

OFFICE HOURS- Tuesday from 8:30-2:30 p.m., Thursday from 8:30-2:30 p.m. Tamara is working from home on Wednesdays. If you need to contact her, email at emmanuccvlycty@zoominternet.net.

MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS: **1.** The Not Forgotten Box will again be in the Narthex this year. The last day for donations is December 8th. **2.** Buckeye Schools families in need will be helped with gas cards and grocery cards this holiday season. Donations for these projects are gladly accepted. Thanks for your support.

PROPERTY MEETING December 2nd at 7 p.m.

MEN'S BREAKFAST December 5th at 8:30 at The Cracked Egg.

ROAST BEEF DINNER will be on Saturday, December 7th from 4:00-6:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 each. The menu is roast beef, mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls, beverage, and dessert.

SERVICE TIME CHANGE on December 8th the service will be at 9:30 a.m. because of Christmas in the Valley.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

December 1st Hanging of the Greens- 10 a.m.

December 8th Christmas in the Valley- Worship at 9:30 a.m.

December 22nd Festive Fashions Sunday- Wear your favorite Christmas attire!-10 a.m.

December 24th Christmas Eve-Worship and Communion- 7 p.m.

December 29th Carol Sing and Sharing Christmas Memories- 10 a.m.

ALTAR FLOWERS SIGN-UP: The calendar for providing altar flowers to honor someone, in memory of a loved one, or “just because” is on the Narthex information table. There are many opportunities for you to enhance our worship atmosphere with the beauty of flowers. We are getting our flowers from ArKay Florist. The cost is \$24 per vase.

PASTOR REBEKAH'S INFORMATION: Cell number: 231-327-8107. Email: rarw1981@gmail.com. Her office hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9am-noon.

KEEP OUR CHURCH FAMILY IN PRAYER: Jennifer Luf, Bob Schneider, Pastor John Baker, Jane Schneider, John Luf, Wanda Currier (Pat Barnum's mother), Bill Yoder, Tony Lagorga (Pam's son.), DeJosh Garver, Debi Sheffler, Sue Piovarchy, Diane Scheutzow, Julie DeVries (Doris Nolan's daughter), Vickie Seely.