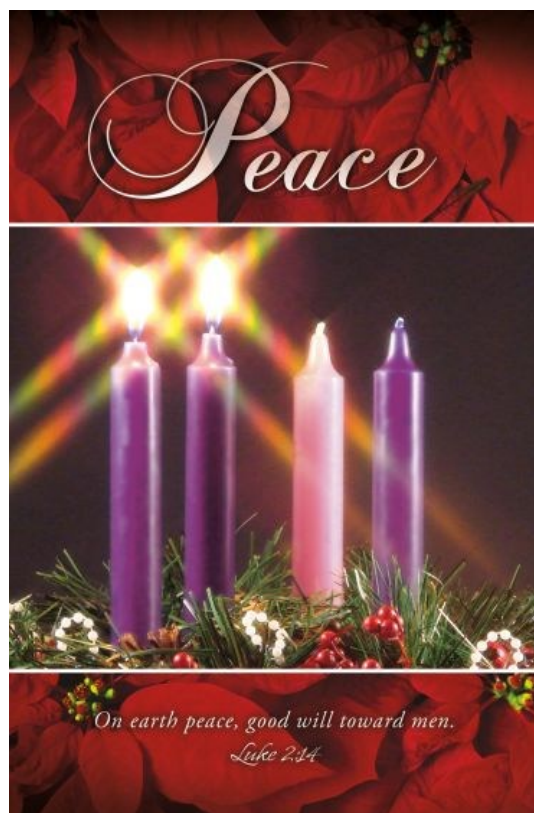


Emanuel United Church of Christ



Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

Pastor Joshua W. Rau

A warm welcome to all today!

May this time of worship strengthen your faith and desire to serve the Creator who loves us with everlasting love in Christ Jesus.

Children are welcome in this worship service, and encouraged to participate in any way they are able to. Teach the children sitting around you how to use their bulletins, and sing & speak loudly!

We value the noise made by our children! We have a nursery available in our education building with a video feed of our service.

Visitors, we are glad you are here! Please sign our Guest Register and feel free to fill out a “welcome slip” in the pews.

Please come again!!



Visitor Info



Ways to Give

† **SERVING IN WORSHIP** †

Organist: *Christy Shinn*

Choir Director: *Kelly Crawford*

Reader: *Shirley McCormack*



Greeting You Today

*Roxie Davis
Dorothy Rowley*



Poinsettia Garden

*Donated by EUCC
Members*

We Keep in Prayer

Please keep in your prayers those who are in need of healing and our shut-ins and home-bound members. May God's grace surround them with comfort and care.

Mary Lou Abernathy, Pat Abernathy, LaDonia Beggs, June Borgfield, Larry Brockmire, Alice Koeppel, Robert Loos, Junior Peetz, Marvin Peetz, Helen Poston, Alice Quigley, Cindy Smith

Pastor: Cell: 715-294-0157 ~ **Email:** pastorjoshuarau@gmail.com

Office: 573-243-3323 ~ **Email:** office@euccjackson.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-3pm

Website: www.euccjackson.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/euccjackson ~ **Instagram:** @euccjackson

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

*Indicates congregation please stand if able
Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD** type

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

RINGING OF THE BELL ~ WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Hymns are in the Advent and Christmas Hymns booklet found in the pews.

PRELUDE

***TRINITY CHIMES** *(at the sound of the chimes, please stand)*

***INTROIT** “Awake, Awake”

#19 verse 1

*CALL TO WORSHIP

A shoot shall come forth from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow and bear fruit.

In Christ we find peace and new life.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard with the goat.

In Christ all creation is reconciled.

Come, let us walk in the way of the Lord.

We come to worship the Prince of Peace.

***GATHERING HYMN** “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

#22

*GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray,

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way of salvation. Give us grace to hear their voices and turn from 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 forever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Lutes Family

***TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit we are called into the season of Advent to prepare the way of the Lord, to make straight the paths, and to open our hearts to God's coming. But we confess that we have wandered in the shadows of sin and fear. Let us return to the Lord, who is full of compassion and mercy.

Silence for reflection.

Merciful God,

we confess that we are not awake as we should be. We grow weary in waiting and distracted by many things. We have let hope slip away, we have closed our hearts to peace, we have failed to share joy, and we have withheld love. Forgive us, Lord. Shine your light into our darkness, and turn us again toward you, that we may be ready to welcome Christ when he comes. Amen.

Hear the good news: The dawn from on high breaks upon us. In Christ, God has looked with favor upon you. Your sins are forgiven, your hope is restored, and your life is made new in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***GLORIA PATRI**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE IN MUSIC *"The Advent Road"*

FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

¹There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse,
And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him,
The Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The Spirit of counsel and might,
The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

³ His delight is in the fear of the Lord,
 And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes,
 Nor decide by the hearing of His ears;
⁴ 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 slay the wicked.
⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins,
 And faithfulness the belt of His waist.
⁶ “The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb,
 The leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
 The calf and the young lion and the fatling together;
 And a little child shall lead them.
⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
 Their young ones shall lie down together;
 And the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸ The nursing child shall play by the cobra’s hole,
 And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper’s den.
⁹ They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain,
 For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
 As the waters cover the sea.
¹⁰ “And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse,
 Who shall stand as a banner to the people;
 For the Gentiles shall seek Him,
 And His resting place shall be glorious.”

SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-13

God’s promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God’s blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God’s family.

⁴ For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. ⁵ Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, ⁶ that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. ⁸ Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made to the fathers, ⁹ and that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy, as it is written:

“For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles,
And sing to Your name.”

¹⁰ And again he says:

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!”

¹¹ And again:

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles!

Laud Him, all you peoples!”

¹² And again, Isaiah says:

“There shall be a root of Jesse;
And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles,
In Him the Gentiles shall hope.”

¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 3:1-12

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying:

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the LORD;

Make His paths straight.’ ”

⁴Now John himself was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him ⁶and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, ⁹and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. ¹⁰And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“A Season of Preparation”

***SERMON HYMN** *“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”*

#6

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Nicene Creed

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 and the Son, 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.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

#780

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,...And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.

Holy God, ...Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and the promise of his coming, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal...all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT (served in the pews)

We celebrate an open communion table, meaning that all who believe in Jesus Christ are invited to receive the real presence of Christ and share in the community of God's people, regardless of denomination. We offer both wine and grape juice, grape juice is in the center of the tray. Please hold the piece of bread or cup until all have been served.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***SENDING HYMN** "Peace, Peace, Peace"

#28

***BLESSING**

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION** *“Awake, Awake”*

#19 vs. 4

***POSTLUDE**



Advent

Midweek Worship Services

Dec 3, 10, 17

6:30 PM ~ CHAPEL

 Emanuel
UCC
318 W. ADAMS ST.
FAIRMONT, MD 21731
173-143-3333
Joshua W. Ryan, Pastor

IGNITE ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

Light Has Come

Come join us as we move from darkness to light—
reflecting on hope, peace, joy, and love as Christ
draws near.

Saturday 5:30 pm

 Emanuel
UCC
318 W. ADAMS ST.
FAIRMONT, MD 21731
173-143-3333
Joshua W. Ryan, Pastor
WWW.BUCCFAIRMONT.ORG

Gifts for Baby Jesus

One of Emanuel's mission projects is done through support of **Unleashing Potential** (the former Caroline Mission). They provide safe programming for multiple ages of youth, infants through high school.



Wish List--*clothing, pajamas, underwear, shoes, puzzles, books, games, or toys (No war toys please)*. They especially need items for children aged 6 and under. The gifts should be fully wrapped with a tag that states exactly what is inside (boy gift, girl gift, size, color, etc.) so that the wrapped gift may be given to an appropriate child with only needing to change the tag to one with the child's name.

Nonperishable food items or a monetary gift for UP can also be sent.

UP truly appreciates our support. Your tangible gifts are important to those they serve.

We will be collecting gifts December 1-14. We will bless the gifts during worship on Sunday, December 14.

The gifts will be delivered to St. Louis the week of December 15.



THIS WEEK

Today

Second Sunday of Advent

Brief Women's Fellowship Meeting
after worship

Tues., December 9

Fellowship Hall reserved

Wed., December 10

*Meditations from Emanuel on
Facebook and YouTube*

*6:30 pm-Mid-Week Advent Worship in
the Chapel*

Thurs., December 11

12 Noon-Bethany Circle Christmas
Luncheon in Fellowship Hall

Sat., December 13

9-11 am-Clothing Closet Open

5:30 pm-Ignite Worship

Sun., December 14

9:00 am-Faith and Fellowship

10:10 am-Traditional Worship
Gifts for Baby Jesus

*Please be advised that our services are
livestreamed to YouTube and Facebook. Your
participation in the service serves as your con-
sent to the broadcast of your image and voice
and to the broadcast of the image and voice
of your participating minor children.*

*Music and other worship elements used with
permission:*

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