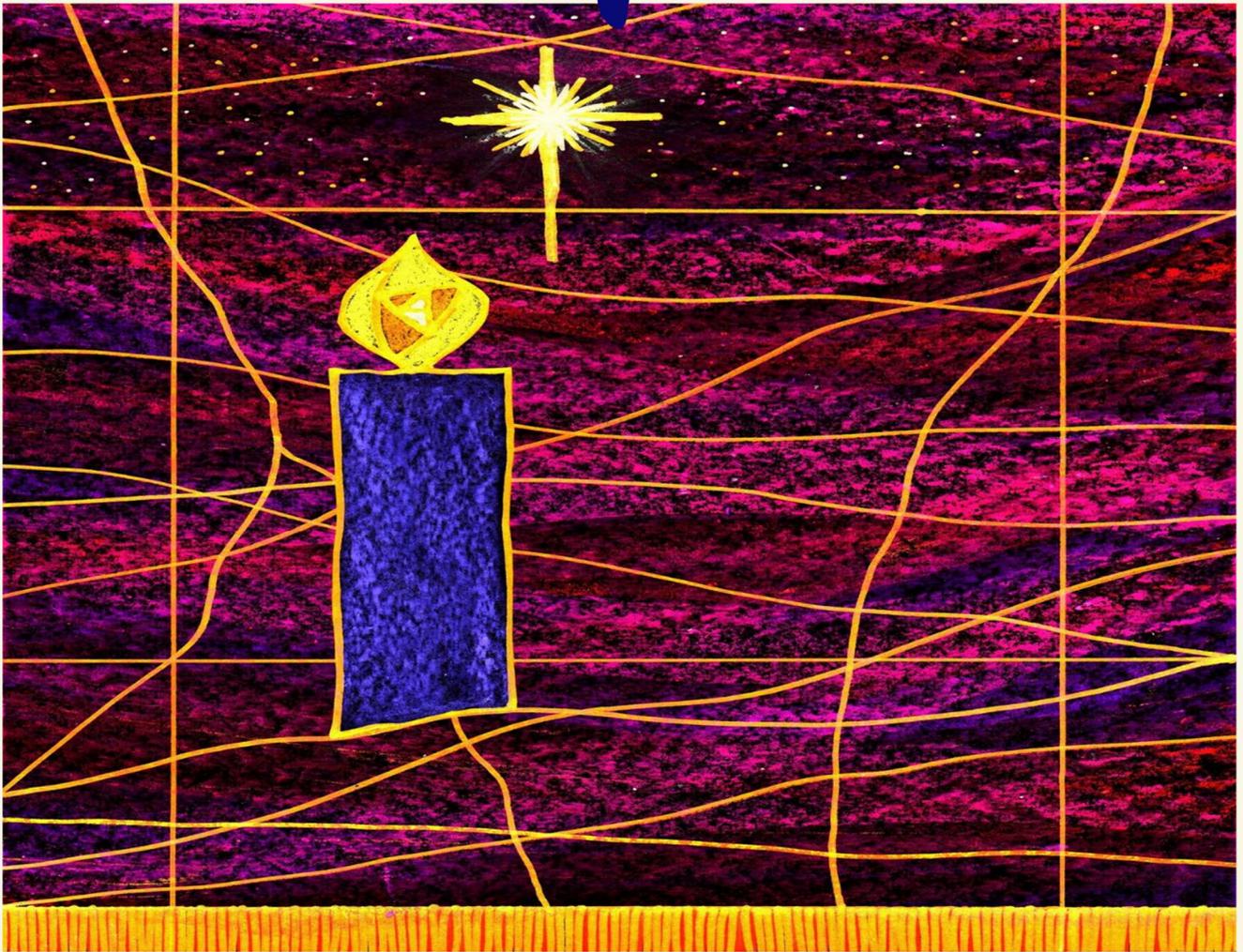


Hope



EMANUEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, November 29, 2020
First Sunday of Advent

WELCOME to Emanuel's Lutheran Church!
We eagerly await the coming of Christmas and are glad you are with us today.

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ELW p. 94

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

ELW 242



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

GREETING

ELW p. 156

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

KYRIE

ELW p. 156



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW p. 159

AM: Let us pray together.

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

L: A reading from Isaiah.

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— ²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down,

the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Refrain:

Let your face shine up - on us and
we shall be saved, and we shall be saved.

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and | come to help us.**

³Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD | God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray? R**

⁵You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
the one you have made so strong | for yourself. R**

¹⁸And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

L: A reading from 1 Corinthians.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

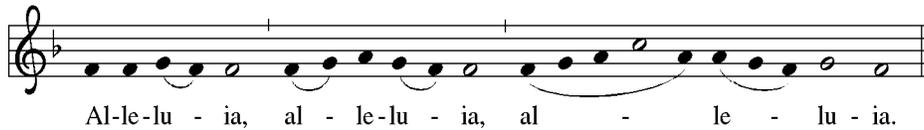
⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 160



GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁴In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.

³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Marcus



1 Re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - ti - ence their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

APOSTLE'S CREED

ELW p. 160

AM: Let us confess the faith of the church, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

ELW p. 161

AM: God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

Response to each petition: AM: Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

AM: Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

PEACE

ELW p.161

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING INFORMATION

For online giving: <https://tinyurl.com/emanuelsgiving>

Mailing Address: Emanuel's Lutheran Church, 206 N. Travis Street Seguin, TX 78155

OFFERING PRAYER

ELW p. 161

AM: Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p. 161

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

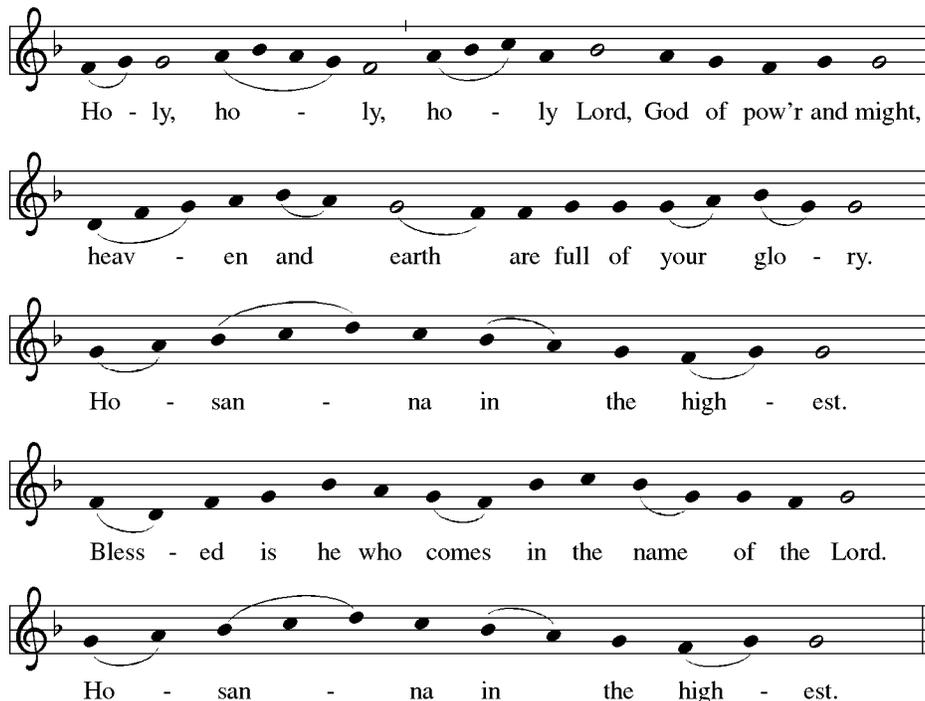
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

ELW p. 162

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW p. 162



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

ELW p. 162

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p. 163

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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, forever and ever.

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

ELW p. 164

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

ELW p. 164

When giving the bread and sharing the cup, you may use say:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

TABLE BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ELW p. 164

AM: Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

ELW p. 164

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

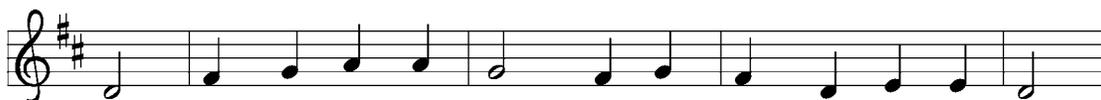
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You "

ELW 241



- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?
- 2 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; you came to set me free.
- 3 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.
- 4 Re - jice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
 I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me.
 Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.
 who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.



Oh, kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast
 A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high
 Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 All hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O glo - rious Sun, now come,



to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
 that will not fail or leave me as earth - ly rich - es fly.
 in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.
 send forth your beams so cheer - ing and guide us safe - ly home.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. composite
 Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

DISMISSAL

ELW p. 164

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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MUSICIANS TODAY: Tom Engler, cantor; Jubilation Singers

WORSHIP LEADERS NOVEMBER 29, 2020: Preaching: Pastor Marcus; **Presiding:** Pastor Kelsie;

NEEDED: Please call the church office if you are interested in being a **Funeral Usher** at Emanuel’s. This is a flexible, meaningful, and vital ministry of our church. Ushers are called on a rotating basis and serve as needed, often only a few times a year. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Emanuel's Lutheran Church Announcements

SUNDAY WORSHIP is currently streamed on Facebook, YouTube and KWED AM 1580 radio at 10:30 a.m. Due to rising COVID-19 cases, in-person worship is not taking place at this time. Church office staff will be again working from home and in the office as needed or by appointment. Please refer to the larger "We Are Better Together" COVID Safety and Gathering Policy updated on our website or contact Pastor Marcus with any questions. Continued prayers for our church leaders as they navigate our ever-changing tide.

ADVENT AT HOME: As has become our practice of setting aside bread and wine or bread and juice for the celebration of Holy Communion, we invite you to set aside four candles to join in the lighting of the Advent Wreath. These candles can be anything you have. They can be used or new, fragrant or not, similar in shape in size or completely random. Set them in the place where you worship each week and light them along with those being lit in worship. If you can, take a picture of what you have created for your Advent wreath and share them with the church office or online. We would love to see them.

ADVENT DEVOTION *Faith, Hope, Love, Joy & Light* is our 2020 Advent Devotion created by Pastor Marcus, Pastor Kelsie, and Pastor John at Emanuel's. Pastor Paul from St. John Marion, Pastor Megan from Spirit of Joy, and Pastor Andrew from 1st Presbyterian. The stunning cover, *Sign Divine*, is by our own Kolleen Kallus. Advent is a time to prepare one's heart for newness, newness inbreaking amid angelic song, newness inbreaking as innocence, newness drawing the world together in hopeful anticipation. You are invited to read these devotions daily, all at once, or however the Spirit moves you. A digital download is available at www.EmanuelLutheranChurch.com. Limited print copies are available in the church office. May the Holy Spirit guide and lead you over the season of Advent.

"CELEBRATING GENEROUS GENERATIONS" is the theme of our 2021 stewardship appeal. Due to the sharp rise in coronavirus cases, Commitment Sunday, scheduled for November 22nd, is now commitment week! We will have a drop-off box located at the Mountain Street entrance beginning Monday, November 23rd through Wednesday, November 25th and again Monday, November 30th where can leave your Statement of Intent safely and securely at any time between 8am and 5pm each day. Statements of Intent can also be mailed to the church at 206 N. Travis St., Seguin, TX 78155. Our team will call all members from whom we have not heard from beginning Tuesday, December 1st.

POINSETTIAS for Christmas may be donated as you rejoice the season, or in memory or honor of loved ones. Plants may be taken home following the final service. (If it is recorded, we will let you know when you can pick them up.) Forms, **due by December 9th**, are available in the office and on our website homepage. Each poinsettia is \$10.

SPONSOR A STUD to support Guadalupe Valley Habitat for Humanity. For a \$200 donation you will receive a 2x4 piece of wood to creatively decorate. Return to Habitat by **December 5th**. Emanuel's confirmation class is participating- so can you! Contact Habitat: 830-401-0422 or madelinez@guadalupevalleyhabitat.org.

PREP THE ARK at Emanuel's Day School! **On Dec. 5, 12 & 19** from 8-Noon help us get The Ark ready for a new coat of paint and beautify the campus. We will safely be working outside. BYO gloves, tools, lunch, snacks. Childcare provided. Contact PK with questions.

CANCELED: Due to rising COVID-19 numbers Emanuel's traditional **MID WEEK ADVENT WORSHIP AND BROWN BAG LUNCH** and **HOLIDAY MEAL DELIVERIES** are canceled this season. The safety of everyone is our greatest concern. Thanks to all who volunteered to assist with these annual events.

SMALL GROUP UPDATES: Small groups at Emanuel's are patiently pivoting as new restrictions are implemented following our "We Are Better Together" COVID Safety and Gathering Policy. Rising COVID-19 numbers necessitate such action. Please contact individual groups or the church office to see how each is creatively managing to proceed with the ministry and life of the church. Groups may be meeting online, in clusters of 2-5 people, or by other flexible means. Call first to see how best to participate.