

# Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Christmas I  
December 26, 2021  
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.



412 N. Church St.  
Rockford, IL 61103

*As we gather before the service begins,  
we encourage people to use the time as a centering for prayer and meditation.  
Please recycle your bulletin. Bins are located at the entrances.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Prelude

Carol Medley  
*Trish Rooney, Organist*

### Processional Hymn

*Joy to the world!*

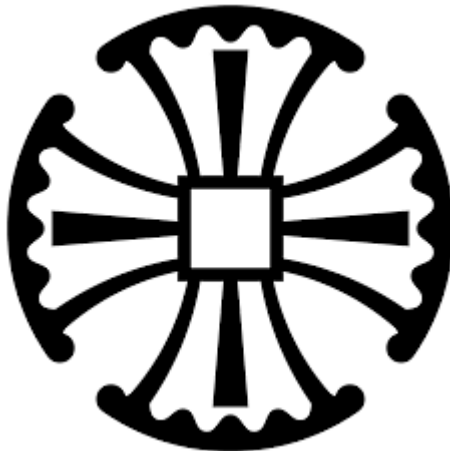
Hymn #100

### Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (†)

People: *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

Celebrant: **A**lmighty 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.*



**Collect for The First Sunday after Christmas**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

*People: And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Al**mighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**The Lessons**

**Old Testament**

**A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.**

*Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

**I** will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.  
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

**The Word of the Lord.**

*People: Thanks be to God.*

## Psalm 147:13-21

- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

## Epistle

### A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

*Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7*

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

### The Word of the Lord.

*People: Thanks be to God.*

### Gradual Hymn

*Sing, O sing, this blessed morn*

**Hymn #88**

## **The Gospel**

### **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.**

*John 1:1-18*

*Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

**I**n 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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## **Sermon**

The Rev. Diane Tomlinson

*A moment of silence is observed after the sermon*

## 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:  
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 and the Son.  
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.*

## **The Prayers of the People**

**W**ith all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

**F**or the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, for Central America, for those who are the victims of hunger, fear, injustice and oppression or are in danger, sorrow or any kind of trouble, and for those who minister to the sick, the friendless and the needy, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**F**or Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Paula our Bishop-elect, and Chilton our Assisting Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**F**or our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**F**or this city of Rockford, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**F**or the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**F**or the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially Maryanne, Nick, Rich, Sam, the Degner & Jury families, Smith family, Ed, and Michelle, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**F**or those celebrating birthdays especially, Janet *White* (12/30), let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**F**or the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**F**or all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially Margaret and Jeff, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

*The celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## Confession

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

Celebrant: **A**lmighty God have mercy on you, (**†**) forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

## The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People: And also with you.*

## Offertory Hymn

*In the bleak midwinter*

Hymn #112

# LITURGY OF THE TABLE

## Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

*People: And also with you.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

*People: We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

Celebrant: **I**t is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*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.*



*(kneeling or seated)*

*Celebrant:* **W**e give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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." (†)

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant:* **A**nd we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

### **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 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Celebrant: **T**he Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All are welcome to receive communion. Ushers will invite people forward by pew.*

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People:*

***E**ternal God, heavenly Father, 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 (†)

*(standing)*

**Recessional Hymn**

*Hark! the herald angels sing*

**Hymn #87**

## Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

## Postlude

Joy to the World

*Gehrke*

## Announcements

**With the rise of the Omicron variant,** we are reminding everyone to wear a mask in church, take advantage of the hand sanitizer in the back of the church, and keep social distance when possible.

**Book Club January Selection** "Dinner with Edward" by Isabel Vincent. In January the book club will meet via Zoom the date is January 11th at 7pm. When Isabel meets Edward, both are at a crossroads: he wants to follow his late wife to the grave, and she is ready to give up on love. Thinking she is merely helping Edward's daughter--who lives far away and has asked her to check in on her nonagenarian dad in New York --Isabel has no idea that the man in the kitchen baking the sublime roast chicken and light-as-air apricot soufflé will end up changing her life. As Edward and Isabel meet weekly for the glorious dinners that Edward prepares, he shares so much more than his recipes for apple galette or the perfect martini, or even his tips for deboning poultry. Edward is teaching Isabel the luxury of slowing down and taking the time to think through everything she does, to deconstruct her own life, cutting it back to the bone and examining the guts, no matter how messy that proves to be.

**The Parish Annual meeting will take place on Sunday, January 30th** following one service at 9:00 a.m. In keeping with the protocol for safe distancing, we will be meeting in the sanctuary.

**If you would like to run for Vestry** please speak with Jean Frana, Kathy Torrence, or Jennifer Smith.

**Annual reports for committees** need to be turned into the office by January 15th. They will once again be sent out before the meeting via Mailchimp. A few printed copies will be available at the meeting.

**The office will be closed December 27th through January 1st.**

**Diane will be on vacation until January 4th.**

**Please contact Douglas Rogers with any pastoral needs.**

# Emmanuel Episcopal Church

412 N. Church Street, Rockford IL 61103

Tel: 815/964-5514 Email: churchoffice@emmanuelrockford.org

Website: www.emmanuelrockford.org

Music License Information: OneLicense.net #A-709780

The Reverend Diane Tomlinson.....Rector  
The Rev. Douglas Rogers.....Deacon  
Andrea Mawyer.....Parish Administrator  
Dale Thomas.....Treasurer  
Wayne Hatwich.....Director of Music  
Trish Rooney.....Assistant Director of Music  
Rachel Boge.....Director of Communications and Social Media  
Timothy Borden.....Sexton  
Vestry Members .....Jean Frana- Sr. Warden, Susan Schmitz– Jr. Warden,  
Nancy Sauer– Clerk, Jennifer Smith, Kathryn Torrence,  
Mary G. Johnson, Stacey LaRosa, Owen Carter,  
Phil James, and Denis Anderson

## Assisting in the Liturgy

**8:00 a.m. Server: Fred Pelley**

**10:30 a.m. Crucifer/Server: Dennis Horton  
Old Testament: Theresa Sinks  
Epistle: Dennis Horton  
Prayers of the People: Mary Dammann  
Altar Guild: Cindy Joesten  
Ushers: Kevin Gayden & John Birnbaum**

Copyright information:

All Hymns ©1985 The Hymnal 1982, The Church Pension Fund

Broadcast & reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-709780. All rights reserved