

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017

- **We welcome you to our services at EFCMM!** Our guests are invited to complete the *Guest Reply* section of this worship folder and drop it off at our Welcome Center after the service. We have a small gift for you!
- **Childcare:** Sunday School – Mari Vesey, Jen Immel; Worship – Laurie Carlsen, Danyelle Barker, and Nathan Hodson. Kingdom Kids – Kelly Stranberg, Beth Berry, Jack McKanna, and Catherine Bloemker. *Children's activity packets are available in the foyer to use during the service.*

Welcome and Announcements

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” – # 244

“Hark the Herald Angels Sing” – # 277

“Glory Be to God”

Prayer

Offering

“Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery”

The Lord's Supper

“The Gospel Song”

“What Wondrous Love Is This” – # 314

Advent Reading: Malachi 3:1-4, 4:1-6
Norm & Katie Beeh

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” – # 245

Sermon: “Believe”

Luke 1:1-25

Page 855 in pew Bible

“Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne” – # 292

Worship Team: Steve Hodson, Ben Hilty,
Deb Forman, Shannon Englert, and Rene Wehler

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Today at EFCMM – The First Sunday of Advent

- **Communion Sunday.** An offering box will be in the foyer to receive your *Helping Hand* offering for the needy in our community.
- **Sunday Night Small Groups meet.** See the group leader for details.
- **Youth Group** will *NOT* meet tonight.

This Week at EFCMM

- **Food Pantry volunteers** are needed this Tuesday, 9:00 a.m., to restock shelves at the Loaves & Fish Food Pantry.
- **Women's Christmas Brunch** will be Saturday, December 9, 10:00 a.m., at Stronghold Castle in Oregon. Our theme is “Handmade from the Heart.” We will enjoy a delicious breakfast, gift exchange, special music, and more. The cost will be \$10 per person payable at the event. Sign up in the Welcome Center.

Next Week at EFCMM

- **Family Fellowship Christmas Party:** Saturday, December 16, 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be decorating gingerbread houses as part of the fun! RSVP by December 13, if you plan to attend. All families with children (including teens) are invited. Sign-up in the Welcome Center.

Additional Opportunities for December

- **Poinsettias** to decorate our Sanctuary for Christmas may be purchased in memory or in honor of a loved one. Order forms are at the Welcome Center. *Today is your last day to order.*
- **Knitters/Crafters** are invited to make hats, mittens, scarves, gloves, or socks for our local food pantry, *Loaves & Fish*, to give away to their clients at Christmas. If you wish to contribute, please bring items to the church any Sunday between now and December 10.
- **Christmas Gift Outreach:** This year we will be helping bring joy into the lives of children by partnering with Earth Angels, an organization that collects toys and donations for needy families in Ogle County. These gifts are for families who need help, but are not receiving assistance otherwise. A tree will be set up in the Fellowship Hall, which will have tags with information about Christmas gifts for a needy child. Pick a child (or two) to buy gifts for. Wrap your gift, attach the angel's tag, and bring your present to our Birthday Party for Jesus, which follows our Candlelight Service on December 17. Gifts will be distributed by the organization from December 19-25.
- **Candlelight Service** will be Sunday, December 17, at 6:00 p.m. This will include a variety of Christmas music from those in our congregation and a brief message on the birth of our Savior. Our Birthday Party for Jesus will follow.

This Week at EFCMM December 4-9, 2017

Please tear off this section to keep as a reference for planning and for praying.

Tuesday

9:00 a.m. Food Pantry Volunteers

9:30 a.m. Ladies' Prayer Circle

6:30 p.m. Women's Ministry Mtg.

Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Dixon Men's Prayer

5:00 p.m. Hand Mime

6:00 p.m. Puppet Team

Thursday

6:00 a.m. Council of Elders

1:00 p.m. Ladies' Bible Study

Saturday

7:00 a.m. Men's Group

10:00 a.m. Women's Brunch

Thank You

Heartfelt thanks for your prayers, thoughtfulness, cards, and also the flowers during the past months. The Lord has shown His faithfulness day by day and you have been part of that expressed love. Thank you so much.

Dirk Van Dam

Thank you so much for the cards and well wishes at our 40th wedding anniversary party. We have been blessed to be a part of this church body for over 40 years. In Christ,
Bruce and Cindy Hongsermeier