



Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Christmas 1, December 26, 2021, 10:00a

Lessons: Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm; Galatians 3:23-25; John 1:1-18

From Linnea+

From "Song of the Shepherds" by Richard Bauckham

They say that once, almost before time,
the stars with shining voices
serenaded
the new-born world.
The night could not contain their boundless praise.

Enjoy the coming
Twelve Days of
Christmas!

We thought that just a poem –
until the night
a song of solar glory,
unutterable, unearthly,
eclipsed the luminaries of the night,
as though the world were exorcised of dark
and, coming to itself, began again.

Prayers this week:

Prayers for healing: Kelli, James, Jason, Jodie, Skip, Teri, Rob, Philip, Eric, Amy, Kathie, Jesse, Rita, Caitlin, Steve, Jeanne, Martha, Betsy, Ruthie, Rachael, Christina, Tina, Justin, Robin, Joyce, Karen, Kelli, and Mark P; prayers for the healing of the earth, that countries and individuals will follow through with their commitments to reducing emissions that cause climate change.

Prayers for the departed: Vivian, Lynne H, and for all who have died from Covid-19 around the world this week

Prayers for comfort and courage: for the Edstrom and Homeyer families, for those facing hard decisions and all who have experienced loss

This Week

Today, Sunday, December 26 *St. Stephen, Deacon and first Martyr* Liturgy of the Holy Eucharist live streamed at 10:00a, www.hastingsemmanuel.org or later at <https://www.facebook.com/hastingsemmanuel/> Please mask throughout the service. There will be no coffee hour.

Monday, December 27 *St. John, Apostle and Evangelist*

Pray for our region and for the world in the midst of pandemic

Tuesday, December 28 *The Holy Innocents*
alcove

Centering Prayer, 6:30p, in the Parish House
Pray for your own family

Wednesday, December 29 *Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Centerbury and Martyr, 1170*

Pray for the Diocese, our own parish and breakfast guests

Thursday, December 30

Pray for the Church around the world

Friday, December 31

Pray for our country, for Racial Justice and Reconciliation

Saturday, January 1

The Holy Name of our Lord Jesus Christ Pray for Episcopal Relief and Development

LESSONS NEXT SUNDAY: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 81:1-8; Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a; Luke 2:41-52

SERVERS: Lay Eucharistic Minister: Dennis M; Lector/Intercessor: Jan D; Acolyte: Sam P; Ushers: Rich and Ayesha F; Altar Guild: Georgette S; Videographers: John H, Matt P, Steve R; Tellers: Steve R, Sheryl L-

Looking ahead:

- **Twelfth Night, the Last Night of the Christmas Season, Wednesday, January 5, 5:00p to 8:30p.** We will walk that **Stations of the Epiphany and play board games, but the Parish Potluck is cancelled.**
- Some educational opportunities will be coming your way in January. (Some may be rescheduled depending upon Covid and Omicron developments.)
 - Calvin College January Series at the Hastings Public Library, weekdays from January 10-18, 12:30-1:30
 - RCRE (Roundtable Companions for Racial Equity) Workshop, “Effective Conversations among Differing Viewpoints” or “How to talk so people will listen and listen so people will talk,” with Dr. Laura Cochrane and Dr. Sara Moslener from CMU
 - RCRE Book Club at the Hastings Public Library
 - Care of Creation book study of *Saving Us: A Climate Scientist’s Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World*, by Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, chief scientist for The Nature Conservancy, distinguished professor at Texas Tech University, and Christian believer
- **Emmanuel Church Annual Meeting after the Liturgy on January 23 (snow date January 30)** Please plan to attend.
- **The fact that nothing else is listed here does not mean that God doesn’t have a significant blessing or learning opportunity for us—just that we don’t know what it is yet! 😊**

Stewardship of Relationship and Community: Please sign up for **Rides Ministry and Coffee Hour**

Stewardship of Finance: Thank you for your commitment to God for God’s work through Emmanuel Church. The Treasurer is working on a budget in preparation for the Annual Meeting. If it were presented today, the budget would show a deficit; PLEASE, if you plan to pledge but have not done so yet, send in your card by JANUARY 6 so that the Treasurer can complete his work.

Stewardship of Body and Spirit: The Omicron variant is presenting a troubling profile of infection rates wherever it appears. It has been identified in Kent County and elsewhere in Michigan. For the time being, the Community Breakfast as well as Sunday Coffee Hour have been put on hold. Linnea and the Vestry are determining additional limits re singing and spacing until the impact of Omicron becomes clearer.

COVID ACTION PLAN cards are in a basket on the Welcome Table, with information re rapid testing and treatment.

Stewardship of Place, Environment, and Creation Care: Emmanuel and Grace Lutheran earned \$1000 to share and facilitated over 75 homes being treated for Home Energy Audits. Thank you for your participation.