



# WELCOME TO EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

First Sunday After Christmas  
December 29, 2024

## *The Gathering*

### **Acknowledging the Territory**

For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked this land, weaving their identity and their spirituality intimately with the land. We acknowledge that we are on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg people. May we grow into living with respect on this land, moving into reconciliation through peace and friendship with all who live, work and worship on it.

**Opening Hymn:**

*Still, Still, Still*

*VU 47*

### **The Life & Work of our Community of Faith**

#### **Lighting of the Christ and Affirming Candle**

We light the Christ candle to symbolize the presence of Christ's Spirit, alive within us, this day and every day.

We light the Affirm candle to proclaim to the members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ communities and their allies that they are truly welcomed and accepted in this place.

## *Responsive Welcome*

### **Welcome**

Welcome to this sacred place of belonging where we embrace the sacredness of life and recognize the dignity of each person, spirit-filled with the image of God, the Mystery in whom we live and move and have our being.

**Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, have doubts. Welcome to visitors and to new and old friends.**

Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, siblings, youth, couples and single people.

**Welcome to people of all colours, cultures, abilities, gender identities, and sexual orientations, to old and young, to believers and questioners – and welcome to questioning believers.**

This day, we are all invited to live into God's love, peace and justice. The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Hymn:**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

*VU 38*

**Call to Worship:**

To wake in the morning is to accept God's gift of another day. To get out of bed is to accept God's invitation to live fully and well. To pause for times of prayer is to deepen our communion with God and with our deepest and best selves. Each new day affords opportunities to help others and to care for the world. May our worship today encourage us and bring us gratitude for the life God has given us. Come and let us worship God.

**Opening Prayer:**

Let us pray

In this whole wide world...

**In this whole wide world...**

there is only one me.

**there is only one me.**

Help me, my God...

**Help me, my God...**

to be filled with joy...

**to be filled with joy...**

to be filled with hope...

**to be filled with hope...**

to make a difference in your world

**to make a difference in your world.**

**Now and all ways! Amen!**

*(Children come forward while the song is played)*

**Hymn: *Circle Song***

Come and join the circle, come and take my hand.

Come and join the circle, come and be my friend.

Gather round and see, what the world can be.

Come and join the circle, come and share God's word with me.

**Children's Message:**

**Val**

**Hymn:**                   *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

*VU 48*  
*Verses 1 and 3*

## ***We Listen to God's Word***

**Scripture:**                   **Luke 10: 25-37**

**Musical Offering:**                   ***You Say***

*By Lauren Daigle*  
*Loli and Landa*

**Meditation:**                   **Angels in Our Lives**

**Hymn:**                   ***Go Tell it on the Mountain***

***VU 43***

### **Offering Invitation:**

Let us magnify God and God's intentions for our world in the offerings we make together now.

### **Offertory Prayer:**

**Gracious God, through the sharing of our lives and the blessing of these gifts may all creation taste and see the goodness of life. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **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, the power, and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn:**                   ***Go Make a Difference***

***MV 209***

**Commissioning:**

Let us go from this place with eyes wide open, ready to welcome God's people and respond to Christ's call, willing to work for life made new.

**We go, to follow the way of Jesus and to serve a world in need.**

**Blessing**

**Threefold Amen**

**Postlude:**

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Portions of this service of worship have been adapted from:

Bob Root, Richard Bott "Pentecost 2, 2024", *Gatherings*

***No Scents Makes Good Sense***

*Emmanuel provides a scent-free environment. Please avoid wearing or using scented products as some individuals have environmental sensitivities.*

Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care: **Rev. Grant Stuckless**  
Pastoral Care Provider: **Ron MacDonald**  
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**OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – THURSDAY 9:00 AM-4:30PM**

***Our Lay Reader today is Jill MacLean.*** Thank you for your part in our worship service this morning.

***Thank you*** to the production team, ushers, lay reader and coffee hosts for bringing us today's worship service and coffee and conversation time.

***Welcome to Emmanuel!*** If you are a newcomer or visitor, we invite you to sign our **Guest Book** and join us in a time of fellowship in the CE Hall following worship.

Rev Grant is on vacation and will be back in the office on Thursday, January 2, 2025.

The church office will be closed from December 24, 2024 through to January 5, 2025. Emma will be back in the office on Monday January 6, 2025.

Ron MacDonald will be working and will host the Tuesday Zoom meetings as usual on December 31.

For a Pastoral Care Emergency, contact any member of the Pastoral Care Team: Dr. Ron MacDonald, Malcolm Collins, Patricia Fairbairn, Terry Henderson, Jon Jones, Jill MacLean, and Joyce White (Keeping in Touch).

Lynn Solvason will be retiring from the position of Church Treasurer at the Annual Meeting in February. Having served faithfully as Treasurer since 2008, Lynn has provided exceptional financial acumen and guidance to the finance committee, other committees of the Church, and Council, and we thank her for her hard work and the many years she has dedicated to the position. If you, or anyone you know in congregation, is interested in becoming Emmanuel's Treasurer, please contact Tom Kannemann (thomask2@rogers.com) or Lynn Solvason (lynn.solvason@sympatico.ca) or the church office. There is an annual honorarium paid to the Treasurer.

**Today is the last date to submit expenditures to be expensed in 2024. Please submit your signed RFP's by 12pm today.** Thank you very

much to everyone who has already met this important deadline. Regards, Val Dowd (Bookkeeper) and Lynn Solvason (Treasurer).

Join our **Let's Talk Tuesdays** Zoom Coffee and Conversation. Join in the conversation on Christmas Eve, hosted by Ron MacDonald. Email [publicity@emmanuelunited.ca](mailto:publicity@emmanuelunited.ca) for the Zoom link.

On **Sunday January 12<sup>th</sup>**, Emmanuel and other members of the South-East Ottawa Cluster of Churches will be worshipping together at **Glebe St. James United Church, at 10:30am, at 650 Lyon Street**, in Ottawa. There will be no worship service at Emmanuel on this day.

## ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

The office is closed this week.

<b>Sunday, December 29</b> Worship Coffee and Conversation	10:00 am 11:00 am	Sanctuary C.E. Hall/Kitchen
<b>Monday, December 30</b> Riverboys Christian Meditation	12:30 pm – 2:00 pm 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Room 9/10 Zoom
<b>Tuesday, December 31</b> Quilting Let's Talk Tuesdays Coffee at 3 Sisters	10:00 am – 3:00 pm 10:00 am – 11:00 am 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Room 7, 9/10 Zoom 3 Sisters
<b>Wednesday, January 1</b> Active Artists	11:00 am – 2:00 pm	
<b>Thursday, January 2</b> Al-Anon	7:00 pm – 9:30 pm	C.E. Hall
<b>Friday, January 3</b> Rainbow Hub	6:00 pm – 8:30 pm	C.E. Hall
<b>Saturday, January 4</b>		