



# **WELCOME TO EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH**

**67<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sunday  
Third Sunday after Epiphany  
January 25, 2026**

## ***The Gathering***

### **Prelude:**

#### **Acknowledging the Territory**

We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the Anishinaabe Algonquin people who are the traditional guardians of the land on which we worship this morning - land which remains unceded. We acknowledge the work of past, present and future caretakers of this territory who share the light of their traditional knowledge. We have the desire to work towards reconciliation and acknowledge that we must live with responsibility and respect on this land.

### **Hymn:**

***Come, All You People***

**MV 2**

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

#### **Lighting of the Christ and Affirming Candles:**

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:**

*God of the Bible*

**MV 28**

**Call to Worship:**

There is a story of how God created the heavens and the earth.

**There are also stories of wonder how the heavens and earth came to be.**

There is a story of our arriving here that was told for centuries.

**That story includes the Indigenous story, the true story of what happened “in the beginning” told by elders for thousands of years.**

Today, Emmanuel United Church celebrates our story build over 67 years.

**We thank God for the collective story of our worshipping community that we share, expanding our wisdom and awareness of who we really are.**

With thanksgiving, let us worship God.

**Opening Prayer:**

**Ever-gracious God, Giver of our time and space, Provider of rhyme and place, in this hour we praise you for giving us our community. It has been formed by the guidance of your Holy Spirit. You have inspired us to reflect the voice of the Southeast Ottawa community with a United Church of Canada tradition delivered to Elmvale Acres 67 years ago. We thank you for who we are and for all the inspiration and energy that called us to build and be a people of faith in this unceded land. We thank you for the gifts of awareness and learning that call us to guide our growing, our aging and our youth. Bless us in this hour, O God. Bless us as we celebrate 67 years of worshipping, following and welcoming your love. 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:**

**Grant**

**Hymn:** *I'm going to Live So God can use me*

**VU 575**

*(Children leave for Sunday school)*

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

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

**Anthem:** *O Praise Ye the Lord*

*by Noel Dexter*

**Meditation:** The Gift of Being Together:  
Celebrating 67 years as the Body of Christ

### **Quiet Reflection and Prayer**

**Hymn:** *Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

**VU 563**

### **Offertory Prayer:**

Ever-gracious God, just as you bless us with years, you bless us with privilege, resources and mindfulness. We thank you for the awareness of your presence and a call to give back a portion of our living. We do this for the benefit of each other. We do this to continue to grow in vision and courage. Bless what we offer and use us for the good of your church, the future you give us and for one another. Amen.

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **Lord's Prayer**

Our Creator, who is in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
may your kingdom come,  
may your 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 yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

Commissioning:

We go forth in celebration!

With thanksgiving, we celebrate the years we have together and the years to come.

May God go with us for a future that keeps including, keeps welcoming, keeps aware, keeps loving and keeps opening.

Blessing:

Amen:

*Great Amen (Mass of Creation)*

*by Marty Haugen*

Postlude:

Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care: **Rev. Grant Stuckless**  
Pastoral Care Provider: **Dr. Ron MacDonald**  
Music Director: **Ann McNamee**  
Pianist & Organist: **Abigail Sánchez Rojas**  
Office Administrator: **Emma Dowd**  
Telephone: **(613) 733-0437**  
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Website: **www.emmanuelunited.ca**  
**OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – THURSDAY 9:00 AM-4:30 PM**

Our congregation is organized by its members and adherents. Several committees direct various functions, but our common life is made possible by many more who give of their time and talents.

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

***Thank you*** to the production team, ushers, decorators, 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.

Join **Let's Talk Tuesdays**, on Zoom. This week's discussion topic is: Why do anniversaries matter to you? What anniversaries do you especially remember? "Gratitude grows when we pause to remember."

**Anniversary Potluck, Sunday January 25, 2026-** join us for a potluck lunch, following the service, to celebrate Emmanuel's 67<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We look forward to gathering with members who have been at Emmanuel many years and others who have come more recently, to share ideas and favourite foods. More information is posted in the narthex.

You are invited to join Rebecca and Crispin Zahinda after the February 1<sup>st</sup> service in celebrating the baptism of their daughter, Arya Zahinda.

The Thursday Morning Discussion Group (Heretics) will discuss Part THREE of the book: ***A New Kind of Christianity: Ten Questions That Are Transforming the Faith*** by Brian McLaren. All welcome. There is a copy of this book in church library.

**Annual Reports Due!** Anyone with a contribution for the 2025 Annual report is asked to submit items to the Office by Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. (Finance items are due February 9<sup>th</sup>.) **Whenever possible, contributors are asked to limit their text to less than 350 words.** Annual reports will be available on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.

Noel Dexter (1938-2019) is the composer of today's Anthem. He is a well known Jamaican singer, composer and lecturer. He coordinated the Caribbean Church Music Programme of the Caribbean Conference of Churches and composed numerous hymns, anthems, patriotic songs and also edited the Caribbean School Hymn Book. Noel won numerous awards and was a fellow lecturer at the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts in Kingston, Jamaica.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday, January 25</b> Cluster Worship Coffee and Conversation 67 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch	10:00 am 11:00 am 11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Sanctuary C.E. Hall C.E. Hall
<b>Monday, January 26</b> Take Time to be Wholey Food Bank Collection Christian Meditation	10:30 am – 11:30 am 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	C.E. Hall Narthex Zoom
<b>Tuesday, January 27</b> Tai Chi Emmanuel Quilters Let’s Talk Tuesdays Neighbourhood Quilters Coffee Social Christie Lake Kids Council Meeting	10:00 am – 12:00 pm 10:00 am – 3:00 pm 10:00 am – 11:00 am 12:30 – 3:00 pm 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm 4:30 pm – 9:00 pm 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	C.E. Hall Lounge Zoom C.E. Hall Three Sisters C.E. Hall/Kitchen Zoom
<b>Wednesday, January 28</b> Active Artists TELEOS Voices Rock Music	11:00 am – 2:00 pm 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm	Library Zoom Sanctuary
<b>Thursday, January 29</b> Tai Chi Heretics Discussion Group Cluster Meeting Emmanubells Al Anon Choir	10:00 am – 12:00 pm 10:00 am – 11:30 am 11:00 am – 1:30 pm 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	C.E. Hall Zoom Lounge Lounge C.E. Hall Sanctuary
<b>Friday, January 30</b> Take Time to be Wholey	10:30 am – 11:30 am	C.E. Hall
<b>Saturday, January 31</b> NMRA	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	C.E. Hall