



**NEWSLETTER**  
**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**December 18, 2022**  
**Emmanuel Church**  
**West Roxbury, MA 2022**

**This week's Newsletter contains:**

- *Christmas Flower Donation information*
- *Please note the Advent 101 Primer on Page 3*
- *Our Advent and Christmas service schedule on Page 7*
- *Other information*



***Christmas Flower Donation***

*December 13, 2022*

*Fellow Parishioner's and Friends,*

*We know Advent is well under way and we are currently holding Tuesday evening contemplative services at 7pm, but the Altar Guild is always busy trying to stay one step ahead. At this time, we are asking for donations to help decorate Emmanuel for the Christmas season and service.*

*Should you wish to donate please include a separate check made out to Emmanuel Church with a memo for the flower donation. Should you wish to give this donation in memory of someone please include their name and we will attach a separate page with the donations in Memory Of your friends and loved ones.*

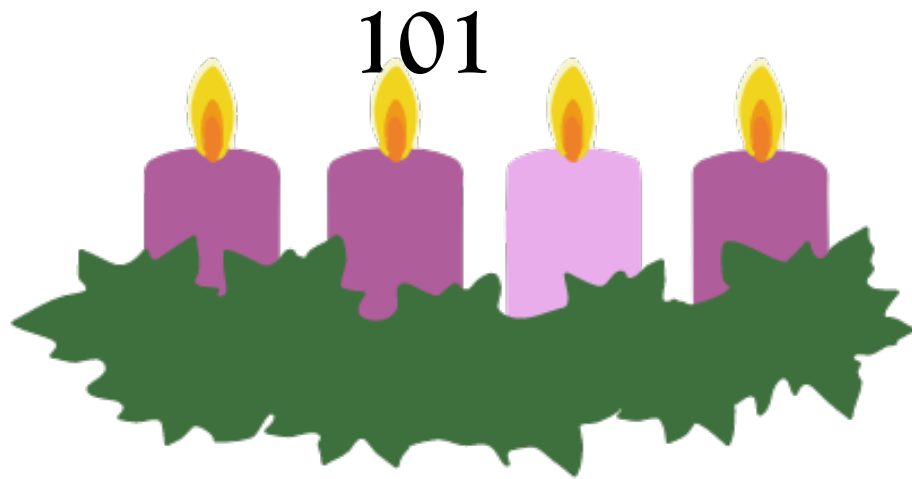
***The deadline to receive your check to be included in the Christmas Bulletin is Sunday,  
December 18, 2022***

*Thank you very much for your thoughts and consideration. We wish you a very Happy Holiday Season!*

*The Altar Guild*



# Advent and Advent Wreath:



## What is Advent?

Well, Happy New Year!

Our Church Year begins on the First Sunday of Advent. Advent means “arrival” or “coming” in Latin and is a season of waiting and preparation for Jesus’ miraculous birth.

## **Why Advent Wreath?**

An Evergreen Wreath is a symbol that has been around for longer than Christianity has! We borrowed it, probably during the Middle Ages in Europe, because we like to borrow symbols and because the circle is a symbol of new life, unity and of eternity. Evergreens also symbolize the persistence of life, even in the depths of winter.

### **What do the Candles mean?**

Each week we light an additional candle on the wreath. Three of them are purple. Purple was traditionally a color used for royalty and we use it to symbolize Christ's kingship. It is also a somber, meditative color and the color we see before the dawning of a new day.

On the third Sunday of Advent, we light a pink or rose candle. The third Sunday is known as Gaudete Sunday from the Latin word "rejoice." On Gaudete Sunday, just past halfway through Advent, we begin to look towards the joy of the Christmas celebration, so it is a lighter, more joyful rose. It is also the color we see at early dawn ... when the sun is beginning to rise. The accumulation of light is an expression of the growing anticipation of the birth of Jesus Christ, who is seen as the light of the world.

### **What should we do with our Advent Wreath??**

One traditional thing to do with an Advent Wreath is to light the appropriate candles as you gather for a meal with your friends and family, saying a prayer while someone lights the candles. The Advent Wreath can also simply be the focal point for your times of prayer. Following are the prayers, which we call Collects, that we say at the beginning of the Sunday service each week in Advent. You can use these Collects, one of the other suggested prayers, or any other prayer as your candle lighting prayer during each week of Advent.

### **First Sunday of Advent (Light one purple candle):**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **Or try this ...**

From the Hymnal 1982 #52:

Oh God this day upon us shine and fill our souls with light divine. *Amen.*

### **Second Sunday of Advent (Light two purple candles):**

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance

and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**Or try this ...**

From the *Book of Common Prayer*, p 159:

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put upon us the armor of light. *Amen.*

**Third Sunday of Advent (Light two purple and one pink candle):**

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**Or try this:**

From the Prophet Isaiah:

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawning.  
*Amen*

**Fourth Sunday of Advent (Light three purple and one pink candle):**

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**Or try this ...**

From the Song of Mary (Luke 1:46-48)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed:

The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. *Amen.*



## Advent and Christmas at Emmanuel

ADVENT I

CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT PRAYERS

ADVENT II

CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT PRAYERS

ADVENT III

CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT PRAYERS

ADVENT IV

CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY EUCHARIST

CHRISTMAS MORNING HOLY EUCHARIST

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 10:00 AM

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 10:00 AM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 10:00 AM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 10:00 AM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 5:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 10:00 AM

### WATCH EMMANUEL VIA YOUTUBE

Missed the in-person service? No problem. You can catch the service, usually posted by Monday evening, via our website, <https://emmanuelwr.org/> or you can go directly to the Emmanuel YouTube site, [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEQm5KH2wGB\\_XbZ8h9jldhA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEQm5KH2wGB_XbZ8h9jldhA)

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### PRAY FOR UKRAINE



As the war continues to now escalate, we prayer for Ukraine and its people. Our prayers truly help, as they keep us mindful of God's love for us all and the miracles that occur even when all seems lost.

Please consider donating to one of the many organizations raising money for Ukraine. If you prefer to donate directly to an organization focused on helping children in Ukraine, there is Save the Children:

[https://support.savethechildren.org/site/Donation2?df\\_id=5746&mfc\\_pref=T&5746.donation=form1](https://support.savethechildren.org/site/Donation2?df_id=5746&mfc_pref=T&5746.donation=form1)

Another worthy organization is World Central Kitchen a nonprofit founded by Chef José Andrés providing food onsite in Ukraine and to refugees coming into border countries. Learn more at:

<https://wck.org/>

**СЛАВА УКРАЇНІ!**

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**PRAYER LIST**

*We pray for this who are homebound or ill:* Paul, Mary, Catherine, Michael, Parker, Sergio, Martha, Gail, Anne H, Patricia, Anne J, Barbara., Maureen, Tony, Louise, Edmond, Marion, Lucy, Rachael, Kathleen, and Scott.

Please email us the names of those who need special prayers---[info@emmanuelwr.org](mailto:info@emmanuelwr.org). Only first names will be used.