



NEWSLETTER – FALL 2024 VOLUME 4

Please worship with us any/every Sunday at 10 AM and join us for hospitality and refreshment after the service.

Watch Emmanuel via Facebook/YouTube

Did you miss it? Would you like to hear it again? No problem. You can catch the live service or later on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#). Want to donate to our continuing ministry? Donate online [HERE](#) or visit our [website donate page](#).

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendar!

December

- Sunday, December 1st – Advent begins. We prepare for the birth of Christ in both traditional and new ways! Don't miss: "[Advent & Advent Wreath 101](#)" starting on page 3.
- Tuesday, December 3rd 7 PM – Advent Contemplative Prayers
- Sunday, December 8th 10 AM Advent II. 11 AM (after service) – Santa & Friends (furry & human). This wonderful event offers a chance for a festive photo of your pet (and you) with Santa in a seasonally decorated setting with holiday music, light refreshments, and pet treats. (Flyer on page 6)
- Tuesday, December 10th 7 PM – Advent Contemplative Prayers
- Sunday, December 15th –10 AM Advent III and Deadline for Emmanuel 2024 donations to Rose's Bounty (details on page 2)
- Tuesday, December 17th 7 PM – Advent Contemplative Prayers
- Sunday December 22nd 10 AM - Stewardship Ingathering Sunday on Advent IV. 11 AM (after service) – rehearsal for Christmas Eve pageant and help to prepare the church for Christmas Eve
- Tuesday December 24th 5 PM - Christmas Eve – our warm candlelight Service of Holy Eucharist, pageant and music to celebrate the birth of Christ

Save the Date

- Sunday January 5th – 10 AM Service of Holy Eucharist on the last day of Christmas
- Monday, January 6th – Feast of the Epiphany evening service and celebration with refreshment (time will be announced)
- Sunday, February 9th – Annual Meeting after 10 AM Service

Scroll down for more

OTHER NEWS & OFFERINGS

- Emmanuel was approved to receive a \$500.00 Neponset River Deanery grant for Rose's Bounty, the food pantry run by our neighbors from the Stratford United Church. It serves residents of West Roxbury, Roslindale, Jamaica Plain, Hyde Park and Mattapan with programs including in person pick up, home delivery to the homebound and a pop-up pantry for Chittick School families. **If you wish to donate, please see mark your donation 'Rose's Bounty' by December 15th.** (Contact Gail Halpin-Evans)
- **Emmanuel's Annual Stewardship Campaign in Progress!** On Stewardship Sunday, we were reminded to think about why we want to support God's work at Emmanuel with our time, talent and treasure. While we each hope we give gratitude for and stewardship of God's gifts every day throughout the year, our annual month-long campaign reminds us that a commitment pledge from each member is critical for keeping our community thriving. The campaign re-energizes us in our endeavors. We will hear more each week until December 22nd, Stewardship In-Gathering Sunda, when we give our commitment pledge cards during the Offering. Let us discern what God is calling us to give and do at Emmanuel.
- You Are Not Alone: Responding to Grief and Trauma is being offered at the Barbara C Harris Camp & Conference Center in Greenfield, NH 12/20-22. (See flyer on page 8 for more details).
- Registration for 2025 summer camp at the Barbara C Harris Camp and Conference Center is open! The 2025 summer schedule includes [Family Camp](#), June 27-30—an extended weekend of shared play, worship, community and rejuvenation that welcomes all family configurations—as well as four one-week [youth camp sessions](#) between July 6 and Aug. 1 that are open to campers completing 2nd through 11th grades. If you want to know more, details can be found at: [Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center](#)
- Did you know that our Diocese, the Diocese of Massachusetts also has a newsletter? You can view it online at: [Newsletters | Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts \(diomass.org\)](#)
- Parishioners and clergy at Christ Church, Hyde Park warmly hosted our 11/19 Neponset River Deanery meeting. In addition to contemplative prayer led by Fr. Jon, our Deanery clergy Co-Convener, items discussed included Deanery grants and request submission/decision schedule for 2025. It was agreed to move the deadlines within our Deanery from September to May to eliminate the summer gap in focus. While only elected delegates vote, all are welcome to attend. Our next Deanery meeting will be March 19, 2025, location TBD.

ADVENT AND ADVENT WREATH: 101



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 an 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 half way 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	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 10:00 AM
CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT PRAYERS	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 7:00 PM
ADVENT II	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 10:00 AM
VISIT FROM SANTA WITH FURRY FRIENDS!	11:00 AM
CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT PRAYERS	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 7:00 PM
ADVENT III	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 10:00 AM
CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT PRAYERS	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 7:00 PM
ADVENT IV	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 10:00 AM
CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY EUCHARIST	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 5:00 PM

**EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH INVITES YOU TO
Santa and Friends**



Sunday, December 8 at 11:00 am

This wonderful event offers a chance for a festive photo of you and your pet taken with Santa in a seasonally decorated setting.

Also enjoy holiday music, light refreshments, and pet



treats

21 Stratford Street, West Roxbury MA



ADVENT GATHERING

**FOSTERING A FUTURE WITH LEADERS OF COLOR
IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN NEW ENGLAND**

"Tune my heart to sing thy grace..."

from Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

For Leaders of Color:

Lovers of Jesus, Emerging Leaders, Clergy and Lay Leaders engaged in ministry for our times, from Dioceses in Province I (MA, W. MA, RI, CT, ME, NH, VT)



**Saturday
December 14th, 2024**



9:00am-4:30pm



**Bethany House of Prayer
181 Appleton Street
Arlington, MA 02476**

Register by November 15th*

Our legacies of story and song, vision and hope, gifts of the Holy Spirit, invite us on. If you seek:

- † Encouragement for exploring ministry and leadership
- † Renewal of God's hope in your ongoing ministry and life
- † Community with leaders of color in the Episcopal Church in New England

Come, be inspired by a unique opportunity to share stories, worship, and break bread.

For those traveling from afar, the retreat center offers 15 rooms for an overnight stay on Friday. Financial assistance is available to ensure that no one is excluded due to lack of funds.

For more information and to register:



SCAN HERE

Sponsored by Province One and all the Episcopal Dioceses in Province One (MA, W. MA, CT, RI, VT, NH and ME) along with the BIPOC support subcommittee of the Racial Justice Commission

YOU ARE NOT *Alone*

**RESPONDING TO GRIEF & TRAUMA
BY BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS**



JOIN RETREAT CO-PRESENTERS, THE REV. BOB DAVIDSON, AN EPISCOPAL PRIEST AND SOCIAL WORKER WHO HAS SERVED AS A HOSPICE CHAPLAIN AND TRAUMA COUNSELOR AND DR. ANTHONY VALDINI, PROFESSOR OF FAMILY MEDICINE AND COMMUNITY HEALTH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS CHAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

FRIDAY, 20 DEC.-SUNDAY, 22 DEC.

OPTIONAL OVERNIGHT COMPONENTS

- FRIDAY EVENING GET ACQUAINTED AND COMMUNITY BUILDING
- SUNDAY MORNING HEALING COMMUNITY WORSHIP.

SATURDAY RETREAT DAY:

THE SATURDAY RETREAT WILL BE STRUCTURED AROUND THE THREE PRESENTATIONS FROM 10 AM- 5 PM



REV. DAVIDSON



DR. VALDINI

- SATURDAY PRESENTATIONS INCLUDE:**
- **FACING UP TO LONELINESS & ISLOATION: MEDICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL & SPIRITUAL IMPACT**
 - **OVERCOMING GRIEF AND TRAUMA: GAINING INSIGHT AND DISCOVERING EVERYDAY RECOVERY TOOLS**
 - **BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND SOCIAL CONNECTION: HEALING SUPPORT AND INTERDEPENDENCE**

Register Today!

**Barbara C.
Harris**
EPISCOPAL CAMP &
CONFERENCE CENTER



603-547-34000

BCHCENTER.ORG/RETREATS

INFO@BCHCENTER.ORG



We pray for peace and reconciliation at home, throughout the Ukraine- and the Middle East and everywhere in the world. We pray for those impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

It may be 2024 but the suffering of innocent people continues.

We pray for those in sorrow, anguish, despair and for those who are sick, especially for those named in this week's Order of Service. We also pray for all who travel, that their journeys may be safe, rejuvenating and filled with the knowledge of God's presence.

Our prayers truly help, as they keep us mindful of God's love for us and his miracles.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please be in touch with The Rev. Jonathan Eden, Priest-In-Charge (therev.jonteden@gmail.com 617.798.0770)

Pray for and support Ukraine/ Please consider donating to one of these curated and trusted organizations raising money for Ukraine: <https://www.helpsaveukraine.org/>



СЛАВА УКРАЇНІ!