Emmanuel Episcopal Church
The First Sunday After The Epiphany
& The Baptism of Our Lord
January 11, 2026



WELCOME! We're glad that you're here today to worship God, renew your spirit, deepen your faith, meet new friends, and find new ways to serve.

Children are very welcome in worship – In the pews, the chapel Prayground, or the parish hall!

If you are a visitor or newcomer, we welcome you!
We invite you to sign the guest register by the main doors
or scan the QR code in the bulletin so we can let you know of upcoming services and events.

Full-service bulletins are available on our website: www.emmanuelepiscopal.org.
Wi-Fi: Emmanuel Guest - Password: Behold961

We respectfully recognize that we are on traditional, ancestral lands of the Kaskaskia, Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo), Myaamia, Očhéthi, Šakówin, O-ga-xpa Ma-zhoⁿ (O-ga-xpa) and Osage Nations. We acknowledge our complicity in the process of colonization that removed these people from their ancestral lands and affirm our commitment to stand with indigenous communities today as we all work towards racial justice, equity, liberation for all people.

Prelude Christ our Lord came to the Jordan, BWV 684 (setting #1) J. S. Bach

Opening Hymn Thy strong word did cleave the darkness (vs. 1-3) Hymnal 381



The Alleluias in stanzas 1-3 may be sung antiphonally.

Words: Martin H. Franzmann (1907-1976). From *Worship Supplement*. Copyright © 1969, Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. Music: *Ton-y Botel*, Thomas John Williams (1869-1944).

The Word of God, BCP p. 355

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Holy, and Eternal God.
People: Blessed be God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant God has reconciled us and made us one in Christ, therefore let us glorify God as we proclaim.

Celebrant and People

You are worthy of praise; glory to you. Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever. Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; on the throne of your majesty, glory to you. Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever. Glory to you, beholding the depths; in the high vault of heaven, glory to you. Glory to you, Holy and undivided Trinity; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever. Amen. (BCP, 90)

The Collect of the Day, BCP p. 213

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

God in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

Special Music — God is so Good — Traditional
Emmanuel Children's Choir

God is so good *(3 times)*
He's so good to me

He cares for me *(3 times)*
He's so good to me

I love him so *(3 times)*
He's so good to me

The children are led out to Children's Chapel.

The Lessons

A reading from the prophet Isaiah**.**

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them. (42:1-9)

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29 Afferte Domino BCP p.620

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; *
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord
shakes the wilderness; *
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.

9 And in the temple of the Lord *
all are crying, "Glory!"

10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.

11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

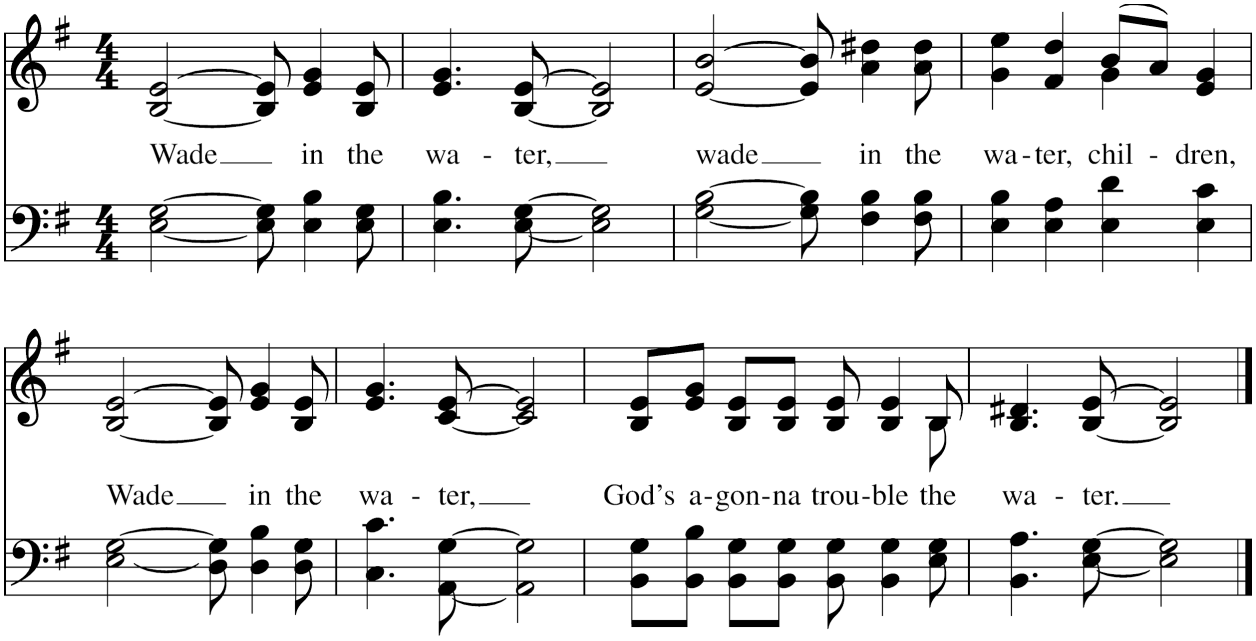
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” (10:34-43)

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn Wade in the Water Lift Every Voice and Sing 143

Before the Gospel: Sing three times | After the Gospel: Sing twice



Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." (3:13-17)

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

A meditative moment of silence is kept after the sermon to allow time for the Holy Spirit to carry the Word deep into our hearts.

Renewal of our Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Let us renew our own baptismal covenant.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God?
People: **I believe in one God, the Creator, the Almighty.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant: How will you connect to Christ in community?
People: **With God's help, I will continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.**

Celebrant: How will you resist evil and turn to Christ?
People: **With God's help, I will persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever I fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.**

Celebrant: How will you show Christ in your life?
People: **With God's help I will proclaim by word and example the Good News of God found in Jesus Christ.**

Celebrant: How will you seek and serve Christ in your life?
People: **With God's help, I will seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving my neighbor as myself.**

Celebrant: How will you work for the reign of Christ?
People: **With God's help, I will strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.**

Celebrant: Grant, O God, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **People**: **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People *The people may be seated.*

Leader: In the waters of baptism, we were called to be God's children and to minister to one another. Let us therefore pray for ourselves, for one another, and for all those in need of our prayers, saying…
People: Protect all your children, O God.

Leader: For all who have been baptized into this family of faith, that our lives reflect the forgiveness and love which was first shown us, let us pray…
People: Protect all your children, O God.

Leader: We pray for the church throughout the world, that we may stand fast in the faith to which we have been called:

- We pray for Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Deon our Bishop; for Valori, Susanna, Jerre, Mandi, Warren, and Paul, our clergy, and for all the holy people of God;
- In the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the people and ministry of the Episcopal Church of All Saints and Ascension in Northwoods; we pray for our Connections partner, the Faith Christian Church of India;
- In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Sarah the Archbishop-designate of Canterbury and The Anglican Church of the Region of Central America;
- In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for Hogar San Pablo;
- In our parish family, we pray in thanksgiving for our tech ministers and for our outreach ministry to those still recovering from last May's tornadoes;
- For those in our parish family celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, let us pray …

People: Protect all your children, O God.

Leader: Guide those who make and execute our laws, and those who maintain our safety, that all people may live in peace and wholeness in your creation; let us pray…
People: Protect all your children, O God.

Leader: Lift from all people the burden of poverty, war, and injustice. Break every rod of oppression throughout the earth so that peace and justice may reign, praying especially for the people of Ukraine, Sudan, and Gaza; let us pray…
People: Protect all your children, O God.

Leader: We pray that you grant your healing to all who live with illness or addiction, and all those in distress, especially … , and those we name either silently or aloud [pause] . We pray for the hungry, homeless, and oppressed, for immigrants and refugees, for the lonely and those in prison, and for those living in fear of separation of their homes and families. For those serving in the armed forces and for those who work for the public good, let us pray…
People: Protect all your children, O God.

Leader: For the dying and the dead, and for those who grieve, that they may be lifted up by light eternal; let us pray…
People: Protect all your children, O God.

The Confession

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; By what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
People: Amen.

The Peace

La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.	**Y con tu espíritu.**
Christu shanti meetho ellapudu undunnugaka.	**Neetho kooda.**
The peace of Christ be always with you.	**And also with you.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Hemos visto su estrella en el Oriente y hemos venido con nuestras ofrendas para adorar al Señor.

We have seen his star in the East, and are come with our offerings to worship the Lord.

Offertory Anthem — Down to the River to Pray — Robert E. Lee
Emmanuel Choir

As I went down to the river to pray,
Studyin' about that good old way,
And who shall wear the starry (robe and) crown,
Good Lord, show me the way,
O sisters (brothers / fathers / mothers / sinners), let's go down,
Let's go down, come on down,
O sisters (brothers / fathers / mothers / sinners), let's go down,
Down to the river to pray.

The Doxology

The people stand in body or spirit as the gifts are brought forward. The congregation sings the Doxology to the tune of Old Hundredth.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures high and low
Praise God in Jesus fully known; Creator, Word, and Spirit One. Amen.

Gathering at Christ's Table: Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP p.36

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.

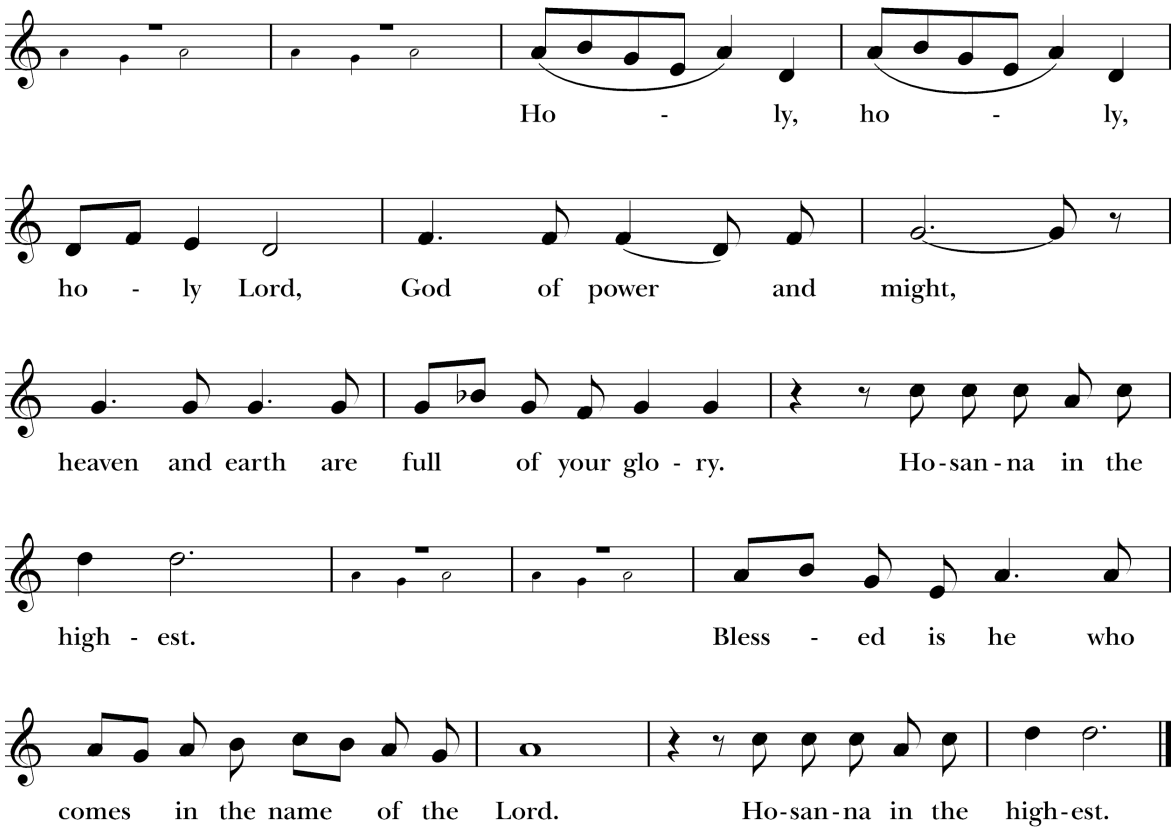
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S128



Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

The people may stand, sit, or kneel.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, O God, Creator of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

+ Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. + Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

The Lord's Prayer, BCP p. 364 *The people may stand in body or spirit.*

Celebrant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say in the language of our hearts:

Our Father, who are 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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Padre nuestro, que estas en el cielo
santificado sea tu Nombre,
venga tu reino,
hágase tu voluntad,
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación
y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amén.

The Breaking of the Bread *A period of silence is kept.*

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

This is God's table, where all are welcome to receive communion. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a while or ever before; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

~ Adapted from the Iona Community invitation

About receiving Communion at Emmanuel:

The fullness of this sacrament is received by taking one or both kinds (bread and wine).
The ushers will guide you to Communion.

Bread: *All of our communion bread is gluten-free, nut-free, vegan, and dairy-free.*
The communion bread will be offered into your hands, not your mouth.

Wine: *You may choose intinction (clergy will dip the Communion bread into wine).*
Please do not reach into the cup of wine.
OR you may choose to drink from the common cup offered by the Eucharistic Minister.

Blessing: *If you prefer not to receive the bread or wine, cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing.*





Words: Sts. 1-3, Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885); st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984). St. 4, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Salzburg*, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).



Words: Robert Lowry (1826-1899). Music: Robert Lowry.

The Post Communion Prayer, Enriching Our Worship. *The people stand in body or spirit.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn Crashing waters at creation My Heart Sings Out 95



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Music: *Restoration*, melody from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835.

The Dismissal

Deacon/Priest: Alleluia. Alleluia. Our worship is ended, now our service in the world begins. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postlude Christ our Lord came to the Jordan, BWV 685 (setting #2) J. S. Bach

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Stancil S. Cooper, Colma B. and Kenneth H. Adams, Katharine Ann Hrach, Mary C. Nelson, Stancil S. Cooper, Jr. by Peg Cooper.

A LOOK AT THE WEEK AHEAD AT EMMANUEL - from our online Calendar

12	JAN, MON	1 – 2pm	Knitting group Behold Room
		6:30 – 8pm	Vestry on Zoom
13	JAN, TUE	6:30 – 7:30pm	Finance committee
14	JAN, WED	8 – 9am	Bible Study via Zoom
		5 – 6pm	Old Testament Bible Study Behold Room
		6 – 7pm	Earthlove Pillar Meeting
		6 – 7pm	Fellowship Dinner
		6:30 – 7pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal
		6:45 – 7pm	Taizé Service
		7:05 – 8:05pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal Rehkopf Hall (Choir Room)
16	JAN, FRI	6 – 6:30pm	BLM Vigil
18	JAN, SUN	All day	Epiphany 2
		All day	UTO Kickoff
		8 – 9am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
		9:30 – 10:30am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
		10:45 – 11:45am	Christian Education & Formation

OUR DIVINE PURPOSE STATEMENT

WE BELIEVE that we are called to live in service to others following the example of Jesus Christ, our Savior, helping to heal a broken world and preserve God's creation. We believe God calls us to accept and celebrate everyone - LGBTQIA2S+, race/ethnicity, status, age, or ability - no exceptions.

WE WORSHIP in community, in-person and online. Grounded in the Book of Common Prayer, our prayer and music embraces diversity of spiritual life. All are invited to receive Holy Eucharist at God's table and to participate in worship. Children are a valued presence and contribute to worship.

WE SERVE all of God's people in partnership with our local, national, and international neighbors, learning from them and working with them toward true justice and equitable access to God's abundance.



EMMANUEL
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Webster Groves, MO

The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson, Bishop of Missouri
The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer, Rector
The Rev. Susanna Clive, Associate Priest
The Rev. Jerre Birdsong, Deacon
The Rev. Dr. Warren E. Crews, Priest Affiliate
The Rev. Paul A. Metzler, Priest Affiliate
The Rev. Mandi Rice, Priest Affiliate

NINE SOUTH BOMPART, WEBSTER GROVES, MISSOURI 63119, TELEPHONE 314-961-2393

The Prayers of the People are written by Deacon Jerre Birdsong.
The Opening Acclamation, Song of Praise, Affirmation of Faith, and Renewal of Baptismal Vows are provided by Bp. Deon K. Johnson.
The Post-Communion Prayer is from Enriching Our Worship.

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