

WELCOME

Pastor Malcolm Stranathan

PRELUDE

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

arr. Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP

Richard Marrs

In this place and as your people gathered / **O Come, O Come Emmanuel,**
Into this broken world we call planet earth / **O Come, O Come Emmanuel,**
Into this busy place that we call home / **O Come, O Come Emmanuel,**
Into this fragile group of your people / **O Come, O Come Emmanuel,**
Into cold hearts and dulled minds / **O Come, O Come Emmanuel,**
Where there is no peace / **O Come, O Come Emmanuel,**
Where people shout in the wilderness / **O Come, O Come Emmanuel,**
Where people walk in darkness / **O Come, O Come Emmanuel,**
O Come, Lord Jesus, and help us find room for you in our hearts. **Amen.**

HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" vs. 1,2,4

UMH 211

KIDS' TIME

"Before the Stable" Michelle Olson, Nursery Coordinator

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Adapted from Hebrews 1:1-3

The Somers Family

"A Candle is Burning"

Sandra Dean

Micaela Bowman

PASTORAL PRAYER / COMMUNITY PRAYER / LORD'S PRAYER

Richard Marrs

GOD'S WORD IS READ

Matthew 1:20b-23

Richard Marrs

REFLECTING UPON GOD'S WORD

"The Best of all, the Lord is with us"

Pastor Malcolm Stranathan

HYMN

"God With Us"

B.Millard, B.Graul, J.Bryson, N.Cochran, M.Scheuchzer, R.Shaffer

REFLECTION PRAYER

Oh God, how grateful we are that you came to us in Jesus Christ, Our Emmanuel. You understand our humanity, our fears, our weaknesses, our succumbing to sin, those moments when we are less than what you wish us to be. You understand our love, our hurts, and our pain. You understand our struggle with grief and death. Thank you for revealing yourself to us in Jesus, that we might know who you are and that we might walk with you and love you all of our day. Lord, use me to be Emmanuel for those who don't know you. Help me to incarnate your love and grace to all that I meet. In Jesus name, Amen.

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OFFERTORY

“Lo, How a Rose”

arr. Paxton

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!

Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.

It came a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Those at home are invited to mail your offering to our church P.O. Box for financial mailings:

Westminster UMC, P.O. Box 2316, Westminster, MD 21158-2316,

or text your offering: 844-307-2876,

or pay online at www.wumcmd.org, or scan the QR code in the announcements.

Thank you.

HYMN

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” vs 1,4

UMH 230

SENDING FORTH

Pastor Malcolm Stranathan

POSTLUDE

“A Magnificat”

Grosjean