

Emanuel Lutheran Church

107 South Prairie Street
Brandon, WI 53919-0433
920-346-2202

Website: elbrandon-church.com

Chaplain Peg Salmela

Sunday, December 7, 2025

THE SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT:

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introduction of the Advent Wreath

Chaplain Peg Salmela

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:

Mary Fairbank

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever. Amen.

Light one candle.

Mary Fairbank



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:

Mary Fairbank

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's way for the kingdom of heaven is near. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit, that we may be a light shining in the darkness welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever. Amen.

Light the second candle.

Mary Fairbank

“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”

**LBW 34
vs. 1 & 2**

(Please stand for the Confession and Forgiveness)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Long-expected God,

C: we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

P: God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ✠ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" LBW 30

APOSTOLIC GREETING:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

(Please Sit)

PRAYER OF THE DAY: (Located on the Today's Readings Insert)

GOD'S WORD

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19:

Please join me in the responsive reading.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

Reader says: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation respond: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

Reader says: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation respond: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation)

Sing: “Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”

P: The gospel reading is from Matthew Chapter 3 verses 1-12.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 3:1-12

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please sit)

SERMON

Chaplain Peg Salmela

SERMON HYMN: “Comfort, Comfort Now My People” LBW 29

(Please stand for the Nicene Creed)

NICENE CREED:

Green, LBW page 84

(Please sit for The Prayers of the People)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

P: God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

(Please Stand)

THE PEACE:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Let us share signs of peace with one another.

The OFFERING is RECEIVED AND WE STAND and SING
“Create in Me” Green, LBW Page 96

OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

C: Amen.

(Remain Standing)

The WORDS of INSTITUTION

Green, LBW page 90

(Please join hands)

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Green, LBW page 91

When we celebrate Holy Communion, guests and members alike need to know that **All Are Welcome At Our Lord’s Table!** We believe Christ is present in the bread and wine. His body and blood are given in the Eucharist for the forgiveness of sins. The Lord invites you and the decision to receive Holy Communion is yours. (We have gluten-free individually packaged sacraments in one unit.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

P: Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

COMMUNION HYMN: “This is the feast” Green, LBW page 81

(Please Sit)

COMMUNION BLESSING:

P: May the body and the blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and preserve you in the one true faith unto life everlasting.

C: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

P: God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.
Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good
fruit in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION:

P: May God who comes among us, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: “Prepare the Royal Highway” LBW 26

DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

Attendance: Last Sunday: Inclement Weather

Today, Service Schedule, December 7th, 9:30 A.M.

Reader: Wayne Heitmann **Usher:** Mary Fairbank

Next Week's Schedule, December 14th, 9:30 A.M.

Reader: Verlyn Rebelein **Usher:** Annette Raube

December 2025 Altar Schedule

Pat Grams and Charleen Strook

December 2025 Communion Schedule

Mary Fairbank

THIS WEEK AT EMANUEL:

THERE WILL BE COFFEE AND GOODIES THIS MORNING FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP provided by Mary Fairbank and Pat Grams.

A Bible Study is tomorrow, Monday, December 8th, at 11:00 A.M., at church. All are welcome.

Council Meeting is tomorrow, Monday, December 8th, at 5:00 P.M.

THE NEW DEVOTION BOOKS are here! They are on the rack South of the elevator and in the narthex of the church.

If interested in helping with the monthly/weekly duty schedules at Emanuel please see below:

Altar 2026: April is available for a volunteer(s). Communion 2026: April, May, June, July and September months are available for volunteers. Readers and Ushers schedules are available for volunteers. If you feel the calling for any of the above duties, please contact Ann Kastein at emanuel.luthbrandon@gmail.com or 920-960-7142.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Emanuel's Christmas Eve Service will be held on December 24th, at 4:00 P.M.

First Reformed Church (422 W. Franklin Street, Waupun) will be hosting their annual Christmas Carol Sing on Sunday, December 7th, at 6:00 pm. Join in an evening of singing Christmas Carols and enjoying a wide variety of special musical selections performed by area musicians. A free will offering will be received for the Waupun Holiday Help Program.

Sunday, December 14th, 2025, Bethel Church, 305 W. Main St., Brandon, WI, will present the Children’s Christmas Program, “Campfire Carols” and the Bethel Choir will present the Cantata, “Christmas Presence.” Performance will begin at 3:00 P.M. and there will be refreshments following the program. The cantata, “Christmas Presence” will also be performed on Sunday, December 21, 2025, at the 9:30 a.m. service.

If you would like to donate a poinsettia to beautify our church during the Christmas Season, please bring your poinsettia to church by Sunday, December 21, 2025.

Please provide the following information and place the form in the offering plate or return it to our Church Secretary, Ann Kastein by Sunday, December 21, 2025.

Ann's Contact Information:
Landline: 920-346-5491
Cell: 920-960-7142
Email Address: dan.annkastein@charter.net
Emanuel's Email Address: emanuel.luthbrandon@gmail.com

GIVEN
BY: _____

IN HONOR
OF: _____

IN MEMORY
OF: _____