EMMANUEL CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

Emmanuel Episcopal Church has been serving the urban community of greater Boston as a dynamic center for spiritual discovery and renewal since 1860. We explore Christian tradition and foster inquiry through the celebration of liturgy, music, and the arts. We strive for justice and peace. Emmanuel Church welcomes all people without exception to our Eucharistic table. We honor individuals of every age, gender, ethnic heritage, sexual orientation, and religious background, and we respect the dignity of every living being.

December 26, 2021
10:00am—Holy Eucharist in the Sanctuary
Presiding: The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz
Deacon: The Rev. Robert Greiner, Preaching
Interim Organist: Nathan Peace
Subdeacon: Susan Entin
Crucifer: Joy Howard
First Reader: Pavel Hradecky
Second Reader: Frank Bunn
Prayer Intercessor: Susan Entin
Greeters: Edgar Brenninkmeyer, Christopher Connors
Altar Guild: Joy Howard, Ed Mavers
Livestream provided by Matt Griffing
Sexton: Dennis Gaskell
Welcome to Emmanuel Church! Whether we are gathering in the sanctuary or virtually, we are strong and united in the body of Christ in worship and community. Some of us may choose to be at the church, and most will remain at home. Wherever we are, we are Emmanuel. Here is what to expect if you decide to join us for worship in the sanctuary:

**General Notes:**
- All persons who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should not enter the building. If you are feeling ill, regardless of COVID-19 symptoms, please remain at home.
- **Masks/Face Coverings are required for all persons**, regardless of vaccination status.
- If you attend worship in-person and display symptoms within two weeks and test positive for COVID-19, please notify the Parish Office at info@emmanuelboston.org immediately.

**Entering the Sanctuary**
- Hand sanitizer and disposable masks will be available on the table before entering the Sanctuary.
- The Usher/Greeters, designated with a name tag and a red lanyard, will be available in the lobby and in the Sanctuary to provide hospitality and answer specific questions.

**During Worship:**
- Communion may be received by bread alone. Please follow instructions detailed in the service bulletin. If you do not wish to receive, the Prayer of Spiritual Communion is included for you to pray.
- Congregational singing is permitted.
- The most hygienic way to submit an offering is by using CashApp. Our CashApp cashtag is $EmmanuelChurchBoston. CashApp is a secure platform designed to allow you to quickly and easily make donations or payments. Please be sure to indicate if your gift should go towards your annual pledge, plate collection, or another special designation.

**After Worship:**
- If you do not use online giving, monetary offerings and newcomer cards may be placed in the offering box near the bottom of the chancel steps on your way out of the building.
The Holy Eucharist
The First Sunday after Christmas - Year C

Prelude  “Andante sostenuto” from Symphonie Gothique
Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

Announcements

Opening Hymn  How bright appears the Morning Star
(Please rise in body or spirit)

Hymn 497
WIE SCHON LEUCHTET
The Word of God

Presider: Blessed are you holy and living God.
All: Glory to you for ever and ever.

The Collect for Purity

Presider: 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.

All: Amen.

Gloria

Hymn 96
The Collect of the Day
Presider: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Presider: Let us pray.
All: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

The Lessons

First Reading  Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader:  Hear what the spirit is saying to God’s people.
People:  Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147:13-21

13 Jerusalem will worship you, O God,
and Zion will praise your name;

14 For you have strengthened the bars of our gates
and have blest our children within us.

15 You have established peace on our borders
and satisfied us with the finest wheat.

16 You send out your command to the earth,
and your word runs very swiftly.
17 You give snow like \textit{wool}
and scatter hoarfrost like \textit{ashes}.

18 You scatter your hail like \textit{bread crumbs};
who can stand against your \textit{cold}?

19 You send forth your word and \textit{melt them};
you blow with your wind and the waters \textit{flow}.

20 You declare your word to \textit{Jacob},
your statutes and your judgments to \textit{Israel}.

21 B You have not done so to any other \textit{nation};
to them you have not revealed your judgments. \textit{Alleluia}!

\textbf{Second Reading}  \textit{Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7}
Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

\textbf{Reader:}  \textit{Hear what the spirit is saying to God’s people.}
\textbf{People:}  \textit{Thanks be to God.}

\textbf{Gospel Hymn}  \textit{Word of God, come down on earth (stanzas 1-2)}  \textit{(Please rise in body or spirit)}
\textit{Hymn 633}
\textit{Mt. St. Alban}
The Gospel Reading  John 1:1-18

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

People:  Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Hymn  Word of God, come down on earth (stanzas 3-4)  Hymn 633
(See previous page)  MT. ST. ALBAN

The Sermon  Mr. Greiner

The Creed  (Please rise in body or spirit)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Prayers of the People (Please add your intercessions and thanksgivings in the silence)**

**Presider:** Beloved of God, as we gather in this Christmas season, let it be our great joy to let God’s Word take us back to Bethlehem and our Lord’s birth. Let us hear in story and song the joyful proclamation of God’s limitless and unfailing love born in the baby Jesus. And let us pray for the needs of the world: for peace on the earth; for goodwill; for unity within the church and among all peoples.

*Silence*

Let us remember in Jesus’ name the many blessings of our lives. Let us pause to give thanks and praise to God for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. Let us give thanks for tasks that demand our best efforts, and for accomplishments that satisfy and delight us. Let us give thanks, also, for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on God alone.

*Silence*

Let us remember in Jesus’ name those of all ages who are poor and without help, those who are hungry and oppressed, sick and sorrowing, captive or in prison, those who are lonely and those who are difficult to love; and let us pray especially for those who do not know God or who have turned away from God’s love.

*Silence*

Finally, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us but upon another shore, and in a greater awakening—that great cloud of witnesses, that multitude that no one can number, with whom in the Lord Jesus we are one forevermore.

*Silence*

**Presider:** Grant these our prayers, O Holy God, for Jesus Christ’s sake, our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

**All:** Amen.

**The Peace**

**Presider:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**The Holy Communion**

**Offertory Sentence**

I beseech you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love. (Eph. 4:1-2)

*During the Offertory, we invite you to donate online using our CashApp cashtag $EmmanuelChurchBoston. If you are visiting or new to Emmanuel, we also invite you to take this moment to complete the Welcome Card online, linked on the inside cover of the bulletin. Paper Welcome Cards and gifts may be brought to the box at the chancel steps at the end of the service.*

**Offertory Anthem** A Stable Lamp Is Lighted  

David Hurd  

Text by Richard Wilbur
Offertory Hymn  Of the Father’s love begotten
(Please rise in body or spirit)

1 Of the Father’s love be-got-ten, cre the worlds be-
2 O that birth for ev-er bless-ed, when the Vir-gin,
3 Let the heights of heaven a-dore him; an-gel hosts, his
4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa-ther, and, O Ho-ly
gan to be, he is Al-pha and O-me-ga,
full of grace, by the Ho-ly Ghost con-ceiv-ing,
prais-es sing; powers, do-min-ions, bow be-fore him,
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks-giv-ing,

he the source, the end-ing he, of the things that
bore the Sa-vior of our race; and the Babe, the
and ex-tol our God and King; let no tongue on
and un-wea-ried prais-es be; hon-or, glo-ry

are, that have been, and that fu-ture
world’s Re-deem-er, first re-vealed his
earth be si-lent, ev-ery voice in
and do-min-ion, and e-ter-nal

years shall see, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
sa-cred face, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
con-cert ring, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
vic-to-ry, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!

This hymn may be performed in equal note values: 

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410) tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.
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The Great Thanksgiving

BCP, Prayer D, p. 372
Presider: It is truly right to glorify you, O God, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,
Presider: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

O God, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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.”

O God, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ’s death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

All: We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Presider: Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.
Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the love of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

All:  
A-men.

The Lord’s Prayer
Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All:  
Our Father, who art 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.

The Breaking of the Bread  (Silence is kept)
Presider: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
People: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Fraction Anthem

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.
Communion
If you wish to receive communion, please proceed down the center aisle, taking care to maintain physical distancing. At the foot of the chancel steps, cup your hands to receive the bread from the priest and turn right or left to return to your seat via a side aisle.

Communion Hymn  Let all mortal flesh keep silence
(Please rise in body or spirit)  

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Prayer of Spiritual Communion for those who are unable to receive
In union, O God, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. And since I cannot receive you today in the sacrament of bread and wine, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.  

St. Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787), from Enchiridion of Indulgences, 1969, Catholic Book Publishing Inc., altered

Post-Communion Prayer  (Please rise in body or spirit)  

Subdeacon:  Let us pray.
All:  God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.
Blessing
Presider: When the song of the angel is still, when the star in the sky is gone, when kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their sheep, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among people, to make music in the heart.  (Howard Thurman)

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Life be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn  Father eternal, Ruler of creation

Closing Hymn  Father eternal, Ruler of creation

Dismissal
Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, loving wastefully, to serve the Lord and our neighbor.
All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude  “V. Finale” from Symphonie Nr. 6  Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

Welcome Cards may be brought with any gifts to the box at the chancel steps at the conclusion of the Postlude.
Emmanuel Church Announcements

*Today and Upcoming*

**Thank you for joining us in worship today!** If you are joining us in-person, please be sure to read through the guidelines on page 2. Our livestream of the service will continue for the foreseeable future on our YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/EmmanuelChurchBoston. Whether you join us in person, livestreaming in real time, or in slightly delayed time, we are so grateful for your presence!

**Welcome John Dilworth, Emmanuel’s new organist on January 2!** Learn more about John at our website. Many thanks to the organist search committee: Christina LaBerge, Chair, and Edgar Brenninkmeyer, Peter Johnson, Becky Lightcap, Sarah Moyer, Jim Olesen, and Ryan Turner. **We also give great thanks to Nathan Peace,** who has ably served as our interim organist. He will be the Organ Scholar at Trinity Church, Boston, for the spring semester. Sunday, December 26 will be Nathan’s last Sunday at Emmanuel. Godspeed, Nathan!

**Please get your stewardship pledge cards in** (or email to the parish administrator at parishadmin@emmanuelboston.org) as soon as possible so that the vestry can build a balanced budget for 2022 for our rector/staff salaries and programs. We currently have received 83 pledges toward our goal of 120 pledges. We know that if everyone pledges according to their ability, we will be able to meet our mission commitments.

**In and Around Emmanuel**

**Creche’s Annual Report** - Visit https://creche.community to get the latest updates on Creche (the Charles River Episcopal Co-Housing Endeavor). Find news on its growth during the pandemic, leadership changes, financial statements, and more.

**Sara Peattie at First Night** - For fans of the Easter puppet parade: Come carry a puppet and dance with us down the street in the First Night Peoples Procession! Our section "Nature Says a Thing or Two" will have puppets for large and small, and a nature theme. Sign up at http://www.puppetco-op.org/iwannaFNB21.htm

**Help For Tornado Victims** - On December 10-11, a line of severe weather spread across the central United States, spawning over 50 tornadoes. Many lives were lost in these storms, and homes and businesses were severely damaged or destroyed. Visit Episcopal Relief & Development (episcopalrelief.org) for ways to support the affected dioceses as they assess the needs in their communities.

**Emmanuel Church Photography and Social Media** - Communicating through social media helps our efforts to build community and expand our reach to people who are new to Emmanuel, as well as to Emmanuelites around the world. Volunteers help spread the Word by taking photos before, during, and after services, posting and sharing online. We value the sanctity of our worship and aim to strike a balance between sharing life at Emmanuel and creating a sacred space for all, filled with wonder, love, thanksgiving, and praise. No one will be tagged or identified by name in a photo without their permission and other privacy wishes will be respected on request. If you are interested in helping in these efforts, have concerns, or have high resolution photos of the Emmanuel community to share, please email photos@emmanuelboston.org.

**Emmanuel Announcements & “This Week at Emmanuel”** - If you would like to submit an announcement for inclusion in our Sunday Announcements, please email the Parish Office. Our weekly E-news is sent by email every Wednesday with announcements listed here plus many more. If you would like to receive those, please contact the Parish Office or sign up on our website.
Emmanuel Center Statement of Purpose

Emmanuel Center is the programmatic partnership of Central Reform Temple and Emmanuel Church. Our two congregations are faithfully rooted in our distinct religious traditions and shared spiritual heritage. We strive to model compassionate encounters between Judaism and Christianity that affirm the difficult challenges of history and aspire to new levels of understanding. We collaborate with arts and educational groups on events that explore spiritual and ethical perspectives on our shared human experience.

Ways to Get Involved

Bible Study via Zoom - Bible Study meets on Tuesdays from 7:30-8:30 am in all odd-numbered months. These lively conversations with the Rector will resume on January 4. All are welcome to join us. If you would like to participate, please contact the Parish Office.

Language Reading Groups at Emmanuel - Want to learn or brush up an ancient language? Join one of Emmanuel’s Reading Groups. We currently offer:
Hebrew Reading Group - Wednesdays at 6PM (co-sponsored with Central Reform Temple)
Greek Reading Group - Thursdays at 9AM
Latin Reading Group - Fridays at 9AM
Beginners are always welcome. Email Carolyn Beard at beard@emmanuelboston.org for the Zoom link.

Do you know someone who is in the hospital, or confined at home? The Care Commission provides pastoral ministry by writing notes, making visits, and more. Pastoral care needs are being coordinated by Walter Jonas (617-696-8020) and Deacon Bob Greiner (deacon@emmanuelboston.org). If you have a need, please contact them.

Emmanuel Church supports the mission of religious, social service, and artistic organizations by providing space and some staff support for meetings, concerts, events and functions. As our mission states, Emmanuel Church strives for justice and peace. Your financial contributions help us continue to support these organizations vital to the health and spiritual wellness of the City of Boston. We are proud to support the mission of:

◊ AA and other 12-Step Meetings
◊ Artists-in-Residence: Sara Peattie, Puppeteer & Ted Southwick, Woodcarver
◊ Back Alley Puppet Theater & Free Lending Library
◊ Back Bay Chorale: weekly rehearsals
◊ Boston Early Music Festival
◊ Calliope: weekly rehearsals
◊ Central Reform Temple
◊ Ecclesia Ministries: BostonWarm day center for people without shelter; and the common art studio program for unhoused and marginally housed people
◊ Eliot Center: Safe Haven, a shelter for women
◊ Ensemble-in-Residence: Emmanuel Music, Inc.
◊ Ethos: weekly LGBT Senior luncheon “Cafe Emmanuel”
New to Emmanuel?

Welcome to Emmanuel Church! You honor us with your presence. We are a faith community with a long history of challenging assumptions, of outreach, good preaching, and mission. We also have a long history of attracting deeply thoughtful people to engage in faith, doubt, music and art, conversation and fine liturgy. If you would like to learn more, please contact the Parish Office so we can connect.

In Episcopal liturgy, please stand in body or spirit when indicated. If you prefer to kneel during the prayers, please do. Please join in with the text in bold, when indicated. Hymns and responses to the liturgy usually found in the Hymnal 1982, Book of Common Prayer, and others are included in the bulletin. Our scripture readings are prescribed by the Revised Common Lectionary and are taken from the NRSV translation of the Bible. Psalm translations often come from the St. Helena Psalter.

Our commitment to expansive language dates from January 19, 1986, when the vestry vowed that our worship should “...speak of God, Christ, and our humanity in both male and female images.” Thirty-five years later, we continue to expand our language to embrace non-binary and gender-fluid words for people and the Divine, as well as non-anthropomorphic words for the Divine that are theologically coherent and biblically grounded. In accordance with this commitment, we welcome everyone to make changes in the language of the liturgy and in the hymns to that which is more fully inclusive. Our rector considers the disturbances this causes to be signs of the Holy Spirit, even as she acknowledges that words will always be insufficient to describe the Mystery of Life and Love.

In the sixth century, the “filioque” clause referring to the Holy Spirit crept into the Nicene Creed in the Church in the West (Roman) without consultation or agreement from the Church in the East (Orthodox): “…Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.” The Episcopal Church meeting in General Convention in 1994 agreed to remove the clause in the next revision of the Book of Common Prayer. In the meantime, since Emmanuel Church prints the creed text in our bulletins, we have removed the clause and adjusted musical settings to put the Episcopal Church’s intention into practice.

In our worship service, there are periods of silence which serve as transitions and moments of reflection within a rich liturgy. In scripture, silence lets Elijah hear the still small voice of God, and the Revelation to John speaks of the silence in heaven. You are encouraged to embrace this silence as an integral part of “God with us.”

Whoever you are, wherever you’ve been, whatever you’ve done, you are welcome to participate in communion here. At this time communion may be received by bread alone or by praying the Prayer of Spiritual Communion.

Children are welcome to participate fully in the service. As soon as it is safe, we anticipate the return of our once-a-month Small Wonders program.

The Cantata, offered by Emmanuel Music’s professional choir and orchestra from September to May, is most often one of Johann Sebastian Bach. The texts come from various sources: text in bold represents chorale text; text in italics represents direct scripture quotes; both are in conversation with the rest of the service. The shape of our worship service with the cantata has been compared to a labyrinth, where the Great Thanksgiving is at the center. The path into the center and the path back out is guided by scripture, prayers and meditations, through speech, music, and silence. Notes about the music can be found near the announcements.

It is our practice to remain seated through the Postlude. You are encouraged to respond “Amen” at its conclusion.

Monetary gifts may be made by dropping your donation in the box by the pulpit, mailing it to the church, or electronically via CashApp. CashApp (our cashtag is $EmmanuelChurchBoston) is a secure platform designed to allow you to quickly and easily make donations or payments. Please be sure to indicate if your gift should go towards your annual pledge or another special designation. If you are new to giving to Emmanuel Church and are using CashApp, please contact the Parish Office with your contact information.

In a typical week, Emmanuel Church provides sanctuary and hospitality for as many as fifteen hundred people who are living on the various margins of our society because of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, disability, addiction, immigration status, religion, and so on. Coming together to help lift heavy hearts and carry heavy burdens is what we do, and many hands make light work. Every single one of us has some capacity to join in this vital mission, thanks to Love.
Emmanuel Church

Emmanuel Church Staff
The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz, Rector
The Rt. Rev. J. Clark Grew, Senior Pastoral Assistant
The Rev. Susan Ackley, Priest Associate
The Rev. Dr. John Golenski, Priest Associate
The Rev. Isaac Everett, CRECHE Executive Director
The Rev. Robert Greiner, Deacon
Ryan Turner, Music Director
Nathan Peace, Interim Organist
Morgan Middlebrook, Parish Operations Manager
Steven Bailey, Administrative Assistant
James Maguire, Controller
Lisa Faber Ginggen, Seminarian
Marielle Carpentier, Expressive Art Therapy Intern
Event Sextons: Bill Comer, Dennis Gaskell,
   Joel Schenk

Emmanuel Church Vestry
Elizabeth Levin, Senior Warden
Elizabeth Richardson, Clerk
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Sarah Moyer
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Emmanuel Music has been Ensemble-in-Residence in Emmanuel Church since 1970.
Ryan Turner, Artistic Director
John Harbison, Principal Guest Conductor
Jaclyn Dentino, Executive Director
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www.emmanuelmusic.org  617-536-3356

Central Reform Temple of Boston, a Progressive Jewish Congregation, makes its home in Emmanuel Church.
Rabbi Howard A. Kosovske - Interim Rabbi
Rabbi Howard A. Berman - Founding Rabbi
info@centralreformtemple.org

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