

*EMMANUEL (BAUST)*  
*UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST*

*Service of Word*

*December 28, 2025*

*10:00 a.m.*

***First Sunday After Christmas Day***

**Pastor:** Rev. Roger Wilmer, Jr.

Email: [pastorrwilmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorrwilmer@hotmail.com)

301-639-6477

*L = Leader      P = People*

*\*For those who are able, please stand.*

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

Liturgist

**\*Call to Worship:**

Liturgist

L: Wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay Him homage."

**P: On this first Sunday of Christmas, we, too, have come to worship Jesus the Messiah: the son of David, the son of Abraham.**

L: When the wise men saw the child with Mary his mother, they knelt down, paid him homage, and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

**P: On this first Sunday of Christmas, we offer ourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you, O God.**

L: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

**P: Glory to God in the highest heaven!**

**\*Hymn**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Green No. 185

**\*Prayer of Confession**

God of Christmas, we would never have thought to find Your Savior in an innocent baby. We confess we would have expected a warrior with a great army. We would not have thought to find Your kingdom to be one of service, obedience and humility. We confess we would have expected, maybe even wanted, a kingdom that reflected our own values and self-interests. Lord, forgive us when we quickly leave Christmas behind and neglect to live lives worthy of our calling as followers of our Lord, the Prince of Peace. By Your Holy Spirit, help us turn to You and live according to the values of Your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

**\*Words of Assurance**

Rev. Wilmer

**\*Song of Praise**

Isn't He?

(#31 Purple Spiral)

Isn't He, beautiful  
Beautiful, isn't He  
Prince of Peace, Son of God  
Isn't He, Isn't He, Isn't He!

**Anthem**

**Scripture** Psalm 148

Liturgist

**\*Gospel** Hebrews 2:10-18

Rev. Wilmer

**Sermon Hymn** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Green No. 198

**Sermon** "Celebrating Christmas God's Way"  
(Luke 2:8-20)

Rev. Wilmer

**Invitation to Join God's Family**

Rev. Wilmer

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

**P:** We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

## Invitation to Offering

## Offertory

## Postlude

**December 28, 2025**  
**"Whoever you are and wherever you**  
**are on life's journey,**  
**you are welcome here!"**

We extend a warm welcome to each one in worship, whether a member, friend or guest with us today. If you are not currently on our church mailing list to receive the church newsletter and would like to be included, please let us know. Our church website is: [ebucc.com](http://ebucc.com). If you use email and would like to receive updated prayer concerns, Church information and announcements please send an email to: [office@ebucc.com](mailto:office@ebucc.com) noting that we may include you in our electronic mailings which include our church newsletter.

**EBUCC Offerings:** Baust members, friends, and visitors may put regular offerings and special donations in the offering plates placed just inside the front and rear entrances to the sanctuary. During the offertory, these plates will be brought to the altar by our ushers.

**Let's Keep in Touch** If you learn of anyone in our Baust Church Family who needs a visit or phone calls, please let Pastor Wilmer know @ 301-639-6477 or Email: [pastorrwilmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorrwilmer@hotmail.com). Office hours every Wednesday, call Rev. Wilmer for appointment anytime.

**Media Consent Form:** Your consent to being filmed or photographed for use by Emmanuel Baust United Church of Christ in marketing, promotional materials, social media, personal images, and live-stream services. If you do not want to be photographed or recorded, please notify the pastor or consistory board. If children in your household are under 18 years of age, you are also giving consent for their image to be used in marketing, promotional materials, social media, personal images, and live-stream services. The consent form can be found in the Good Shepherd room, sign at your name or add your and to the list and sign.

**Altar Flowers:** Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Ruth, Charles and Pat Simmont by Chuck Simmont.

**Bible Study:** Bible Study is on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. in the parsonage. We will be diving into the Book of Revelation. Bible Study is open to all ages. Please register at Faithlife.com for more detail and resources. Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 8, 2026.

**Hymnals for the sanctuary:** We are in need of 20 additional hymnals for the sanctuary. If you would like to sponsor a hymnal in honor or memory of someone the cost is \$20. Please indicate if it is in honor or memory and the name of the person(s) so we can put this inside the cover of the hymnal.

**Choir Rehearsal:** Choir will rehearse each Sunday in the sanctuary immediately following church. Also, the choir will warm up each Sunday morning at 9:30am. in the choir room.

**Grief Share Group:** Grief Share Group will meet in the Parsonage on Wednesdays' @ 5:30pm Dates: 1/7/26, 1/21, 2/4, 2/18, 3/4, 3/18. A support group to help you move through the grief process. A Grief Share support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way.

**Newsletter Items:** Newsletter items for February 2026 are due January 18, 2026 to Jane Rodkey.

**Annual Reports:** Our EBUCC By-Laws call for Consistory and all church organizations and committees to submit 2025 annual reports in writing to the church office. These reports shall consist of a summary of the past year's activities, a projected plan for 2026, and a financial report of the past year. Annual reports for 2025 shall be turned in to EBUCC Secretary Jane Rodkey before March 31, 2026.

<b>Jan. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Pastor:</b>	Roger Wilmer
<b>Jan. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Scriptures:</b>	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20

**Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>**                      **Liturgist:**     Cindy Osborne  
**Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>**                      **Media Tech:**     Kent Kallay

## **PRAYERS AND CONCERNS**

### **Church Members**

Nancy Edwards	Joan Wantz
Duane Rodkey	Linda Goodwin
Linda Dennis	Bick and Lois Bickerton
Betty Gross	Peggy Warner
Skeeter Dull	Brent Grove
Sue Bloom	Bob Miller
Dan & Betty Heltibridle	Eddie Dutterer

### **Friends**

Eric Helm	Mimi DeLore
Libby Fuss	Allen Robertson
Rev. Herb Ruby	Randy Brodbeck
Lainey Hood	Andrea Mathias Warren
Tom Hennin	Chris Johnson
Joann Stull	Sylvia Miller
Ken Morningstar	Shelley Simmont
Sam Warner	

## **IN GOD'S SERVICE**

Pastor:	Rev. Roger Wilmer
Secretary:	Jane Rodkey / Connie Muscato
Secretary's email:	office@ebucc.com
Accompanist:	Jennifer Sullivan Brown
Consistory President:	George Hardinger
Liturgist:	Bob Miller
Media Tech	George Hardinger

## 2026 Altar flowers

It's time to reserve your dates for altar flowers for 2026! Our friends at The Cutting Garden will continue to provide fresh flower arrangements for our two altar vases, and they are very willing to work with us on specific colors and types of flowers, as well as other sizes and containers. Cutting Garden will deliver the fresh bouquets each week and will put them in place on the altar. The bouquets are yours, to take with you or give away after the service. Clear vases are provided by our friend Kathy Paxton. The vases are yours to keep if you wish. If you take your flowers home in the green vase inserts, please return the inserts to the back room later.

Please note that there has been a donation to our Altar Flower Fund which allows EBUCC to continue our longtime charge of \$40.00 for delivery of two fresh bouquets.

**So, again, \$40.00 for altar flowers for all of 2026.**

Reserve dates by indicating your choices on the order form below and return it along with payment to Susan Hardinger. Pay by cash or check; make your check payable to EBUCC and note "altar flowers." If you wish to provide your own flowers, that's fine too, and please complete the form, and return it to Susan, before making your own delivery and payment arrangements.

Susan Hardinger 1147 Humbert Schoolhouse Rd, Westminster MD 21158 or [shardinger@aol.com](mailto:shardinger@aol.com) or 443-789-0142

### 2026

**[red] = date already reserved**

<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUG</u>	<u>SEPT</u>	<u>OCT</u>	<u>NOV</u>	<u>DEC</u>
4	1	1	5	3	7	5	2	6	4	1	6
11	8	8	12	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	13
18	15	15	19	17	21	19	16	20	18	15	20
25	22	22	26	24	28	26	23	27	25	22	27
		29		31			30			29	

2026 Dates for flowers to be placed in church:

Names of Donors: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Bulletin listing and liturgist's announcement:

"Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God, in loving memory/honor/celebration/recognition, etc.

of \_\_\_\_\_

by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please order flowers for me. \_\_\_\_\_ check or cash enclosed, OR

\_\_\_\_\_ I will provide my own flowers.