

# *EMMANUEL (BAUST)*

## *UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST*

*Service of Word*

*December 7, 2025*

*10:00 a.m.*

### ***Second Sunday of Advent***

**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

**\*Opening Music**      We Light the Advent Candles      Green No. 175  
(vs. 1 & 3)

We light the Ad-vent can-dles a-against the win-ter night,  
to wel-come our Lord Je-sus who is the world's True Light,  
to wel-come our Lord Je-sus who is the world's True Light.

We light the sec-ond can-dle, and hear God's ho-ly Word,  
it tells us, cling to Je-sus, prep-are to meet your Lord,  
it tells us, cling to Je-sus, prep-are to meet your Lord!

#### **\*Advent Candle Lighting:**

L: My fellow disciples, poet June Jordan asks, "When will we seize the world around us with our freedom?"

**P: Let us cry out, "NOW!"**

L: One poet Audre Lorde heartens us, I make my now.

**P: And power is spoken-peace.**

L: As we gather around to light the second Advent candle, let us first bless and embody this now together with sounds of fire. Yes, friends, let us be in the here and now together! Join me! Spirit in this place, we feel You, we hear You, we

see You, we trust You!

**P: Spirit inspire us, enlighten us, embolden us with the light of freedom and the stars of peace that we are made of.**

L: Bless this ceremony of naming our longing.

**P: Of our everlasting desire for peace, for justice, for You Emmanuel. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**                      Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates                      Green No. 176

**\*Prayer of Confession**                      Liturgist

L: Please join me in the Prayer of Confession:

**P: O God of Knowing, there are times when peace surpasses our understanding because we cannot dare to hope for it, because it feels too costly or our hearts are too hardened by the harshness of the world. What actions may unfold from this place? This humble ground of struggle? Sometimes they are acts strengthened by faith, while others are things we do out of a place of burnout, despair, isolation, or selfishness that shows it is justified by its receipts. Forgive us and transform us, O God, perhaps by the kindness of a stranger, by a ballot measure that did pass, or an international protest to violence. As Jan Richardson foretells, may Your grace arrive in a shape we did not foresee and may we be open to it changing us. Amen.**

**\*Words of Assurance**                      Rev. Wilmer

## **Anthem**

**Scripture**                      Isaiah 11:1-10                      Liturgist

**\*Gospel**                      Matthew 3:1-12                      Rev. Wilmer

**Sermon Hymn**                      The King of Glory Comes                      Green No. 159

**Sermon**                      The Light of the World is Christ Jesus                      Rev. Wilmer  
Isaiah 9:2-7A

**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.**

**Prayers of the People**

Rev. Wilmer

**Our Lord's Prayer** (using debts)

**Invitation to Offering**

Offering may be placed in the plates near the sanctuary entrances. Ushers will bring them to the altar during the offertory.

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology                      In A Bleak Midwinter**

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise one, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him—give my heart.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

L: Please join me in the prayer of dedication.

**P: Communal Creator, we dedicate these offerings to the restoration of right relationships in the world, our community, and within our own hearts. Continue to empower us to be advocates of peace at every size, for everyone, and in every place. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn              Soon and Very Soon**

Green No. 523

**\*Benediction**

Rev. Wilmer

**Postlude**

**December 7, 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: [pastorwilmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorwilmer@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.

**Congregational Meeting:** Annual Congregational Meeting TODAY. The meeting will be held after our worship service in the sanctuary. The church

budget for 2026 will be presented and voted on at this meeting, and four new Consistory members and the 2026 Nominating Committee will be elected.

**Nominating Committee for 2026:**      **New Consistory Members**

Jone Bowersox  
Tom Harrison  
Joe Engle  
Michael Rodkey

Calvin Bloom  
Kim Stice  
Jim Stonesifer  
Beth Raver

**Altar Flowers:** Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Charles and Mary Roop by daughter Jan.

**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](http://Faithlife.com) for more detail and resources.

**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.

**Mission of the month: Christmas Fund:** United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you!

**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.

**Carroll Food Sunday:** Baust is being asked to donate sugared cereal, oatmeal (regular or instant), pancake mix and syrup for December. Donations can be brought to the Good Shepherd room, the porch in the parsonage, Trinity Lutheran on Tuesday or Thursday mornings OR put into the cabinet under the portico throughout the week.

**Grief Share Group:** Grief Share Group will meet in the Parsonage on Wednesdays' @ 5:30pm Dates: 12/17, 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.

**Baust Literary (December):** In the Year of the Long Winter 1789-90 in Hallowell, Maine, a man's body is found in the Kennebec River. Thus, begins the mystery of what happened that involves a mid-wife, a judge, a preacher's wife and even a fox! To find out "who done it" read this month's book selection "*The Frozen River*", by Ariel Lawhon. Join us on Tuesday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Parsonage to discuss this exciting novel.

**Newsletter Items:** Newsletter items for January 2026 are due December 14, 2025 to Jane Rodkey.

**First Sunday of the Month Luncheon:** Due to the congregation meeting on December 7, 2025, the first Sunday of the Month Luncheon will be held on December 14, 2025 in the Parish Hall. Chili with corn bread, chicken corn noodle soup and sandwiches will be serviced. Including assorted cookies and drinks. Please let RSVP to Jane Rodkey at [office@ebucc.com](mailto:office@ebucc.com) or 410-984-0648.

**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.

## **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	Rev. Cheryl Wilmer

### **Friends**

Eric Helm	Mimi DeLore
Libby Fuss	Allen Robertson
Rev. Herb Ruby	Randy Brodbeck
Lainey Hood	Nancy Saari
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
Secretary's email:	office@ebucc.com
Accompanist:	Jennifer Sullivan Brown
Consistory President:	George Hardinger
Liturgist:	Cindy Osborne
Media Tech	Jacob Kallay

**EMMANUEL BAUST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Proposed Budget		
Presented by Budget Committee		
October 29, 2025		
	2025	2026
	Budget	Proposed Budget
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Minister's Salary & Housing	66,190	60,550
Minister's Pension	9,000	9,126
Minster's Shared Payroll Tax	4,530	4,632
Minister's Health & Disability Insurance	800	800
Continuing Education	1200	1,236
Minister's Professional Expense	2,000	2,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	83,720	78,344
<b>Visiting Speakers</b>		1,200
Office Expenses	3000	3,400
Accounting Expenses		1,200
Website Fees	1200	600
Christian Education	500	1,500
Worship Supplies	1200	1,400
Stewardship Supplies	200	300
Member Programs	250	300
Evangelism	550	250
Association Dues	800	800
Conference Delegate Expenses	0	500
Secretary Salary	4000	4,500
Accompanist Salary	12200	12,600
Choir Expenses	400	500
Payroll Taxes	1650	1,810
Search Committee Expenses	1000	-
Contingencies	600	600
<b>Subtotal</b>	27,550	31,460
<b>Repairs &amp; Maintenance</b>	9000	8,000
Lawn Maintenance	9500	9,500
Telephone & Internet	2200	2,400
Heating	7500	6,500
Electric	5400	6,500
Trash	600	600
Custodial Salary	5200	6,500
Custodial Supplies	300	300
Alarm Service	425	420
Insurance	9100	9,700
<b>Subtotal</b>	49,225	50,420
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	160,495	160,224
<b>Mission &amp; Outreach</b>		
OCWM	5000	5,000
Carpenter's Table	4000	4,000
Caring & Sharing		4,300
Other Mission Project	4000	1,000
<b>Total Mission and Outreach</b>	13,000	14,300
<b>Grand Total</b>	173,495	174,524



## 2025 BAUST UCC REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Let's count the days of advent by helping those who are less fortunate! Each day of December add listed item into a box. On Christmas Eve bring your box to church and place in the Good Shepard room. The boxes of food will be donated to Carroll Food Sunday. If you are not able to do the shopping, we will gladly take donations of any amount and we will do the shopping. Generic items are fine. These are only suggestions. ANY non-perishable food item will be accepted.

- December 1 – Box of pasta (any type)
- December 2 – Jar of peanut butter
- December 3 – Can of pasta with meat (beef ravioli, etc.)
- December 4 – Bottle/boxes 100% pure juice (any flavor)
- December 5 – Can of meat (spam, ham, etc.)
- December 6 – Can of chicken
- December 7 – Can/jar of gravy (any flavor)
- December 8 – Box of pancake mix (only requires water)
- December 9 – Can of soup (will take low sodium)
- December 10 – Jar of applesauce
- December 11 – Jar of jelly (any flavor)
- December 12 – Can of tuna
- December 13 – Can/bag of beans (any)
- December 14 – Jar of spaghetti sauce (with meat if possible)
- December 15 – Bottle of pancake syrup (will take light/no sugar)
- December 16 – Box/canister of oatmeal or oats
- December 17 – Box of Cereal
- December 18 – Can of fruit (peaches or pears)
- December 19 – Box/bag of rice
- December 20 – Box of Muffin mix (only requires water)
- December 21 – Bottle of vegetable oil
- December 22 – Can of chili (with meat)
- December 23 – Can of vegetable (any)
- December 24 – Box of instant potatoes

You can also leave your box in the Parsonage mud room. We will deliver the collected items and deliver them after the New Year.

Thank you for your support!

Contact Beth Raver with questions.

## 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**

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
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.