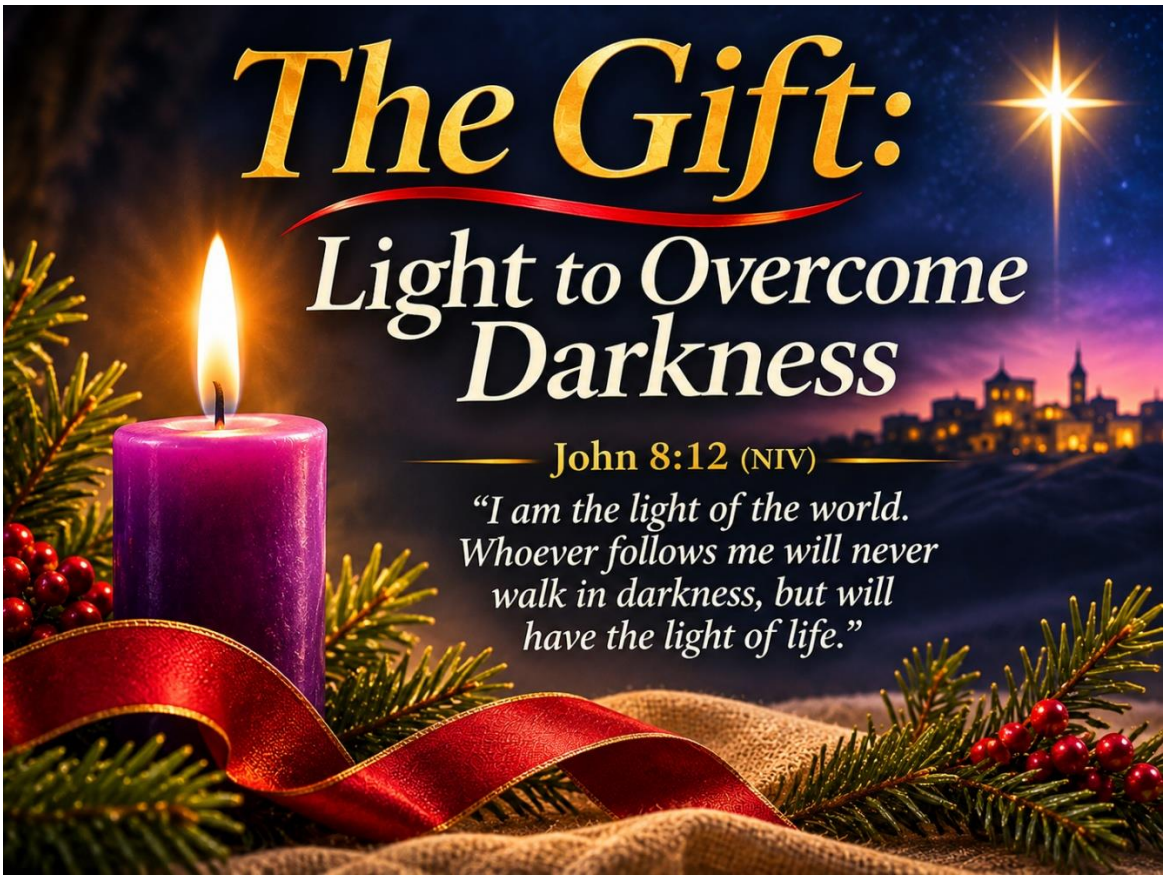
Emmanuel Community
United Methodist Church

Imitating Christ Together



November 29, 2026

N84 W16707 Menomonee Avenue ♦ Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
262-251-3830 ♦ www.ec-umc.com

First Sunday of Advent **8:30 AM Sanctuary Service**
Liturgist: Jan Kohlmann
Ushers: Greg Carlson, Guy Vance, Jim Wanke, Morey Dambelkaln
Acolytes: Avery Kostka, Elliott Pokey
Altar Flowers: Barb O'Connell 50th anniversary Nursing UW Madison

Please sign the registration pad found at the end of your pew
**Please stand as you are able*

GATHERING

Announcements, Welcome, and Greetings

Prelude "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Neale/Helmore arr. Wolaver

Greeting **Rev. Dr. Matt Hadley**

Foundation Testimony Video **Rob Tack**

Lighting of the Advent Candle One **Bender Family**

The Gift of Light to Overcome Darkness
Scripture — John 1:5 (NIV)
Sentence of Truth:
Lighting of the First Candle

Leader: God's gifts are given to us!
People: And through us, they are shared with the world!
All: Gracious God, thank you for the gift of light that overcomes darkness. Shine into the shadows of our lives and help us reflect your love wherever darkness remains. Amen.

Candle Lighting Hymn 2090 vs 1 "Advent Song" Walker

*** Call to Worship**
The light shines in the darkness!
And the darkness has not overcome it!
In a world of uncertainty, Christ brings us hope.
In a world of shadows, Christ brings us light.
Come, let us worship the One who is the Light of the World!
May God's light shine in us and through us! Amen.

Hymn 249 "There's a Song in the Air" Holland/Harrington

*** Opening Prayer:**
Let us pray together,
Gracious God, as we begin this Advent season, we thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. Shine into the dark places of our lives, renew our hope, and open our hearts to your presence. Help us reflect your light in all we say and do. Amen.

***Hymn 204** "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" McGee

Special Music **"**Awaken Us Oh Lord" Hayes/Parker
Chancel Choir

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Readings John 1:1-9 (NIV)

Response
The Word of God for the People of God
Thanks be to God!

Hymn 206 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" Thomerson

Sermon **"**The Gift of Light to Overcome Darkness" **Rev. Dr. Matt Hadley**

Offertory Song "Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)" Cash/Bergthold

ONLINE GIVING Please support the ministry of ECUMC with an online gift by scanning this QR code

***Doxology 221** vs 4 "In the Bleak Midwinter" Rossetti/Holst

***Offertory Prayer**
Generous God, you have given us the greatest gift of all, your Son, Jesus Christ. Receive these gifts as expressions of our gratitude and love. Use them, and use us, to bring your light into a world that desperately needs it. Amen.

Prayer Card Hymn 188 "Christ Is the World's Light" Green/Evans

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer
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 forever. Amen.

***Closing Hymn 585** "This Little Light of Mine"
Afro-American Spiritual, adapt. Smith

SENDING FORTH

***Benediction**
Go into the world, carrying the light of Christ!
We will shine with love in places of darkness.
Bring hope to the discouraged and kindness to the hurting.
We will share the light we have received.
And remember, the darkness will never overcome God's light!
Thanks be to God! Amen.

The worship is over,
Let the service begin!

Postlude "The First Nowell" arr. Hyzer