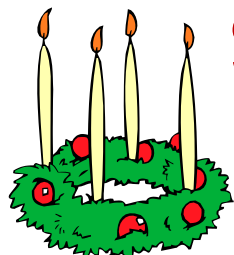
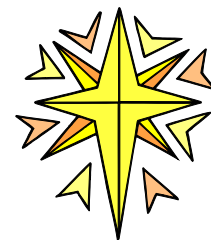


# WELCOME TO EMMANUEL URC

**"Making Jesus known in worship, work & word".**

We hope you will feel at home worshipping with us. If this is your first visit, or if we can be of help in any way, please make yourself known to one of those who welcomed you on arrival.



**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

**10am Pop-Up Nativity**

Led by: Revd Gerald England

Theme: With love from God to you

A crèche area & toys are available for very young children throughout the service.



**6pm Carols by Candlelight**

Led by: Revd Gerald England

A crèche area & toys are available for young children throughout the service.



Please stay after today's services for a cup of tea or coffee and delicious seasonal treats in the rear hall.



**Christian Aid Christmas appeal:** Christian Aid's focus for their 2025 appeal is to support families fleeing conflict, to buy them food and lifesaving supplies. There will be a pot by the door for donations from today, and the card machine will be available, after our special Carols by Candlelight and Christingle services. Christian Aid is a DEC charity that supports all people, regardless of their religious beliefs or none.



Cannot get to church? The URC has daily online devotions - follow this link [www.devotions.urc.org.uk](http://www.devotions.urc.org.uk) for access to podcasts or a transcript.

## EMMANUEL DIARY

[www.emmanuelhaydonwick.org.uk](http://www.emmanuelhaydonwick.org.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/EmmanuelURC/>

|            |         |   |
|------------|---------|---|
| Tue 23 Dec | 10am    | Christingle making workshop                   |
| Wed 24 Dec | 4pm     | Christingle service                           |
|            | 11:30pm | Midnight Communion                            |
| Thu 25 Dec | 10am    | Christmas Day Celebration                     |
|            |         | All above services led by Revd Gerald England |
| Sun 28 Dec | 10am    | Morning worship                               |
|            |         | Led by Sue Martin                             |

**Christingle making workshop:** We will be making lots of Christingles on **Tuesday 23 December**, 10am for our Christingle service the following day. All are welcome. No experience necessary. Everyone can be a valuable part of the production line. Please come along – no need to dress as an elf (unless you really want to?!)



**Christmas Eve Christingle: Wednesday 24 December**, 4pm, A shorter service particularly suitable for children and the young at heart. Led by Revd Gerald England & team.



**Midnight Service: Wednesday 24 December**, 11:30pm, with Holy Communion. Led by Revd Gerald England.

**Christmas Day Celebration: Thursday 25 December**, 10am, a celebration of Christmas Day. Led by Revd Gerald England.

**End of the year: Sunday 28 December**, there will be a 10am service at Emmanuel, led by Sue Martin. Splat group will meet too.



**Gifts for the church:** If you would like to buy a small Christmas present for Emmanuel, the list is in the form of promise gift tags on the Rainbow Christmas tree. We still have a few tags left for items such as fairtrade coffee and copier paper. Please select a gift tag or tags and pop your item under the church tree by **Sunday 4 January 2026**. Thank you.

As in previous years, we are encouraged to give one Christmas card "To the church family" (saving money & resources). Cards can be pinned up on the display board at the back of the worship area for all to see. [#ecochurch](#)



**Print Cartridge Recycling:** The Recycle 4 Charity box in the church side entrance for empty printer ink cartridges is doing well. Our nominated charity is Helen and Douglas house. Note: Cannon and HP cartridges can be original or remanufactured, but all other makes must be original. [#ecochurch](#)

**Christmas and the post-Christmas period** can leave many people feeling down. Doing things



with friends and family can be better than any physical gift. Go for a wintery walk, feed ducks or have a coffee together, do a craft together, watch a fun film or old comedy together, make popcorn, bake together - maybe use both your leftovers and see what tasty treats you come up with (Bubble & Squeak anyone?) Help each other to work out how to use those new gadgets you received! If you cannot meet up straight away, you could still phone and plan something that you can both look forward to in January.

**Operation Christmas Child:** Thank you to everyone who supported filling and sending 180 shoeboxes this year! If you find that you have unused wrapping paper, please place it in the collection crate inside the rear porch for next year's boxes.



**Good Earth Café: Saturday 3 January 2026**, 11am – 1:30pm. Bring friends and family to church for a light lunch or coffee & cake. Please consider if you can help provide homemade lunches & puddings or be an extra pair of hands on the day to set up, serve or clear away. Please speak to Rachel Cleary or Julie Prestridge for more info.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service:** Everyone is invited to a service at **6pm on Sunday 18 January 2026** here at Emmanuel URC. Please join Christians from churches across North Swindon to worship together and pray for unity.



## PRAYERS

**Prayer needs:** If you have any requests for prayer through the week (for you or someone you know), you can email them through to Rachel P - [rach@richardparmenter.plus.com](mailto:rach@richardparmenter.plus.com) Rachel will then share requests on a special Emmanuel prayer email group.

Please pray for:

- All members of our congregation who are unwell, recovering from operations, or still awaiting or receiving treatment.

All items for this weekly bulletin should be given to Lucy Gough by 12 noon on Wednesdays. Tel: 722346. Thank you.