### Communion & Offering



## SONGS OF CHRISTMAS \* LEAVING 2024 & FURTHER FACING 2025 PASTOR JEFF SOUDERS - DECEMBER 29, 2024

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny; From depths of hell Thy people save, And give them victory over the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here; And drive away the shades of night And pierce the clouds and bring us light! Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heavenly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height In ancient times once gave the law In cloud, and majesty, and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

#### **EMMANUEL** = GOD IS WITH US

**Matthew 1:21-22** - She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

# 3 thoughts to take into 2025

#### **1.GOD IS WITH YOU**

**Luke 1:28** - The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

#### 2. OUR GOD WAS WITH US

**Gen 29:31** - the LORD was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.

#### 3. GOD WILL BE WITH YOU IN 2025 & BEYOND

## Paul asked this question, and I pose it to Us today as we look ahead

Romans 8:35-39 - Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

**Are you with God?** What are you asking God to change in you in this next year?