



*A service of healing and hope...*

## **Celebration Lutheran Church**

December 18, 2024 – 7 p.m.

Gathering and Welcome

Prayer of the Day

Hymn: *As Dark Awaits the Dawn* (ELW [red hymnal] #261)

Psalm 25 / Prayer

Hymn: *O Come Emmanuel*, verses 1 & 2 (ELW #257)

Psalm 71 / Prayer

Hymn: *O Come Emmanuel*, verses 3 & 4 (ELW #257)

Psalm 46 / Prayers

Hymn: *O Come Emmanuel*, verses 5 & 6 (ELW #257)

Psalm 63 / Prayers

Hymn: *O Come Emmanuel*, verses 7-8 (ELW #257)

Healing time

Over...

Gospel: John 1:1-14

Time for Reflection

Hymn: *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* (ELW #282)

Blessing

*Reception in the gathering space outside the sanctuary!*

**Assisting in Worship Tonight**

Pastor William Diehm, retired

Pastor Marilyn Matevia, Celebration Lutheran Church

Pastor Paul Moody, Messiah Lutheran Church

David Strieter, Musician

**The Longest Night**

This worship service recognizes that the seasons of Advent and Christmas can be difficult for some. For those who feel alone after the death of a loved one, a broken relationship, the inability to have a child, the loss of a job or health, or for other reasons, the outward happiness of the season can make it sad or painful.

So, as we near the winter solstice (this Saturday) - the longest night of the year - we gather reverently and hopefully before God for a service of healing and hope, and to share the Word that shines light into the darkness of despair, grief, and loneliness. We pray that you find solace, peace, and hope.