

December @ Emmaus

- **Dec 7**

- 10:45a - EmmausWorship Christmas

- **Dec 14**

- Noon - Holiday Lunch (*sign up today)
- 1p - Distribute Meal Bags (*due Dec 7)

- **Dec 24**

- 4p - Christmas Eve Service

State of the Church Address

- We're turning 40!
 - Dec 7th is our official birthdate
 - We'll celebrate on Dec 6th (and all year!)



Looking Back at 2025

- 14 baptisms
- 68 new members
 - *Next class on Dec 14 @ 9:15am
- 688 average Sunday 10:45 attendance
 - 723 since August
 - 464 Sunday School yearly average

Looking Ahead to 2026

- 40th Anniversary Plans
- Next Steps Advisory Plans
- “From Strength to Strength”
 - Theological
 - Missional
 - Financial
 - Relational

John 18:28

Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover.

John 18:29-30

So Pilate went outside to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?”

They answered him, “If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you.”

John 18:31-32

Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

John 18:33-34

So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?”

John 18:35

Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?”

John 18:36

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”

John 18:37a

Then Pilate said to him,

“So you are a king?”

John 18:37b-38a

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.”

Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

John 18:38b-39a

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover.

John 18:39b-40

**So do you want me to release to you
the King of the Jews?”**

**They cried out again, “Not this man, but
Barabbas!”**

Now Barabbas was a robber.

The Kingdom of God

- God's people in God's place under God's rule and blessing
- “God in control”
- Rule / Reign
- Who's in charge?

Kingdom Origins

God's Kingdom

- From above
- By grace,
through faith
- God's Word

Worldly Kingdoms

- From below
- By achievement,
through striving
- Human ideas

Kingdom Goals

God's Kingdom

- Disciples
- Service
- Transformation
- Generosity

Worldly Kingdoms

- Crowds
- Accolades
- Domination
- Wealth

Kingdom Strategies

God's Kingdom

- Prayer; Love
- Including outsiders

Worldly Kingdoms

- Fighting; Fear
- Resisting outsiders

What is truth?

Build Your Kingdom Here

- **Individual Hearts**

- Motto: Not my will, but Yours be done

- **Church**

- Billboard: Jesus is in charge here!

Build Your Kingdom Here

- Individual Hearts
- Church
- Relationships
- Culture

Advent at Emmaus

- **Prayer Guide & Devotion**
 - Pick up a booklet
 - Watch your email this afternoon
- **Salvation and Baptism**
- **King of Kings**