

EMANUEL Evangelical Lutheran Church

Congregation Established 1726 – Our 295th Year of Gospel Ministry
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Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 25, 2021

PRELUDE

Lora Sweeney

(* indicates standing - 'LBW' refers to the Green Hymnal Book & "WOV" refers to the Blue Hymnal Book)

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

LBW Pg. 77

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*)

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

This is my Fa - ther's world, And to my lis - t'ning
 This is my Fa - ther's world; The birds their car - ols
 This is my Fa - ther's world; Oh — let me not for -
 ears All na - ture sings, and — round me rings The mu - sic of the
 raise; The morn - ing light, the — li - ly white, De - clare the mak - er's
 get That, though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is — the rul - er —
 spheres. This is my Fa - ther's world; I — rest me in the
 praise. This is my Fa - ther's world; He — shines in all that's
 yet. This is my Fa - ther's world; Why should my heart be
 thought Of rocks and trees of — skies and seas; His hand the — won - ders wrought.
 fair. In the rus - tling grass I — hear him pass; He speaks to — me ev - ry - where.
 sad? The Lord is king, let the heav - ens ring; God reigns let the earth be — glad!

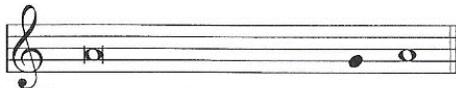
Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901, Tune: English Folk Tune, Sola Online Worship eResource

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

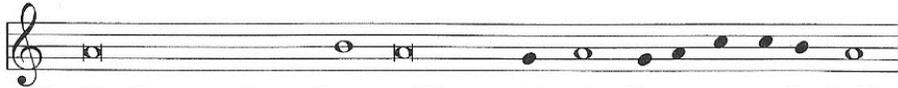
C: And also with you.



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



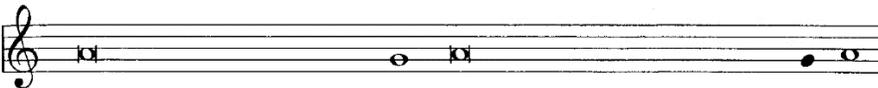
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



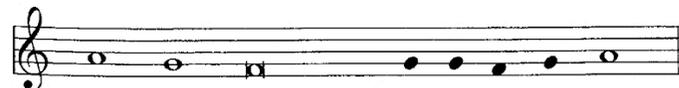
A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



C A - men



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



B Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray (*brief prayerful pause*)

Almighty God, you show those in error the light of your truth, that they may return into the way of righteousness. Grant to all that are admitted into fellowship with Christ the power to avoid all things that are contrary to the faith and to follow you according to the will of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading: Acts 4:1-12

As {Peter and John} were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand. On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead — by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Psalm 23 (*Sung responsively*)

The Lord | is my shepherd;*

I shall not | be in want.

**He makes me lie down | in green pastures*
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

He re- | vives my soul*

and guides me along right pathways | for his name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;*
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who | trouble me;*
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,*
and I will dwell in the house of the | Lord forever.**

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Holy Gospel: John 10:11-18

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

{Jesus said,} “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Mark



1 Chil - dren of the heav - en - ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bos - om gath - er;
 2 God his own doth tend and nour - ish; in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

nest - ling bird or star in heav - en such a ref - uge ne'er was giv - en.
 From all e - vil things he spares them; in his might - y arms he bears them.
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

WORDS: Carolina Sandell Berg (1832-1903); tr. Ernest W. Olson (1870-1958)

TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA

MUSIC: Swedish melody

L.M.

Words © Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America (Admin. Augsburg Fortress)

***THE NICENE CREED**

LBW Pg. 84

P: Let us confess our faith, using the Words of the Nicene Creed:

C: **We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God,
 begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father,
 through whom all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
 by the power of the Holy Spirit**

He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered death and was buried.

**On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the Scriptures;**

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 And his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their need.
(*Prayerful silence*)
- L: Heavenly Father, you call us to walk with Jesus in a life of faith and to serve our neighbor. Help us to trust in your abiding mercy and constant care as we seek to do your will in the world. Guide us to walk to the places you would have us go so your name would be praised and all people would come to know you. Lord in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.**
- L: You are the one who watches out for your sheep and guides us gently into green pastures. Help us to hear your voice and keep us safe from all harm. When we get lost, find us and restore us to your fold. Forgive us for our wandering ways and lead us into all goodness. Lord in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.**
- L: You speak to us through your Word and in the Sacraments. You have given us a rich history and have given us a commission to make known the saving work of Christ. As you equipped your Son's disciples long ago, equip us to make disciples, that those we encounter in our lives would know Jesus. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.**
- L: We ask your tender care to be with all those who are struggling with grief, pain, confusion, or disease. Remind them of your never-failing love for them. Grant them hope in the midst of darkness. Surround them with your very real presence and bring wholeness to their bodies and spirits. We especially pray for **Sarah, Leona, Elizabeth, George, Elaine, Mona, Edna, Betty, Pauline, Rick, George, Harold, Nancy, Rex, Kevin, Julie, Wayne, Annabelle, Lucy, Cindy, Mary Jane, the Krueger family and the Franzen family.** Lord in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.**
- L: Almighty God, bring an end to war, violence, and injustice around the world. Soften the hearts of those in authority so they would govern with fairness and equity, looking out for those who are truly on the fringes of society. Bring a lasting peace to the earth so all humanity would work together for your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.**
- L: Hear the prayers of your people that we speak now silently or aloud. (*silence for prayers of the people*)
Lord, in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.**
- P: Into your hands, merciful Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.**

OFFERING: The offering plates are in the last pew on each side of the sanctuary. Those who wish to mail their offering may do so to:

**Emanuel Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 363
Elmer, NJ 08318**

(Online giving is now available through our website, <https://www.emanuelelmer.church> and clicking on the Give Now  tab.)

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and
dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

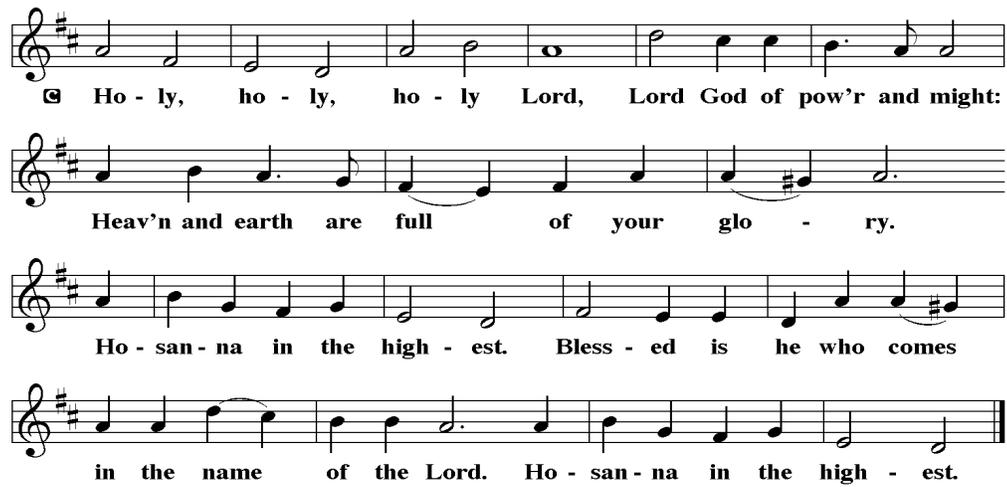
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

LBW Pg. 89

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." For as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim our Lord's death until he comes.

C. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

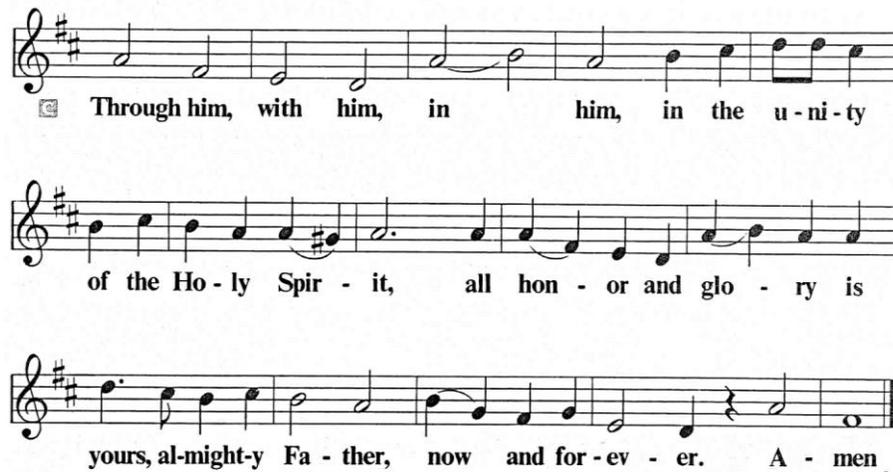
P. Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P. Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P. Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.



Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty
 of the Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is
 yours, al-might-y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

LBW Pg. 91

P: Lord, remember us in your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: **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 and ever. Amen.

***LAMB OF GOD**

LBW Pg. 92



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

(Be seated and await the Ushers invitation to Holy Communion)

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is under both forms – bread and wine or grape juice. At the direction of the usher, come to the Altar rail. You will receive an empty cup for the wine. If you wish grape juice, do not take a cup. After the person before you has gone, proceed to the Pastor who will distribute the Body of Christ in the form of a host. After the person before you has gone, proceed to the Communion Assistant who will pour the Blood of Christ in the form of wine in the cup you received. If you desire grape juice simply point to it and the communion assistant will hand it to you. Once you have received the blood of Christ dispense of your cup in the basket by the piano and return to your seat.

***AFTER COMMUNION**

LBW Pg. 92

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen**

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**

"Thank the Lord"

LBW Pg. 92

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev - 'ry - one what
he has done. Let ev - 'ry - one who seeks the Lord re -
joice and proud - ly bear his name. He re - calls his prom - is -
es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

LBW Pg. 94

L: Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that
we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C: Amen

***BLESSING**

LBW Pg. 94

P: Almighty God, Father, Son + and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

The King of love my shep - herd
 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter
 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I
 In death's dark vale I ³ fear no
 is, Whose good - ness fail - eth nev -
 flow, My ran - somed soul he lead -
 strayed, But yet in love he sought
 ill With thee, dear Lord, be - side
 er; I noth - ing lack if I am
 eth And, where the ver - dant pas - tures
 me, And on his shoul - der gent - ly
 me, Thy rod and staff my com - fort
 his And he is mine for - ev - er.
 grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 laid, And home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 still; Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 Thine unction grace bestoweth;
 And, oh, what transport of delight
 From thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days
 Thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 Within thy house forever.

Text: Henry Williams Baker, 1821-1877, Tune: Irish Traditional, Sola Online Worship eResource

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

LBW Pg. 95

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Lora Sweeney

+++++

WELCOME VISITORS! We pray you experience God's presence and love among us today. Please take a moment to introduce yourself and sign the Guestbook downstairs. If you have **CHILDREN**, Children's Worship Bags are available from the Usher. And, of course, we hope to see you again!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: A special congregational meeting will be held **next Sunday, May 2nd** immediately after the 10:00 service to approve the proposed mission statement for our congregation. By taking this formalized step, we are committing to own this mission and organizing our ministry in such a way as we fulfill this statement God has given us. Your continued participation in this process is vital as we continue our discipleship journey together.

BIBLE STUDY ON DANIEL continues on Wednesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. over ZOOM.

LAKESIDE WORSHIP begins on Mother's Day, May 9. Join us under the pavilion at 8:30 am to rejoice in God's creation and celebration our mothers. Please bring a chair and wear your masks. We will continue to follow Covid-19 protocols currently in place. Limited copies of the bulletin will be available, so please use your electronic device or print a copy for yourself. In-person and live streaming will continue at 10:00 am in the sanctuary.

Wi-Fi is available for your convenience under the User Name “LutheranChurchGuest” and the password: *church01* (lowercase).

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FOR PASTORAL CARE, contact Pastor Mark (at home, text on his cell phone & email on front of Bulletin). If Pastor does not answer immediately, please leave a message.

PRAYER CONCERNS – please update any prayer concerns you may have requested. Let us know if you want individual prayer requests included on the Weekly Prayer List or just prayers with the prayer chain. Names on this list will be removed at the end of each month unless Pastor, Patsy or the office is notified otherwise.

Sarah Romig	Leona Knerr	Elizabeth Shimp	George Shimp
Elaine Williams	Mona Hess	Edna Halter	Betty Heil
Pauline Benjamin	Rick Pfeffer	George Moore	Harold Tyson
Nancy Heck	Rex Cobb	Joe Snowden	Kevin Ulhand
Dawn Colonna	Julie Sapp	Wayne Wright	Annabelle Cobb
Lucy Colon	Cindy Condello	Mary Jane Gray	Shawn Krueger Family
Virginia Franzen family			

ALTAR FLOWER sign-up list is on 1st floor Bulletin Board. Give or email your dedication wording to Patsy Madden pbmadden11479@gmail.com or Dianne Hermanson office@emanuelelmer.church. Donation is \$40.

OPTIONAL SEATING AVAILABLE For those concerned about social distancing, individuals may sit in the choir loft, the balcony or downstairs for the service. Please keep your mask on until you exit the building.

Next Week’s Readings:

Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 150; 1 John 4:1-11 [12-21]; John 15:1-8

ABOUT THE SOLA SCRIPTURA SETTING The historic Christian order of service and the traditional liturgy for worship are based upon the words of Scripture, from both Old and New Testaments. Various traditional elements of the service, like the Nunc Dimittis and Aaronic Benediction are taken directly from Scripture, while others like the Gloria and Sanctus are made up of many Bible passages brought together.

This setting of the service for Holy Communion attempts to make the connection to Scripture in worship even more explicit. The spoken dialog and prayers in this setting are taken directly from the English Standard Version (ESV), with the appropriate citations listed throughout.* These verses were chosen to convey the same sense and meaning found in the traditional liturgy, emphasizing the biblical basis for our worship.

Since this is a spoken liturgy, relying on musical accompaniment only for congregational hymns, it is well-suited for places where professionally-trained accompanists or vocal soloists are not available to lead a musical setting of the liturgy.

* In a few cases, the singular “I” has been changed to the plural “we” for use in corporate worship, with the grammar made consistent. SOLA SCRIPTURA SETTING A Spoken Liturgy for Holy Communion Arrangement © 2011 - Sola Publishing Sola Publishing P.O. Box 521 Maple Lake, MN 55358 Scripture is taken from ESV Bible® (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®).

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