



Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

January 29, 2017

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

324 College Avenue, Modesto, California 95350

(209) 523-4531 • www.emanuellutheran.org

Welcome to Emanuel

Communion Service 9:30 a.m..... Page 3
Announcements and Prayer Concerns Page 14

Staff

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Rev. Dr. Lyn Crase

Organist & Choir Director

Barbara Vukich

Secretary

Paula Braxton

Day Care Director

Laura Marquez

Bookkeeper

Maria Ojeda

Council Officers

President

Jim Barton

Vice President

Bob Dailey

Treasurer

Bob Reuter

Secretary

Susan Hall

WELCOME GUESTS AND VISITORS!

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. We are glad that you have come to worship with us. Please help us to know you by filling out a worship attendance form (located in your bulletin) and placing it in the offering plate.

- **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** are available. •

(Please ask an usher)

Children/Youth & Family:

Council member – Pat Smith and Hailey Rios

Spiritual Life:

Council member – Lois Owen

Worship:

Council member – Dianne Santana

Outreach:

Council members — Karl Williams and Bob Dailey

Resource:

Bob Reuter, Treasurer

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Council member – Mike Epting and Rick Unruh

Endowment Team

Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Dick Norquist, Rob Shank, Bill Reinheimer

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 29, 2017

9:30 AM

PRELUDE

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME

ENTRANCE HYMN

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

ELW #719

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who stretches out the heavens,
who sends light to the nations,
who gives breath to us all.

C Amen

P Let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Loving God,

**C we confess that we have turned from your way
to follow our own ways.
Forgive us for the times
we have spoken or acted too quickly;
we have not spoken or acted at all;
we have hurt those closest to us;
we have hurt those we have yet to know;
we have thought more about ourselves than others;
we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.
Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,
so that we can live again as your children. Amen**

P Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right.
Even when we have messed up, God puts us together.
God's love never runs out.
God never tires of calling us beloved children.
Hear God say to you now:
Your sins are forgiven,
for the sake of ✝ Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen

GREETING

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.

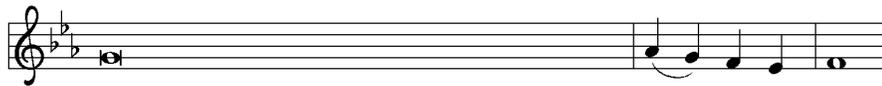
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



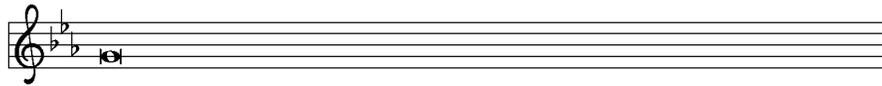
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together....

C Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: MICAH 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.

¹Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³"O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

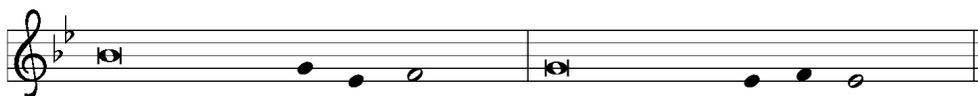
⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good;

and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 15



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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¹ LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

² **Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

⁴ **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.**

**ALL: ⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the
innocent. Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.**

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom

of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

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

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 5.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:1-12

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (REPEATED)

CHILDREN’S TIME // INTERFAITH COLLETION

SERMON

The Beatitudes

SERMON HYMN

We Are Called

ELW #720

APOSTLE’S CREED

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle’s Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God’s justice, peace, and healing.

Response: ... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

TITHES & OFFERINGS

The offering is an act of worship; a response of gratitude and thankfulness.

OFFERTORY

Coventry Carol

Howard Helvey

OFFERING PRAYER

A Merciful God,
receive the gifts we bring,
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Through this meal unite us as your body,
shining with the light of your justice and mercy;
for the sake of him who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

SHARING THE PEACE

The sharing of peace is an individual and communal act of forgiveness.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

A In recognition of God's forgiveness, mercy and grace let us continue with 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.

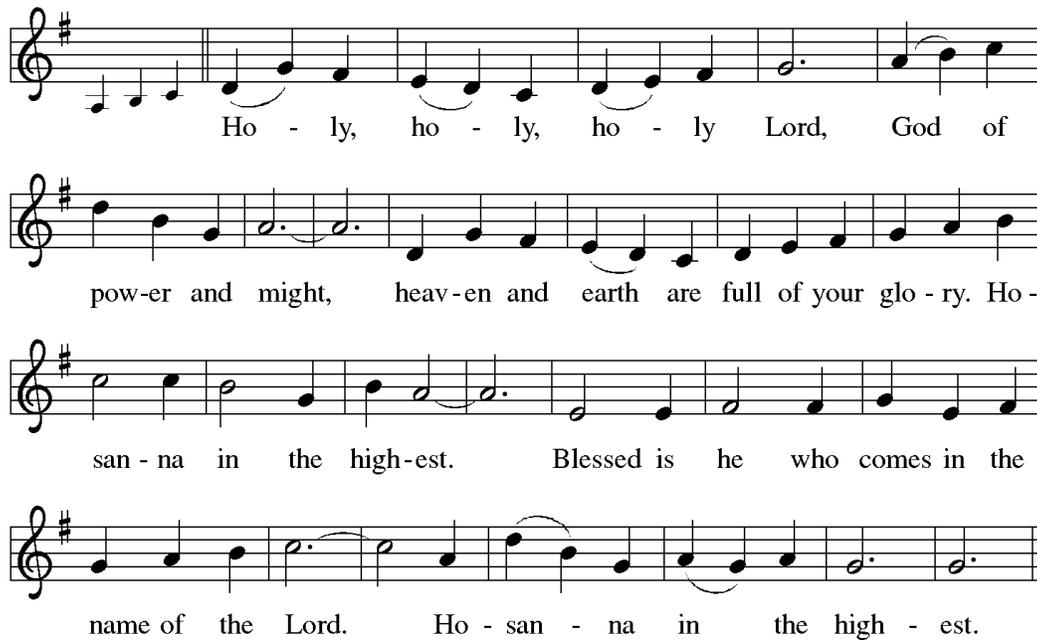
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P 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 from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

P To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

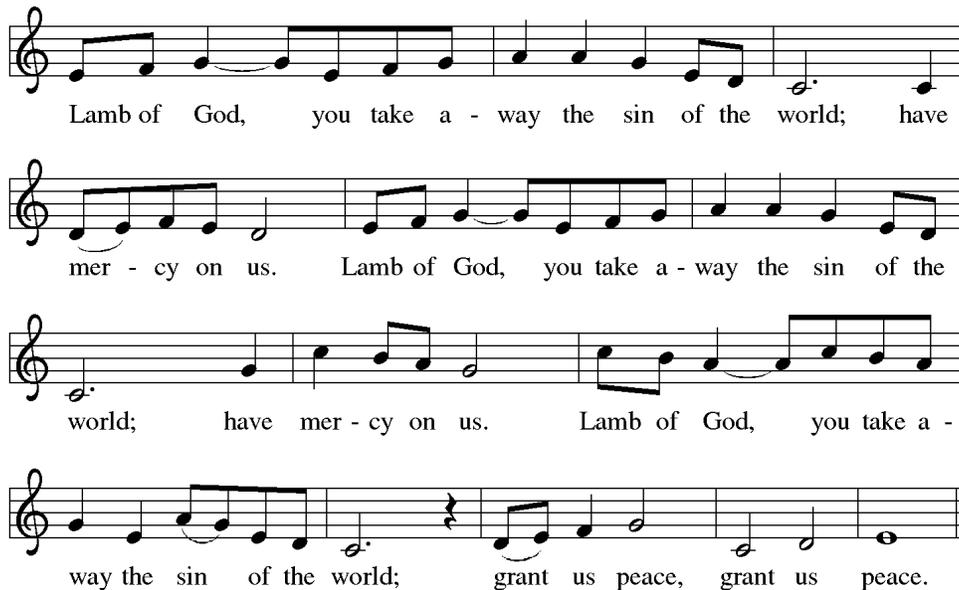
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P We who are many are one body,
for we all partake of the one bread.

Come. Be filled with light and life.

We practice continuous communion at the altar rail. All are welcome.

LAMB OF GOD



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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*Blest Are They
Jesus, the Very Thought of You*

ELW #728

ELW #754

COMMUNION BLESSING

P We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

Come. Be filled with light and life.

C Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A O Morning Star, fair and bright,
you have refreshed us again with heavenly food.
You are our dearest treasure.
Go with us now—
today, tomorrow, every day—
that we tell the story of your never-ending love
and sing your praise both now and forever.

C Amen

SENDING OF COMMUNION MINISTERS

Home Communion Minister(s) come(s) forward.

P Let us pray,

C **O God of tender compassion, as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger, bless those who leave this assembly to share the gifts of this table with our sisters and brothers who are homebound. May they be sustained by the love and prayers of this community, and by the Bread of life that satisfies all hunger, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

BLESSING

P The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved,
and shine brightly on your path;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

C Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

To Be Your Presence

ELW #546

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

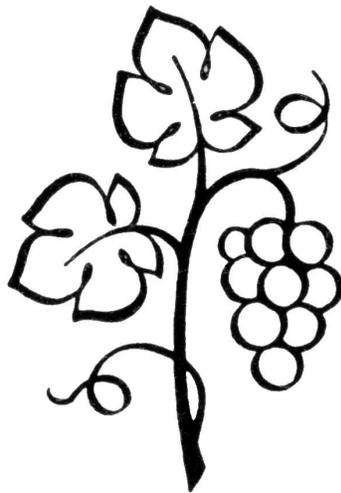
Marsch der heiligen drei Konige

Anton W. Leupold

THOSE WHO SERVED US TODAY

Presiding Minister Pastor Lyn Crase
Assisting Minister Barbara Crawford
Acolyte..... Alora Skustad
Ministers of the Word Peter Cousins, Kathleen Reuter
Cantor David Holtz
Communion Assistant(s)..... Lori Skustad
Usher/Greeter Shank/Skustad
Altar Care..... Lois Silva

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Announcements

Please use your “soft” voice during and following the Prelude, as others may be in prayer and meditation. Thank you.

FREE COURSE What Would Luther Do Today? with Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

Web Link: <https://www.churchnext.tv/library/what-would-luther-do-today/44943/about/>

Just in time for the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's historic ministry of reformation, you can register now and take the course anytime between January 16 - January 30.

Sam Gierhan is raising money for an eagle scout project here at the church. The cost will be around \$600 or more. If you would like to donate, please give the donation to the church and have it designated for the Eagle Scout project. Thank you and your help is much appreciated. For more information, please see Sam or Pr. Lyn.

Choir Rehearsals will resume February 5.

Adult Education On-going every 2nd and 4th Sunday, discussing the book Together by Grace: Introducing the Lutherans by Kathryn A. Kleinhans. Meets 5:30pm-7:00 pm in Katie's Room.

Biblical Art Journaling On-going every third Sunday at 3:00 pm.

Text Study meets Tuesdays at noon in Katie's Room. All are welcome. Bring along your lunch.

Thursday Morning Bible Study 9:30 am in Katie's room.



Quilters: *We have materials and quilt tops ready to assemble. We are planning a quilting bee for Saturday, February 4 at 9:00 am in Katie's room. The more hands we have, the faster we can assemble the quilts for Lutheran World Relief and Modesto Police Department. Please join us for a fun get together. If you have questions, see Paula Kroeze or Rose Epting. Depending upon how we do, we may schedule another time.*

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED WHEN THE REFORMATION BEGAN?

For answers to this and other questions, make sure to attend the 9:30 Worship Service **next Sunday on February 5** for the World Premier of *YOU WERE THERE - THE REFORMATION, A Play in the Style of Early Radio*. You won't want to miss this special event!



To Do List

- 1) Flower Chart—**many dates still available**
- 2) Coffee Hosts
- 3) Gospel Mission ministry on Tuesday
January 31

Please be sure to connect with ministry leaders for more information or to volunteer.

Save the date! Our first **Wired Word Potlucks** of 2017 are coming soon. This time groups of about ten will meet at one of three different locations. Suzanne Wilke and Pastor Lyn will each host potlucks in their homes on Friday, February 3. Jim and Paula Barton will host a potluck in their home on Saturday, February 4. *Be sure to add your name to one of the sign-up sheets in the Narthex.*

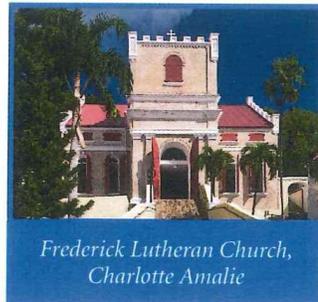


ABOUT THE LUTHERANS

Lutherans in the Caribbean

Lutheran churches have deep roots in northern Europe and have large numbers in North America. Partner churches are flourishing in the Middle East, southern Africa, Australia, and Asia. But many Lutherans don't know that there have been Lutherans in some parts of the Caribbean for almost four hundred years.

Historically, Lutheranism came to the Caribbean as the religion of white European and, later, American settlers. But in time some of these churches opened their doors to local inhabitants, Hispanics, African Americans, and Native Americans. Some of these congregations have become truly indigenous and multicultural ministries. More recently, North Americans moved and settled in some parts of the Caribbean, beginning other congregations for expatriates and vacationers.



*Frederick Lutheran Church,
Charlotte Amalie*

The oldest Lutheran congregation in the Caribbean was founded in the Virgin Islands in 1666 by Danish settlers on the island of St. Thomas, the Frederick congregation in Charlotte Amalie. They later founded other congregations on the islands of St. Croix, St. John, and St. Thomas in the eighteenth century. Although these congregations were originally intended for Danes, by the 1750s they were ministering to the enslaved Africans on the islands.

When Denmark sold these islands to the United States in 1917, these congregations affiliated with American Lutheran denominations. There are also several congregations of Virgin Island Lutherans on the mainland of the United States, most notably in New York City.

REFORMATION 500

Similarly, Dutch Lutherans founded congregations in the area of Guyana and Suriname in the eighteenth century, as the Europeans planted colonies there. Congregations generally consisted of white settlers and their descendants until the middle of the nineteenth century, when they began to reach out to other populations. Guyana is especially racially diverse, and the Lutheran congregations there include African Americans, Native Americans, East Indians, and some Chinese.

Though it has a long history of European colonization, Lutherans did not become established on Puerto Rico until it became a part of the United States in 1898. In that year a young student, Gustav Swenson, moved to Puerto Rico and eventually started a Lutheran congregation there. He was eventually followed by a number of different pastors and missionaries from the United States, who began to preach in Spanish to the local population.

Lutheran congregations can be found in some of the other islands of the Caribbean. There is a small Lutheran presence in Cuba, Antigua, Bermuda, and the Bahamas all have Lutheran congregations affiliated with various bodies. Even Haiti hosts a Lutheran enclave, connected with the Church of the Lutheran Confession in Alsace and Lorraine (France).



Although many of these Caribbean Lutheran congregations were begun by Europeans or Americans, either as settlers or missionaries, most of their members are now predominantly local people—Virgin Islanders, Guyanese and Surinamese, Puerto Ricans, and others. They may be Hispanic, Native American, African American, or other local populations, worshipping in Spanish, English, French, or other local languages. These congregations enrich the palate of world Lutheranism, and help spread the gospel of Christ into every corner of the world.

Mark Granquist

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WEEKLY CALENDAR

MON 30	TUE 31	WED 1	THUR 2	FRI 3	SAT 4	SUN 5
		7:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Mimi's	9:30 am Adult Bible Study @ Casa de Modesto	OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 am Reformation Worship Planning Mtg.	9:00 am Quilters Workshop -Katie's Rm.	9:30 am Worship Service
	12:00 pm Lectionary Study	10:00 am Weekly Staff Mtg.	1:00 pm Rebecca Circle			
7:00 pm Women's Bible Study @ M. Waggoner's	7:30 pm Gospel Mission Ministry			6:30 pm Wired Word Potluck @ S. Wilke & L. Crase		

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Date	Assisting Minister	Ministers of the Word	Cantor	Communion Assist	Acolyte	Usher Greeter	Altar Care
Feb 5 Epiphany 5	Garry Hayes	Mike Epting		Lois Owen	Kailyn Knoll	Owen Family	
Feb 12 Epiphany 6	Paula Barton	S McCready P Kroeze		Santana/ McCready	Emma Hoover	Petersen/ Troedson	
Feb 19 Epiphany 7	Mike Epting	B Dailey S Hall	David Holtz	Bob Dailey	Chris Schmidt	Reuter/ Dieterich	

WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

February 5 Epiphany 5	February 12 Epiphany 6	February 19 Epiphany 7
Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12] Psalm 112:1-9 [10] 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16] Matthew 5:13-20	Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 119:1-8 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Matthew 5:21-37	Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 Psalm 119:33-40 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23 Matthew 5:38-48



"Almighty and Everlasting God, guide the president of the United States, his cabinet and counselors, and all in authority over our nation, that they may be just in purpose, wise in counsel, unwavering in duty. In the administration of their solemn responsibilities, may they uphold the honor of our nation and secure the welfare and protection of all people. Holy Trinity, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. Make us, who come from many nations with many languages, a united people who delight in our many different gifts. Give those whom we have entrusted with authority the Spirit of Wisdom, that there may be peace and justice throughout our land. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer."

Taken from the **ELCA's Prayer Book for the Armed Services.**

Answered Prayers: Linda Nelson shares, "Robert Schlipman is doing much better and thanks us for our prayers."

New Prayer Requests: Jeanne—health, strength and courage (Watkins); Helen Orr—healing (Crawford); Kim Petersen—healing (Petersen)

Our Members: Drew Shank; Ben Knoll; Lori Knoll; Carolyn Crenwelge; Bob Dailey; Kelly Dailey; Gary Knoll; Bill Fox; Virginia Dall; Keith Thurston; Anthony Pino & Aaron Daubenspeck; Lena Shirley; Marj Sample; Teri Scott; Pat Smith; Jill Klenz; Alice Hine, Larry Decker; Elizabeth Estrada

Our Homebound Members: Florence Broden, Shelda Fritts

Our Family: Ian McKenzie (Schmidt); Sheila Barton (Barton); Joy Morgan, Joyce & Manuel (Scott); Suzanne Stiver Lie (Reinheimer); Evelyn Thurston (Thurston); Cindy Johnson (Salonen); Helen Opitz (Smith); Sherry Orsetti; Laurie Spinuzzi (Silva); Linda Luis-Thompson (Strand); Bobby Horton (Crawford); Richard Epting (Epting); Sue and George Reinheimer; Christine Williams (Dieterich); Alexander Smith (Pino); Adeline Otterness (Hoaglund); Dan Porter (Ixcot); Adriana Johnson (Marquez); Tiffany Stone; Deborah, Abel, Mercedes, Sofia, Martin, brothers and sisters (Juarez); Justin Egesdal (Nelson); Natalie O'Meany (Knoll); Randy Black (Silva); Maximilliano Ixcot (Ixcot); Donald Murray (Murray)

Our Friends: Mark, Matthew & Amanda (Scott); Roger Warner (Schmidt); Adrienne (Nelson); Pastor Stan Niemi; Tom Aja (Crawford); Jennifer Turner (Dieterich); John Pienado (Knoll); Dawn Wagner; Leila Afshin (Skustad); Donna Thayer (Petersen); Mary Martin

(Martin); Jerry Larson (Clarke); David and Jeffrey Hudson (Reinheimer); Ken, Stephen Washer (Norquist); Roxie Parker (Wilke); Our little guest from Family Promise (Tamra Losinski); Ian Hagler (Schmidt); Dr. Daniel Alfonso and his mother (Tisdale)

We Pray for Peace in the Middle East, and for all those serving in our armed forces.

T/Sgt. Ryan Dangerfield, USAF in Ramstein AB, Germany and **SSgt. Joey Sabel, USMC** in Kaneohe Marine Corps Base, Hawaii (Marilyn & Chuck Rowland's grandson & grandson-in-law); **Capt. Tim Kramer** (Megan Armes' brother) will be in Kuwait through June of 2016; **Ryan Powell** (grandson of Yvonne Troedson) USN, Connecticut; **Chad Vander Veen** (friend of Susan Hall), US Army in Fort Campbell, Kentucky.



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

We pray for wholeness in the body of Christ. Bind up fractures within the church. Humble the proud and lift up the lowly. Make us one at your table. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We praise you for the beauty of the universe. For the light of the stars, for the majesty of the mountains, we thank you. Mold us into stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for peacemakers around the world. End violence. Restore communities. Stop bribery within political systems. Reign with justice and peace and commit us to this act of discipleship. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for our neighbors who mourn, who have no clean water, who hunger. Provide their daily bread. Heal the forgotten, the lost, and our enemies, family, and friends. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We praise you for this congregation. Bless the work and play of young and old. Deepen our faith. Expand our discipleship. Equip us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for your healing touch on those we name before you now, aloud or in silence (*pause for silence*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of hope, today we pray for the pastors & churches of Sierra Central Valley Conference. This morning we lift up Rev. Ginger DuMars and Mountain Lutheran Church in Groveland. Sustain Rev. DuMars and enliven the leadership of Mountain Lutheran Church; energize them for ministry in their community, and enable bold witness for the sake of the Gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We praise you for all the saints who died proclaiming the gospel. Strengthen us through their witness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

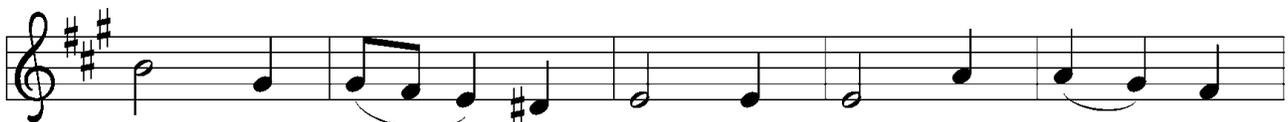
Amen

ENTRANCE HYMN #719

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide;
oh, tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heav'n above
shall come the city of our God.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850–1935, alt.

Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, Sacred Melodies, 1815

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SERMON HYMN #720

We Are Called



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in
3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.
sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: WE ARE CALLED, David Haas

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SENDING HYMN #546

To Be Your Presence



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - jice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

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