



## ***17th Sunday after Pentecost***

*September 27, 2020*

# **Emanuel Lutheran Church**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**324 College Avenue, Modesto, California 95350**

**(209) 523-4531** [www.emanuellutheran.org](http://www.emanuellutheran.org)

# Welcome to Emanuel

## **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 introducing yourself to those you encounter and please be sure to sign our guest book (located on the stand in the Narthex).*

- **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** are available. •  
(Please ask an usher)

### Children/Youth & Family/ELDC:

Council member – Pat Smith, Fanney Bjargardottir

### Spiritual Life:

Council member – Suzanne Wilke

### Worship:

Council member – Martha Strand

### Outreach:

Council member — Elaine Ixcot

### Resource:

Bob Reuter, Treasurer

Stewardship — Josh Hollinger

Property — Dennis Strand

### Fellowship:

Council member—Janice Watkins

### Social Media:

Council members – Suzanne Wilke

### Endowment Team

Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Pastor Lyn, Dennis Strand

Josh Hollinger, Pat Smith

## Staff

### **Presiding Minister**

Rev. Dr. Lyn Crase

### **Organist & Choir Director**

Barbara Vukich

### **Administrative Assistant**

Paula Braxton

### **Day Care Director**

Laura Marquez

### **Bookkeeper**

Maria Ojeda

## Council Officers

### **President**

Dennis Strand

### **Vice President**

Pat Smith

### **Treasurer**

Bob Reuter

### **Secretary**

Josh Hollinger

### **OFFICE HOURS**

*Monday through Thursday - 8 am to 3 pm*

*Friday - 8 am to 2 pm*

# 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

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<b>PRELUDE</b>	<i>Prelude on Thaxted</i>	<i>David M. Cherwien</i>
<b>WELCOME</b>		Pastor Lyn Crase
<b>STEWARDSHIP TALK</b>		Mike Epting
<b>OPENING HYMN</b>	<i>God Is Here!</i>	Page 13

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

**Amen**

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

**P:** Faithful God,

**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we are captive to sin  
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace  
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another  
before examining ourselves.**

**We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.**

**We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.**

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,  
and turn us again to life in you  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

**P:** God hears the cries of all who call out in need,  
and through his death and resurrection,  
Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness  
to do God's work in the world.

**Amen**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

**THE FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 18:1-4, 25-32**

Chuck Rowland

*Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? <sup>3</sup>As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel.

<sup>4</sup>Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

<sup>25</sup>Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? <sup>26</sup>When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die.

<sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

<sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin.

<sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

**PSALM: PSALM 25:1-9****THE SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13**

Chuck Rowland

*As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.*

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

#### **HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:23-32**

*After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.*

<sup>23</sup>When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**APOSTLE'S CREED**

P 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**

- 1) Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.....
- 2) In all the world, give your church unity. Inspire all the baptized with the mind of Christ. Where the church is powerful and where it struggles, shape us with humility and obedience so that your love may be at work in us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.....**
- 3) Your Son took on all of bodily life in our world, even to death. Preserve and keep your creation, O God. Mend and redeem places that are polluted and damaged, so that all of creation confesses you as Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.....**
- 4) Turn the nations toward life. Where our ways are unfair, give us new hearts and new spirits. Where sin permeates our cultures and institutions, change our minds and teach us to trust your authority. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.....**
- 5) Our lives are yours, O God. Relieve the suffering of those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit. Defend the lives and welfare of children who are abused or neglected, hungry or exploited, bullied or lonely. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.....**
- 6) Turn this congregation away from our own interests toward the interests of others. Fill us with your compassion and sympathy. Bless ministries of care in our community; make us into signs of your mercy and justice for our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.....**
- 7) Thank you for those who have gone into the kingdom ahead of us—tax collectors and prostitutes, likely and unlikely, obedient and slow to learn. By their witness, teach us to

confess Jesus Christ as Lord in life and in death. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.....**

8) All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **SHARING THE PEACE**

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

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

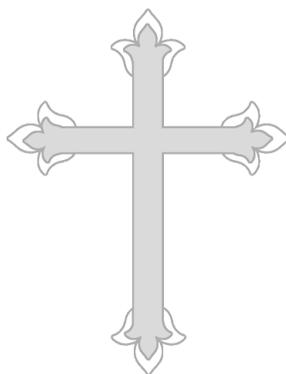
**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

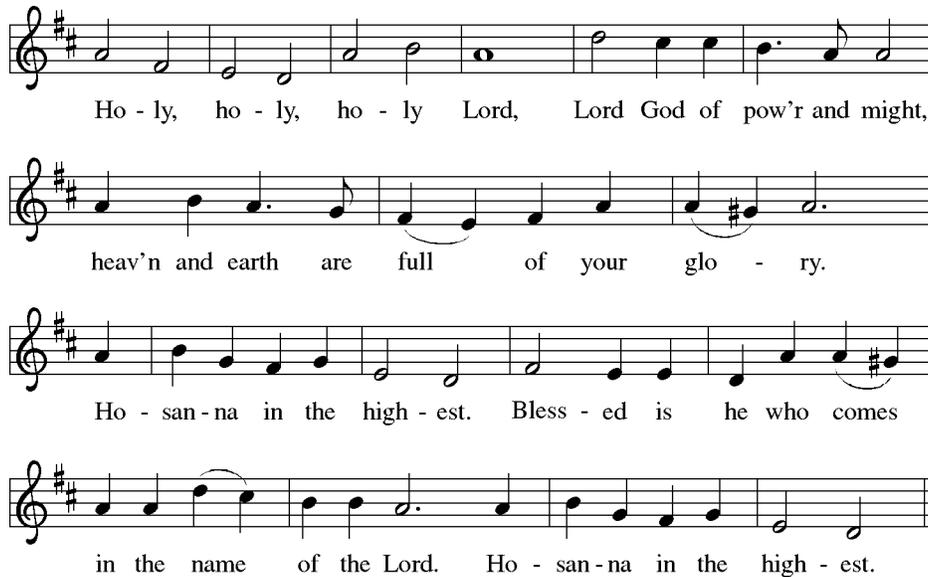
### **PREFACE**

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 the third 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—SUNG



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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**P:** Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

**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.**

**P:** For as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this wine we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.

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

**P:** Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,  
and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,

not as we ought but as we are able;  
 we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
 and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
 and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
 so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
 may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
 and receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
 may be formed to live as your holy people  
 and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

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

**Amen**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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**

### LAMB OF GOD—SUNG



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.

**Commune now.**

## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

**Amen**

## BLESSING

**P:** Mothering God,

Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

**Amen**

## SENDING HYMN

*Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

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## SERVICE NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Announcements:** Please check emanuellutheran.org and remember to watch your email for updates & news from the church. If you have prayer requests, please call Pastor Lyn or the office.

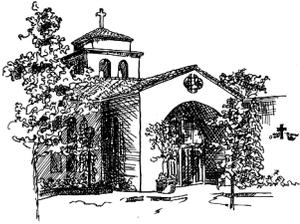
**A BIG THANK YOU!** From Robert Reuter, Emanuel Lutheran Church treasurer

*It is very gratifying that many of the members of Emanuel have continued to financially support our church and staff. Pastor Lyn has been very active in maintaining her calling to lead her flock and keeping us all informed during this crisis with the help of Mike Epting and Barbara Vukich.*

*Our administrative assistant, Paula Braxton, and bookkeeper, Maria Ojeda, have continued to work in the office and help with Emanuel Day Care as needed. The operational bills such as utilities, insurance, and other monthly expenses all continue to be paid.*

*These are trying times – physically, financially and emotionally – and Emanuel is so fortunate to have a dedicated staff to maintain operations. So, again, a big THANK YOU for your continued financial support for the ongoing work of Emanuel Lutheran Church.*





### **Our Mission**

*To share Christ's unconditional love with everyone.*

### **Our Vision**

*Emanuel's vision is to be loving, supportive, and welcoming, as we reach out in service and in witness to our neighborhood and the city beyond.*

*We share a passion to nurture people in all stages and circumstances of life.*

*We, as disciples of Christ, minister to our changing community in challenging cultural times.*

*God is calling us to joyfully follow the Holy Spirit in ministry to others.*



# Entrance Hymn

## God Is Here!



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long  
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en;  
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -  
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants  
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000  
Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991  
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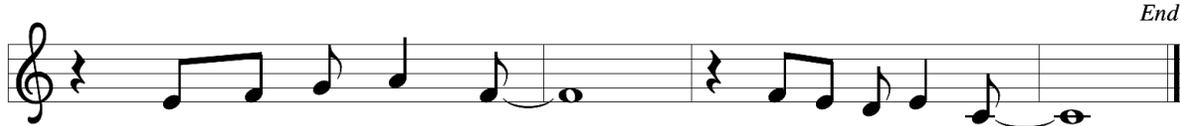
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# Hymn of the Day

## Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953  
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa  
Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

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# Sending Hymn

## Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

### *Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona*

*Refrain— sung twice each time*



Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -  
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our



bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa  
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.  
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.



1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

*Repeat stanza, then sing refrain*



I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.  
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984  
Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African  
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## Prayer Requests – September 27, 2020

- ✝ Prayers of comfort, strength and peace for Robert Loeffler and family for the loss of his father
- ✝ Prayers of comfort for Susan Hayes and family for the sudden loss of her sister Judy
- ✝ Prayers for healing & well-being for Tom Norquist

**On-going Prayers:** Health & well-being for Justin Egesdal, Linda Nelson’s grandson; Comfort & peace for Nick Berlin, Lori Skustad’s father, who is very ill with cancer at UC Davis Medical Center; Kailyn Knoll—continued healing (Knoll); Bill Beasley—healing & comfort; Lori Knoll—strength & peace of mind; LuAnn—healing & well-being (Knoll); Connie Petersen—healing and well-being; William Teaney—healing & well-being; Claire—comfort & peace in the midst of battling stage 4 cancer (Paulsen); Zach Cline—successful treatment & complete healing; Dwight & Pat Langhoff—peace as they adjust to changing needs regarding physical care and other life decisions (Barton); Fred Wiechmann—continued healing from a stroke (Waggoner)

### **Pray for the church, the world and all those in need:**

Doctors, nurses, technicians and all hospital personnel who care for patients & their needs. For scientists, researchers, medical equipment manufacturers, corporations & employees who have stepped up to help during this crisis.

For those who are awaiting diagnostic tests results; for those already diagnosed with COVID-19 that healing will be complete.

For those who are dying and for those who grieve that they may be comforted with a sure and certain knowledge of Resurrection hope.

For all others who suffer from physical, emotional, mental or spiritual distress during this time we pray they may be sustained in love and grace.

For all this, and for whatever else you see that we need – we pray to you, O Lord.

In Jesus’ name, Amen

