



***Fourth Sunday in Lent***

*March 14, 2021*

**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 members – 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 member – Suzanne Wilke

### Endowment Team

Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Pastor Lyn, Dennis Strand

Josh Hollinger, Pat Smith

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Rev. Dr. Lyn Crase

### **Organist & Choir Director**

Barbara Vukich

### **Administrative Assistant**

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### **Day Care Director**

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## 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*

# FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 14, 2021

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## PRELUDE

*Forty Days and Forty Nights*

Leo Sowerby

## WELCOME

## OPENING HYMN

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

*Page 13*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the keeper of the covenant,  
the source of steadfast love,  
our rock and our redeemer.

### Amen

**P:** God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Fountain of living water,

**pour out your mercy over us.**

**Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.**

**Rebuild what we have ruined**

**and mend what we have torn.**

**Wash us in your cleansing flood.**

**Make us alive in the Spirit**

**to follow in the way of Jesus,**

**as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen**

**P:** Beloved, God's word never fails.

The promise rests on grace:

by the saving love of Jesus Christ,

the wisdom and power of God,

your sins are ✝ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.

Journey in the way of Jesus.

### Amen

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### Amen

**FIRST READING:** Numbers 21:4-9

Barbara Crawford, Dan Johnson

*Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.*

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

**PSALM:** Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Barbara Crawford, Dan Johnson

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,  
for God's mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,

<sup>3</sup>gathering them in from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>17</sup>Some were fools and took rebellious paths;  
through their sins they were afflicted.

<sup>18</sup>They loathed all manner of food  
and drew near to death's door.

<sup>19</sup>Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD  
and you delivered them from their distress.

<sup>20</sup>You sent forth your word and healed them  
and rescued them from the grave.

<sup>21</sup>Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love  
and your wonderful works for all people.

<sup>22</sup>Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving  
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

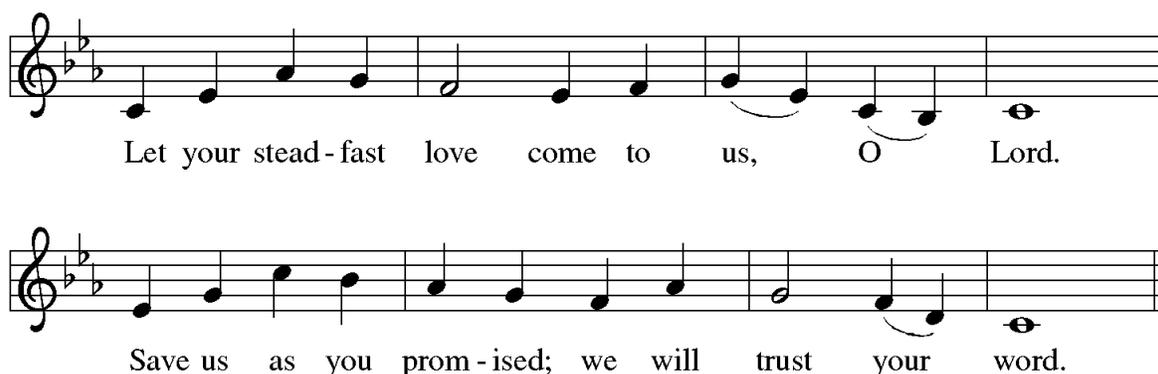
**SECOND READING:** Ephesians 2:1-10

Barbara Crawford, Dan Johnson

*While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.*

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Gospel according to John, chapter 3.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### HOLY GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

*To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.*

Jesus said: <sup>14</sup>“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be

exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (REPEATED)**

### **SERMON**

Pastor Lyn Crase

### **SERMON HYMN**

*God Loved the World*

*Page 14*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

- 1) Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.....
- 2) You sent your Son that the world might be saved through him. Inspire the witness of the church throughout the world. Empower missionaries, Bible translators, and ministries of service in your name. Bless our partners in ministry, our ELCA global partner churches, and Young Adults in Global Mission. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 3) From east to west your steadfast love is shown. Nourish seas and deserts, wilderness areas and cities. Give water to thirsty lands; nurture spring growth that feeds hungry creatures; bless farmers as they prepare for the growing season. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 4) You sustained your people in the wilderness. Give courage to all who lead in times of crisis and scarce resources. Prosper the work of those who aid victims of famine and drought. Bring peace in places where scarce resources cause violence. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 5) Your mercy endures forever. Deliver all who cry to you, especially those who are hungry or without homes. Give life in places where death seems triumphant; give healing to those who are sick and comfort to those who mourn. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 6) By grace we have been saved. Fill this congregation to overflowing with that grace, that we show mercy to others. Nourish any in our midst who are hungry, especially children, and bless our ministries of feeding and shelter. Give us patience and courage when the way seems long. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 7) Your Son was lifted up that whoever believes might have eternal life. We praise you for all who have died in Christ. Bring us with all the saints into the fullness of your promises. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 8) We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## **SHARING THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

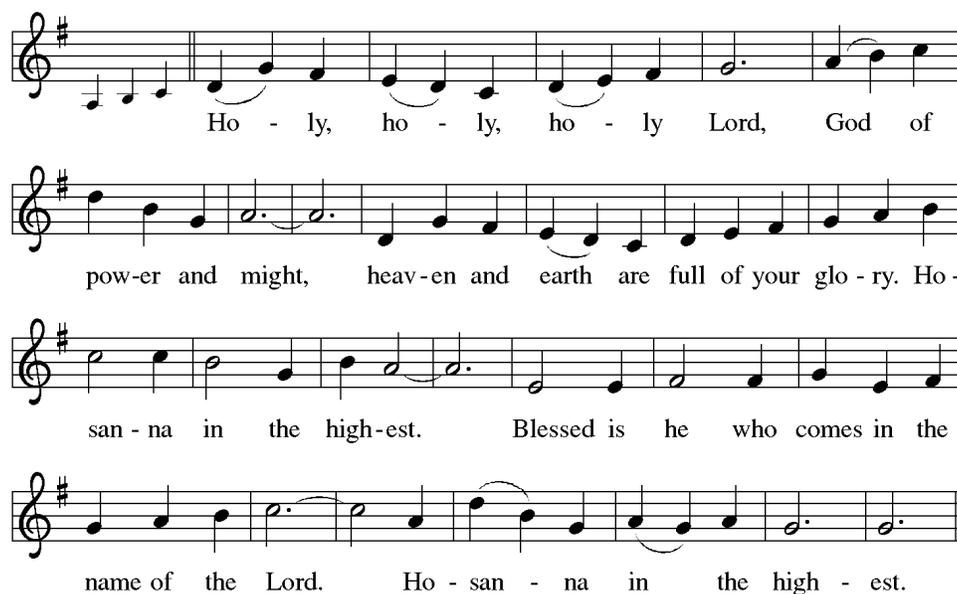
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## PREFACE

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church 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, 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

**P:** O God of resurrection and new life:  
pour our your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

**P:** Reveal yourself to us  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up  
as the body of Christ for the world.  
Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth,  
burning with justice,  
peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

**P:** With your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.

**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.**

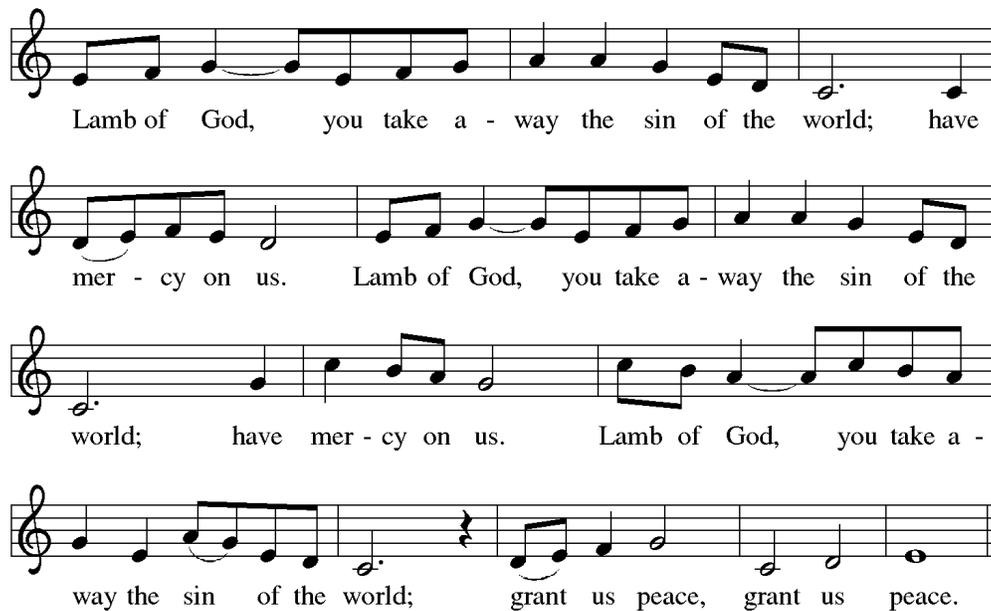
**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**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:** Jesus draws the whole world to himself.  
Come to this meal and be fed.

### **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.

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P:** God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

### **BLESSING**

**P:** You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ✝ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

**Amen**

### **BIRTHDAY BLESSING**

**P:** Let us pray:

God of all creation, we offer you grateful praise for the Gift of Life, and especially the gift of the lives of our sisters and brothers who stand before us this day and who recall this month the day of their birth. They rejoice in your gifts of life and love, family and friends.

Bless them with your presence and surround them with your love that they may enjoy many happy years, all of them pleasing to you. We ask this grace and blessing for each one of them through Christ our Lord. Amen

**SENDING HYMN**

*Lift High the Cross*

Page 15

**DISMISSAL**

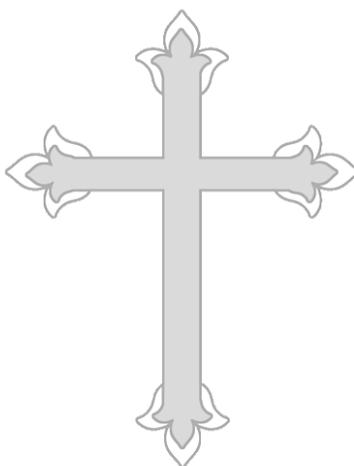
P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

*Lift High the Cross*

David Cherwien



## 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.

### *From the Treasurer*

With the arrival of the season of Lent I am reminded that it was just at this time a year ago that we began our long pandemic journey together. We have weathered the lockdowns, stay-at-homes, and disruptions in normal church-sponsored activities. And I for one am growing weary of all the restrictions, necessary as they have been for the health and safety of our community. However, I am bolstered by the good news that together and with the able, wise leadership of Pastor Lyn, we continue to share God's word of love and salvation for all. We can only continue in this mission by the generous ongoing support of our many members and friends. Pastor Lyn and our dedicated staff have kept busy with the work of teaching and reaching out to all whom God has given into our care, including our Daycare children. Our council has reviewed and approved a budget for the ongoing life of Emanuel in 2021. With our continued financial support, that life will be maintained. Our prayer is that God will continue to guide us with energy and wisdom, and we will soon reach the day when we can all sing **together**, loud and joyously, and celebrate our Risen Lord. Until then, please be assured that your financial support is most definitely needed and most gratefully received. Thank you to everyone who has generously contributed to the support of Emanuel Lutheran Church.

Robert Reuter

Treasurer, Emanuel Lutheran Church

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# FORWARD ANEW



## Our Mission

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

## Our Vision

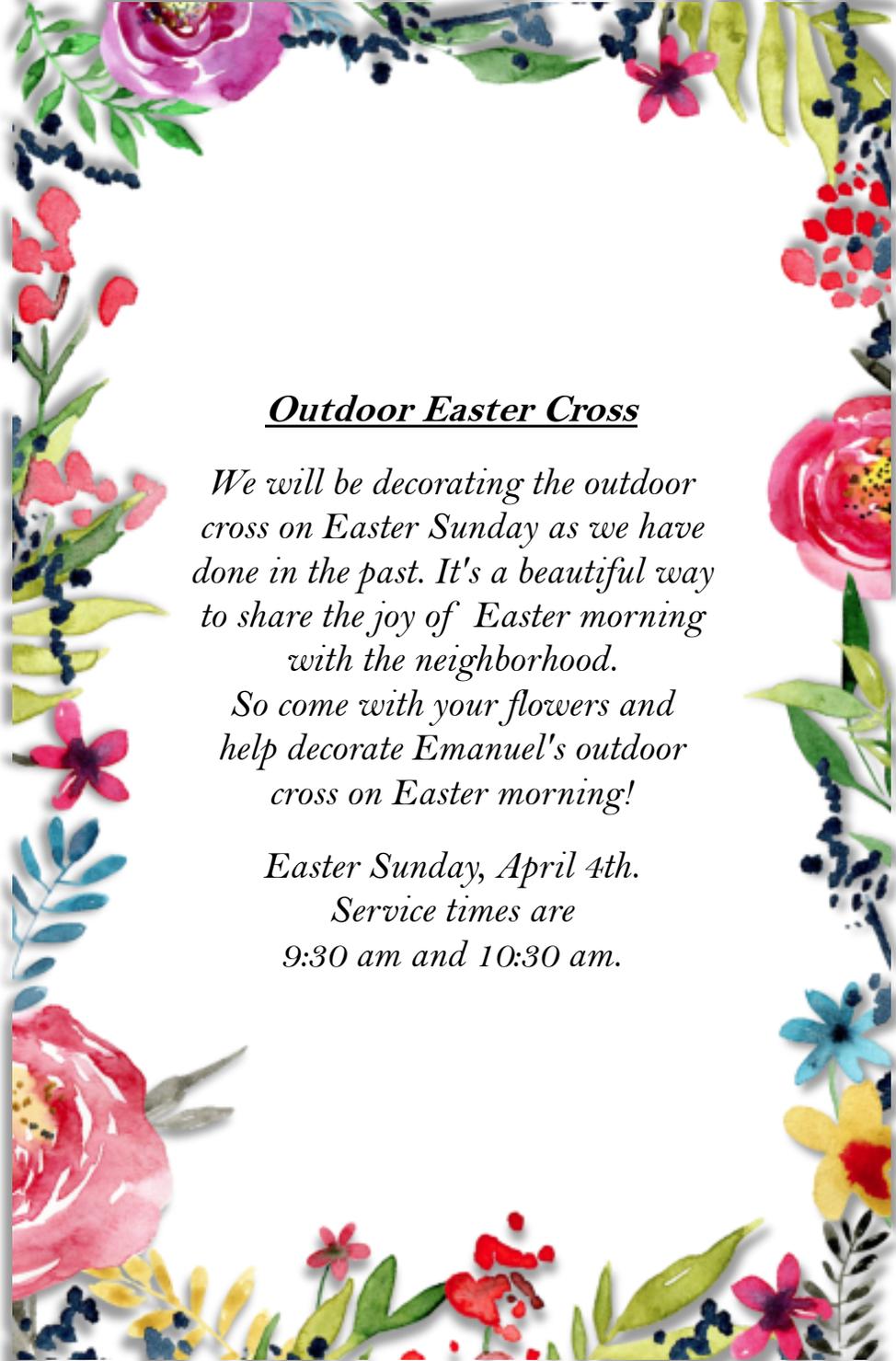
*Emanuel's vision is to be loving, supportive, and welcoming, as we reach out in service and in witness to our neighborhood and the city beyond.*

*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.*





**Outdoor Easter Cross**

*We will be decorating the outdoor cross on Easter Sunday as we have done in the past. It's a beautiful way to share the joy of Easter morning with the neighborhood.*

*So come with your flowers and help decorate Emanuel's outdoor cross on Easter morning!*

*Easter Sunday, April 4th.*

*Service times are  
9:30 am and 10:30 am.*

## ENTRANCE HYMN

### What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

# HYMN OF THE DAY

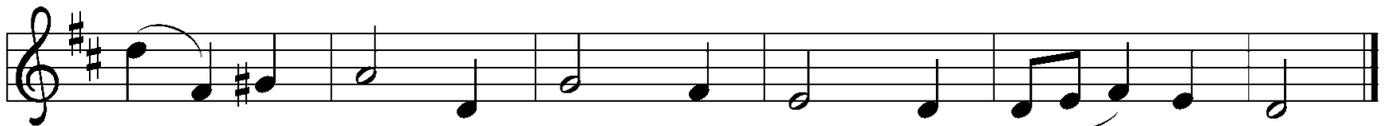
## God Loved the World



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all  
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in  
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues  
sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by  
Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.  
Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

## SENDING HYMN

### Lift High the Cross



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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## Prayer Requests – March 14, 2021

- ✠ Prayers of comfort and strength for Lois Silva and family. Her husband Ron passed away suddenly on Wednesday.
- ✠ Prayers of healing and well-being for Pat Smith’s sisters—Cathy, recovery at home from surgery and with MRSA and Helen as she nears the end of her earthly life. Pat’s sister-in-law Elsie, is experiencing heart problems and has been hospitalized at Stanford.
- ✠ Prayers of healing and well-being for Chris Paulsen, recovering from cataract surgery.
- ✠ Prayers for a full recovery following brain surgery for Gary Johnson (husband of former member Mary Ellen Bystrom). Gary is a friend of Joyce Bachmann and Marsha Waggoner.

**On-going Prayers:** Stephanie Dishneau, hospitalized and in very serious condition—comfort & peace (Troedson); Kent Harris—comfort and strength (Dieterich); Jean Salazar & Chris Schmidt—comfort, strength & peace (Schmidt); Virginia Ferreira—peace and comfort (Strand); William Teaney—healing; Doris Emery—comfort, Delores Locke—healing & hope, Troy Slaybaugh—mental health concerns, Rita McLehand—cancer diagnosis (Teaney); Bill Beasley—as he navigates new surroundings and Yvonne Troedson as she adjusts to life changes; Bill Reinheimer—comfort, strength, and peace; Norma Christiansen—peace and comfort as she has recently entered hospice care; Leslie Lapp—strength and healing for Leslie, her husband and family (Gierhan); Sue Allen—healing & well-being; Laurie Spinuzzi—healing, Pam Black—health, healing and well-being (Silva); Brenna and family—healing and well-being (Marquez); Tamira Garza—healing/breast cancer treatment and prayers for Jeri as she is a source of strength for her daughter; Jeri’s friend Linda Nelson—peace and comfort/pancreatic cancer; Norma Martin, now in end-stage cancer—comfort & peace (Crawford); Pat & Jack Smith and family—comfort & peace; Lois Silva—healing after eye surgery

### **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

