



Second Sunday in Lent

March 13, 2022

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

324 College Avenue, Modesto, California 95350

(209) 523-4531 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. •

Children/Youth & Family/ELDC:

Council member – Pat Smith

Spiritual Life:

Council member – Chris Paulsen

Worship:

Council member – Martha Strand

Outreach:

Council member – Elaine Ixcot

Resource:

Bob Reuter, Treasurer

Stewardship –

Property – Dennis Strand

Fellowship:

Council member—Janice Watkins

Social Media:

Council member – Brett Owen

Endowment Team

Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Pastor Lyn, Dennis Strand, Pat Smith

This Week's Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Kathleen Reuter

Reader: Barbara Crawford

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday - 8 am to 3 pm

Friday - 8 am to 2 pm

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

Pat Smith

Vice President

Dennis Strand

Treasurer

Bob Reuter

Secretary

Janice Watkins

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 6, 2022

PRELUDE

Ricercare

Palestrina

WELCOME

Pastor Lyn Crase

OPENING HYMN

Around You, O Lord Jesus

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of God,
who makes a way in the wilderness,
walks with us,
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen

P: Holy One,
**we confess that we have wandered far from you:
we have not trusted your promises,
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.
Have mercy on us!
Forgive us and turn us again to you.
Teach us to follow in your ways,
assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbor.**

Amen

P: Beloved in Christ,
the Word draws near to you,
and all who call out to God shall be saved.
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
and gathers you under wings of love.
In ✠ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.
God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

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.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together....

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

Barbara Crawford

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

PSALM: Psalm 27 (Read Responsively)

Barbara Crawford

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

²**When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.
Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the
beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up-on a rock.

⁶**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and
make music to the LORD.**

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸**My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

¹⁰**Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me in.**

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

¹²**Subject me not to the will of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

¹³This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living!

¹⁴**Wait patiently for the LORD.
Be brave and courageous.
Yes, wait patiently for the LORD. (NLT)**

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17--4:1 (NLT)

Barbara Crawford

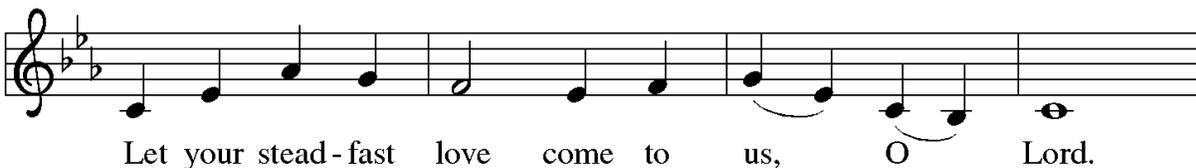
Although Paul’s devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

¹⁷ Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. ¹⁸ For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth. ²⁰ But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. ²¹ He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

⁴ Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stay true to the Lord. I love you and long to see you, dear friends, for you are my joy and the crown I receive for my work.

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 13. (*Stand as able.*)

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work.

³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

P: The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (REPEATED) *Please be seated.*

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

When it Seems the Day Will End

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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 (Please sit or kneel as able)

- A: 1) Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.
- 2) You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- 3) You create the entire universe and call it good. Make us mindful of our planet's fragility and enable us to care for earth's resources. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- 4) Nurture in those who govern a love of justice and freedom. Grant them patience to receive criticism, an openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- 5) You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- 6) You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism or confirmation. Empower teachers and parents who share their faith with children. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- 7) You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- 8) You call us to hear the cries of the people of Ukraine. Speak to the hearts and minds of those who seek to conquer and destroy that they may stop this warring madness & cease the desire for power and control over peace-loving people. Merciful God, give courage and strength to the Ukrainian people. Grant us the strength and courage to call out evil when we see it but also to recognize and celebrate courage when we see that too. Help us to pray deeply and intensely for all people caught up in this conflict, for the leaders of nations, for relief agencies & their staff whose lives are also in danger, and for all providing hands-on care and love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

- 9) Silent prayer.
- 10) Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

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.

OFFERTORY

Sonatina for Worship

Robert Jones

The offering is our response to God's grace and mercy.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Extravagant God,
you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.
Now we gather at your feast
where you offer us the food that satisfies.
Take and use what we offer here, come among us,
and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,
in whose name we pray.

Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: 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.

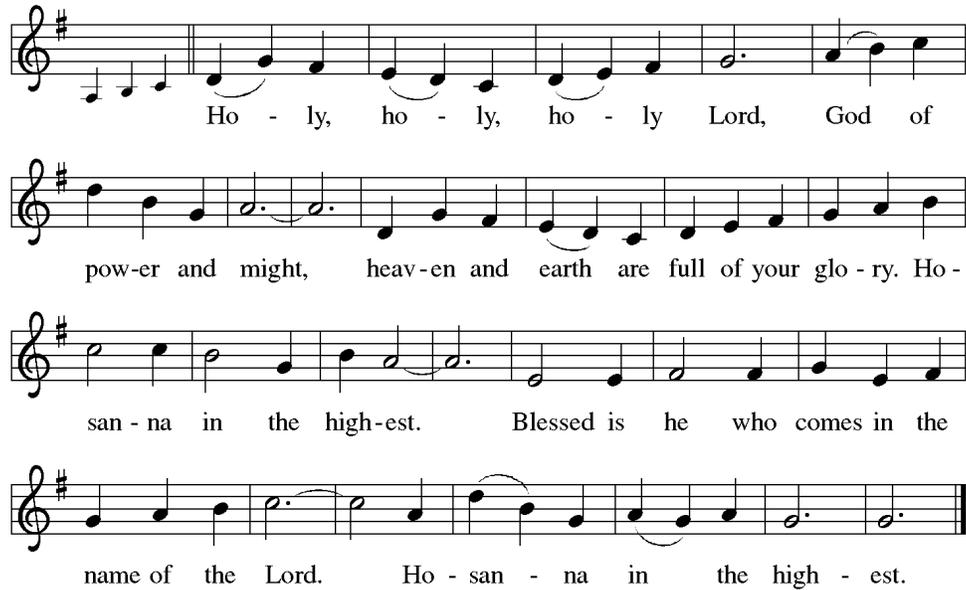
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: You are indeed holy,
almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world
that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him
may not perish but have everlasting life.
We give you thanks
for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things
for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

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 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

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: Here is food and drink for the journey.

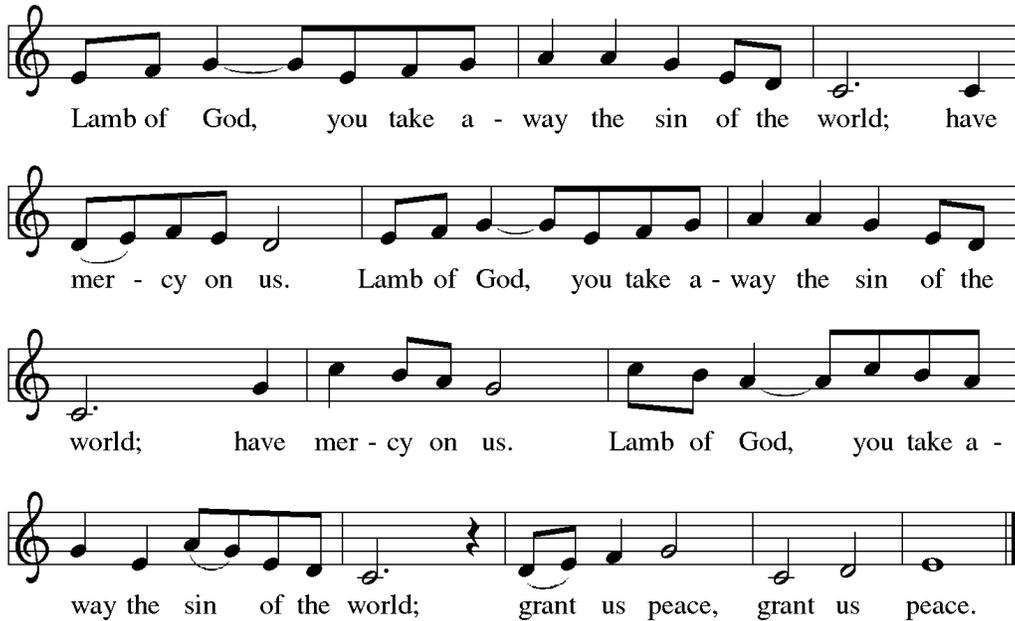
Take and be filled.

We practice continuous communion. All are welcome. White grape juice is available for those who prefer that instead of wine. Gluten free wafers available.

HEALING PRAYER

Healing prayer and anointing are available during communion at the side kneeler.

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 HYMN

Thy Holy Wings

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COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Blessed Jesus,
in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need.

Amen



BLESSING

P: You are children of God,
anointed with the oil of gladness
and strengthened for the journey.
Almighty God,
motherly, majestic, and mighty,
✠ bless you this day and always.

Amen

SENDING HYMN

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate

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DISMISSAL

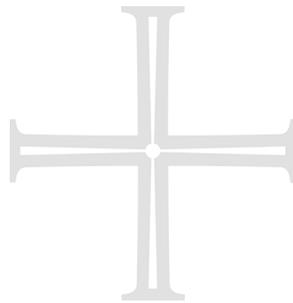
A: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

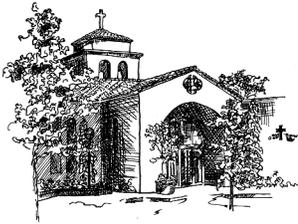
J. S. Bach



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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.



Announcements: Week of March 13, 2022

Lutheran Disaster Response and Lutheran World Relief directed donations go directly to the people most in need. Please see the insert.

www.lwr.org/match — Your donation will be matched by a Lutheran church in Wisconsin until April 25, 2022

Food for Faith Sunday — 1st Sunday of each month. Items can be placed in the basket in the Narthex. Your generous donations benefit The Food Initiative of Greater Stanislaus.

Quilting Bee -- tomorrow, March 14th at 10:00 am. All are welcome & all skill levels as well. If you can use scissors and/or tie a knot, there will be a job for you!

Prayer Tree — Narthex

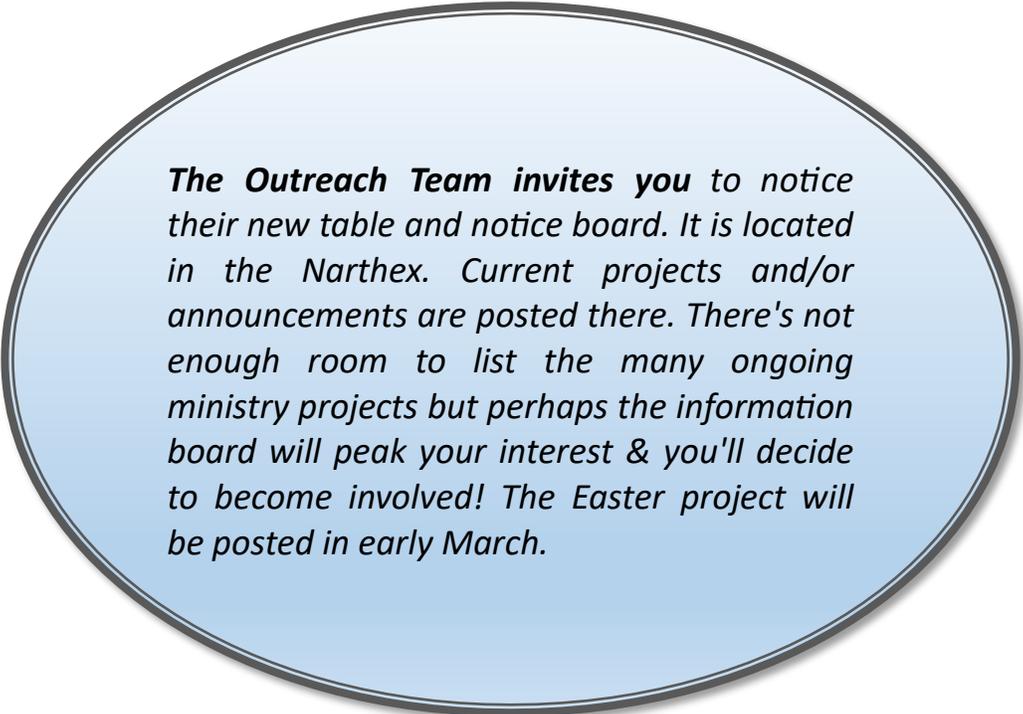
Write a prayer request, special need, are of concern, etc. on a brown leaf and place beneath the tree. Leaves will be part of the prayer vigil on Good Friday.

Dear Friends, You're invited to in person, home-church during Lent. Wednesdays, through April 6th, we'll meet at the home of Lois Owen, 4113 Lamarck Ave., at 6 pm for soup supper (please bring your own bowl and spoon). After supper, we will have an intimate interactive service using Holden Evening Prayer. Please sign up in the Narthex so we know how many people to prepare for. *Thanks!*

++ ++ ++ ++

Wednesdays in Lent through April 6th

Online Meditation Service: Posted each
Wednesday
on Facebook and ELC website



The Outreach Team invites you to notice their new table and notice board. It is located in the Narthex. Current projects and/or announcements are posted there. There's not enough room to list the many ongoing ministry projects but perhaps the information board will peak your interest & you'll decide to become involved! The Easter project will be posted in early March.

Eagle Scout Landscape Project — The project is underway. Some of the costs are being covered anonymously but some funding is needed for the plants and shrubs. Any amount would be greatly appreciated and be sure to designate it for the Landscaping Project.

Ongoing Announcements

TEXT STUDY: Every Tuesday, year-round, in the Youth Room at noon. We discuss the lessons for the next Sunday. Come anytime you are available, leave early if you need to, bring your lunch. Generally, this lasts about an hour and 15 minutes....give or take.

Adult Bible Study — Wednesdays at 1:00 pm in Luther Hall. Please join anytime. Currently: The Passion Play by Rob Fuquay Inspired by the Oberammergau Passion Play.

Hosts are needed for Coffee Hour. Please see the sign-up sheet in Luther Hall.

Choir rehearsals — Sundays, downstairs at about 11 o'clock.

Coin Jar -- Your spare change makes a difference! Proceeds go to Outreach.

Quilting Bee -- meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 10:00 am. All are welcome & all skill levels as well. If you can use scissors and/or tie a knot, there will be a job for you!

Lydia Circle — meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 1 pm. We use the GATHER magazine as our Bible Study. All women of Emanuel are invited to join us.

Leah Circle meets on the third Monday of the month at 1:00 pm.

Rebecca Circle meets every 3rd Thursday at 1:30 pm in member's homes. All are welcome!

The Shower Shuttle and Laundry Shuttle are actively taking care of our homeless communities, and the needs remain the same. Many items are available at the Dollar Stores. *Thank you all for your contributions to this Ministry, Marilyn and Chuck Rowland*

- Toiletries—all sizes
- Men's and women's underwear in small and medium sizes
- Plain white vinegar and bleach
- Extra-strength laundry detergent
- Bath towels, any size and color

Supporting Modesto Lions Club

RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG

Recycle your household bags & wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing!



FROM THE STORE



✓ Produce bags

✓ Store bags

✓ Ice bags



FROM YOUR PANTRY



✓ Ziploc® & other reclosable bags

✓ Cereal box liners

✓ Case overwrap

✓ Bread bags



FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR



✓ Newspaper sleeves

✓ Dry cleaning bags

✓ Bubble wrap

✓ Plastic e-commerce mailers

Plastics must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue



NexTrex

trex.com/recycling 1-800-Buy-Trex

Place in bin in the Narthex

Entrance Hymn

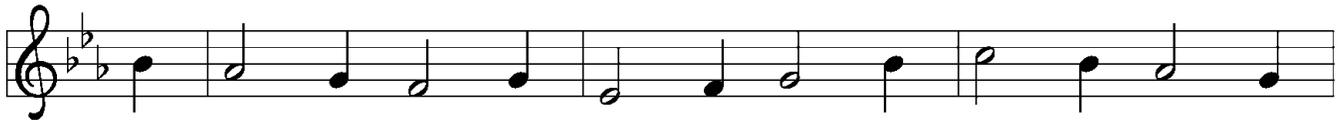
Around You, O Lord Jesus



1 A - round you, O Lord Je - sus, your own you gath - er still
2 We hear your in - vi - ta - tion, and heed, O Lord, your call;
3 We are your own for - ev - er; un - til our fi - nal breath



to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill.
your word of con - so - la - tion is spo - ken here to all.
we will be true and nev - er—in joy, in grief, in death—



You say to us so lov - ing - ly, “Take, eat! This is my
It draws us to your lov - ing heart; it brings to us your
de - part from you, for you are still a - mong your peo - ple



bod - y! Take, drink! This is my blood!”
bless - ing, which nev - er will de - part.
dwell - ing, as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. composite
Music: O JESU, ÅN DE DINA, H. Thomissön, *Den danske Psalmebog*, 1569
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Sermon Hymn ACS #1034

When it Seems the Day Will End



1 When it seems the day will end, and all
2 When it seems the day will end, sink - ing
3 When it seems the day will end, and a



light gives way to fear, we will speak your name a -
low un - der our skin, we are dead and born a -
cold - ness fills our bones, we will walk the way you've



gain to re - mind us you are here.
gain, and with you now en - ter in.
been, and our hearts will be your home.



New life ris - ing, New life ris - ing, ash - es fall - ing, ash - es fall - ing,



joy and weep - ing, joy and weep - ing, in your call - ing. in your call - ing.

Text: Justin Rimbo, b. 1980
Music: HUMBLE WALK, Justin Rimbo
Text and music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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Communion Hymn

Thy Holy Wings



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent-ly o - ver me,
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down-y breast
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No-ah's cleans-ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
where I will find sweet com-fort and peace with - in thy nest.
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with-in thy grace.
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
and while we sweet-ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite

Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune

Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent.

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Sending Hymn

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate



1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

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Prayer Requests: March 13 2022

✝ Prayers for the people of Ukraine, for an end to violence and war

✝ Prayers for healing for William Mangnall, brother to Mary Lou Dieterich

✝ Prayers for healing for Marcella Mangnall, sister-in-law to Mary Lou Dieterich

On-going Prayers: Troy Slaybaugh—healing (Teaeney); Virginia Conella—cancer screening (Silva); Tatum—bone marrow process/healing (Waggoner); Christine Rye—healing & recovery (Allen); Anthony Pino—healing/health concerns (Wilke); Rose Epting—healing; Jack Smith—recovery & healing; Dawn Brown—healing & well-being (Ixcot); Mya—healing & well-being (Fritts); Kaete Loeffler—healing and well-being; Emily Harvitt—healing of mental illness/peace of mind for the family (Spinuzzi); Yvonne Troedson—healing; Dave Kraft—healing ; Janet Lewis—healing and recovery (Nelson); Linda Rollin—healing (Kraft); William Teaney—surgery & healing ; Chris Paulsen—continued healing and well-being: Don—calmness and peace of mind (Layne); Ed Martin— healing & recovery—(Crawford); Ron Johnson strength & healing (Crawford); Laurie Spinuzzi—healing (Silva); Marcelo Valenzula—healing, Santiago Lopez—healing (Crawford); Norma Jarmillo—healing (Harris); Ian McKenzie—acceptance of mental illness (Schmidt); Jesus Ojeda—healing & well-being (Ojeda)

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

7-DAY CALENDAR | MARCH 14 - 20

Monday, March 14

10:00 am Piecemakers Quilting Bee
1:00 pm Lydia Circle

Tuesday, March 15

12-1:30 pm Text Study: Youth Room
5:30-6:30 pm Outreach Task Force Meeting
6:30-8:00 pm RADCOV Music Rehearsal: Sanctuary

Wednesday, March 16

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT—ONLINE: Access via YouTube and ELC website

1-2:30 pm Adult Bible Study: Luther Hall
6-8 pm Lent — In-Person Home Church at Lois Owen's

Thursday, March 17 St. Patrick's Day

9 am-3 pm AARP Tax Aide: Luther Hall
1:30-2:30 pm Rebecca Circle

Friday, March 18

9 am-3 pm AARP Tax Aide: Luther Hall

Saturday, March 19

10:00 am Organ Practice: Sanctuary

Sunday, March 20

BIRTHDAY BLESSING SUNDAY

9:30-10:30 am ELC Worship Service
10-10:30 am RADCOV Prayer: Office
11:15 am-12:30 pm RADCOV Worship Service

To Live in the Mercy of God

by Denise Levertov

To lie back under the tallest
oldest trees. How far the stems
rise, rise
 before ribs of shelter
 open!

To live in the mercy of God. The complete
sentence too adequate, has no give.
Awe, not comfort. Stone, elbows of
stony wood beneath lenient
moss bed.

And awe suddenly
passing beyond itself. Becomes
a form of comfort.
 Becomes the steady
air you glide on, arms
stretched like the wings of flying foxes.
To hear the multiple silence
of trees, the rainy
forest depths of their listening.

To float, upheld,
 as salt water
 would hold you,
 once you dared.

To live in the mercy of God.

To feel vibrate the enraptured
waterfall flinging itself
unabating down and down
 to clenched fists of rock.
Swiftness of plunge,
hour after year after century,
 O or Ah
uninterrupted, voice
many-stranded.

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To breathe
spray. The smoke of it.
Arcs
of steelwhite foam, glissades
of fugitive jade barely perceptible. Such passion—
rage or joy?
Thus, not mild, not temperate,
**God's love for the world. Vast
flood of mercy
flung on resistance.**

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