

*12th Sunday after Pentecost*

*August 31, 2014*

**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

Communion Service 9:30 a.m..... Page 3  
Announcements and Prayer Concerns ..... Page 16

## Staff

**Presiding Minister**  
Pastor Bill Ruth

**Organist & Choir Director**  
Barbara Vukich

**Day Care Director**  
Laura Marquez

**Bookkeeper**  
Robin Swearingen

**Secretary**  
Paula Braxton

## Council Officers

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Suzanne Wilke

**Vice President**  
David Holtz

**Treasurer**  
Bob Reuter

**Secretary**  
Debbie Van Diepen

## **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 – Mary Murray

### Spiritual Life:

Council member – Lois Owen

### Worship:

Council member – Suzanne Wilke

### Outreach:

Council members – David Holtz and Karl Williams

### Resource:

Bob Reuter, Treasurer  
Council members – Tom Hardin and Brian Skustad

### Fellowship:

Council member – Rue Knoll

### Technology/Communications:

Council member – Mike Epting

### Volunteer Coordinator:

Council member – Debbie Van Diepen

### Endowment Team

Bob Reuter, Chairman  
Team members: Pat Norquist, Rob Shank, Bill Reinheimer

# 12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 31, 2014

9:30 AM

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**PRELUDE**                      *Var. on "Christ, You Are the Light and Day"*                      Georg Boehm

**WELCOME**

**GATHERING SONGS**

*Step by Step*

Purple Book #132

*You Are My Hiding Place*

Purple Book #160

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Please rise.

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

**C Amen**

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

**C Amen**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(A brief silence for reflection.)* Gracious God,

**C have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**C Amen**

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C Amen**

*(See next page for **Now the Feast and Celebration**)*

# Now the Feast and Celebration

*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

**C Amen**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, we thank you for your Son who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen**

P Please be seated.

## FIRST READING

*Jeremiah 15:15-21*

Bible page 704

L A reading from Jeremiah.

*Jeremiah's delight in the word of the Lord is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words: "I am with you."*

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know;  
remember me and visit me,  
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.  
In your forbearance do not take me away;  
know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them,  
and your words became to me a joy  
and the delight of my heart;  
for I am called by your name,  
O LORD, God of hosts.

<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,  
nor did I rejoice;  
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,  
for you had filled me with indignation.

<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing,

my wound incurable,  
refusing to be healed?  
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,  
like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD:  
If you turn back, I will take you back,  
and you shall stand before me.  
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,  
you shall serve as my mouth.  
It is they who will turn to you,  
not you who will turn to them.

<sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people  
a fortified wall of bronze;  
they will fight against you,  
but they shall not prevail over you,  
for I am with you  
to save you and deliver you,  
says the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,  
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

*Psalm 26:1-8*

*Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you. (Ps. 26:3)*



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived <sup>1</sup> with integrity;  
I have trusted in the LORD and <sup>1</sup> have not faltered.

<sup>2</sup>**Test me, O <sup>1</sup> LORD, and try me;**  
**examine my heart <sup>1</sup> and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is before my eyes;  
I have walked faithfully with you.

<sup>4</sup>**I have not sat with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of evildoers;  
I will not sit down with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup>**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,  
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song of thanksgiving  
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

<sup>8</sup>**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell  
and the place where your glory abides.**

## SECOND READING

*Romans 12:9-21*

Bible page 1034

L A reading from Romans.

*Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.*

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them

something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

P Please stand for the 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 eternal life.

## THE GOSPEL

*Matthew 16:21-28*

Bible page 894

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 16.

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

*After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."*

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save

their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

L The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

**GOSPEL RESPONSE** (*See previous page for Gospel Acclamation*)

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**SERMON**

Pastor Bill Ruth

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Healer of Our Every Ill*

Red Book #612

**APOSTLE'S CREED**

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith in 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 Filled by the Spirit, let us join the whole people of God in Christ Jesus in praying for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. You are invited to kneel. *(A brief silence.)*

A O Lord, you know and see all that your baptized accomplish across the church universal. Prove us and try us; test our hearts and minds as we walk in faithfulness with you. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A As the summer breezes wane, and forests and foliage begin their colorful journey into fall, make us ever mindful of these earthly blessings and renew our zeal to care for your creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Teach us to live peaceably with all nations, our enemies, and those who seek to do us harm. Bring light into the dark corners of the world and give courage to organizations that seek to overcome evil with good. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A When our pain is unceasing, give us patience in suffering. When our wounds refuse to be healed, remember us with your mercy. When hope seems lost, remind us that you are with us always. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A As we rally our congregation's time, talents, and resources, remove the stumbling blocks that hinder our desire to put you first. Give us the courage to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow you. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A We remember with gratitude those who have recently died. Through the lives of your saints, show us how to hold fast to what is good. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C Amen**

### **SHARING THE PEACE**

P Please rise.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

P Please be seated as we collect the offering.

### **TITHES & OFFERINGS**

*Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

David Cherwien

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Pastor Bill Ruth

P Please rise.

The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

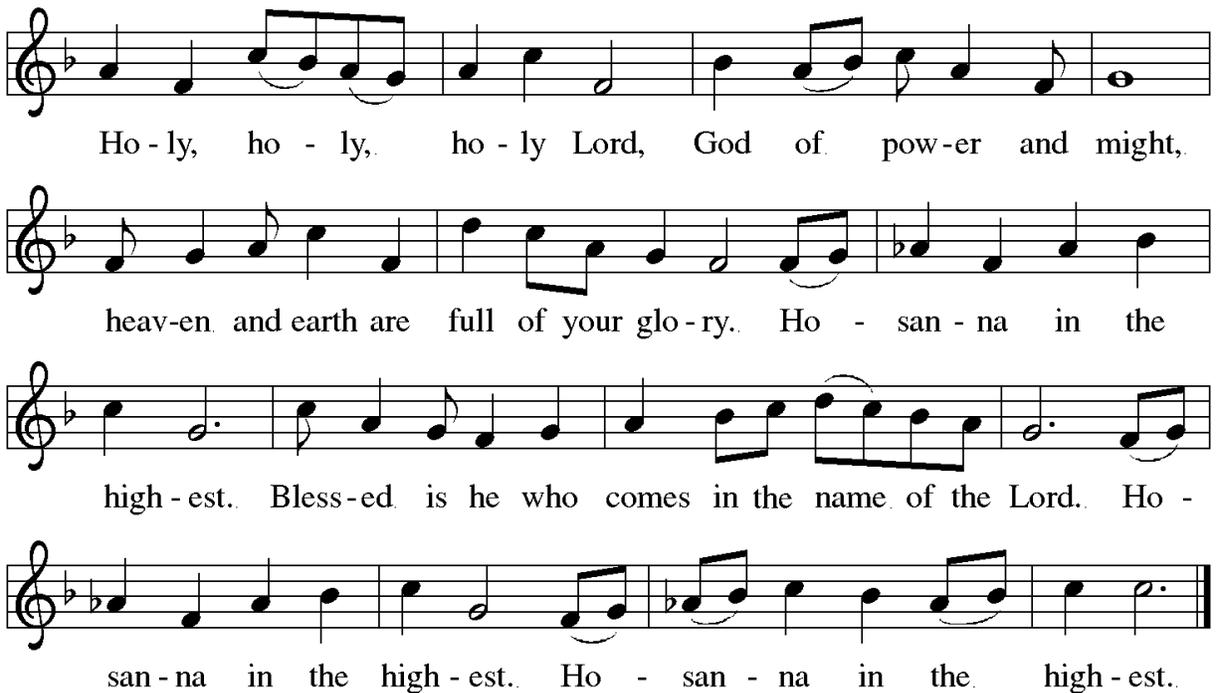
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## PREFACE

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



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. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. 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.

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

**C Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**C** **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** Everyone who hungers, come to the table. Eat what is good, that you may live.  
Please be seated.

*We will practice continuous communion at the altar rail. All baptized Christians are  
welcome to commune.*

## 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.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*Blest Be the Tie that Binds*  
*Jesus, Still Lead On*

Red Book #656  
Red Book #624

## BLESSING

P May God the sower make you good and fertile soil. May Christ the seed bloom and grow in your words and actions. May the fruitful Spirit bring forth a bountiful yield in your lives. God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A We thank you, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have fed us in a way our hearts can understand, with the saving body and blood of Jesus Christ. Enliven us by your presence in this meal, that we may be your presence in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

**SENDING OF COMMUNION MINISTERS**

L 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**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING HYMN**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

Red Book #879

**All: verses 1, 3, 5**

**Lectern side: verse 2**

**Pulpit side: verse 4**

**DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Rondo*

John Bull

**THOSE WHO SERVED US TODAY**

- Presiding Minister..... Pastor Bill Ruth
- Assisting Minister.....Marilyn Rowland
- Song Leader .....Marilyn Rowland
- Communion Assistant.....Chris Schmidt
- Home Communion Ministers..... Suzanne Wilke, Pat Smith & Rue Knoll
- Acolyte..... Emily Cline
- Usher/Greeter ..... Petersen Family
- Altar Team .....Pat Norquist

# Announcements

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Flowers on the altar are given by Chuck and Marilyn Rowland in honor of their family near and far and for the glory of God.

**The family of Edel Kadry** sent a beautiful card of thanks to Emanuel for hosting her Celebration of Life service in April. Special thanks to the Circles for the decorations and to Yvonne Troedson for the refreshments. The card is posted on the bulletin board in Luther Hall.

**Be sure to pick up** a new Directory today on the table in the Narthex.

## **All God's Creatures**

There will be a "Blessing of the Animals" by Pastor Roger on Saturday, September 20 at 5:30 pm for our Stewardship Kick-Off. This is a special time for all ages to bring any or all for the animals in your household. Even if you're not bringing an animal, come for the fellowship. Emanuel's Youth will be serving root beer floats. Mark your calendar so you won't miss it!

**Where in the World is Jesus?** Remember Jesus in your travels and be sure to mark the map in the Narthex.

## **You Have the Words of Eternal Life**

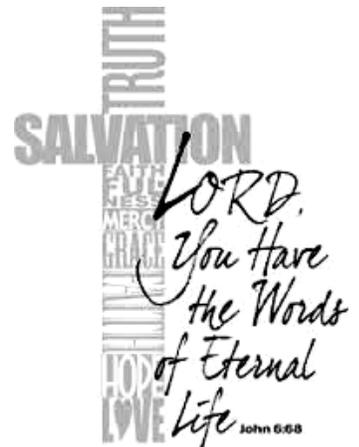
Yes, YOU!

Peter said it about Jesus. But now Jesus says it about you. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." (Matt. 28:19-20) These are the words with which our Lord commissions all of his disciples. When we read the words of scripture during the service on Sunday we are sharing the words of eternal life. The **redeemed** life. The **new** life in Christ. The life that lasts—**eternally**.

It is no small task. While it may be true that anybody can read, not every reading is riveting. But we might also agree that the words of eternal life ought to, need to, and certainly can engage our imaginations, help us understand the law's demands, and assure us of God's grace.

We will provide a workshop **at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, September 9** in which we will explore many ways and means to improve our reading of scripture aloud in worship. If you are currently serving as a reader or assistant minister, or if you are interested in exploring this opportunity to serve, this one's for you. Come find out how **you** can make a difference!

After all, we have the words of eternal life to share, and we want to sound like it!



**The banners today**, which are placed on each side of the altar, are given to the Glory of God by Dick and Pat Norquist and Debbie Van Diepen. Our new banner on the wall is given to the church by Chuck and Marilyn Rowland. Their wish is to dedicate the Alpha-Omega banner to all military personnel, especially those who have given their lives so that we Americans are free to worship as we choose.

Thank you all who have purchased the beautiful banners to enhance the beauty of our church.



**Stewardship Ministry Message:** Support and Strengthen Emanuel's Future  
Are we helping to build Emanuel's Future congregation? Our Emanuel congregation has been blessed with many volunteers since we've been without a Pastor. During worship Emanuel's families have a Children's Time (occasionally a children's song) and a Children's Church with Debbie and Mary. For the older children there is a Youth Group run by parents and volunteers. We also have a great campus and a giving congregation.

Jesus loves each of us (John 3:16) and God is Love (1 John 4:8). The Love of God calls us to service. Paul invested his time with the next generation of believers. The children of Emanuel are our future! In Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." Proverbs 22:6 says: Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray. Emanuel's children need to be in church on Sundays. Are we encouraging Emanuel's parents and their children? The May issue of **The Lutheran** addressed this topic. It suggested some ways to support families and children in worship:

- **Smile and greet families.** Thank the parents for bringing their children to worship. Learn the children's names, greet them at their level, and tell them how happy you are to see them in church.
- **Know where the worship bags for children are and encourage families to use them.** Children learn about worship by being in church.

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:10 Blessed **be those who bring children to worship.** Our children are one of Emanuel's resources. Are you being a good steward with our resources? How can you help? Let's pray for the future of Emanuel and God's direction.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
FAMILY PROMISE	FAMILY PROMISE	FAMILY PROMISE	FAMILY PROMISE	FAMILY PROMISE	FAMILY PROMISE	FAMILY PROMISE
<b>OFFICE CLOSED Labor Day</b>		7 am Men's Bible Study @ Mimi's	9:30 am Adult Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED		9:30 Communion Service
				6:30 pm Day Care Back to School Art Gala		10:45 Choir Rehearsal

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Date	Presiding Minister	Assistant Minister	Lector/CA	Communion Assist	Acolyte	Usher Greeter	Altar Care
Aug 31	Pr. Bill Ruth	Garry Hayes	Beth Rokaitis	Dave Henke		Fox Family	Pat Norquist
Sep 7	Pr. Lee Heim	David Holtz			Kailyn Knoll	Smith/ Knoll	Pat Norquist
Sep 14	Dianne Finnecey	Sergio Alvarado	Kathleen Reuter	Sue Wilke		Dieterich/ Reuter	Pat Norquist

Weekly Bible Readings	
September 7 Time After Pentecost	September 14 Time After Pentecost
Ezekiel 33:7-11 Psalm 119:33-40 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:16-20	Genesis 50:15-21 Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35



**New Prayer Requests:** Roland Loeffler (Van Dieppen); Joy Morgan—surgery (Taylor); Angela—surgery (Dieterich); Sharon—health, Harold—well-being, Nancy—health (Owen); Meghan Ewald—cancer/chemotherapy (Smith)

Sympathy is expressed to the family of Bonnie Vincent who passed away recently. Dick and Pat Norquist would like to thank Emanuel family for all your prayers.

**Our Members:** Drew Shank; Ben Knoll; Lori Knoll; Susan Hayes; Dianne Santana; Carolyn Crenwelge; Bob Dailey

**Our Homebound Members:** Harvey Hardel, Florence Broden, Kay Altmas, Shelda Fritts; Alma Johnson, Betty Mason

**Our Family:** Sheila Barton (Barton); Teri Scoot (Taylor)

{ Please be sure to update on-going prayer requests in writing to the church office. Thank you! }

**Our Friends:** Lorena Loftis (P. Norquist); Dawn, Keith and Ed (Dieterich); Doyle Williams, Gene Loftis (Teaney);

{ Please be sure to update on-going prayer requests in writing to the church office. Thank you! }

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



**Ryan Dangerfield, USAF** in Lakenheath Air Base, England and **Joey Sabel, USMC** in Louisville, Kentucky (Marilyn & Chuck Rowland’s grandson & grandson-in-law), **Timothy Kramer** in Afghanistan (Megan Armes’ brother), **Ryan Powell** (grandson of Yvonne Troedson) USN, Connecticut.



## For the Beauty of the Earth



- 1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
- 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
- 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
- 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

### *Refrain*



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.  
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872