

Welcome to Emmanuel !

"It is wonderful to worship with you today!"

All are welcome here at Emmanuel regardless of your faith affiliation.

All parts of today's worship service are printed in this bulletin, including words for the songs.

Today's worship marks a return to indoor, in-person worship at Emmanuel, for the first time since March. To keep everyone safe, please be mindful of the following protocols:

- 1. Masking is mandatory during all times you are in the church building.**
- 2. Restroom use is limited to one person at a time per restroom. Please follow posted instructions.**
- 3. Seating is configured for social distancing. Please do not change your assigned seat for any reason.**
- 4. We are not permitting congregational singing at this time. To engage the music, please hum underneath your mask.**
- 5. There will be no pastoral greeting or coffee hour following the service. Please proceed outdoors immediately following the service.**
- 6. Windows and doors must remain open to ensure appropriate ventilation.**

This is a service of Holy Communion. Procedures for the safe distribution of the Lord's Supper may be found on on page 8.

Emmanuel Worship is Online

This worship service will be broadcast and live streamed through our Facebook page, and on our website. Even if you are not able to watch live, the services will be recorded. You can find us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/EmmanuelSouderton/>

and on our website at:

<http://emmanuelchurch.net>

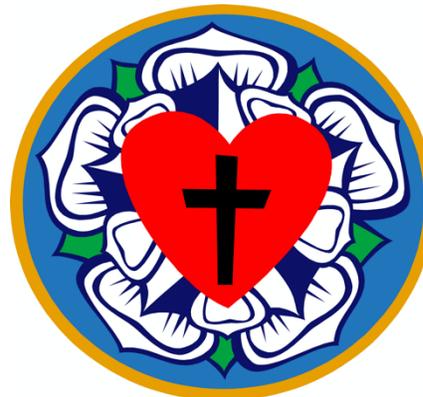
You can also check the Facebook page or website for ongoing updates, for daily devotion videos with Pastor John, and for information regarding Emmanuel's E-Meal program, including what to donate, how to volunteer and the number of meals being served during the crisis.

If you need to contact Pastor John, please call or text his mobile phone at 914-275-3106 or email him at jheidgerd@gmail.com.

Introduction to the Day

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world.

We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.



"...and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

(John 8: 32)

THE SERVICE

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

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.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (504)

**1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**

**2 No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

**3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**

**4 God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
goods, honor, child, or spouse,
through life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!**

GREETING

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.

But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

Read Responsively

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear,
though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake
in the depths of the sea;**

though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble
with its tumult.

**There is a river whose streams
make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought
upon the earth;**

behold the one who makes war to cease
in all the world;
who breaks the bow,
and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.

**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be
exalted in the earth.”**

The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans.

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith.

He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage (509)

**God's word is our great heritage
and shall be ours forever;
to spread its light from age to age
shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way;
in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant while time shall last
your church may hold it fast
throughout all generations.**

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL RESPONSE

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage (509)

God's word is our great heritage
and shall be ours forever;
to spread its light from age to age
shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way;
in death it is our stay.

Lord, grant while time shall last
your church may hold it fast
throughout all generations.

please be seated

SERMON

The Rev. John T. Heidgerd

*After the sermon, please stand as you are able for
the Hymn of the Day.*

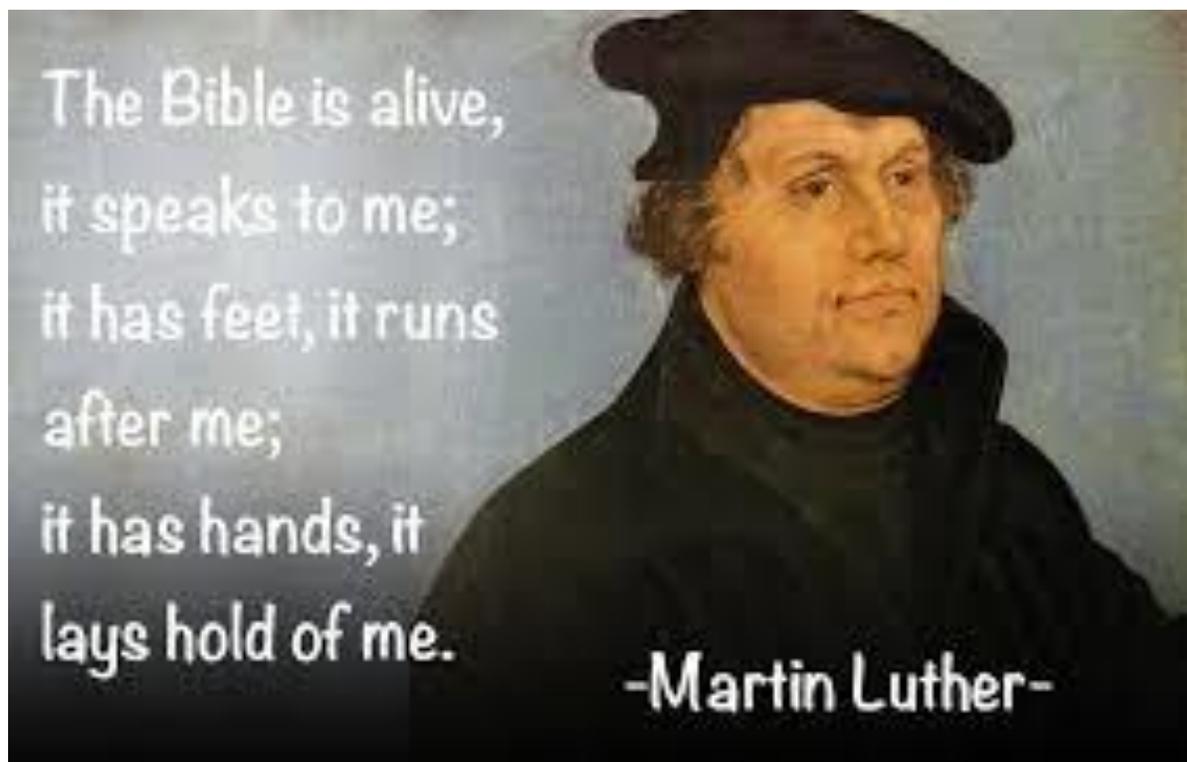
HYMN OF THE DAY

Signs and Wonders (672)

1 Signs and wonders lead the dancing
from the heart God frees from fear:
wings of angels greet the maiden,
and God finds a dwelling here;
boldly may we lift our hands,
bow the head, and voice Amen;
Thus does glory shine at midnight:
open hearts invite the starlight.

2 Hope and freedom join the circle:
Mary to the garden came,
saw the radiance of the marvel,
heard the Risen call her name;
boldly may we heed Christ's call,
step beyond the garden wall:
beautiful the feet proceeding
with good news of death's defeating.

3 Cast aside all fear and hiding;
hand in hand we dance the round.
God is with us, Christ, abiding,
and the Spirit's gifts abound.
Called by God to holiness,
let us boldly serve and bless;
and to hearts that sigh and hunger
may our lives dance signs and wonders.



THE APOSTLES CREED

Let us now profess our faith in the words of the Apostles 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

At the end of each petition, the minister will say

"Come, Holy Spirit."

The congregation responds:

"Come Holy Spirit, Come."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also, with you.

Let us share a sign of God's peace with each other.

please be seated

OFFERING

Offerings will not be collected. Please place your offering in the collection plate as you leave.

Please remember that the expenses of the church go on, even during this time disease containment. The best way for you to keep your contributions current is to do so through our online giving program, which is found on our website, and can be accessed using the following link:

[Online Giving to Emmanuel](#)

OFFERING PRAYER

Together, let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, 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.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

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 the great shepherd of your flock, our Savior Jesus Christ;

who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age.

And so, with the glorious company of the apostles, with Martin Luther and the reformers, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet. The feast is now ready

Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All God's people are invited by our Lord Jesus Christ to receive Holy Communion.

You may be seated during the distribution of communion today.

We receive these gifts of Christ's body and blood in faith, trusting that in this meal our Lord comes to us, forgives our sins, renews us in faith and leads us into new life.

Today, the Lord's Supper will be offered "in one kind", that is with bread alone.

Lutherans have always held that a communion "in one kind" is the same as if both bread and wine are offered.

You will not be asked to come to the altar to receive communion. Instead the Pastor will walk around to each person and offer the sacrament. The Pastor will be masked for our protection and will remove a wafer from the chalice using tongs.

If you wish to receive communion, please form a cup with your hands and the wafer will be dropped inside your hands, after which you may consume the wafer.

If you wish to receive gluten-free bread, please signal to the Pastor as he approaches.

If you do not wish to receive Holy Communion, you may receive a brief blessing. As the Pastor approaches, please place your hands across your chest in the form of the St. Andrew's cross. (X)

*(when all have been communed,
please rise as you are able)*

COMMUNION SONG

All Glory Be to God on High (410)

**1 All glory be to God on high,
who has the world befriended;
to us no harm shall now come nigh,
the strife at last is ended.
God shows goodwill to one and all,
and peace when troubled sinners call.
Thank God for grace and mercy!**

**2 O Father, for your lordship true
we give you praise and honor;
we worship you; we trust in you;
we give you thanks forever.
Your will is perfect, and your might
relentlessly confirms the right;
your lordship is our blessing.**

**3 Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son
of God, creation's author,
redeemer of your wand'ring ones,
and source of all true pleasure;
O Lamb of God, O Lord divine,
conform our lives to your design,
and on us all have mercy.**

**4 O Holy Spirit, perfect gift,
who brings us consolation:
to men and women saved by Christ
assure your inspiration.
Through sickness, need, and bitter death,
grant us your warm, life-giving breath;
our lives are in your keeping.**

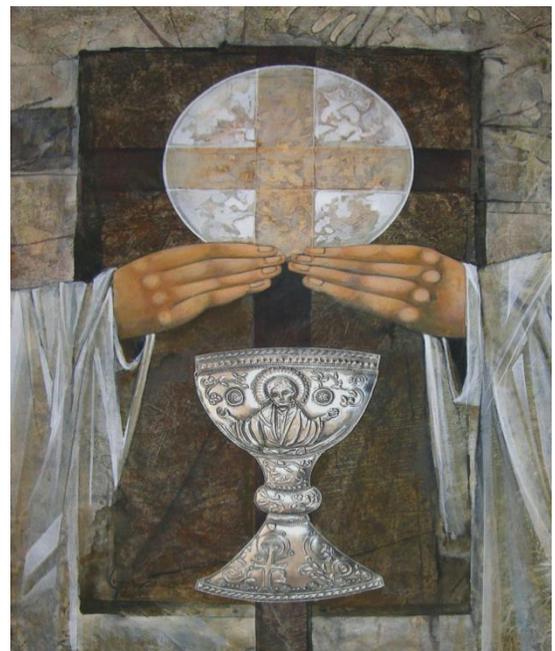


TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Darkness has been banished.

Sight has been restored.

The Word of God has set you free.

Your lives are re-formed in Christ's love.

Go now in peace to serve with great joy.

Bring the love of God with you

Let your life shine for others.

Amen

SENDING SONG (VERSES 1-6)

Oh, Praise the Gracious Power (651)

**1 Oh, praise the gracious pow'r
that tumbles walls of fear
and gathers in one house of faith
all strangers far and near:**

Refrain

We praise you, Christ!

Your cross has made us one!

**2 Oh, praise persistent truth
that opens fisted minds
and eases from their anxious clutch
the prejudice that blinds: *Refrain***

**3 Oh, praise inclusive love,
encircling ev'ry race,
oblivious to gender, wealth,
to social rank or place: *Refrain***

**4 Oh, praise the word of faith
that claims us as God's own,
a living temple built on Christ,
our rock and cornerstone: *Refrain***

**5 Oh, praise the tide of grace
that laps at ev'ry shore
with visions of a world at peace,
no longer bled by war: *Refrain***

**6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,
the love, the word, the tide.
Yet more than these, oh, praise their
source, praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain***

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to set people free
to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Oh, Praise the Gracious Power (651 - v7)

**7 Oh, praise the living Christ
with faith's bright songful voice!
Announce the gospel to the world
and with these words rejoice: *Refrain***

From sundaysandseasons.com

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Emmanuel Worships !

An Update from Pastor John

It was hard to say farewell to our season of outdoor worship. I'm so thankful for the wonderful weather that supported our outdoor services, and especially the opportunity to renew our community that has worshipped apart for so long.

Alas, this is the northeast and we can't worship outdoors as the weather gets colder and our days grow shorter. It's time to go back indoors to worship and we will do that on October 25th for the first time since March.

It is fitting that we return to worship on Reformation Sunday, a day we commemorate Martin Luther's invitation for the church to gather and talk about how to renew, reinvigorate and reform the church for its present and future. In the spirit of the day, I invite

you all to... **WEAR RED**

The weekly worship schedule is...

10:00 AM – Worship (In-Person and Online)

10:00 AM – Sunday's KIDS

In anticipation of our resuming indoor worship, you should be aware of several changes you will see from indoor worship gatherings we had prior to the pandemic. Most of these will be quite obvious to you based on how all our lives have changed during the last months – and others will require some getting used to until we can feel safe to worship indoors without restrictions.

So far, you have all been so accommodating of the many ways the pandemic has caused us to adapt. I'm confident you'll handle these changes as well.

1. It is important that you remember **we will continue to broadcast live worship services and record them on Facebook.** That means you have the option of staying home if:
 - a. You feel sick.
 - b. You are running a fever.
 - c. You have a health condition that makes you vulnerable to contracting the disease.
 - d. You cannot or will not wear a mask.

2. **Seating will be done through a reservation process.** While it is not required to reserve a seat to attend worship, it will be incredibly helpful to everyone if we know who is planning to come, and how many are coming – and – it will give you a chance to choose where you'd like to sit. Information on how to reserve your seats will be coming over the next few weeks.
3. **Seating choices will be limited.** While the reservation system will allow for some choice as to where to sit, we are taking pains to configure the worship space for safety. As a result, there will be seating for groups of up to 4 people. People who sit together must be from the immediate family, or have traveled in the same car together to worship.
4. **Our worship liturgy will be different.** We will not have congregational singing at this time. I understand that is disappointing to so many – but data shows that congregational singing, even with masks on, is the riskiest of all the parts of our worship service. We will have some people singing, but they will be in the chancel – at least 20 feet from the first row of worshipers.
5. **Holy Communion** will be distributed as we have been doing during outside worship – in “one kind” (bread only), and distributed “touch free” by the Pastor and Asst Minister.
6. **Ventilation is critical to worship safety.** We will be opening windows in the nave, and we will not have the heat on – at least in the early weeks of returning to indoor worship. You will want to dress accordingly.
7. **Masking will be mandatory.** I think most of us have become comfortable with wearing masks in public places these days – as science shows that we are all safer with them, than without them. If you cannot – or will not – wear a mask, please enjoy the worship service from home. For a number of reasons, I will not be preaching with my mask on. However I will be preaching from the chancel – at least 20 feet from the first row of worshipers.

Looking forward to worshipping with you on Sunday – indoors – or online.

+ Pastor John



Emmanuel Worships !



Next Sunday – November 1, 2020

All Saints Day

As part of our worship next Sunday, we will remember those we have lost this past year. Loved ones who have brightened our lives while they lived among us – and now rest in the sure and certain assurance of the resurrection.

During the service, we will read their names and we will remember them. We will reflect on the light that shined all to briefly, which now shines eternally with God.

This year, we are inviting our members and friends to make special memorial gifts to honor those we have lost, not just in the past year, but anyone who has had an impact on our lives of faith. Gifts may be made in any amount and we will list the gifts and the names of those remembered in our November 15, bulletin.

This year, we are offering three ways for you to direct your memorial gifts to remember your loved ones – and to address the needs of Emmanuel’s Ministry. Use the form in the next column to accompany your gift and direct the funds accordingly.



2020 All Saints Memorial Gifts

(please print clearly)

In Memory of:

Relation: _____

Name of Giver:

Amount: \$ _____

To support:

E-Meal Ministry	Sunday’s KIDS Adopt-a-Puppet (\$40 per puppet)	Worship Fund
\$	\$	\$



Emmanuel Nurtures !

Announcing the Return of These Safe Group Activities

Knitters and Crocheters !

“Come and gather to make shawls for those in need of comfort.”



Next Meeting:
November 1 – 1PM

And every first Sunday of the month.

In Emmanuel’s Parlor – safe social distancing

Please wear your mask !

Instruction available for all who are interested.

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Sadly, we can’t have our annual TRUNK OR TREAT this Halloween.



But – we will still have our pick-ur-own

FREE PUMPKIN PATCH!

Kids – Wear your Costumes
And your masks (of course)

Pick your own pumpkin and get a decorating kit to bring home.

Saturday – October 31, 11AM – 1PM



A New Kind of Sunday School

Comes Back Indoors – October 25

We’ve been busy this week getting the Sunday’s KIDS classroom ready to come back indoors this Sunday, October 25. We are working hard to make sure everybody stays safe, and still has fun while we teach about our faith in God.

This week is Reformation Sunday and we will talk about how important God’s Word is to us. Come to Sunday’s Kids and you’ll get to make a Martin Luther pumpkin and make a Luther’s Rose, while learning what all the shapes and colors mean.

If you can’t come out to church, we’ll still have a short video at 9:30 AM introducing the lesson, as well as a Craft that you can

Please have children wear their masks – and we will keep non-household members a safe distance apart.

Looking forward to seeing you all,

Ms. Ann Marie Miss Taylor Ms. Debbie

+++++



On Facebook
Mon-Sat 8AM

“Stay
Connected to
God’s Word”



Emmanuel Nurtures !

For Friends of Emmanuel



- Karen Bauer (friend of Deb & Pat McElwee)
- Frank Bucher (long-time member of Emmanuel)
- Donna Clemens (friend of Janel and Barry Gibson)
- Dennis Beer (friend of the Kulpes)
- Jim Clark (friend of Caren and Doug Landis)
- Luca Condo (friend of Ruth Miller)
- Helen Freed (Craig Freed's Mom)
- Sharon and John Garner (Jen Casta's Parents)
- Sabrina Haap (Ruth Miller's Niece)
- Donald Heller (Shirley's Brother-in-law)
- Eleanor Hillegas (Friend of Ruth Miller)
- Hildegard Lamparter (Wife of former Pastor Robert Lamparter)
- Dixie Kephart (Darlene's Mother)
- Marvin Krupp (Friend of Roy Becker)
- Ed Natali (David's Brother)
- Neal Maiers (Friend of Deb & Patrick McElwee)
- Alicia Ranberg (Friend of the Crouthamels)
- Stewart Schrauger (Julie Freed's Brother)
- Michael Smith (friend of Cheryl Starke)
- Eric Sykes (Anita & Joe's Son)
- Pam Valenti (Lou Gehringer's Sister)
- Alexander & Sylvia Wagwicz (Friends of DeSalvos)
- Suzanne Willauer (Ed Cash's Sister)
- Chase Ziegler (Christman's Great-Grandson)

For our Homebound Members

Doris Alderfer	Rita Fritz
Jacqui Bond	Louella Gehringer
Dominick De Salvo	John Kemmerer
William De Turk	Jane Niemczyk
Helen De Turk	Kathryn Stover
Norma Detweiler	Faye Wetzel
Betty Frese	Dorothy Wohlgemuth

For Health and Healing

Members of Emmanuel

Roy Becker	Faye Landis
Anthony Campolei	Bob Renner
Elaine Cash	Kermit Schnable
Pat Conard	Rhys Shelmire
Craig Freed	Harry Thompson
Pat Harpel	Floyd & Ruth Yothers

For Those Away at School

Samantha Plinke

In order to keep our Prayer List up to date, names will remain for four weeks unless otherwise notified

Other Prayer Concerns

- + For the healing of our nation, for peace and for justice – and for compassionate leadership.
- + For our Bishop, Rev. Patricia Davenport and her staff.
- + For those suffering financial hardships as a result of the pandemic
- + For our police, firefighters, and first-responders who work at great risk to protect and preserve life.
- + For those who are working tirelessly to research and formulate a vaccine for Covid-19.
- + For victims of wildfires and hurricanes still suffering through losses.

Sunday's KIDS announces the "Adopt-A-Puppet" Campaign

Puppets are a great tool to teach kids about faith. Right now we have one puppet named Esmeralda who could use a few friends to keep her company.

Here are a few of our adoption candidates:



Just \$40

to adopt one of these
happy puppets!

Will you help?





Emmanuel Serves !



44,000

Meals Handed Up

Thanks Be To God!

I want to thank all of you who participate in last week's Harvest Sunday celebration and who donated a harvest of food and funds to the E-Meal program. Your donations really helped last week because we didn't get our usual delivery of USDA food boxes, and our "cupboards were getting bare". Thank you again for all of you who have rallied support for the E-Meal ministry – and to show the love of Christ to our community.



Our work – however – is far from done. An ongoing ministry needs ongoing support. Emmanuel is in this for the long-haul. I invite you to please consider ongoing donations designated to the E-Meal ministry. Next year, I hope that we will have a monthly envelope to encourage regular giving.

Average Daily Meals Served per Month	
March	93
April	163
May	244
June	197
July	179
August	204
September	201
October	273

I'm not sure what else there is to say about a ministry that was launched at a time of great need, when so many churches and organizations shut down or curtailed their activities. Sometimes all you can say is this:

Thanks Be To God!

It's a dubious feeling to be so excited and joyous at the blessing that has been the E-Meal Ministry. On one hand we have to lament the sharp increase in need that has resulted from the pandemic, and the economic downturn that erupted in its wake. When Christ tells us "Blessed are the Poor", he is not saying poverty is a virtue. Instead, it is a call to us to witness the plight of the poor, and bless them with Christ's love.

And I think that is what the E-Meal ministry has done – and that is why I rejoice in it and am excited to continue this ministry of generosity and blessing of the poor among us.

One out of six people in the U.S.A. are deferring payment on important bills so they can BUY FOOD.

The biggest challenge we have is that we remain in need of volunteers.

Other than food, the most important resource we count in is our incredible corps of volunteers. We cannot continue this ministry without you. Here are two ways you can get involved.

The first is the individual volunteer program which has been in place since the beginning. It will always be an important way for volunteers to be involved. Signing up is easy – and encourage a friend to come along with you.

Even if you are not able to volunteer, please be an ambassador of the E-Meal ministry and encourage family and friends to step forward.

You can sign up on sign-up genius

<https://rb.gy/47vkgh>

The newest program to expand our volunteer corps volunteers is an invitation to groups to sponsor a day of service at E-Meal. If you know of a group that may be interested, please have them email Deb Seeley at emmanuel@emmanuelchurch.net or call Deb at 215-206-5837.



Emmanuel Reaches Out !



SET FREE

October 2, 2020
from “Living Lutheran”

Rev. Elizabeth Eaton
Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

A colleague of mine once pointed out that Martin Luther wrote far more about freedom than he did about reform or reformation. Liberation in Christ through faith was the freedom that transformed Luther. This freedom is what he wrote about most frequently and most passionately. In *The Freedom of a Christian*, Luther makes the case that liberation in Christ is both a freedom *from* and a freedom *for*.

Freedom *from* is liberation from all spiritual bondage. We are set free from being trapped in ourselves, consumed by ourselves, from the belief and terror that we can and must save ourselves. That our *self* is the center of the universe. Life in Christ is not an inward-dwelling experience. We are free to get over ourselves.

Freedom *from* is liberation from the law’s accusation and judgment. We are liberated from terror and despair, which are soul crushing. We are liberated from the incessant and impossible task of measuring up.

Freedom *from* liberates us from estrangement from God and God’s creation. Caught in sin and standing before a God who demands righteousness when we believe that we are either responsible for or capable of affecting our own salvation, breeds resentment toward God and the objectification of others.

Luther says it simply in his Small Catechism: Jesus Christ “is my Lord ... he has redeemed me ... purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil.”

Freedom *for* means that in Christ we are set free to love and serve others. Freedom is a relationship, not a new set of activities or the demand of a new law.

Many activists and pietists move immediately to a set of activities to define freedom, but Luther stayed with relationships. In Christ the faithful are new creatures who are opened into newly reconciled and liberated relationships with God, with other creatures and even with oneself.

In *The Freedom of a Christian*, Luther makes the case that liberation in Christ is both a freedom *from* and a freedom *for*.

Luther put it this way: “Faith, however, is a divine work in us which changes us and makes us to be born anew of God. It kills the old Adam and makes us altogether different people, in heart and spirit and mind and powers; and it brings with it the Holy Spirit. O, it is a living, busy, active thing, this faith. It is impossible for it not to be doing good works incessantly. ... And this is the work which the Holy Spirit performs in faith. Because of it, without compulsion, a person is ready to do good to everyone, to serve everyone, to suffer everything, out of love and praise to God who has shown them this grace” (*Luther’s Works*, 35:370-1).

I believe that Luther turned the argument that freedom is the problem and that our free will is what got us expelled from the garden and into this world of hurt on its head. The argument goes that we have been given free will, we misuse or abuse that gift, and in this freedom we make poor choices. Our only hope is that we give up or renounce this freedom and submit ourselves to the rule of God. Only when we are captive to God’s will, will we find redemption.

This argument assumes that we are free and that we can will ourselves into cooperating with God’s saving work. Once again it becomes about us and about what we must do in order to be saved. Luther makes the shift that we start out captive to sin and, through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we are set free.

The problem isn’t too much freedom, it’s that we are not free. When we confess that “we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves” (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, page 95), it should be with a sense of relief!

Reformation scholar Timothy Wengert posed the question, “What am I going to do now that I don’t have to do anything?” Serve God and neighbor in beautiful freedom.



Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday Schedule beginning 10/25

Indoor Worship – 10:00 AM

Sunday's KIDS – 10:00 AM

Contact Us:

69 W. Broad Street • Souderton, PA 18964
Church Telephone: 215-723-7514

Email: Emmanuel@emmanuellutheranchurch.net

Website: www.emmanuellutheranchurch.net

Facebook.com/EmmanuelSouderton

Church Staff

Reverend John T. Heidgerd, Pastor

Mobile Phone: 1-914-275-3106

Email Address: jheidgerd@gmail.com

Rev. Richard G. Miller, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

Marlene H. Natali, Parish Deacon

Michael Shoemaker, Facilities Manager

Watch your E-Mail this week for sign-up to attend worship on Sunday, November 1st.

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Bible Quiz

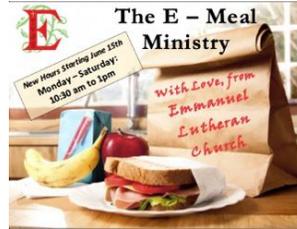
Which of the four Gospels name(s) Bethlehem as the place of Jesus' birth?

A. Only Luke
B. Matthew and Luke
C. Mark and John
D. All four



Answer: B (See Matthew 2:1; Luke 2:1-7.)

The Bulletins for today are given in honor of their 65th Wedding Anniversary by Faye and Richard Landis



E-Meal Volunteers – Please sign up online

<https://rb.gy/47vkgh>



What's Happening @ Emmanuel

10/25/2020 – 11/01/2020

Sun 10/25	10:00 AM	Reformation Sunday <u>INDOOR WORSHIP</u> Worship Service (also ONLINE) Sunday's KIDS
Mon 10/26	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Tue 10/27	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Wed 10/28	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Thu 10/29	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Fri 10/30	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution
Sat 10/31	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 11:AM – 1:PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Halloween Pumpkin Patch
Sun 11/1	10:00 AM 1:00 PM	All Saints Sunday Worship Service (also ONLINE) Sunday's KIDS Prayer Shawl Ministry