



Welcome to Emmanuel !

May 16, 2021

**Seventh
Sunday
in Easter**

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://www.elcsouderton.org>

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 we have "handing up" each week.

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

Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed!

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one.

This unity is not to be found in doctrinal agreement or following institutional rules, but through a mutual abiding in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This unity is the work of the Spirit who empowers the church and the faithful.

Come, Holy Spirit, we pray!

Alleluia!

"Jesus is raised. He is not here!"

Mark (16:6)

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.

Weather-permitting, today's service will be held outdoors. While there will be fewer restrictions in place, to keep everyone safe, please be mindful of the following protocols:

- 1. Masking is mandatory outdoors and 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. Please bring your own seating. You may sit anywhere you like. If the service moves indoors, restricted, socially-distant seating will be maintained according to the provisional sign-up.**
- 4. Singing is permitted for the outdoor worship. We ask that you continue to keep your mask on outdoors. If the service is indoors, please refrain from singing.**
- 5. If outdoors, we will return to having a "coffee hour" following the service. If the service moves indoors, there will not be any pre- or post-worship gatherings.**

This is a service of Holy Communion. Procedures for the safe distribution of the Lord's Supper may be found on on page 9.

THE SERVICE

PRELUDE

TBD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

(The acclamation is done three times)

Alleluia! The Lord is Risen!

The Lord is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!

GATHERING SONG

We All Are One in Mission (576)

**1 We all are one in mission;
we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission
compels us from above
to plan and work together
that all may know Christ's love.**

**2 We all are called for service,
to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are diff'rent;
our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others
with God's surprising grace,
so ev'ry folk and nation
may feel God's warm embrace.**

**3 Now let us be united,
and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel
for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission;
we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.**

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.

SONG OF PRAISE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! (385)

**1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our king!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day;
death's mighty stone is rolled away;
let all the world rejoice and say:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**3 Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life, which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord,
the life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy 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.

Please be seated.

PSALM 1 (*Read Responsively*)

Happy are they who have not walked
in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching
day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

**It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff
which the wind blows away.**

Therefore, the wicked shall not stand upright
when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**For the LORD knows
the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked
shall be destroyed.**

FIRST READING: 1 John 5:9-13

A reading from 1 John.

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son.

And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*please sing twice*)
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (172)

**Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Hallelujah. Hallelujah.**

GOSPEL: John 17:6-19

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL RESPONSE *(please sing twice)*
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (172)

Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. John T. Heidgerd

*At conclusion of the sermon, please stand as you are
able for the Hymn of the Day*

HYMN OF THE DAY

Shall We Gather at the River (423)

**1 Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?**

Refrain

**Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.**

**2 On the margin of the river,
washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever,
all the happy golden day. Refrain**

**3 Ere we reach the shining river,
lay we ev'ry burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver,
and provide a robe and crown. Refrain**

**4 Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver
with the melody of peace. Refrain**

**THE HOLY BAPTISM
OF RHODES WILLIAM HEMOND**

*(during the hymn, child, parents and sponsors will
proceed to the baptismal font)*

PRESENTATION FOR BAPTISM

(Pastor, to sponsors)

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission to the world.

Who presents this child to for holy baptism?

Sponsors: **We present Rhodes William Hemond
for baptism.**

(Pastor, to parents)

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have *your children* baptized into Christ?

(Parents) **We do.**

As you bring Rhodes to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach the Lord's Prayer, the Creed,
and the Ten Commandments,
place in *their* hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture *them* in faith and prayer,
so that *your children* may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help *your children* grow in the Christian faith and life?

(Parents) **We do.**

Sponsors,

Do you promise to nurture Rhodes and his family in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

(Sponsors) **We do.**

People of God, do you promise to support Rhodes and his family and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

(please be seated)

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

Rhodes William Hemond,
I baptize you in the name of
God, the Father
and of God, the Son,
and of God, the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

**Blessed be God,
the source of all life,
the word of salvation,
the spirit of mercy.**

Amen.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Rhodes with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Rhodes William Hemond, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

WELCOME

(a representative of the congregation lights a candle and presents it to the family in the name of the baptized.)

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

(additional gifts from the congregation may be presented at this time)

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:

join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

(The pastor presents the newly baptized to the congregation. The congregation is invited to applaud in thanksgiving to God.)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

At the end of each petition, the minister will say

"Hear us, O God."

The congregation responds:

"Your mercy is great."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

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

OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offerings will not be collected. Please place your offering in the plate on the table at the entrance to the gathering space. Offerings may be submitted electronically using the link on Emmanuel's website, by US Mail, or by delivery to the office during E-Meal distribution hours.

OFFERING PRAYER

Together, let us pray.

God of love,

you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

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,
for the glorious resurrection
of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb
who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels,
cherubim and seraphim,
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.
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

Lord, remember us in your kingdom
and teach us to pray.

**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

The risen Christ invites us to this table.

Come, eat and be satisfied.

Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

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

*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.*

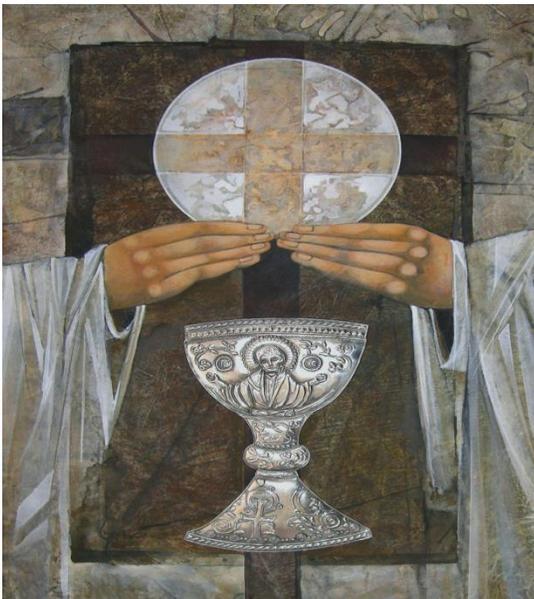
*You will not be asked to come to the altar to receive
communion. Instead, the Pastor and Assisting
Minister will walk around to each person and offer
the sacrament. The Pastor and Assisting Minister
will be masked for our protection and will remove a
wafer from the chalice using tongs.*

*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)*



SONGS DURING COMMUNION

One Bread, One Body (496)

Refrain

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.**

**1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. *Refrain***

**2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. *Refrain***

**3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. *Refrain***

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia (364)

**1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom.**

Refrain

**Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!**

**2 For three long days the grave did its worst
until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo,
and in its conquest his might did show. *Refrain***

**3 The angel said to them, "Do not fear.
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.
Only the graveclothes are lying there." *Refrain***

**4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain***

**5 Christ has arisen to set us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. *Refrain***

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.

Wellspring of joy,

**through this meal
you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy
to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG (*verses 1-2*)

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling (582)

**1 Holy Spirit, ever dwelling
in the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding
o'er a world of gloom and night;
Holy Spirit, ever raising
those of earth to thrones on high;
living, life-impacting Spirit,
you we praise and magnify.**

**2 Holy Spirit, ever living
as the church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving
through us in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming
in the church the mind of Christ:
you we praise with endless worship
for your gifts and fruits unpriced.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE (*verse 3*)

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling (582)

**3 Holy Spirit, ever working
through the church's ministry;
quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving,
setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding
age to age and soul to soul
in communion never ending,
you we worship and extol.**

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Emmanuel Worships

An Update from Pastor John

Standing on the Rock



This week, I had a wonderful opportunity to get away and experience a corner of God’s creation that I had never seen before – the striking red rocks of Sedona, Arizona and the amazing vastness of the Grand Canyon.

Standing at the foot of the red rocks, you gain a new perspective on the power, majesty and the ongoing movement of God’s creation. Yes – creation is still on the move. Even these strong, steady and mighty formations are changing – eroding a few inches each year – as the planet evolves over a long arc of time.



Despite the geologic realities, we perceive these rocks to be the steadiest of things in a world that is most unsteady to us. The rocks and buttes have a way of evoking both awe and comfort. And, of course that reminds us of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the true rock and foundation of our lives.

But standing on a rock give you so much more than firm footing, and a confidence that you will not fall. I find that standing on a rock also changes your perspective. The higher ground that a rock offers improves your field of vision. You see further in the distance and you can gather in the breadth of the panorama.



(Yes, I climbed that rock, and took in that view)

When I think of Jesus as our rock, and standing on that rock of our faith, I’m reminded that Jesus changes our perspectives as well. Our view is no longer limited to what is right next to us. Jesus helps us to be less self-absorbed and more focused on the longer and broader view.



(No – I did not climb this rock.)

When we stand on Jesus, the rock the world comes into a new perspective from that higher vantage point. Assumptions about what the world is like get challenged and we are called to reassess our place in an expansive landscape of life. When we stand on Jesus, the rock, the amazing love of Jesus becomes more and more expansive than we ever realized.

When Jesus says “Love the Lord your God”, love includes to be in awe of what God has done and can do in our world and our lives. If we love God, we must also love God’s creation in all its vastness.

When Jesus says “Love your neighbor”, the neighborhood is vast and unlimited, extending to all who are created in the image of God.

When Jesus says “Love one another”, We learn that he means another, then another, then another...

When Jesus says “Love your enemies.”, we understand that those who we name “enemies” are also subject to the vastness of God’s love and power. We are called to form and reform relationships of trust and mutual concern for all.

My friends, Jesus is indeed the rock on which we stand. And that is a comforting and reassuring thing in which we can trust. May we also rejoice in the way standing on that rock expands our perspective, lengthening and broadening our view of the world, and drawing everyone from beyond our horizons together in God’s immense, wasteful and unlimited love.

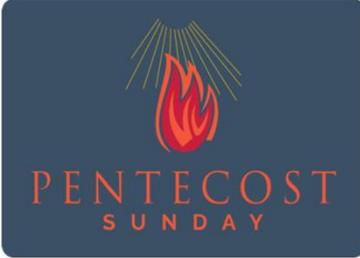
+ Pastor John +



Emmanuel Worships

Wear Red Next Sunday!

Sunday, May 23, 2021



*Holy Spirit
Sunday
at
Emmanuel*

Family Volunteer Day

**Garden of Health Food Bank
Garden of Hope
Noon – 4:00 PM**

2201 Kerr Rd. Harleysville

Picking, Planting, Weeding and Watering

And a *PICNIC* to follow!

*The Garden is a significant source of fresh produce
for Emmanuel's E-Meal Ministry*

**[Click here](#) to sign up for
volunteering and the
potluck picnic**

+++++

Sunday, May 30, 2021



**TRINITY SUNDAY
Memorial Day Weekend**

*Special Memorial Prayers
for Covid-19 victims*

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A Note on Next Week's Volunteer Day!

Many of you know how important the Garden of Health Food Bank has been to the success of our E-Meal Ministry.

We were only a few weeks old when Carol Bauer passed by with a van, rolled down the window and asked if we wanted some lettuce. It was the first time we offered something more than the bagged meals.



Since then, they have been the most important partner in our ministry, supplementing our offerings with healthy choices and gluten free options. Carol is always looking for ways to help us out and expand our options.

To top that off, everything we have received through the Garden of Health has come free of cost. We recently gave them a donation of \$500 to purchase seed corn and potatoes – something we'll receive back many fold!

I am hoping for a big turnout at next week's volunteer event to help them tend their farm in Harleysville. The farm is a big source of the fresh produce we have received and will receive this year. Emmanuel should step up and say thank you in a big way!



Even more exciting is that we will be gathering for a picnic after working in the farm. What a

blessing that will be to have a community event once again after the long hibernation!

Emmanuel will be providing the meat and paper products for the picnic. We are asking attendees to bring a favorite side dish, dessert, or drinks.

Sign up today for this first of a kind event.



Emmanuel Worships

Infectious Disease Expert Shares COVID Update

(from the Southeast Pennsylvania Synod)

COVID is not going away, yet we now have effective vaccines and effectual therapies to reduce the incidences of infections and deaths, infectious disease specialist Dr. Tim Babinchak told SEPA leaders in a Zoom conference May 11.

Dr. Babinchak, a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Phoenixville, and retired head of infectious diseases at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, said that there are no zero-risk guarantees and church leaders will have to decide what risks they and their attendees are willing to take in returning to in-person worship.

Rather than trying to eliminate every possible risk, Dr. Babinchak suggested that we are in a new normal where care for vulnerable people and making informed, reasonable choices should be emphasized.

Dr. Babinchak proposed a four-step process for congregations to help make decisions.

WHO?

Are the people who attend vaccinated or unvaccinated? Do they have underlying conditions that might hamper the effectiveness of vaccines or lead to more serious cases?

WHERE?

Outside is always better than indoors. Sufficient ventilation with outside air to dilute potential virus concentrations is always better than indoors in a poorly or non-ventilated space.

WHEN?

The longer the event, the higher the risk. An hour-long worship service carries different risks than an hours-long meeting or a full-day childcare setting.

HOW?

In order to minimize the risk to the most vulnerable, continue basic steps of hand-washing, masking, and distancing and consider continuing online avenues of participation for those for whom it may not be wise to attend in-person.

Here Are Some General Takeaways From Dr. Babinchak's Presentation:

- Outdoors gatherings are always safer than indoors. (Very few cases of outdoor transmission have been documented.) The more air exchange you have indoors, the better.
- People should not attend church if they are sick (regardless of whether they think they have COVID).
- Emphasize hand-washing. Open restrooms or provide other ways for people to wash hands at church.
- Wearing masks and maintaining distance will always lower risk. Masks protect others, not the wearer. You will not always know if you have vulnerable or ill people in your church.
- If wearing your mask is comfortable, it's probably not on correctly. Proper fit is important.
- Singing softly and soft liturgical responses with masks is possible indoors and outdoors. Distancing reduces risk. Remember, if someone is unvaccinated or ill, singing is a high-risk activity for those around them.
- For vaccinated persons, there should be no issue with sharing communion as usual, Provide other options for unvaccinated or vulnerable persons.
- Coffee hours and social times are best done outdoors and kept short.
- It is safe to return hymnals to the pews. As long as people wash hands and stay home if they are sick, there should be no problem. If services are back-to-back, materials should be cleaned in between
- There is little risk of transmission when people move in the sanctuary; for example, to read at the lectern or participate in a children's sermon. Close grouping of people has a higher risk.

Note from Pastor John:

The Church Council will consider this, and other guidelines and counsel as we plan to relax restrictions in place. We are targeting June 1 for new guidelines to be put in place. Masking will still be required for all services until further notice.



Emmanuel Nurtures



Hi Friends!

I know you all probably know someone who has gone to live with God in heaven. It's part of life for us to live, and then die. Because of our faith in God, we can look forward to going to heaven when we die – and visit with people who have gone to heaven before us.

Jesus went to heaven too! But, not in the way we will go to heaven. Jesus was taken up in a cloud – and his disciples were there to see it. We call it Jesus' ascension, because he went up to heaven.

Because Jesus ascended into heaven, we know that we will see him some day too. But for now, he looks at us with love and can't wait until we join him too. We will talk about Jesus' ascension this week at Sunday's KIDS

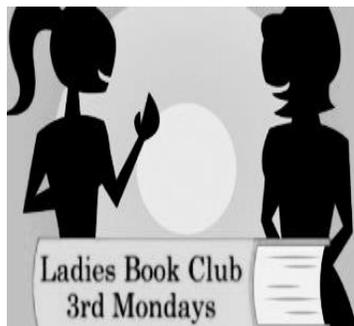
Of course, if you can't make it, we'll have an online Sunday's KIDS message at 9:30 AM

Ms. Ann Marie, Ms. Debbie, Ms. Taylor



On Facebook
Mon-Sat 8AM
"Stay Connected to God's Word"

Upcoming Group Activities at Emmanuel



Next Meeting
May 17 @ 7PM
The Mustard Seed

by Kaila Ibrahim

Join the ladies of Emmanuel for fun conversation and fellowship – and always a good read!

**Meet in the 2nd floor choir room.
Please wear your masks
and use socially-distanced seating.**

For information, e-mail Mary Anne Morral
morral@verizon.net

Knitters and Crocheters !

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



Next Meeting:
June 6th – 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.



Emmanuel Nurtures!



Special Prayer Concerns

- + In joy and thanksgiving to God for the baptism of Rhodes William Hemond
- + For our Bishop, Rev. Patricia Davenport and her staff. For Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and the ELCA Churchwide staff.
- + For an end to hatred and racial tensions and a commitment to justice and compassion for all.
- + For hurricane victims in Honduras and other Central American countries.
- + For President Joe Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris and the new administration.
- + For victims of the Covid-19 pandemic, and for all front-line workers who are caring for those suffering from the Covid-19 virus.
- + For God's creation and the protection and preservation of our home planet – to support life for many generations to come.
- + For the people of India suffering through a massive Covid-19 surge, that they may have enough capacity to treat the sick, effective measures to control the disease, and vaccinations widely available.
- + In thanksgiving for God's guiding spirit and providence as we continue the work being done through the E-Meal Ministry.

For our Homebound Members

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

For Health and Healing Members of Emmanuel

Roy Becker	Faye Landis
Anthony Campolei	Harry Thompson
Elaine Cash	Floyd Yothers
Marilyn Detwiler	Ruth Yothers
Pat Harpel	

For Those Away at School Samantha Plinke

For Those in Military Service Philip Coll

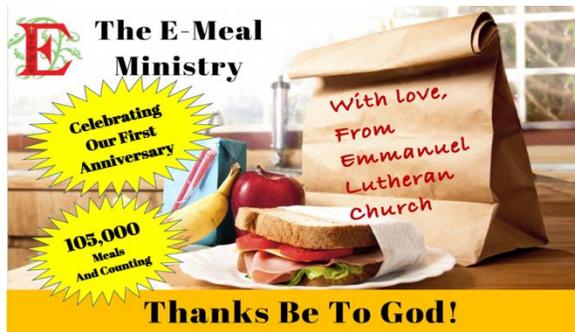
For Friends of Emmanuel

- Karen Bauer (friend of Deb & Pat McElwee)
- Cathy Busser (friend of Pastor John)
- Dennis Beer (friend of the Kulps)
- Jim Clark (friend of Caren and Doug Landis)
- Luca Condo (friend of Ruth Miller)
- Alicia and Mike Daniels (friends of Julie Freed)
- Helen Freed (Evan Freed's Grandmother)
- Sabrina Haap (Ruth Miller's Niece)
- Hildegard Lamparter (Wife of former Pastor Robert Lamparter)
- Kalidass Family (friends of Jen and Lou Casta)
- Marvin Krupp (Friend of Roy Becker)
- Ed Natali (David's Brother)
- Neal Maiers (Friend of Deb & Patrick McElwee)
- Richard Plinke (friend of Gerry and Dave Blaich)
- Alicia Ranberg (Friend of the Crouthamels)
- Ari Richter (Friend of Caren and Doug Landis)
- Stewart Schrauger (Julie Freed's Brother)
- Michael Smith (friend of Cheryl Starke)
- Eric Sykes (Anita & Joe's Son)
- Family of Larry Stout (Friend of the McElwee's)
- Pam Valenti (Lou Gehringer's Sister)
- Alexander & Sylvia Wagwicz (Friends of DeSalvos)
- Suzanne Willauer (Ed Cash's Sister)
- Chase Ziegler (Christman's Great-Grandson)

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



Emmanuel Serves !



**107,000 meals handed “up”
Thanks Be To God!**

We are in this “for good”

One of the most frequent comments I hear from people now that we’ve gone more than one year with the Email ministry is some version of this, “I guess we’re going to be doing this for a while”. I have to agree, the E-Meal ministry has proven itself to be a necessary part of our community safety net. And it is here to stay for the long haul. My friends, we are in this “for good”.

When I say for good”, I don’t mean permanently. Only God knows what will last forever, and nothing on earth has ever lasted that long. However, “for good” means as long as we need to do it; as long as we are doing good with the E-Meal ministry.

One of the things I’m most proud of with our E-Meal ministry is that it helped peel back the curtain on a hidden problem in our community. Hunger and poverty may have worsened during the pandemic, but the problems were always there, and they were under-recognized, and consequently, underserved. This is a typical pattern in suburbia. Many residents just can’t believe poverty exists in our community until a crisis exposes the need, and you find out someone you know can’t make ends meet.

When I did my initial “listening tour” during my first year at Emmanuel, it became clear that poverty was hiding behind the suburban curtain, and as I looked where food programs were offered, I found there were significant gaps in food distribution. I began to see the need for a daily feeding program, even though I was assured by some local “experts” that there wasn’t enough poverty to justify a centralized daily food ministry.

When the pandemic hit last year, that all changed, and Emmanuel led the way with its E-Meal ministry and its advocacy for greater attention to the extant needs of many.

While we don’t ask questions of our neighbors who come for food, there are some observable patterns that have emerged. First, most of those who come to us are not completely resourceless. However, with the resources they have, many find it difficult to make ends meet and afford the necessities of life. Food programs such as the E-Meal ministry allow our neighbors to focus their resources on other necessities. Second, with the number of neighbors who visit us daily, and whose lives have been unchanged by the pandemic, it is clear that poverty was a problem before the pandemic and will be once the new normal is firmly established. Knowing this, Emmanuel is committed to serving this need in our community “for good”.

To give you a little more data on the problem of hunger in the United States, please read the article on the next page. It is from an organization called Alliance To End Hunger, dated April 2019, one year prior to the beginning of the pandemic.

Volunteers Are Needed!

As we move forward, our biggest need remains getting volunteers to fill existing slots. **We are particularly looking for volunteers on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.** We are doing well, but we can always use more helpers, more leaders, more compassionate people to offer food.

Please take time today and sign up to volunteer. Signing up is easy, and volunteering is safe, with many COVID prevention protocols in place. Please invite a friend to join you!

Click the following link to sign up.

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

And, if you are able to support the E-Meal ministry financially, please click here for a link to do so easily and securely:

[Online Giving to Emmanuel](#)
(bit.ly/3iRyXn2)

+ Pastor John +



Emmanuel Serves !

Hunger is a U.S. Health Issue *(from alliancetoendhunger.org – April 2019)*

The relationship between eating well and good health is solidly acknowledged. We learn from an early age that “you are what you eat” and consuming fruits and vegetables is important. With the growth of the obesity epidemic, much of the attention on food consumption in America has focused on the volume, caloric density and fat content of food consumed, with good reason. What’s often missing in our discussion of good health and food consumption is the tragic level of hunger in America.

In the richest nation on Earth, millions suffer the pangs of hunger and their health – and the health of the nation – suffers as a result.

A moral imperative

- Every day, healthcare providers across the nation see the effects of hunger on health.
- Hungry people are more likely to be in poor health and have a higher likelihood of chronic conditions.
- Food insecure adults have 32% increased odds of being obese compared to food secure adults.
- Newborns are more likely to be underweight, often leading to lifelong development and chronic conditions.
- Experiences with hunger have a negative impact on the health of children 10-15 years later.
- Hungry teens are more likely to be depressed and attempt suicide.

Meets a financial health crisis

- Estimates put healthcare costs related to hunger nationwide at a minimum of \$160 billion each year.
- Hospitalizations account for \$11.5 billion of these annual costs.
- Mental health problems account for \$57.1 billion of these costs; and another \$21.6 billion is related to suicide.
- Poor health, in general, costs \$46 billion annually, nutrition and digestion disorders cost \$7.1 billion, and non-communicable diseases account for another \$7.1 billion.
- For every \$1 spent on food and feeding, an individual who is food insecure or experiencing hunger, approximately \$50 is saved in Medicaid expenses.
- According to the USDA’s Thrifty Food Plan, it is 50% less expensive to cover the costs of feeding an adult individual healthy food for a year than to cover the costs of hospitalization and related medical expenses for one day.

Hunger affects individuals at every age – from birth through end of life

- During the school year, 22 million children receive free or reduced-price lunch, while only 3.9 million children participated in the Summer Food Service Program.
- In 2016, 24.2% of seniors were ‘marginally food insecure,’ ‘food insecure,’ or ‘very low food insecure;’ this is a 200% increase since 2001, and as the American population ages, food insecurity among seniors is expected to rise.
- More than 63 percent of older adult households served by the Feeding America network must sometimes choose between paying for food or paying for medical care or prescriptions. Sixty percent report having to choose between paying for utilities or paying for food, and 58 percent must choose between food and transportation.

Emotional and Behavioral Problems

Hunger causes emotional and behavioral problems and limits social development. Children who are hungry, and who live in homes where finances cause a stressful environment, often have difficulty socializing with peers and exhibit troublesome behavior due to stress, fatigue, poor concentration, and poor coping skills. Likewise, adults who are hungry have a decreased ability to perform work and are at greater risk of unemployment. Fatigue and malnourishment at all ages exacerbates chronic disease, mental health and overall general.

- Adults experiencing food insecurity are at greater risk of developing type II diabetes and more likely to experience mental and behavioral health problems, including higher levels of depression and anxiety.
- Among the elderly, malnutrition increases the risk for developing chronic diseases and exacerbates current ones, increases disability, decreases resistance to infection, and extends hospital stays.
- Malnutrition results in increased costs for caregivers by increasing caregiver demands, and it inflates national health care costs due to increased complication rates.
- Children who are hungry are 4 times more likely to need professional counseling.
- Children experiencing hunger have higher levels of chronic illness and behavior problems.
- These linkages are important given the significant human and economic toll chronic diseases exact. Six in 10 Americans are affected by one chronic disease, such as diabetes or heart disease, and 4 in 10 have two or more chronic diseases. Chronic diseases are the leading contributors to America’s \$3.3 trillion in health care costs.



Emmanuel Reaches Out !

Honduran Hurricane Relief A Beautiful Community Partnership

On an ordinary weekday last Fall, Pastor John was walking through to the Fellowship Hall. It was an afternoon and he wouldn't normally be there at that time. But, the Holy Spirit had other plans in mind. As PJ was walking the hall, he saw two women approaching the entrance to the gathering space. He greeted the women and asked how he could help. Who knew that moment would kick off a promising new partnership for Emmanuel!

It's exciting to open up new ministry opportunities, and especially so when it involved real partnership in ministry. Our hurricane relief efforts have already been well documented, but what you may not realize is the level of collaboration that is forming and how promising that is for more than a one-shot program.

Yes – Emmanuel has provided funding. First, \$1,000 in cash raised for Hurricane Relief last Christmas. Then in our “Adopt-a-Pallet” fundraiser, we have raised about \$2,250, enough for 15 pallets to be added to all the supplies raised by Jessmy Trochez and her team.

Emmanuel is also adding some surplus supplies and furniture that we no longer need but would provide much needed items for a nation that has suffered so much this past year.



Current Honduran Hurricane Relief Drive Coming to a Close

All of these items will be put into a shipping container sometime in June, and sent to Honduras. While Emmanuel is doing its part to maximize the shipping container's load, Jessmy and her team are working to raise the \$2500 to cover the cost of shipping.



Last week, they organized a raffle for a large screen TV and invited Pastor John and Ann Marie to participate in a celebration to announce the winner. The raffle was successful, raising \$1,000 toward the cost of shipping.

This current phase of our partnership will soon come to a close with a fully stocked shipping container – the fourth that Jessmy and her friends have sent to Honduras. We are scheduling a special celebration of our partnership, offering a thanksgiving to God at our worship service on June 13. More to come about that, but please save the date.

Thanks Be to God
Celebrate the Success of our Honduras Hurricane Relief Partnership
Sunday, June 13, 2021
10 AM



Emmanuel Reaches Out !

May is National Foster Care Month

From our friends who organize the annual Hope Festival



FOSTER *care.* & ADOPTION

Each May, we take time to acknowledge foster parents, family members, volunteers, mentors, policymakers, child welfare professionals, and other

members of the community who help children and youth in foster care find permanent homes and connections.

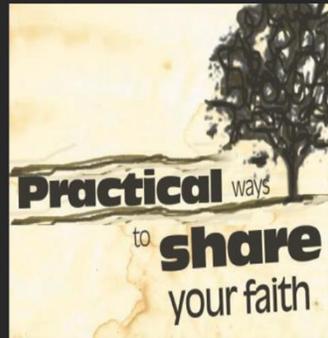
Most people are unaware that on any given day, there are over 400,000 children in foster care with 15,000 in the state of Pennsylvania. This month, we hope to increase awareness of the fact that we can all play a part in enhancing the lives of children and youth in foster care.

There is always a need for “good” homes for children whether you are looking to adopt, foster or to be a respite home for a short-term placement. We always have a need for volunteers to help in other ways as well such as donating items for families who have welcomed children into their home and helping with time and/or talent.

Remember – no one can do everything, but *everyone can do something!*

If you want to learn more about how you can help, please reach out to Salvation Army Orphan Care Coordinator, Atiya Waters at salarmyorphancares@gmail.com.

Be blessed!



Live Your **HOW TO FAITH**

EVERYONE is invited...

Sharing Your FAITH, *Are You Ready?*

- Understanding effective ways to share your faith and the gospel
- Hear stories how others are sharing the “Good News”

Date: Saturday, May 8, 2021

Time: 8 am

Location: Franconia Heritage Banquet Hall

- Serving coffee, tea, water, juice and pastries

Date: Thursday, May 20, 2021

Time: 7 pm

Location: Franconia Mennonite Church

Team:

Amanda Kiser, Tricia Bergey, Dale Bergey, Kyle Rodgers

RSVP: Terry@SweatshirtofHope.org

- We need a count for books & Saturday meeting continental breakfast

Sponsored by:



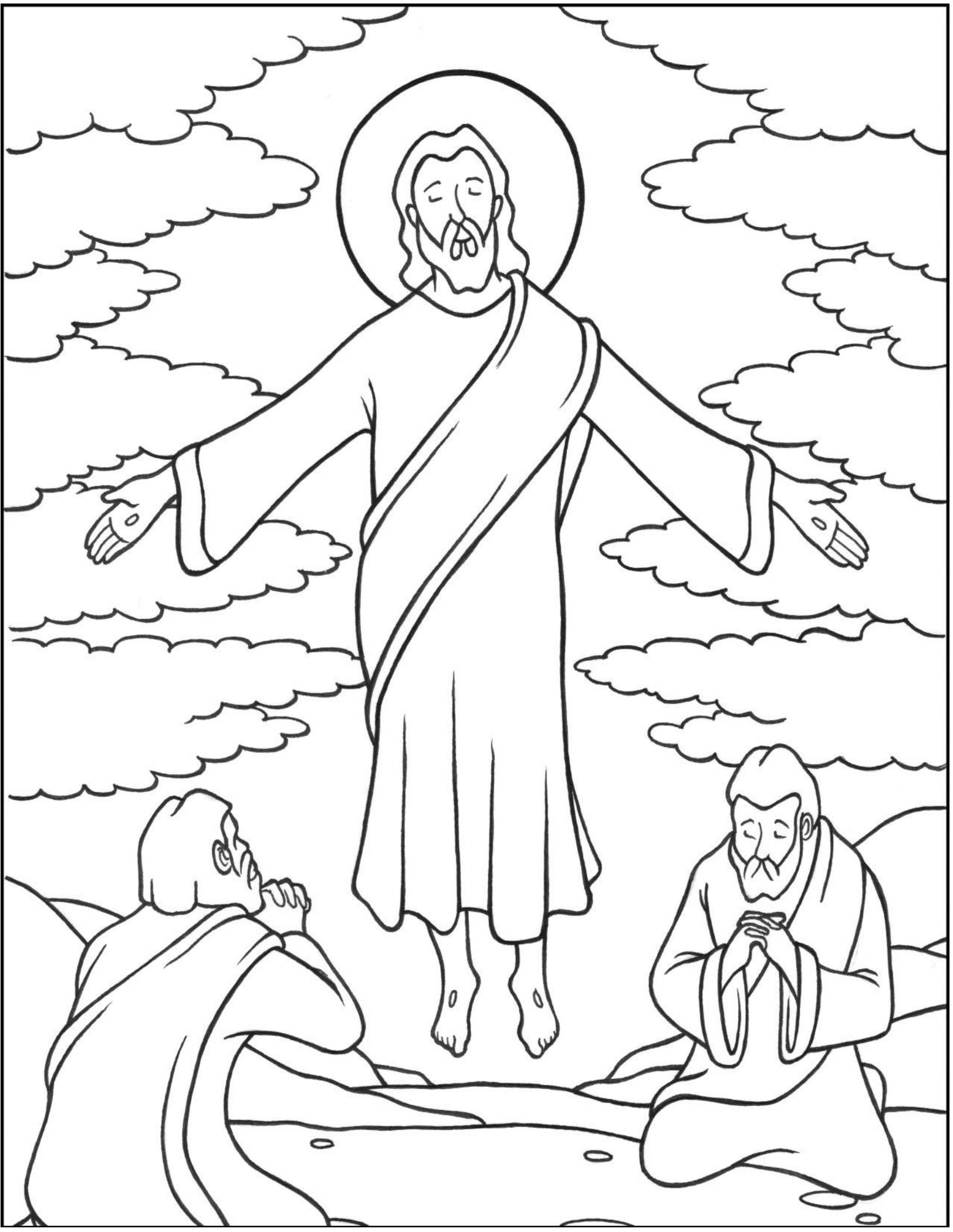
Presented by:



HOPE 21

“A Community Movement”

The Promise of HOPE





Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

Current Sunday Schedule

Online Sunday's KIDS – 9:30 AM
 Online and In-Person Worship – 10:00 AM
 Outdoor Worship begins May 16
 Sunday's KIDS In Person – 10:00 AM

Contact Us:

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

Email: Emmanuel@emmanuelchurch.net

Website: www.elcsouderton.org

Facebook.com/EmmanuelSouderton

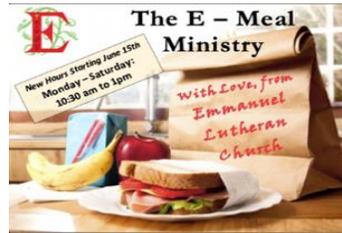
Church Staff

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

*The bulletins for this week are sponsored
 by Bette and Merrill Christman
 in memory of their son, Steven*



**E-Meal
 Volunteers**
 Please sign up
 online

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



**What's Happening
 @ Emmanuel**

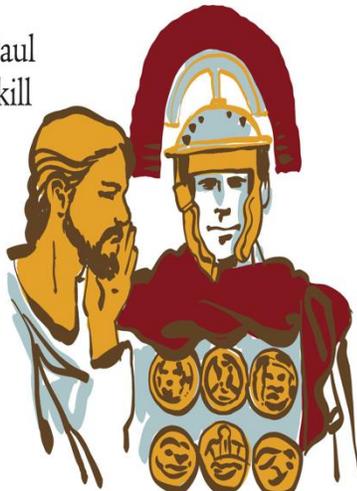
5/16/2021 – 5/23/2021

Sun 5/16	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Seventh Sunday in Easter Outdoor Worship Sunday's KIDS (Online) Worship Service (In-Person and Online) <i>Baptism of Rhodes William Hemond</i>
Mon 5/17	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate AA Meeting
Tue 5/18	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Wed 5/19	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Thu 5/20	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM 5:30 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Bushi Karate
Fri 5/21	8:00 AM 10:30 AM – 1PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution
Sat 5/22	8:00 AM 10:30AM – 1 PM 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Morning GodCast E-Meal Distribution Church Council Retreat
Sun 5/23	9:30 AM 10:00 AM Noon – 4:00 PM	Pentecost – WEAR RED! Outdoor Worship Sunday's KIDS (Online) Worship Service (In-Person and Online) Family Volunteer Day at Garden of Health Food Bank Farm

?? Bible Quiz ??

An unnamed relative of Paul obstructed a conspiracy to kill the apostle. What was this rescuer's relation to Paul?

- A. nephew
- B. niece
- C. brother
- D. sister



Answer: A (See Acts 23:12-22, esp. v. 16.)