

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A TRADITIONAL CHURCH FOR A CONTEMPORARY WORLD



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026, 10:30 AM

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A TRADITIONAL CHURCH FOR A CONTEMPORARY WORLD

PEOPLE OF EMMANUEL, MINISTERS

PASTOR TIM SCHOLL

DAVID KAZIMIR, ORGANIST

PAULETTE GOYTOWSKI, CANTOR

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026, 10:30 AM

* INDICATES TO PLEASE KNEEL OR STAND, AS YOU ARE ABLE

PRELUDE

ENTRANCE RITE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

*GATHERING SONG — GOD IS HERE!

ELW NO. 526

*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.

*GLORIA

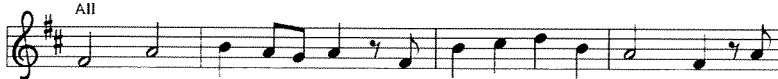
ELW P. 148

Assisting minister

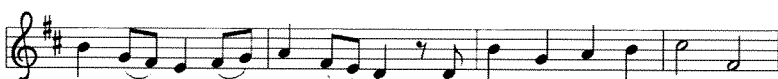


Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

EZEKIEL 18:1-4, 25-32

A Reading from Ezekiel.

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Silence for reflection follows the reading.

PSALM – SUNG RESPONSIVELY

PSALM 25:1-9

*The Cantor introduces the refrain which is repeated by the Assembly.
All join in repeating the Refrain where indicated.*



- ¹ To you, O Lord,
I lift up my soul.
- ² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- ³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
- ⁴ **Show me your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths. R**
- ⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- ⁶ **Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**
- ⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your
goodness, O Lord.
- ⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O Lord;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
- ⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way. **R**

SECOND READING

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13

A reading from Philippians.

- ¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any
partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy
complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of
one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility
regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own
interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in
Christ Jesus,
⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God

as something to be grasped,
⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my
presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with
fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will
and to work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Silence for reflection follows the reading.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*The Cantor introduces the Gospel Acclamation which is repeated by the Assembly.
The verse is sung by the Cantor. All repeat the Acclamation following the verse.*



Alleluia. My sheep hear my voice, ¹ says the Lord;* I know them and they ¹ follow me. *Alleluia.* (John 10:27)

*GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 21:23-32

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

THE REV. TIM SCHOLL

Silence for reflection follows the sermon

*HYMN OF THE DAY — LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD

ELW NO. 517

*APOSTLES' CREED

ELW P. 105

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After "Hear us, O God," congregation responds, "Your mercy is great."

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.
During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Bread,
wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward.*

*HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION



This is Hymn No. 188 from *Evangelica Lutheran Worship*

Text: Psalm 51:11-13

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen (1670-1739), adapted

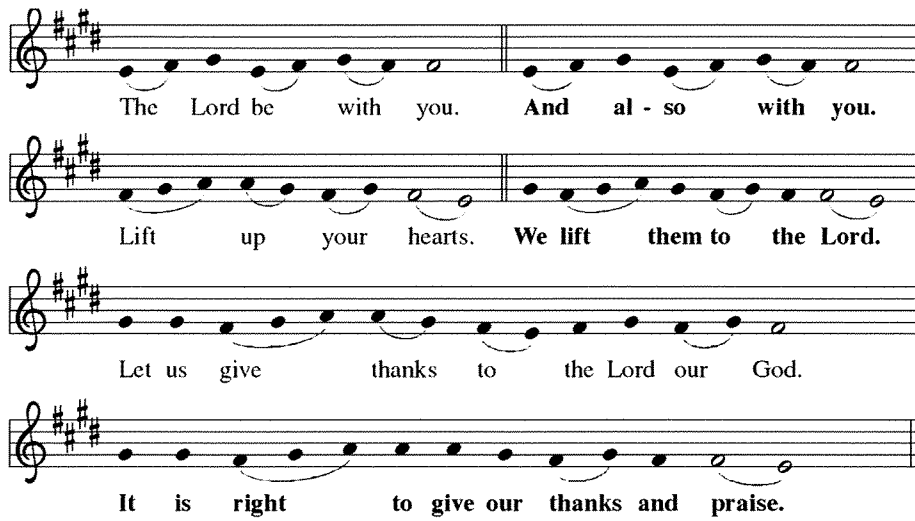
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.
God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in
service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.
Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

All who are baptized and believe with us that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine are invited to communion. Ushers will assist with the communion. Please pick up an empty cup from the small table at the altar rail to receive the wine. Baskets will be placed on either side to dispose of your cup. Individual communion kits will be available from the ushers for those who prefer them. We serve low-gluten bread. If you are unable to come to the Communion rail, please inform an usher and the ministers will bring Communion to you in your pew.

*DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

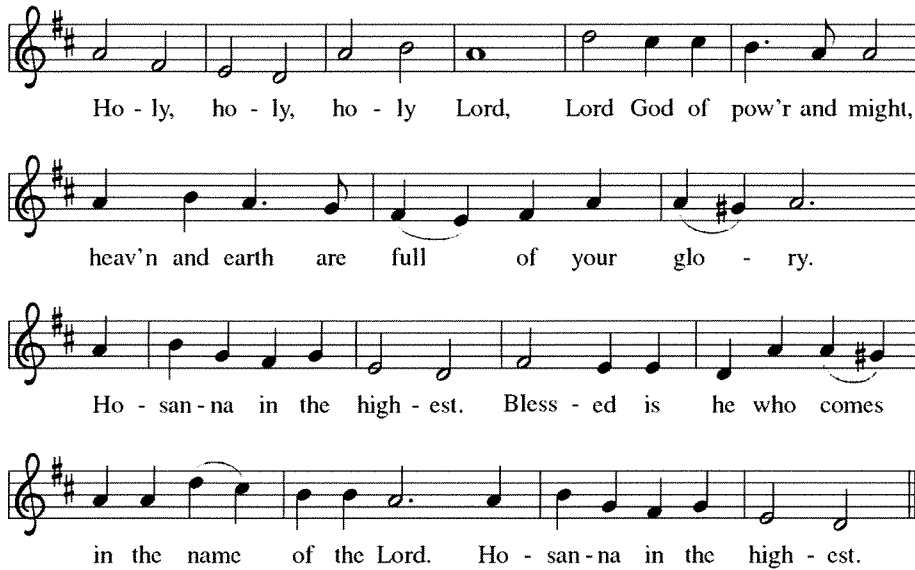
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

*SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n 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.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The presiding minister continues, using one of the following or another appropriate form.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

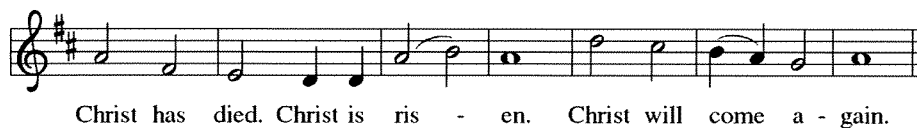
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

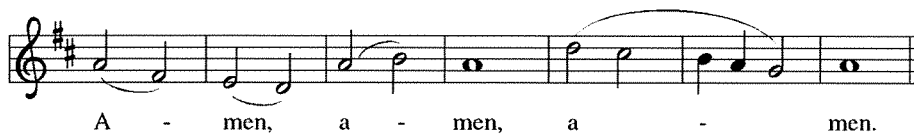
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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



Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



Presider

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for
you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving.

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

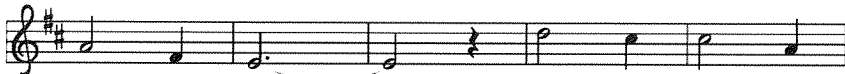


sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION — IN THIS FEAST OF LOVE



Täs - sä pöy - däs - sä, täs - sä
1 In this feast of love, in this
2 In this bread and wine, in this
3 Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us



pöy - däs - sä syn - ti - sil - le
feast of love, Lord, you share your
bread and wine, you have prom - ised,
peace, O Lord; fill us with the



it - se - si an - nat, Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa!
blood and your bod - y, Je - sus, Lamb of God.
Lord, to be with us, Lamb . . of God div - ine.
joy of your Spir - it, ev - er - liv - ing Word.

Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio
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*TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Sustaining God,

with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your
Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your
liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

*BENEDICTION

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMN — O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

ELW NO. 810

*DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

*You are invited to remain for the postlude that concludes our worship.
If you do not wish to stay, please be respectful of those who are listening.*