

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A TRADITIONAL CHURCH FOR A CONTEMPORARY WORLD



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026, 10:30 AM

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A TRADITIONAL CHURCH FOR A CONTEMPORARY WORLD

PEOPLE OF EMMANUEL, MINISTERS

PASTOR TIM SCHOLL

LINDA KEMPKE, ORGANIST

PAULETTE GOYTOWSKI, CANTOR

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026, 10:30 AM

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

PRELUDE — GIVE ME JESUS

SETTING: ANNE KRENTZ ORGAN

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 — GRACIOUS SPIRIT, HEED OUR PLEADING ELW No. 401

*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

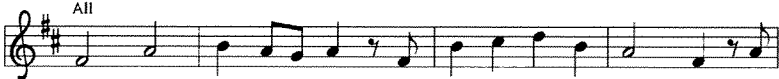
ELW p. 148

Assisting minister



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

All



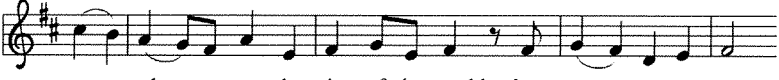
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



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



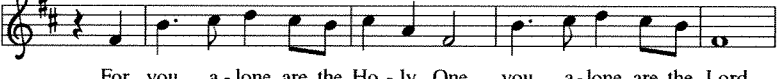
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



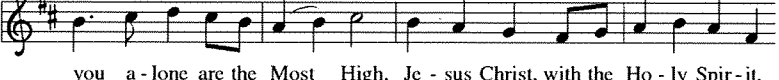
you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



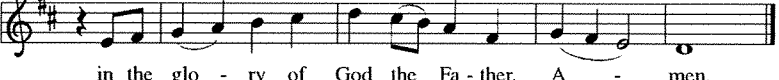
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



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

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants.
Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and
train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

JONAH 3:10-4:11

A Reading from Jonah.

¹⁰ When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

¹ But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

The word of the Lord.

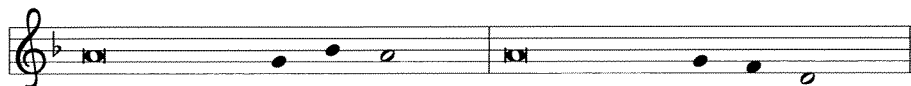
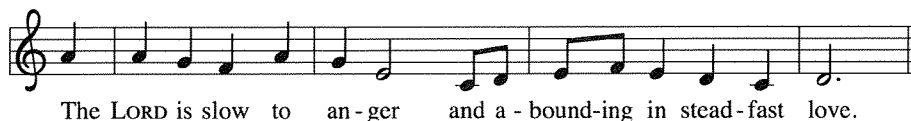
Thanks be to God.

Silence for reflection follows the reading.

PSALM – SUNG RESPONSIVELY

PSALM 145:1-8

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



¹ I will exalt you, my ¹ God and king,
and bless your name forev- ¹ er and ever.

² **Every day ¹ will I bless you
and praise your name forev- ¹ er and ever.**

³ Great is the Lord and greatly ¹ to be praised!
There is no end ¹ to your greatness.

⁴ **One generation shall praise your works ¹ to another
and shall de- ¹ clare your power. R**

⁵ I will speak of the glorious splendor ¹ of your majesty
and all your ¹ marvelous works.

⁶ **They shall tell of the might of your ¹ wondrous acts,
and I will re- ¹ count your greatness.**

⁷ They shall publish the remembrance of ¹ your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully ¹ of your righteousness.

⁸ **The Lord is gracious and full ¹ of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in ¹ steadfast love. R**

SECOND READING

PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

A reading from Philippians.

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For

he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The word of the Lord.

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. Open our ¹ hearts, O Lord,* to give heed to what is said ¹ by your Son. *Alleluia.*

***GOSPEL READING**

MATTHEW 20:1-16

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day

and the scorching heat.’¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?’¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you.¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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 — THERE’S A WIDENESS IN GOD’S MERCY

ELW NO. 588

*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 — BE THOU MY VISION

SETTING: DAVID CHERWIEN

*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

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir-it with in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to
me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

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.

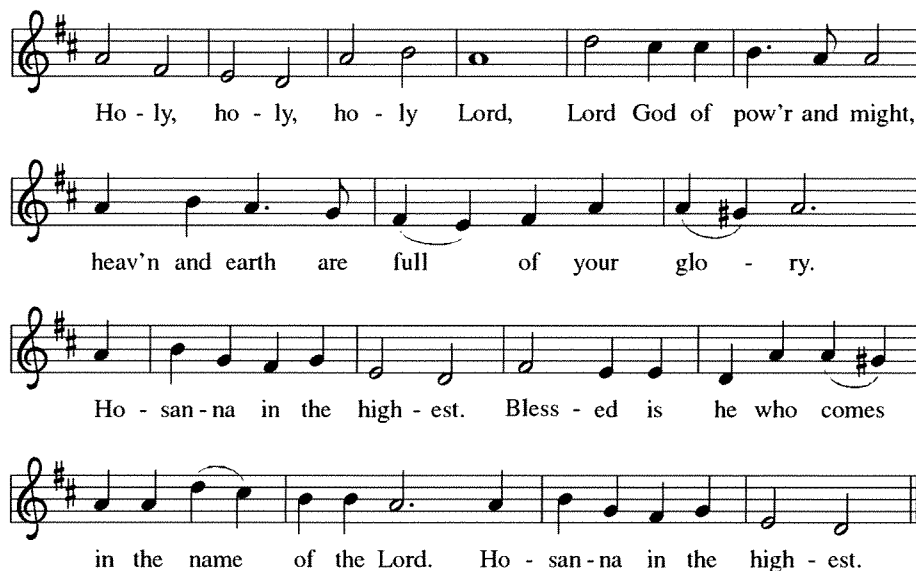
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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.

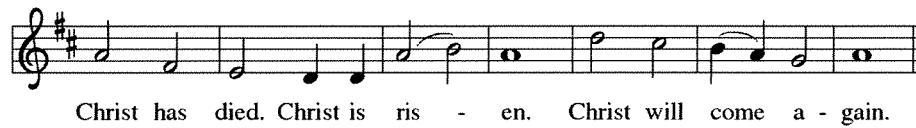
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

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.

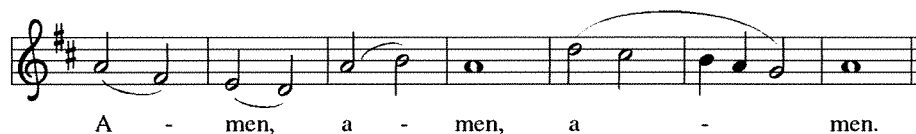
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.



*THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW P. 154

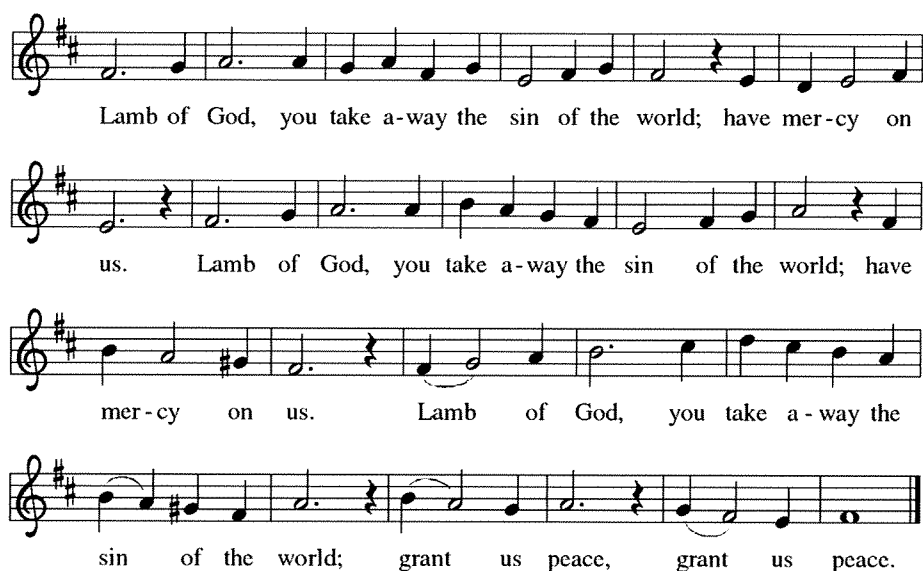
Presider

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



MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION — O BREAD OF LIFE FROM HEAVEN ELW NO. 480

*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 — RISE UP, O SAINTS OF GOD!

ELW No. 669

*DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE — TOCCATA IN E MINOR

JOHANN PACHELBEL

*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.*

SERVING YOU TODAY

The assisting minister for the service is **Helen Dupont**. The reader for the service is **Jackie Kokai**. The technology minister is **Nate Sears**. All are sharing service on the altar guild.

CREDITS

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