

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.** (*Sharing of God's peace may be done as an expression from the heart, without actual contact.*)

Offering (*No passing of baskets; offerings may be placed in the basket located by the church entrance as one leaves; offerings of support may also be given electronically or sent via U.S. mail. Thanks for supporting the ministry of Emmanuel.*)

\*The Great Thanksgiving:—Eucharistic Prayer for Epiphany

\*Lord's Prayer: *Traditional Version* Page 91

*Invitation & Distribution*

\*Benediction

\***Sending Song: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"—LBW #503**

\*Dismissal:

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

### ***WORSHIP SERVANTS Tonight:***

*Pianist: Mary Ann Groven*

*Assisting Minister, Scripture Reader & Prayers: Julie Steffenson*

*Ushers: Pending: Larry & Deb Vomhof*

*Sanitizing Team: Lee & Judy Pearce*

*Sound: Don Holtan*

*Set-up and Take-down: Julie Steffenson & Peg Holtan*

**Thanks** for worshiping with us this evening. Your presence is your gift to us. We pray that our Service of Word & Sacrament is a blessing to you. Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are praising, proclaiming & practicing Emmanuel – God with us – in daily life! Shining Bright for Jesus! Visit us at: [www.emmanuelofrochester.org](http://www.emmanuelofrochester.org)

### **Acts 4:31—The Church Prayed!**

**"And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the Word of God with boldness."**



**Worship—Eve of  
Epiphany III  
January 23, 2021  
6:00 p.m.**

## **“Service of the Word & Sacrament”**

### **Covenant Renewal Service**

\* *indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements: “Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are praising, proclaiming & practicing Emmanuel – God with us – in daily life!”

\***Gathering Song: “You Servants of God”—LBW # 252**

\*Greeting:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And Also with you.**

P: In the beginning was the Word,

**C: And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

P: In the Word was life,

**C: And the life was the light of all people.**

P: The Word became flesh and lived among us,

**C: And we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.** (*John 1*)

\*Song: “Word of God, Come Down on Earth”—WOV #716

**“Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from heaven descending: touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and hope and love unending. Word almighty, we revere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.**

**Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation, Word that came from heaven to die, crucified for our salvation; saving Word, the world restoring, speak to us, your love outpouring ”**

\*Salutation and Prayer of the Day:

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray: Merciful God, through the gift of your grace you call us to repentance, obedience, and eternal life. Transform us so that we are able to set aside all that might prohibit us from following your call to new life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

First Lesson: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

**Psalm 62:1-12** (*Responsively by half verse*)      **SEE INSERT**

Second Lesson: I Corinthians 7:29-35

\***Gospel Verse: “Alleluia” — WOV page 31**



\*Holy Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Children’s Message: “Follow JESUS!” (Posted on Facebook)

Sermon: “Thy Will Be Done!”      Rev. David Steffenson

\***Song: “Jesus Calls Us; O’er the Tumult” — LBW #494**

\***2021 Membership Covenant Renewal Ceremony**

P: God’s chosen people entered the Promise Land & participated in a Covenant Renewal Ceremony (Joshua 24). Joshua assembled God’s people & reminded them of God’s eternal faithfulness & providential care for His people. Joshua commanded God’s people to choose whom they will serve, the false gods of this world, or the LORD God Almighty. Joshua ended his exhortation with these familiar words: “As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

**C: The people responded with one voice: We also will serve the LORD for He is our God. His voice we will obey.**

P: Tonight we remember God’s grace & faithfulness to us, and we renew our pledge to Him. God has made us His people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit & born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, & was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, He rose again. He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

P: Beloved Servants of Emmanuel, you have made public profession of your faith. Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever, do you intend to continue in the covenant that God made with you in baptism: to live among God’s faithful people, to hear His Word and share in His Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word & deed, to serve all people following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ, & to strive for justice & peace in all the earth? Do you intend to practice the marks of discipleship (daily prayer, weekly worship, spiritual growth, Bible reading, service to others, sharing the good news, generous living & giving), and to grow up into the full maturity of Christ?

**C: I do and I ask God to help and guide me.**

L: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. (*Each petition ends with “Lord in your mercy,” ... followed by “HEAR OUR PRAYER”*).

P: Loving God, we thank you for the ministry opportunities that await our congregation in 2021, & for the Servants of Emmanuel who have committed themselves to membership and the walk of discipleship. Grant that all baptized believers may praise, proclaim, and practice your saving presence in daily life. Into your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray; trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

**Discipleship Membership 2021:** We have received 60 signed covenants. MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP: Signposts guide our way—Disciples seek to pray daily, worship weekly, grow spiritually, read and study Scripture on a regular basis, serve others, share the good news, and live & give generously. Thanks for making Emmanuel Lutheran a church home in your life; a place where discipleship is lived & practiced for the glory of God!

**Men's Bible Study IN-PERSON:** Join us on Wednesdays, Feb. 10 & 24 from 11am-12:00 Noon for a study of the appointed Bible Readings for the week ahead. We'll meet in the Oasis Church, wearing masks & practicing safe, physical distancing. Bring a Bible.

### Epiphany Season: "The WORD Made Flesh"

- A Special Liturgy will be used during the Season of Epiphany.
- Saturday, January 23, 2021: Annual Covenant Renewal Service celebrating the gift of Membership at Emmanuel Lutheran, and Discipleship in the name of Jesus. Holy Communion will be distributed following worship. Annual Reports distributed!
- Saturday, January 30 — **Annual Meeting** following worship!
- Saturday, February 13, 2021—Feast of Transfiguration (Bring Palm Fronds from last year; Ashes for Ash Wednesday).

### Looking Ahead—LENT 2021

Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 17. Tentatively, we plan on having worship at 6pm on Feb. 17. The Imposition of Ashes and the Lord's Supper will be offered with "physical distancing care". We will not be hosting mid-week soup suppers and services as we have done in the past. Pastor Dave will be prepare and post a mid-week message with music on our Emmanuel Face Book Page and Church Website. Our Lenten Theme this year is "*Real Presence in Unexpected Places!*" In the Season of Lent, as we walk with Jesus to the cross, we will see how God reveals Himself continually in unexpected places & unexpected ways. Marked with the cross of Christ, God opens our eyes to behold His Real Presence, His saving grace, in the flesh of our crucified and risen Savior. We can expect the unexpected, because God is with us, in us, for us and working through us! Real Presence!

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota  
Contact Information: 3819—18th Ave. NW, Rochester, MN  
Phone: 507-206-3048 [www.emmanuelofrochester.org](http://www.emmanuelofrochester.org)

# The Emmanuel Weekly

January 23, 2021

Eve of Epiphany III - 6 pm

**"Praising, Proclaiming and Practicing  
Emmanuel—God with us—in daily life!"**

**Save the Date! — Annual Meeting**  
Saturday, January 30, 2021.

Emmanuel Lutheran will hold its Annual Meeting next Saturday, Jan. 30, following an abbreviated Service of Worship. The Annual Report has been distributed electronically & is available in print.

### Children's Worship Bags

Worship Bags are available for kids each week. We hope children enjoy these resources during worship. Please take the bags home with you!

### Sanctity Of Human Life

Throughout the month of January, we are celebrating the sacredness of human life. Thanks is offered to everyone who contributed gifts in support of the New Life Family Services Baby Shower last weekend. We received gifts in excess of \$1,000, and delivered them to New Life!

**The January Emmanuel Epistle Newsletter & Prayer Calendar are available! Also, pick up your copy of Our Daily Bread Devotional for December-February.**



### CALENDAR ITEMS

- Saturday, January 23 Epiphany III Worship at 6pm—"Covenant Renewal Liturgy"; Holy Communion served following worship!
- Tuesday, January 26 Men's Email Bible Study at 8:30am
- Saturday, January 30 Epiphany IV Worship at 6pm, followed by Annual Meeting (7pm)
- Wednesday, Feb. 3 Zoom Council Mtg. @1pm
- Sundays, January 31 & February 28 at 5pm "Implementation Team Meetings" at Oasis.
- **4:31 — Prayer Time each day. Thanks for joining us!**

### **Gospel Reading: Mark 1:14-20**

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Mark the 1st. Chapter.

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

14 After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." 16 Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 17 And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." 18 And immediately they left their nets and followed him. 19 And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. 20 And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **PRAYERS—Bulletin page 3**

L: Heavenly Father, you called Jonah to preach repentance to Nineveh; and your Son called his disciples to proclaim repentance and the coming of your Kingdom. Give your Church boldness in its proclamation of good news, so that many may gladly turn to Christ Jesus and be saved. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: Lord, give us ears to hear your call, that we may at once leave all earthly attachments and follow you. Grant us obedience to your will and your Word. Grant healing to all who are sick and in need of your compassion [**NAMES**]. Guide our leaders, both in church and in state, with your goodness and grace. Restore your world and its people, that your holy will may be done on earth as it is in heaven. Lord in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

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**Epiphany III:** The call of God is serious business. It is rooted in God's desire for all people to know Him & be in a loving relationship with him. Those who are called are sent out to fish for people, the people God loves. This call is an urgent one. It cannot wait. And it's not about us — it's about Jesus reconciling the whole world to the Father, who sent his Son to usher in the Kingdom of God in the here and now.

### **Gathering Song: "You Servants of God"—LBW #252**

1. You servants of God, your master proclaim,  
And publish abroad his wonderful name;  
The name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;  
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all!
2. Salvation to God who sits on the throne!  
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.  
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,  
Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

### **Song of the Day: "Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult"— LBW #494 (Vs 1-2 before sermon; Vs 3-4 after sermon)**

1. Jesus calls us o'er the tumult  
of our life's wild, restless sea;  
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,  
saying "Christian, follow me."
2. As, of old, apostles heard it  
by the Galilean lake,  
turned from home and toil and kindred,  
leaving all for his dear sake.
3. Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying "Christian, love me more."
4. Jesus calls us; by thy mercies,  
Savior, may we hear thy call,  
give our hearts to thine obedience,  
serve and love thee best of all.

**Sending Song: “O Jesus, I Have Promised”—LBW #503**

1. O Jesus, I have promised, To serve thee to the end;  
Be thou forever near me, My Master and my friend;  
I shall not fear the battle, If thou art by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway, If thou wilt be my guide.
2. O Jesus, thou hast promised, To all who follow thee  
That where thou art in glory, There shall thy servant be.  
And, Jesus, I have promised, To serve thee to the end;  
O give me grace to follow, My Master and my friend.

**Jonah 3:1-5, 10 — Repentance Everyone!**

1 The word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, 2 “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” 3 So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. 4 Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” 5 And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. ... 10 When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

***Psalm 62:1-12 — read responsively***

L: For God alone my soul waits in silence;

**C: From him comes my salvation.**

L: He alone is my rock and my salvation,

**C: My fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.**

L: How long will all of you attack a man to batter him,

**C: Like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?**

L: They only plan to thrust him down from his high position.

**C: They take pleasure in falsehood. They bless with their mouths, but inwardly they curse.**

L: For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,

**C: For my hope is from him.**

L: He only is my rock and my salvation,

**C: My fortress; I shall not be shaken.**

L: On God rests my salvation and my glory;

**C: My mighty rock, my refuge is God.**

L: Trust in him at all times, O people;

**C: Pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.**

L: Those of low estate are but a breath; those of high estate are a delusion;

**C: In the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.**

L: Put no trust in extortion; set no vain hopes on robbery;

**C: If riches increase, set not your heart on them.**

L: Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this:

**C: That power belongs to God,**

L: And that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.

**C: For you will render to a man according to his work.**

**I Corinthians 7:29-35 — Free from Anxieties**

29 This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, 30 and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, & those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, 31 and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. 32 I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. 33 But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, 34 and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. 35 I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**