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2015 Membership Covenant Renewal Ceremony

P: The Chosen people of God entered the Promise Land and participated in a Covenant Renewal Ceremony (Joshua 24). Joshua assembled God’s people and reminded them of God’s eternal faithfulness and 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 and 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 and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and 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. Clothed 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 and deed, to serve all people following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ, & to strive for justice and peace in all the earth, practicing the marks of discipleship (prayer, worship, spiritual growth, Bible reading, service to others, sharing the good news, generous giving), and growing up into the full maturity of Christ?

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

A: Let us pray for the whole people 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 2015, & 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.

C: Amen.

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

C: And also with you.

P: Share God’s peace with one another. *(followed by offering)*

Psalm 62—responsively

L: For God alone my soul waits in silence;

C: From him comes my salvation.

L: He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress;

C: I shall not be greatly shaken.

L: How long will all of you attack a man to batter him, like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?

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

L: They take pleasure in falsehood.

C: They bless with their mouths, but inwardly they curse.

L: For God alone, O my soul, waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

C: He only is my rock and my salvation, 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; pour out your heart before him;

C: 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: that power belongs to God, and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.

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



Thanks for worshiping with us this evening. Your presence is your gift to us. We pray that our Service of Word and Sacrament is a blessing to you. Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever we are praising, proclaiming and practicing Emmanuel – God with us – in daily life!

Visit us at: www.emmanuelofrochester.org.



Worship
Eve - Epiphany III
Jan. 24, 2015
6:00 p.m.

ReClaim Hymnal
Covenant Renewal Ceremony

** indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements—Read NALC Articles of Faith

*Gathering Hymn: “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”

..... Verses 1-2 of #239

*Salutation and Prayer of the Day

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: And Also with you.

P: Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit, that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the broken hearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

First Lesson: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62

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Second Lesson: I Corinthians 7:29-31

*Holy Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Children’s Message: “Immediately”

Sermon: “God Goes Fishing”

Rev. David Steffenson

*Hymn of the Day: “Jesus Calls Us; O’er the Tumult”

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[Covenant Renewal Ceremony](#)

Bulletin Pages 2-3

Offering

Emmanuel Annual Meeting—TONIGHT, Saturday, January 24:

Members of Emmanuel Lutheran will assemble following worship on Jan. 24 for our Annual Meeting. We will be approving Constitution & Bylaw changes, & electing people to the following positions:

Two—2 year council positions (Arne Nelson & Kari Richards have agreed to serve) and One—1 year council position (Don Holtan has agreed to serve).

Nominating Committee for 2015—four people needed (Judy Pearce & Leitha Bothun have agreed to serve)!

Audit Committee for 2015—three people needed (Larry Vomhof, Darald Bothun, & Rich Sunde have agreed to serve)!

Financial Secretary for 2015: Deb Vomhof

Voting Lay-member for NALC Convocations: Lee Pearce; Alternate: Julie Steffenson.

50 signed covenants have been received!

MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP: Signposts guide our way—Disciples seek to pray daily, worship weekly, grow spiritually, read & study Scripture on a regular basis, serve others, share the good news, and give generously.

Men's Bible Study Breakfast: Weekly fellowship around God's Word at 8 am Tuesdays at Charlie's (1408 2nd. St. SW). Join us in being Evangelical. Invite a friend. Share the Good News! We will meet on Tuesday, January 27 & discuss the readings for Epiphany IV: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; I Corinthians 8:1-13; and Mark 1:21-28.

Saturday School: 5:10 p.m.—Christian Education for all ages on Saturdays prior to Worship! Each week we'll enjoy singing, a Bible Lesson/Craft and a snack (kid friendly). If anyone has any ideas for a more 'exciting' name for Saturday School—we'd love to hear it! Contact Julie Steffenson for more information or to share your ideas: (507)-206-3048.

Looking Ahead: Emmanuel will host its first Mother-Daughter Brunch on Sat, May 2, 2015 (11am-2pm). Judy Pearce & friends are organizing this event. Save the Date and bring that special mother or daughter in your life to this special event! Contact Judy if you would like to help with this event.

SAVE THE DATE! Sat, April 18, 2015 (6:00pm) - Emmanuel Lutheran Choir, Grafton, IA will perform an Easter Cantata at Emmanuel Lutheran, Rochester, MN.

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 — God Calls Jonah, Again

1 Then 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.

I Corinthians 7:29-31 — The Time is Short!

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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Communion is the Lord's Supper for the Lord's People: "All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation." *We are practicing head of the aisle Communion tonight by means of Intinction.*

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:14-20

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st Chapter.

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

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, 15 & 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, & they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

WORSHIP SERVANTS Tonight:

Pianist: MarJean Damerval

Scripture Reader/Prayers: Leitha Bothun

Communion Server: Darald Bothun

Sound: Don Holtan

Set-up: Julie Steffenson

Take Down: Janet Sunde

Ushers: Larry Vomhof & Ava Siebenaler

Coffee: Peg Holtan

Chili: Judy Pearce

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota
Contact Information: 1815—38th Street NW, Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-206-3048 www.emmanuelofrochester.org

The Emmanuel Weekly

Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015
Eve of Epiphany III - 6 pm

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

***SOUTH EAST MN AREA
CHRISTIANS
VOLUNTEERS OFFERING
A HELPING HAND***

Please keep Larry Vomhof and his faithful volunteers in your prayers as they depart to Brookport-Unionville, Illinois for servant work during the weeks of Jan. 25-Feb. 7, 2015. They will help rebuild after last year's tornadoes. Since 1998, Larry and his group of 25 volunteers have been using their God-given talents & faith to bring hope & healing to communities hit by various forms of natural disaster. If you would like to participate in this servant work, offering your time, money, or prayers, give Larry a call.

EMMANUEL WINTER FUN DAY!

On Sunday, Feb. 15 from 1-3 p.m. Members & Friends of Emmanuel are invited to cross country ski at Oxbow Park at 5731 County Rd. 105 NW, Byron, MN. For those not wishing to ski, fellowship, nature walking, animal observation, games, and refreshments will be enjoyed in the large classroom/equipment room. Ski Rental Cost: \$5 for adults & children. Bring snacks & games to share with the other participants. Questions? Call Pastor Fred (218-371-5647), or the Bothuns (507-252-8735). We hope you can join us!



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Saturday, January 24
Saturday School @ 5:10pm; Epiphany III
Worship @ 6pm; Annual
Mtg. with Chili Supper @ 7:30pm
- Sunday, January 25
Mission Team departs
for Illinois!
- Tuesday, January 27
Men's Bible Study Bkft.
at Charlie's (8 am)
- Saturday, January 31
Saturday School @ 5:10pm; Epiphany IV
Worship @ 6pm
- Feb. 1-6—Pastor Dave in
Tacoma, Washington
- Tuesday, February 10
Men's Bible Study Bkft.
at Charlie's (8 am);
Council Mtg. @ 10am

Prayers:

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence

A: Lord God, you chose the apostle Paul to be your instrument to proclaim your holy name before the people of all nations. Stir up the Holy Spirit in your Church, that we may continue to proclaim before all people that Jesus is the Son of God. Deliverance belongs to you alone. Give repentant hearts to all people. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: The Gospel which Paul proclaimed is not of human origin. Grant that all pastors may be given boldness to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ as it has been received from the Holy Spirit through the holy Apostles. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: You promised that all who leave behind their old life to follow you will receive sustenance and consolation in this world, and eternal life in the world to come. Sustain all missionaries and seminarians as they seek to follow your call to serve, and give them all that they need for life in the body. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: In you alone O LORD our souls wait in silence. You are our Rock and our salvation. We shall not be shaken. Give to the leaders of our nation and of the world the wisdom and the will to govern with justice for the sake of all people. Give to every person the desire for peace, & give to those who must defend the weak courage and strength. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Your call O God creates the response of faith and obedience. Teach us the art of catching people for your kingdom. The present form of this world is passing away. Time is short. Help us to redeem the time. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: We pray for the gift of healing for those we name before you (*names are mentioned*). We give thanks for all who have died in the peace of Christ, especially those most dear to us who rest in you. Inspire us, together with all whom you have set apart and called through your grace, to serve you as they did in this life, and at the last receive the eternal life you have promised to your people. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.