

First Lesson: Genesis 12:1-9

Psalm 121 (*Responsively by half verse*)

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Second Lesson: Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

*Gospel Verse: "Return to the Lord"

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*Holy Gospel: John 3:1-17

Children's Message: "God Keeps Us!" — **Kid's Choir**

Sermon: "Are you Born Again?" Rev. David Steffenson

***Hymn of the Day: "What Wondrous Love Is This"** #385

*Confession:

P: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in Him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

P: 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: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: Pray in the Holy Spirit.

P: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: Look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C: Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another. Gracious God,

C: Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen.

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you. (*Share God's peace with one another.*)

Offering - Gift of Music by MarJean

*The Great Thanksgiving: - Eucharistic Prayer for Lent

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

Invitation & Distribution: 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 & risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread & wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation." We are practicing head of the aisle Communion tonight by means of Intinction.

Lamb of God Page 92

Communion Hymn: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" #479

*Table Blessing

*Closing Prayers Bulletin page 4

*Benediction

***Sending Hymn: "Lift High the Cross"** #377

*Dismissal Page 95

Postlude

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

CLOSING PRAYERS

A: Holy God, teach us what it means to be born again through our daily union into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus. Grant us repentant hearts and the joy of being a blessing to all people. Your love gives us faith, makes us righteous, and bestows upon us the free gift of eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Holy God, be gracious to travelers, immigrants, refugees, and all who have left their homes by choice or necessity. Give them safety and refreshment, hopefulness and faith upon their way. Set before their eyes the example of Abram and Sarai, so that their journey is sheltered by your watchful presence and finds its end in your loving embrace. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Holy God, watch over all who endure pain, sorrow, fear, doubt, loneliness or despair, especially: [Names]. Be their shelter in the storms of life and give hope to their hearts, health to their bodies, calm confidence to their minds; and unshakable faith to their souls. Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, most merciful Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

WORSHIP SERVANTS Tonight:

Pianist: MarJean Damerval

Scripture Reader, & Closing Prayers: Matt Serr

Communion Server: Jenna Serr

Ushers: Brock Edwards & LeRoy Quam

Acolyte: Elijah Matzke

Coffee: Peg Holtan Treats: Nora Serr & Barb Steffenson

Sound: Don Holtan

Set-up: Julie Steffenson

Take-down: Janet Sunde & friends

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



Worship - Lent II
March 11, 2017
6:00 p.m.

Lutheran Book of Worship “Service of Word & Sacrament”

** indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

***Gathering Hymn: “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” #107**

***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: The Word is near you.

C: On your lips and in your heart.

P: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

C: And believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

P: Faith comes from what is heard,

C: And what is heard comes through the Word of Christ.

***Lenten Song: “All Who Believe and Are Baptized” #194**

*Salutation and Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of your humble servants and stretch forth the right hand of your majesty to be our defense against all our enemies. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Genesis 12:1-9 — God’s Covenant with Abraham

1 Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” 4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. 5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, 6 Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. 7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. 8 From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. 9 And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17 — Faith as Righteousness

1 What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. 3 For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” 4 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. 5 And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, 6 just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: 7 “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; 8 blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” ... 13 For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. 14 For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. 15 For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. 16 That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring — not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 17 as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations” — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading — John 3:1-17

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. John the 3rd Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” 3 Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” 4 Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” 5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” 9 Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” 10 Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? 11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

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 and practicing Emmanuel – God with us – in daily life! May the power of the Holy Spirit grant repentant hearts to God’s people during the 40 Days of Lent!

Visit us at: www.emmanuelofrochester.org.

Saturday School: Kids are invited to enjoy Christian learning each week at 5:10pm while adults are sharing Faith Conversation (G.I.F.T.). Once a month youth enjoy Song Time with MarJean.

The Emmanuel Weekly

March 11, 2017

Lent II - 6 pm

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

BAPTISM: Walking Wet

During the Season of Lent our Baptismal Font will be located at the entrance of our Worship Space, reminding us that baptism is our entrance into the Kingdom of God. Dip your finger into the waters of baptism and trace the cross on your forehead. Remember that you are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. God’s Word. God’s Promise!

Lenten worship each Tuesday during Lent will be at 6pm, preceded by a soup supper at 5pm. Our liturgy will be a revised edition of Holden Evening Prayer. Our sermon series will look at Martin Luther’s Small and Large Catechisms. Contact Julie Steffenson if you would like to provide soup, bread or milk for one of the suppers.

Thanks!

We offer thanks to God for our Kids Choir and their gift of Music! Thanks also to MarJean Damerval their Director.

The March Emmanuel Prayer Calendar and Epistle Newsletter are available in print! Also, pick up your copy of the current issue of the “Our Daily Bread Devotional”.



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Saturday, March 11 - Saturday School @ 5:10pm; G.I.F.T. at 5:15pm; Lent II Worship at 6pm with a Gift of Music by our Kid’s Choir
- Sunday, March 12 Daylight Savings Time Begins. Spring Ahead!
- Tues, March 14 - Men’s Bible Study (8am) — Day 73 (pp 252-254); Text Study (10:30am); Soup Supper (5pm); Lenten Worship (6pm)
- Wednesday, March 15 Worship @ Madonna Towers (1pm)
- Saturday, March 18 - Saturday School @ 5:10pm; G.I.F.T. at 5:15pm; Lent III Worship at 6pm)

Communication Cards - Offering Envelopes: The offering envelope in your bulletin is also being used as a visitor and communication card. If you are visiting with us, please know that your presence is your gift to us. We have a generous congregation & ask only that you share your contact information with us. Members & visitors may use the communication envelopes to indicate a desire for a pastoral visit, a prayer concern, or changes in contact information. Envelopes may be placed in the offering basket. Thanks.

Men’s Bible Study Breakfast: Each week, Emmanuel Men are meeting on Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. at Oasis Church for Bible Study and a continental breakfast. We are currently reading and discussing the Bible (Genesis-Revelation). Read pages 252-254 of the NIV Once A Day Bible (DAY 73) in preparation for this week’s study (i.e. Numbers 22:21-23:26; Luke 1:26-38; & Psalm 33:12-22).

Women of the Word! The Afternoon Bible Study Group will begin a new study after Easter (April 20-June 8) on Thursdays at 1pm at Oasis Church. The topic will be a Lutheran Understanding of Marriage and Family. The Evening Bible Study Group continues its study on Revelation monthly at the home of Katie Siebenaler at 6:30pm. Next Session: Wednesday, April 19.

Worship At Madonna Towers: On the first & third Wednesdays of each month, Emmanuel members are invited to participate in a ministry to area seniors. Our next Worship Service will be on Wednesday, March 15 at 1:00 pm. Give Lee Pearce a call if you would like to participate in this wonderful ministry.

Next Chapter Ministries is hosting their annual Restoration Celebration fundraiser on Friday, March 17 from 6-8pm. Location: Rochester International Event Center. Tickets are \$25.00 each. Register online at www.nextchapterrochester.org. Next Chapter’s mission is to build lasting relationships with those in our community who have been impacted by crime, restoring them to God, family, and community with the Gospel of God.

WORSHIP BAGS: A new resource is available for the children of our worshipping community. Interactive, age-appropriate, bags are available as families enter the worship space. Parents of young children have already commented on how wonderful these bags are for keeping small children engaged in worship. Children’s Bulletins are also available at the entrance of the worship space. Visit with Julie Steffenson if you have questions or suggestions.