

\*Benediction

\*Hymn: “Remember God is Gracious” *(to the tune of: “The Church’s One Foundation” —LBW #369)*

\*Dismissal:

P: Repent and Believe in the Gospel!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

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

Pianist: Karen Salz

Sound: Don Holtan

Assisting Minister/Scripture Reader/Prayers: Julie Steffenson

Usher: Rich Sunde

Sanitizing Team: Janet Sunde

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

**Midweek Virtual Worship during the Season of Lent:** “Real Presence in Unexpected Places!” Join us for Midweek worship via our Emmanuel Facebook Page & our Emmanuel Church Website.

### **“Real Presence in Unexpected Places”—LENT 2021**

Wednesday, March 17: “It’s a Miracle” (John 2:1-11)

Wednesday, March 24: “God’s Got Plans for YOU!” (Jer. 29:10-14)

Eve of Palm Sunday, Mar. 27: “Barefoot on Holy Ground” (Ex. 3:1-15)

Maundy Thursday, April 1: “Servants of the Towel”

(John 13:1-20; 34-35) – Guest Preacher: Dallas Groten

Good Friday, April 2: “Dead Man Walking” (Luke 23:32-43)

Eve of Easter, April 3: “Practicing Resurrection & Real Presence”

(John 20 & Mark 16)

Easter Monday, April 5: Reading through the entire 27 Books of the New Testament in celebration of our Lord’s Resurrection!

**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)**



**Worship--Lent IV**  
**March 13, 2021**  
**6:00 p.m.**

## **Lutheran Book of Worship**

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

*\* indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

\*Hymn: “Lift High the Cross” — LBW #377

\*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.**

\*Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray: Holy Father, renew us daily in the gift of baptism and remind us of the promise we have through your Son’s cross. Let us always look to the cross as the sure & certain sign of forgiveness of sins, hope and healing in this life, and the promise of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

First Lesson: Numbers 21:4-9

**Psalm 107:1-9** (*Responsively by half verse*)

**INSERT**

Second Lesson: Ephesians 2:1-10

\*Gospel Verse: "Return to the Lord"

LBW Page 83

\*Holy Gospel: John 3:14-21

Children's Message: "Jesus Lifted Me!" (Facebook Page)

Sermon: "God IS Rich in Mercy!"

Rev. David Steffenson

**\*Hymn of the Day:** "Jesus Lifted Me!" — WOV #673 (Verses 1-2 before the Sermon; Verses 3-4 after the Sermon)

**\*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.** (*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.)

\*Prayers: (Each petition ends with "Lord in your Mercy"; and the people respond with, "**Hear our prayer**".

**Communion Hymn: "In Christ Alone" — ReClaim #215**

\*Eucharistic Prayer for Lent

\*Lord's Prayer: *Traditional Version*

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, & believe that Jesus Christ, crucified & risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread & wine for the forgiveness of sins, life & salvation." We are practicing distancing Communion following worship tonight. Please follow the directions of the ushers. With repentant hearts, we receive the body & blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. Gluten-free wafers & consecrated grape juice are available.*

## Easter Monday (April 5): In-Home Bible Reading!

Each year, on Easter Monday, Emmanuel Lutheran publicly reads the entire N.T. (all 27 Books of the New Testament) in celebration of our Lord's Resurrection. Last year was a virtual tag-team reading of the N.T. due to COVID-19. We had 38 participants. This year will be our 6th year in a row of reading the N.T. on Easter Monday. Due to COVID-19, we are inviting participants to select a Book of the New Testament and to commit to reading it out loud (**in their home**) anytime on Easter Monday. The Jewish Day begins in the evening at 6pm. That means participants can read their chosen Book(s) of the N.T. anytime from 6pm on Easter night (April 4) through Midnight on April 5. Contact Pastor Steffenson indicating the N.T. Book you wish to read. Pastor Dave and Julie Steffenson have already committed to reading Matthew and Revelation. Arne & Samia Nelson have signed up for 1 & 2 Peter, and 1 & 2 & 3 John. How about you?

### **NEW TESTAMENT: Books—# of Chapters—Reading Time**

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Matthew - 28 - 2hrs.           | 2. Mark - 16 - 1hr. 20min.        |
| 3. Luke - 24 - 2.5hrs.            | 4. John - 21 - 2 hrs.             |
| 5. Acts - 28 - 2.5hrs.            | 6. Romans - 16 - 1hr.             |
| 7. I Corinthians - 16 - 2hrs.     | 8. II Corinthians - 13 - 45min.   |
| 9. Galatians - 6 - 30min.         | 10. Ephesians - 6 - 25min.        |
| 11. Philippians - 4 - 15min.      | 12. Colossians - 4 - 15min.       |
| 13. I Thessalonians - 5 - 15min.  | 14. II Thessalonians - 3 - 10min. |
| 15. I Timothy - 6 - 20min.        | 16. II Timothy - 4 - 15min.       |
| 17. Titus - 3 - 10min.            | 18. Philemon - 1 - 3min.          |
| 19. Hebrews - 13 - 1hr.           | 20. James - 5 - 20min.            |
| 21. I Peter - 5 - 25min.          | 22. II Peter - 3 - 15min.         |
| 23. I John - 5 - 15min.           | 24. II John - 1 - 2min.           |
| 25. III John - 1 - 2min.          | 26. Jude - 1 - 7min.              |
| 27. Revelation - 22 - 1hr. 15min. |                                   |

**Fourth Sunday in Lent:** The reality of sin in human life brought on death, but that was not God's intention for the crowning glory of his creation. Through Jesus, God came to put an end to sin, death, and the power of the "sons of disobedience," as St. Paul put it. Thanks to Christ, who was lifted up on the cross, God's mercy has been given to all who believe. He has made us alive together with Christ, and we are saved by grace.

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# The Emmanuel Weekly

**March 13, 2021**

**Lent IV - 6 pm**

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

### **BAPTISM: Walking Wet**

During the 40 days of Lent, we remember our baptism into the death & resurrection of Jesus. This year on Wednesdays during Lent, we will be participating in virtual worship via our Emmanuel Facebook page. Each week we will hear stories of how God reveals Himself as saving grace and real presence in unexpected places.

### **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/live generously.

### **M'm! M'm! Good! Lenten Soup!**

On Saturdays in Lent, Emmanuel is collecting store-bought soup which will be given to the local Salvation Army Food Pantry. Thanks for sharing the Real Presence of Jesus in your care for others.  
209 cans collected so far.

**The March Emmanuel Prayer Calendar & Epistle Newsletter are available in print! Also, pick up your copy of the current "Our Daily Bread".**



### **CALENDAR ITEMS**

- Saturday, Mar. 13, Lent IV Worship at 6pm; **Collecting SOUP!** 209 cans received thus far.
- Sunday, March 14 **Spring Ahead @ 2am Daylight Saving Time;** Implementation Team Mtg. @ 5pm (Oasis)
- Monday, March 15 Worship Technician Training at 7pm
- Tuesday, March 16 Men's Email Bible Study @ 8:30am.
- Saturday, March 20, Lent V Worship at 6pm; **Collecting SOUP!**
- April 5, Easter Monday Reading of the entire New Testament!
- **4:31 — Prayer Time!**

### Numbers 21:4-9 — Fiery Serpents

4 From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. 5 And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” 6 Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. 7 And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. 8 And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” 9 So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### *Psalm 107:1-9 — Read responsively*

L: Oh give thanks to the LORD for he is good,

**C: For his steadfast love endures forever!**

L: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble, and gathered in from the lands,

**C: From the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.**

L: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in;

**C: Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.**

L: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,

**C: And he delivered them from their distress.**

L: He led them by a straight way

**C: Till they reached a city to dwell in.**

L: Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,

**C: For his wondrous works to the children of man!**

L: For he satisfies the longing soul,

**C: And the hungry soul he fills with good things.**

### Ephesians 2:1-10 — Alive Together with Christ

1 You were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of

the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience — 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — **by grace you have been saved** — 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Reading — John 3:14-21

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

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

14 [Jesus said to Nicodemus,] “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. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. 19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. 21 But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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.

**Men's Bible Study IN-PERSON:** Join us on Wednesdays, March 24 and April 7 & 21 at 11am 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.

**Looking Ahead: Emmanuel Huddle!** Members of Emmanuel Lutheran Church will enjoy a time of conversation & information sharing on Saturday, April 17. We will have a shorter service of worship that night and begin our Huddle no later than 7pm. The Huddle will be held in the Worship Space of Oasis Church and will conclude no later than 8pm. The Implementation Team will provide an update of their work. Emmanuel Members will have an opportunity to ask questions and share feedback. No motions will be made and no actions will be taken, as this is a Huddle and not a congregational meeting. Masks will be worn & physical distancing will be observed. SAVE THE DATE!

**Children's Ministry Worship Bags:** Available for kids each week. We hope children enjoy these resources during worship. Youth are asked to take the bags home with them. We look forward to the time when we can resume in-person Saturday School with our little ones. Until then, we will provide resources for our children & Pastor Dave will continue to post Children's Messages on our Emmanuel Website and Facebook Page.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars:** If you have Thrivent Products don't forget to designate your Choice Dollars. Call #1-800-847-4836, or Go online at [www.thrivent.org](http://www.thrivent.org). Emmanuel has received \$817.00 in 2021 in Choice Dollars. Thank You for your support!

*Thanks for worshiping with us this evening. Your presence is your gift to us. We pray that our Service of Word 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](http://www.emmanuelofrochester.org).

## **Opening Hymn: "Lift High the Cross" — LBW #377**

Refrain: *Lift high the cross, The love of Christ proclaim, Till all the world, Adore His sacred name.*

1. Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod, Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain:
2. Led on their way, By this triumphant sign, The hosts of God, In conquering ranks combine. Refrain:
3. All newborn soldiers of the Crucified, Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. Refrain:
4. O Lord, once lifted, On the glorious tree, As Thou hast promised, Draw the world to Thee. Refrain:
5. So shall our song of triumph ever be: Praise to the Crucified For victory. Refrain:

## **Hymn of the Day: "Jesus Lifted Me" — WOV #673 (Vs 1-2 before the Sermon; Vs 3-4 after the Sermon)**

1. I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.  
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.  
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,  
Singin' Glory, Glory, Glory, Jesus lifted me!
2. Satan had me bound; Jesus lifted me.  
Satan had me bound; Jesus lifted me.  
Satan had me bound; Jesus lifted me,  
Singin' Glory, Glory, Glory, Jesus lifted me!
3. When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,  
Singin' Glory, Glory, Glory, Jesus lifted me!
4. I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.  
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.  
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,  
Singin' Glory, Glory, Glory, Jesus lifted me!

## Communion Hymn: “In Christ Alone” — ReClaim #215

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song.  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My comforter, my all in all,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.
2. No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry, to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck, me from His hand.  
Till He returns, or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

## Closing Hymn: “Remember God is Gracious”

(Tune of: “The Church's One Foundation”—LBW #369)

1. Remember God is gracious, and know what God has done!  
God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son.  
Now all those who believe him, who trust in Jesus Christ,  
Can know they will not perish; they'll have eternal life.
2. God did not send us Jesus, in judgment to condemn;  
He sent him as a promise, so we'd be saved through him.  
Our Savior came to free us, not just for heaven's joy  
But here, where so much need is, where sin seeks to destroy.
3. Your love, Lord, leads us outward to love the world you  
freed. To care for your creation, to help all those in need;  
We welcome in the stranger, for we were strangers, too.  
O God, we pray for courage, to love the world with you.

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**Email: [carolynshymns@gmail.com](mailto:carolynshymns@gmail.com) — New Hymns:  
[www.carolynshymns.com](http://www.carolynshymns.com)**

## Prayers for Lent IV — March 13, 2021

### THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Let us humbly beseech God for his mercy upon the Church,  
the world, and one another.

*A brief silence*

L: Dear Father, we know the words by heart: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son.” Kindle your Holy Spirit in us, so these words burn bright & pure therein. Let them shine through all our thoughts, words, and deeds. You are indeed rich in mercy. Your love lifts us up! Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: Grant that through our faithful witness to your beloved Son, many people may know of your great love for them; believe in you; and receive everlasting life. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: We ask for your blessing upon your saved people. Center our hearts in your love, shown for us in Christ Jesus, and help us to share that love with others. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: Teach the leaders of the world the ways of wisdom, integrity, & humility. Keep them from being seduced by power & praise. Fill them with a hunger for justice; a love of mercy; and a desire to work for peace among all people. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: As the Israelites looked upon the bronze serpent & were healed, grant that all who suffer may look upon the Cross of Christ and find healing, comfort, forgiveness, hope and life. Especially we pray for [NAMES]. Restore them & bestow upon us all the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: We praise you, heavenly Father, for receiving into eternal life those who believed on Jesus Christ in this life. Keep also our minds and hearts firmly fixed on Jesus, so that we may journey safely through the wilderness of this world into the blessed rest and joy of your Promised Land. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C: Hear our prayer.**