

***2017 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, 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. 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 and 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 giving), and to grow up into the full maturity of Christ?

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

A: Let us pray that the light of Christ may shine upon the Church, the world, and all people according to their need. (*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 2017, & 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.

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

C: And also with you.

P: Share God's peace with one another.

Offering - Gift of Music by MarJean

*Offertory Prayer: "Blessed Are You" Page 35

*The Great Thanksgiving Page 36ff

*Lord's Prayer: Traditional Version Page 39

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 & salvation." We are practicing head of the aisle Communion by with Intinction.

Lamb of God Page 39

Communion Hymn: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" #731

*Table Blessing Page 40

*Post-Communion Canticle: "Thankful Hearts" Page 40

*Post-Communion Prayer Page 41

*Benediction Page 41

***Sending Hymn: "Go My Children, with My Blessing" #721**

*Dismissal Page 41

Postlude

Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult—LBW #494

by Cecil F. Alexander, 1823-1895

- Verse 1:** Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea,
Day by day His sweet voice sounding,
Saying, "Christian, follow Me."
- Verse 2:** As of old Saint Andrew heard it
By the Galilean lake,
Turned from home and toil and kindred.
Leaving all for His dear sake.
- Verse 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."
- Verse 4:** In our joys and in our sorrows,
Days of toil and hours of ease,
Still He calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love Me more than these."
- Verse 5:** Jesus calls us! In your mercy,
Savior, make us hear your call,
Give our hearts to your obedience,
Serve and love you best of all.

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! Thanks for Letting Your Light Shine before Others! **Visit us at:** www.emmanuelofrochester.org

Discipleship Membership 2017: Special Thanks to everyone who has signed Emmanuel Covenants for 2017. **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, & give generously.



Worship
Epiphany III
January 21, 2017
6:00 p.m.

Covenant Renewal Ceremony **With One Voice— Bread of Life Liturgy**

** indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

*Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness Page 10f

***Gathering Hymn: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" #649**

*Greeting Page 28

*Kyrie Page 28

*Hymn of Praise (**Men = I; Women = II**) Page 29f

*Salutation and Prayer of the Day Page 30

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray: Merciful God, your Son proclaimed the nearness of your kingdom, calling others to follow as his disciples. Help us to receive the gift of your grace given through the cross and to follow as his disciples; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:1-4

Second Lesson: I Corinthians 1:10-18

*Gospel Acclamation: "Alleluia" Page 31

*Holy Gospel: Matthew 4:12-25

Children's Message: "Lighten Up!" — **Gift of Music**

Sermon: "Following I AM"

Rev. David Steffenson

***Hymn: "Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult"**

Bulletin Page 4

WORSHIP SERVANTS Tonight:

Pianist: MarJean Damerval

Scripture Reader & Prayers: Larry Vomhoff

Communion Server: Katie Siebenaler

Ushers: Jim Siebenaler, Cabe & Ava

Acolyte: Cabe Siebenaler

Coffee: Peg Holtan

Treats: Katie Siebenaler

Sound: Don Holtan

Set-up: Julie Steffenson.....

Take-down: Janet Sunde & friends

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.

Worship at Madonna Towers Skilled Care Chapel: On the first and third Wednesdays of each month, Emmanuel members are invited to participate in a ministry to area seniors. Our next Worship Services will be on Wednesdays, February 1 & 8 at 1:00 pm. Give Lee Pearce a call if you would like to participate in this wonderful ministry.

Thrivent Opportunities: Live Generously! Thrivent members have an opportunity to designate their Choice Dollars in support of the holy work of God at Emmanuel Lutheran. Each Thrivent member can also apply for two Action Team Gifts of \$250.00 each to be used as seed money for ministry activities. Members of Emmanuel Lutheran have already been approved for two Action Team Gifts in 2017: Worship Bags for Children, and Emmanuel's 5-Year Anniversary Celebration. Questions? Visit Thrivent.com or talk with Julie Steffenson.

Isaiah 9:1-4 — The Promise of a Great Light

1 But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. 2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. 3 You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. 4 For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

I Corinthians 1:10-18 — The WORD of the Cross

10 I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. 11 For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. 12 What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." 13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. 16 (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. 18 For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:12-25

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 4th. Chapter.
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

12 Now when [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. 13 And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, 14 so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: 15 “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles — 16 the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.” 17 From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” 18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. 23 And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. 24 So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. 25 And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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 82-84 of the NIV Once A Day Bible (DAY 24) in preparation for this week’s study (i.e. Genesis 47:13-48:22; Matthew 16:21-17:13; & Proverbs 3:1-10).

Women’s Bible Studies: Emmanuel Women are studying the Book of Revelation. The afternoon Study has been meeting twice a month on Thursday afternoons at Oasis Church (1pm). Our Final Session is this Thursday, January 26. An evening study is offered once a month at the home of Katie Siebenaler at 6:30pm. Next Session: Date Pending.

The Emmanuel Weekly

Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017
Epiphany III - 6 pm

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

THANKS to our Youth!

The Kid’s Choir enjoyed Song Time with MarJean in Saturday School tonight. We thank them for favoring us with a gift of music during our evening Worship Service.

Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 29, 2017
This Year’s Emmanuel Lutheran Church Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29 at 4pm, followed by a potluck supper. Child Care will be provided. Meat and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish (salad, side dish or dessert) to share.

2016 Annual Report is Available!

Pick up your copy of the 2016 Annual Report tonight. Read it and prepare for our Annual Meeting on Jan. 29 (4pm).

The January 2017 Emmanuel Prayer Calendar & Epistle Newsletter are available in print! Also available, the current issue of the Our Daily Bread Devotional. Pick yours up today.



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Saturday, January 21
Saturday School @ 5:10pm; GIFT at 5:15pm—Discuss 2017 Budget; Epiphany III Worship at 6pm—Kid’s Choir singing
- Tuesday, January 24
Men’s Bible Study Breakfast (8am) — Day 24 (pp 82-84); Text Study (10:30am)
- Wednesday, January 25
Panera Bible Study (7am); Red Kettle Awards Program (5pm)
- Thursday, Jan. 26—1pm
Women’s Bible Study, final session
- Saturday, January 28
Saturday School @ 5:10pm; GIFT at 5:15pm; Epiphany IV Worship at 6pm

THE PRAYERS, Epiphany 3 (January 21, 2017)

A: Let us pray that the light of Christ may shine upon the Church, the world, and all people according to their need.

A brief silence

A: Heavenly Father, your Son called his disciples to be fishers of men; to proclaim the good news of your Kingdom; and to shed your light into hearts darkened by sin and sorrow. Fill the Church with the Holy Spirit, so that it too may preach the Gospel; be fishers of men; and bring the light of your forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life to the whole world. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Be merciful to the people and ministries of this place, O Lord, and grant us your mercy, pardon and peace. Heal any divisions that wound us; correct any misunderstandings that put us at cross-purposes with one another and with you; and keep us focused on sharing the light and the love of Jesus with each other, and with everyone we meet. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Give such wisdom and integrity to the world's leaders, that they use their power and authority to bring light, health, safety, and hope to their citizens. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: There are many, dear Father, who dwell in a land of thick and gloomy darkness. They may be shadowed by pain, loneliness, grief, despair, or by countless other sorrows. Shed the light of your love upon them – especially on those we name now before you [**Names**]. Do not forsake them, O God of our salvation; break the yoke of all that oppresses them; and increase their joy by delivering them from their burdens. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Merciful and Holy God, we commend into your care our loved ones who have passed from this life into that greater light and life you have prepared for your servants. Give to us, whose lives are shadowed by many burdens, cares, and dangers, the light of Christ to guide us; the love of Christ to cheer us; the wisdom of Christ to teach us; the compassion of Christ to heal us; and the forgiveness of Christ to save us. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Loving God, we thank you for the ministry opportunities that await our congregation in 2017, & 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.