

## CLOSING PRAYERS

L: Heavenly Father, though the world scorns the Cross as folly and a stumbling block, give your Church faith, & courage as it proclaims Christ crucified as the only means of forgiveness, salvation, and life forever with you. Make your church lovely with the light of Jesus' strong saving love for us sinners. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: Bring saving grace, open ears, & obedient hearts to all who are called to be light to the nations, and hope for those who dwell in the land of deep darkness. Teach us how to fish for people. Lord in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: Bring light and clarity to the people of this congregation, so that every act of worship, fellowship, outreach, stewardship, service, study, and support is centered in Christ alone. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: Bring healing, hope, and the light of your dear presence to everyone who sits in the darkness of suffering, shame, or sorrow. Especially we plead on behalf of: [NAMES]. Let all who seek the healing presence of Jesus, say with confident joy: "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?!" 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: Karen Salz*

*Scripture Reader & Prayers: Vicky Mulvihill*

*Communion Server: Lee Pearce*

*Ushers: Creig Anderson & Edwards family*

*Acolyte: Gavin Edwards*

*Sound: Don Holtan*

*Coffee: Peg Holtan*

*Treats: Jean Wanek*

*Greeters: Larry & Deb Vomhof*

*Set-up: Julie Steffenson*

*Take-down: Janet Sunde & friends*

**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—Eve of  
Epiphany III  
January 25, 2020  
6:00 p.m.**

## “Service of Word & Sacrament”

### Lutheran Book of Worship

*\* indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

**\*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 dwelt among us,

**C: And we have seen His glory, full of grace and truth.**

**\*Scripture Song: “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” #230**

**\*Salutation and Prayer of the Day**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray: Heavenly Father, 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, fishing for people; 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

**Psalm 27:1-9** (*Responsively by half verse*)

SEE INSERT

Second Lesson: I Corinthians 1:10-18

**\*Gospel Verse: “Alleluia”**

LBW page #83

\*Holy Gospel: Matthew 4:12-25

Children’s Message: “Caught Catching”

Sermon: “Let’s Go Fishing”

Rev. David Steffenson

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

#494

**\*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 our Worship Pianist**

Installation of 2020 Emmanuel Council!

**\*The Great Thanksgiving:**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Eucharistic Prayer for the Season of Epiphany

\*Lord’s Prayer: *Traditional Version*

Page 91

*Invitation & Distribution:*

**Communion Song: “I Love to Tell the Story”**

LBW #390

\*Table Blessing

Page 40

**\*Closing Prayers**

Bulletin page 4

\*Benediction

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**\*Sending Song: “Rise, Shine, You People”**

#393

\*Dismissal

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Postlude

# The Emmanuel Weekly

**January 25, 2019**  
**Epiphany III - 6 pm**

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

## **Madonna Towers Worship**

Twice a month on Wednesday afternoons, Emmanuel members participate in a ministry to area seniors.

Our next Madonna Towers Worship Services will be on Wednesdays, Feb. 5 & 26 at 1pm. Contact Lee Pearce. If you would like to participate in this ministry.

## **Candlemas – Christmas Day 40**

Traditionally, February 2 is the day when Church Candles are blessed. This is fitting seeing Jesus is the Light of the World and February 2 falls in Epiphany (the Season of Light). Candlemas celebrates 3 events in the life of Jesus: the presentation of the child Jesus; Jesus' first entry into the Temple; & the Virgin Mary's purification.

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



## **CALENDAR ITEMS**

- Saturday, January 25  
Saturday School and G.I.F.T. (5pm); Epiphany III Worship at 6pm
- Tues, Jan. 28—Men's Bible Study at 8am; Text Study (10:30am)
- Wed, Jan. 29—Panera Bible Study (6:30am)
- Thursday, January 30  
Women's Study (1pm)
- Saturday, February 1  
Saturday School & G.I.F.T. (5pm); Epiphany IV Worship at 6pm
- Sunday, February 2  
Candlemas; Pastor Dave preaching in Ackley, IA
- Sunday, February 9  
Pastor Dave preaching at FLC, Hope, MN

**Third Sunday after the Epiphany:** Jesus calls his disciples to follow him on His way. They have no idea what they are in for, but they drop their nets, leave everything behind, & follow. Discipleship is not merely a statement of belief, as in "I am a Christian." It is a radical turning to Jesus in passionate obedience to His holy will in our lives. St. Paul reminds the Corinthians that this includes putting aside all divisions and strife.

**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 and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation." We are practicing head of the aisle Communion tonight by means of Intinction.

**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 and visitors may use the offering 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.

**Women's Bible Study:** A new study (6 sessions) on Luther's Small Catechism has begun! Sessions are held on Thursdays at 1pm in the Oasis Fellowship Hall. Dates: January 30; and February 6 & 13.

**Men's Bible Study:** Men of Emmanuel are meeting at Oasis Church and looking at the Augsburg Confession (*Augustana*) on Tuesdays at 8am. Please join us for coffee, goodies, and conversation!

**SEMAC—February 9-21:** Larry Vomhof & his team of dedicated servants will be lending a helping hand in the name of Jesus Christ to the residents of Dayton, OH. Please keep SEMAC in your prayers.

**LENT 2020** begins with imposition of Ashes on Wednesday, Feb. 26; This year's Theme is "Faith Stories". What's your story?

*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)

### Isaiah 9:1-4 — The LIGHT Shines

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 shone. 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.**

### Psalm 27:1-9 (Responsively)

L: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

**C: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

L: When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes,

**C: It is they who stumble and fall.**

L: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;

**C: Though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.**

L: One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

**C: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,**

L: To gaze upon the beauty of the Lord & to inquire in his temple.

**C: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;**

L: He will conceal me under the cover of his tent;

**C: He will lift me high upon a rock.**

L: And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

**C: I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

L: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud;

**C: Be gracious to me and answer me!**

L: You have said, "Seek my face."

**C: My heart says to you, "Your face, Lord, do I seek."**

L: Hide not your face from me.

**C: Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help.**

L: Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

### I Corinthians 1:10-18 — The Power of God

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.**

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew the 4th. Chapter.

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

12 When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. 13 And leaving Nazareth he went & 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, & 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, those having seizures, 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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Annual Meeting Highlights — Saturday, January 18, 2020

- Quorum was established. 20 Covenant Members attended this year's Annual Meeting due to inclement weather.
- Reports were given by President Deb Vomhof, Pastor Dave Steffenson, and Judy Caudill (Church finances).
- The Audit Committee found Emmanuel's financial records to be in good order.
- The written Annual Report was approved as distributed.
- Elections: Don Holtan & Barb Steffenson were elected to 2-year Council terms. Judy Caudill was elected to a 1-year council position (2nd year of Tom Vomhof's term). Lee Pearce, Julie Steffenson, Leitha Bothun, and Heather Mikesch were elected to a 1-year term on the Nominating Committee. Don Wanek was elected to a 3-year term on the Audit Committee. Deb Vomhof & Judy Caudill were elected as our Emmanuel Voting Delegates for the NALC Convocations; Julie Steffenson will serve as an alternate.
- The 2020 Mission Plan Budget of \$120,050 was approved. Pastor Steffenson will receive a \$5,000 bonus in 2020.
- Emmanuel ended 2019 with a budget surplus of \$8,242.42. This is the fourth year in a row that our congregation has ended the budget year with a net gain (without using any of our Reserves). We ended the year with current assets of \$101,868.75 and fixed assets of \$104,585.
- The 2020 Goals were approved!
  1. Church Land, Site Development & "Blessing of the Land" Service.
  2. Signage: Place a sign on our church property.
  3. Emmanuel Picnic on our Church Land (Sunday, August 2); alternate site: Vomhof's.
  4. Aerial pictures of our church land.
  5. Upgrading our Church Website.

6. "S'more Singing", monthly campfires on church land (weather permitting).
7. Neighborhood Visitation Program: Introducing Emmanuel to our Neighbors.
8. Explore Church office space & Christ-centered Hospitality Opportunities.
9. Explore Sunday morning worship option in addition to our Saturday night service.
10. Growing the NALC presence in Southeastern MN.
11. Support SEMAC Mission Trip to Dayton, OH (Feb. 9-21).
12. Twice Monthly worship offerings at Madonna Towers.
13. Easter Monday Bible Reading of the New Testament (April 13); growing number of participants.
14. Participation in MEGA Kids Camp (July 20-23).
15. Host an Emmanuel Table at the New Life Gala; also host a baby shower for New Life.
16. Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social at Madonna Towers (November 25).
17. Secure 12 Thrivent Action Team Grants.
18. Host a Community Event: Guest Speaker—Rosaria Champagne Butterfield.
19. Produce an Emmanuel Picture/Membership Directory.
20. Each One Reach One: Disciples multiplying themselves.

- Benevolences Distributed in 2019: \$6500. 13 Thrivent Action Team grants were received; also Choice Dollars.

- Thanks was expressed & a potluck meal enjoyed by all.

- Officers elected after Annual Meeting adjourned:

President: Barb Steffenson

Vice President: Deb Vomhof

Secretary: Don Holtan

Treasurer: Judy Caudill

Next Council Meeting: Thursday, February 6 at 11am.

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