



MEMBERSHIP COVENANT – 2017

“Now you are the Body of Christ & individually members of it.” - I Corinthians 12:27

Each December, Christians (age 18 and older) desiring voting membership at Emmanuel Lutheran of Rochester, MN are invited to sign up; to be enrolled for the calendar year on our Servant Roster. To be a voting member is to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, baptized into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and committed to the [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, & give generously.](#)

Baptized members are servants of Emmanuel, living out their God-given faith in congregational life; committed to the walk of discipleship, growing up into the full maturity of Christ (Ephesians 4:12-13).

I commit myself to the NALC Confession of Faith (Emmanuel Constitution, Chapter 2) and The Common Confession (Lutheran Core, 2005; see backside). I would like Emmanuel Lutheran to be my church home and I pledge my support to its mission and ministry in 2017. Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever, it is my joy to praise, proclaim, and practice Emmanuel—God With Us—in daily life.

Walking with Christ to the praise and glory of God:

(Adult Names, signatures)

Date

(Childrens' Names)

[“Salvation is free, ... but discipleship will cost you your life.” \[Dietrich Bonhoeffer\] — Mark 8:34-35](#)

The Common Confession

1) The Lord Jesus Christ

We are people who believe and confess our faith in the Triune God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We trust and believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord.

2) The Gospel of Salvation

We believe and confess that all human beings are sinners, and that sinners are redeemed by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. God alone justifies human beings by faith in Christ, a faith which God creates through the message of the Gospel. As ambassadors for Christ, God uses us to speak his Word and build his kingdom.

3) The Authority of Scripture

We believe and confess that the Bible is God's revealed Word to us, spoken in Law and Gospel. The Bible is the final authority for us in all matters of our faith and life.

4) A Common Confession of Faith

We accept and uphold that the Lutheran Confessions reliably guide us as faithful interpretations of Scripture, and that we share a unity and fellowship in faith with others among whom the Gospel of Jesus Christ is preached and the sacraments are administered in accordance with the Gospel.

5) The Priesthood of All Believers

We believe and confess that the Holy Spirit makes all who believe in Jesus Christ to be priests for service to others in Jesus' name, and that God desires to make use of the spiritual gifts he has given through the priesthood of all believers.

6) Marriage and Family

We believe and confess that the marriage of male and female is an institution created and blessed by God. From marriage, God forms families to serve as the building blocks of all human civilization and community. We teach and practice that sexual activity belongs exclusively within the biblical boundaries of a faithful marriage between one man and one woman.

7) The Mission and Ministry of the Congregation

We believe and confess that the church is the assembly of believers called and gathered by God around Word and Sacrament, and that the mission and ministry of the church is carried out within the context of individual congregations, which are able to work together locally and globally.