

Sending Music—Song: “Jesus Sinners Will Receive” — #291

1. Jesus sinners will receive; May they all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live, And from God and heaven wander.
Here is hope for all who grieve, Jesus sinners will receive.
2. Jesus sinners will receive. Even I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave, Jesus sinners will receive.



**Little
Lending
Library
Neighborhood
Ministry**

This summer, the Steffenson family installed a Little Lending Library on their property. Daily, children & families in the neighborhood walk and bike by the church-shaped library, stopping to select, return, or place a book inside. If you have books, new or gently used, religious & secular that you would like to donate to this ministry, please give Julie a call (507-206-3048). Thanks for sharing the love of reading & the love of Jesus with our neighborhood children.

Nominating Committee

Lee Pearce, Julie Steffenson, Heather Mikesh, & Leitha Bothun were elected at last year's Annual Meeting to serve on the Nominating Committee. They are seeking people for the following positions: 2 or 3 people to serve a 2-year term on the Church Council, 1 person to serve on the Audit Committee (3-year term), 4 people to serve on the Nominating Committee (1-year term), & 3 people to serve as our voting delegates at the NALC Church Convocations. Judy Caudill & Deb Vomhof have offered to serve as our church voting & alternate delegates in 2021. They have also consented to serve on Council.

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 & practicing Emmanuel – God with us – in daily life! Shining Bright for Jesus!

Visit us at: www.emmanuelofrochester.org



**Worship—Eve of
Pentecost XV
Sept. 12, 2020
6:00 p.m.**

“Holden Evening Prayer”

** indicates stand as you are able*

Gathering Music--Song: “Chief of Sinners though I Be” — #306

1. Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me.
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His and He is mine.
2. O my Savior, help afford, By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply, While I live and when I die.

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray: Heavenly Father, your mercy is everlasting & your forgiveness boundless. As we gather together and receive your word of forgiveness in the gospel proclaimed, renew us in the gift of baptism that we may be signs of reconciliation for the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever.

C: Amen.

*Service of Light

***Evening Hymn: “Joyous Light”** (Leader sings introduction; and the congregation sings verses 1-3).

*Evening Thanksgiving

Psalmody: Psalm 141 (Sing as a Round)

Silence for Meditation and Prayer

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him.” 16 So they sent a message to Joseph,

saying, “Your father gave this command before he died: 17 ‘Say to Joseph, “Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.” And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” 19 But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? 20 As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. 21 So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew the 18th. Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

21 Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. 23 Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. 24 When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. 26 So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ 27 And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ 29 So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, & I will pay you.’ 30 He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. 31 When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. 32 Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt

because you pleaded with me. 33 And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ 34 And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. 35 So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Children's Message: “Please Forgive!” (Posted on Facebook)

Song of the Day: “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” — #307

1. 'Forgive our sins as we forgive,' You taught us, Lord, to pray,
But you alone can grant us grace, To live the words we say.
2. How can your pardon reach & bless, The unforgiving heart,
That broods on wrongs & will not let, Old bitterness depart?
3. In blazing light your cross reveals, The truth we dimly knew:
How trifling others' debts to us; How great our debt to you
4. Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls, And bid resentment
cease; Then by your mercy reconciled, Our lives will spread
your peace.

Sermon: “The Heart of Forgiveness”

*Annunciation (duet) and Magnificat (Congregation)

*Gloria Patri (*Tune of Evening Hymn: Joyous Light*)

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.)

Litany & Closing Prayers

The Lord's Prayer: “Our Father who Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, & the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Final Blessing and Dismissal

The Emmanuel Weekly

September 12, 2020
Pentecost XV - 6 pm

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



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Saturday, September 12 Pentecost 15 “In-Person” and Virtual Worship at 6pm.
- Tuesday, September 15 Men’s Email Bible Study at 8:30am
- Sat, September 19 Pentecost 16 “In-Person” and Virtual Worship at 6pm.

Acts 4:31—The Church Prayed!

**SEMAC Work Trip:
Sept. 27-Oct. 3.**

Sympathies & Prayers

are extend to Karen Salz and her family as they mourn the recent death of Karen’s father, Leo Salz. Leo went home to be with Jesus on September 10.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Forgivenness is often a very difficult subject, even for those who know that we are called to forgive if we want to be forgiven. In our human sinfulness we seek to justify ourselves, coming up with reasons why our brother or sister does not deserve to be forgiven. Joseph speaks a word of forgivenness to his scheming brothers, pointing to the reality that God can work through great pain to bring healing of relationships.

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 live & give generously.

WORSHIP SERVANTS Tonight:

Pianist: MarJean Damerval

Assisting Minister, Scripture Reader & Prayers: Julie Steffenson

Ushers: Sound: Don Holtan

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

IN-PERSON WORSHIP: Emmanuel is hosting worship at a 50% seating capacity. Foot traffic is one-directional. Masks are required, but may be removed at appropriate times. An usher is present to give directions. The Worship Service and Hymns are projected on the Overhead Screen. RSVP’s are no longer needed.

Acts 4:31—The Church Prayed!

“And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the Word of God with boldness.

Each day at 4:31pm, Members and Friends of Emmanuel are connecting for prayer while staying put in their own homes. Send prayer requests to Pastor Dave Steffenson. Thanks for joining us.

At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord to the glory of God the Father.”

Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, Minnesota
Contact Information: 3819—18th Ave. NW, Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-206-3048 www.emmanuelofrochester.org

Matching Gift—Building Fund

A Supporter of Emmanuel pledged a matching gift of \$25,000 (dollar-for-dollar) to our Building Fund. Members & friends of Emmanuel have met the challenge and have contributed in excess of \$28,000. Thank you!

Saturday School for Kids

Rally Day is on hold. We are exploring some options for distance learning for our little ones. Pastor Dave is offering an online class for grades 1-6 during the months of September and October.

Men’s Bible Study — IN-PERSON

Join us on Wednesday, Sept. 23 from 11am-12:00 Noon for an outdoor conversation about the Bible Readings appointed for worship for the week ahead. We’ll meet outside the Oasis Building. Bring a lawn chair, & a Bible.

The September Emmanuel Epistle Newsletter & Prayer Calendar are available in print! Also, pick up your copy of Our Daily Bread Devotionals for September-November.