

Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: We pray for our persecuted sisters and brothers throughout the world, who face “tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword.” Make them more than conquerors through the Cross of Christ; and soften the hearts of those who torment them. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Keep the people of this congregation in your care, confident that nothing can separate us from your love for us in Christ Jesus. And use our words and deeds, ministries and worship, to share that love and care with those around us. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: We pray for the sick, injured, dying and bereaved; for the troubled, confused, lonely, or despairing; and for everyone who struggles with the tribulations of this life – especially [NAMES]. Help us to show them, in word and deed, that though the world seems against them, you are for them; you love them & make them more than conquerors. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Receive and graciously answer our prayer, heavenly Father, for the sake of your dear Son; and by the power of your Holy Spirit, give us the strength and will to accomplish whatever you call us to do.

C: Amen.

*Lord’s Prayer: *Traditional Version*

Page 91

*Benediction

Page 95

***Sending Song: “Bringing in the Sheaves”**

INSERT

*Dismissal

Page 95

Postlude

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 VIII
July 25, 2020
6:00 p.m.**

“Service of the Word”

Lutheran Book of Worship

* *indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Welcome/Announcements

***Gathering Song: “God of Grace & God of Glory” — LBW #415**

***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: You are the treasured people of the LORD.

C: A people holy to the LORD our God.

P: Keep the words of the LORD in your hearts; teach them to your children.

C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, and when you lie down and when you rise.

P: One does not live by bread alone,

C: But by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.
(Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

***Scripture Song: “Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil” WOV #713**

Sing twice:

“Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your Word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood. When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.”

* Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray: Heavenly Father, your almighty power is most clearly shown in your mercy and pity. Multiply your grace that we may run to your promises, and be made to share in your heavenly joy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 7:6-9

Psalm 125 (*Responsively by half verse*)

SEE INSERT

Second Lesson: Romans 8:28-39

***Gospel Verse: “Alleluia”**

LBW Page #83

*Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

Children’s Message: “Separation?” (*Posted on the Facebook Page*)

Sermon: “Priceless!”

Pastor Dave Steffenson

***Song: “Jesus Priceless Treasure” — LBW #458**

*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.)

*Closing Prayers

L: Holy Father, for the sake of your Son, the true pearl of great price, make the Church lovely with his goodness and holiness. Grant that its pastors and peoples treat your Word and Sacraments as precious and living treasures. And, by the gracious power of your Holy Spirit, draw many hearts to faith in Jesus, so that they may be eternally sheltered and redeemed by your great love.

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 received the go-ahead to have worshipers inside the Oasis building beginning on June 6. Presently, Emmanuel is hosting worship at a 50% seating capacity. Everything has gone smoothly thus far. 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.

New Life Family Services: "Carry Them through Campaign." During the month of July, New Life is seeking churches to sponsor the next 200 women seeking help and counsel for their unplanned pregnancy. For every \$550 raised, a church will be carrying one woman and her unborn child through birth and beyond. Emmanuel has committed to raise funds and to save at least one child. Gifts of support may be given directly to Emmanuel Lutheran. Please indicate on the offering envelope that your gift is for New Life (Carry Them through Campaign). Emmanuel has already received \$2050 in gifts.

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."

Giving Statements—January-June: Statements have been mailed. Thanks for your generous support of Emmanuel during the first six months of 2020. Questions? Contact Deb Vomhof.

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

The Emmanuel Weekly

July 25, 2020
Pentecost VIII - 6 pm

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

Blessing of the LAND

The blessing of our Church Land is scheduled for Sunday, August 2 at 1pm. We will also have our church picnic on the land that day. Arrive at 11:30am. All food served will be pre-purchased. Servers will be wearing masks & gloves. Space will allow for physical distancing. Bring lawn chairs and canopies.

Matching Gift—Building Fund

A Supporter of Emmanuel has pledged a matching gift of \$25,000 to our Building Fund. Between now and August 31, every gift given to the Emmanuel Building Fund will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$25,000. If you've been thinking of making a gift to the Building Fund, now is the time to double your gift and double your joy. Gifts received so far: \$8,300.00. Thank You!

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



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Sat., July 25—Pentecost 8 "In-Person" and Virtual Worship at 6pm.
- Sun, July 26 —Mtg. on Church Land @ 1pm
- Tues, July 28 — Men's Bible Study at 8:30am (email study)
- Wed, July 29—Men's In-Person Bible Study at 11am (Oasis Church?)
- Sat., Aug. 1—Pentecost 9 "In-Person" and Virtual Worship at 6pm. Holy Communion served following worship!
- Sunday, Aug. 2—Blessing of the Church Land and Emmanuel Picnic.
- Thurs, Aug. 6—Zoom Council Mtg. at 3pm

Deuteronomy 7:6-9 — God Is Faithful

6 [Moses said to the Israelites,] “For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. 7 It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, 8 but it is because the Lord loves you & is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. 9 Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 125 (Responsively)

L: Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,

C: Which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

L: As the mountains surround Jerusalem,

C: So the Lord surrounds his people, from this time forth and forevermore.

L: For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous,

C: Lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do wrong.

L: Do good, O Lord, to those who are good,

C: And to those who are upright in their hearts!

L: But those who turn aside to their crooked ways the Lord will lead away with evildoers!

C: Peace be upon Israel!

Romans 8:28-39 — No Separation From God’s Love

28 We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. 31

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died — more than that, who was raised — who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:44-52

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew the 13th. Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

44 [Jesus said to the disciples,] “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. 45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, 46 who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. 47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. 48 When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50 and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 51 Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” 52 And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

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.

“God of Grace & God of Glory” — LBW #415

1. God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your power;
crown your ancient church's story,
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2. Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.

“Jesus Priceless Treasure” — LBW #458

1. Jesus, priceless treasure, source of purest pleasure, truest friend to me, Ah how long I've panted, and my heart has fainted, thirsting Lord for thee. Thine I am, O spotless Lamb, I will suffer naught to hide thee, naught I ask beside thee.

2. In thine arm I rest me; foes who would molest me cannot reach me here. Though the earth be shaking, every heart be quaking, Jesus calms our fear; Sin and hell in conflict fell with their heaviest storms assail us; Jesus will not fail me.

3. Hence, all fears & sadness! For the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in. Those who love the Father, through the storms may gather, Still have peace within; Yea, whate'er I here must bear, still in thee lies purest pleasure, Jesus, priceless treasure!

“Bringing in the Sheaves”

1. Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve,
Waiting for the harvest and the time of reaping —
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Refrain:

**Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.
Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.**

2. Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,
Fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling breeze;
By and by the harvest, and our labor ended -
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

[Refrain]

3. Going forth with weeping, sowing for the Master,
Though the loss sustained our spirit often grieves;
When our weeping's over, He will bid us welcome -
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

[Refrain]

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost (Year A): When God makes a promise, he keeps it for all time. That is evidenced in the scriptures for today's worship. His love, care, and protection mean that he will never abandon those he calls his own, those he ushers into the kingdom of heaven. Jesus teaches his disciples that this kingdom is often hidden from view, but it is like a priceless treasure that is to be cherished and valued above all else.

Men's Bible Study — Outdoor IN-PERSON

Join us on Wednesday, July 29 from 11am-12:00 Noon for an outdoor conversation about the Bible Readings appointed for worship for the week ahead. We'll plan on meeting at the church land or outside Oasis Church. Bring a lawn chair, and your Bible.

Emmanuel Picnic & Blessing of the Church Land

LOCATION: 75th Street NW & 18th Ave. NW Rochester.

DATE: Sunday, August 2, 2020

Arrive between 11:30am and 12:00 Noon. Blessing of God's Land will follow the picnic lunch at 1pm.

- The Grassy Area Will Be Mowed.
- A Large Tent (No Side Flaps) Will Be Provided for Shade and/or Shelter.
- Serving Tables and Dining Tables Will Be Provided.
- A Port-A-Potty Is Available with Toilet Paper & Sanitizing Wipes.
- Masks and Hand Sanitizer Will Be Available.

CATERED MENU:

- Byron's Pulled Barbeque Pork w/Hawaiian Buns
- Ballpark Hot Dogs w/Ballpark Buns
- Condiments: Heinz Ketchup, Mustard, Sweet Relish & Sweet Baby Ray's Barbeque Sauce
- Captain Ken's Oven Baked Beans
- Potato Salad
- Bottled Ice Water
- Hostess Desserts: Chocolate Cupcakes, Lemon Cupcakes, Twinkies, Ho-Ho's

(All food will be Served by Sanitized Servers with Gloves and Masks -- NOT SELF-SERVE. We Will Go Through the Serving Line One Family at a Time).

YOU BRING – Lawn Chairs, Canopies, Personal Food and/or Drink, Toothpicks – NO FOOD TO SHARE!

QUESTIONS? Contact Don Holtan at dholtan@q.com, or #507-280-8231.

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