

Sermon: “Change Your Mind!”

*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 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

Sending Music—Song: “Have Thine Own Way”

1. Have Thine own way, Lord, Have Thine own way;
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, After Thy will,
While I am waiting, Yielded and still.
2. Have Thine own way, Lord, Have Thine own way;
Wounded and weary, Help me, I pray.
Power, all power, Surely is Thine,
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.

Nominating Committee

Contact Lee Pearce, Julie Steffenson, Heather Mikesh, or Leitha Bothun if you are looking for ways to serve Christ and his Church. There are many ways to use your gifts for the glory of God.

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 17
Sept. 26, 2020
6:00 p.m.**

“Holden Evening Prayer”

** indicates stand as you are able*

Gathering Music--Song: “Softly & Tenderly” —

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, Calling for you and for me.
See on the portals He's waiting and watching;
Watching for you and for me. **Refrain:** Come home, come home;
Ye who are weary come home. Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling, Calling, "O sinner come home".
2. O for the wonderful love He has promised; Promised for you and for me.
Though we have sinned He has mercy and pardon;
Pardon for you and for me. **Refrain:** Come home, come home;
Ye who are weary come home. Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling, Calling, "O sinner come home".

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray: Heavenly Father, when called to do your will, we often respond with enthusiasm, yet in our human weakness, we fail to follow through. Strengthen us with your grace poured out through your Son, so that we may overcome our weakness and follow you in the way of life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and 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: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

1 The word of the Lord came to me: 2 “What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? 3 As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. 4 Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. ... 25 “Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? 26 When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. 27 Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just & right, he shall save his life. 28 Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. 29 Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? 30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent & turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. 31 Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? 32 For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:23-32

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew the 21st. Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

23 When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” 24 Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they

discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ 26 But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” 27 So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. 28 What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ 29 And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. 30 And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness, & you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Children's Message: “Sour Grapes” (Posted on Facebook)

Song of the Day: “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” — #290

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in his justice
Which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgment giv'n.
2. For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of our mind;
And the heart of the eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the head.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost: Humanity has been plagued by our own disobedience since the Garden of Eden. God, on the other hand, is eternally just and good. The psalmist cried to the Lord to teach him God's ways of righteousness and justice so that he might live according to God's covenant. Jesus was the only perfectly faithful human to walk this earth. In his obedience he emptied himself and gave his life for the sake of sinners.

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: Pending

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

The Emmanuel Weekly

September 26, 2020

Pentecost 17 - 6 pm

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

Implementation Team

The Church Council is prayerfully considering the names of interested members of Emmanuel who would like to serve on a Committee charged with implementing the next steps of our Emmanuel Building Project. Anyone interested in serving on this Committee should contact a member of the Council.

Children's Worship Bags

Worship Bags are available for kids each week. We hope children enjoy these resources during worship. Please take the bags home with you.

Men's Bible Study — IN-PERSON

Join us on Wednesdays, Sept. 30, & Oct. 14 & 28 from 11am-12:00 Noon for a conversation about the Bible Readings appointed for worship for the week ahead. We'll meet inside the Oasis Building, & practice physical distancing.

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



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Saturday, September 26 Pentecost 17 “In-Person” and Virtual Worship at 6pm.
- **SEMAC WORK TRIP** to Caldwell, Ohio from Sept. 27-October 3. Please keep Larry Vomhof and his crew in your prayers!
- Wednesday, Sept. 30 Men's Bible Study at 11am—Oasis Church
- Saturday, October 3 Pentecost 18 “In-Person” and Virtual Worship at 6pm. Holy Communion will be distributed following worship.

**National Night Out
Tuesday, October 6**