

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.)

*Prayers (*L: Lord in your mercy... C: Hear our Prayer.*)

*Lord's Prayer: *Traditional Version*

*Benediction

***Sending Song: "There is a Balm in Gilead" — WOV #737**

*Dismissal:

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

WORSHIP SERVANTS Tonight:

Pianist: MarJean Damerval

Assisting Minister, Scripture Reader & Prayers: Julie Steffenson

Greeters: Gary & Julie Engle Sound/Recording: Don Holtan

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

Martin Luther: "In short, Christ means to say: If the kingdom of God is to come unto you, the devil must be driven out, for his kingdom is against God's kingdom, as you, yourselves, must confess. But demon is not driven out by demon, much less by men or the power of men, but alone by the Spirit and power of God." –Martin Luther, Church Postil, 1521.

Cross with Eternal Circle: Thanks is offered to Margaret & LeRoy Quam for their generous donation of an aluminum cross for the church land. LeRoy has spent countless hours on this project. The new cross will soon mark the church land as a sign of God's redemptive work & eternal saving presence (John 3:16).

Thanks for worshiping with us this evening. Your presence is your gift to us. We pray that our Service of Worship is a blessing to you. Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are praising, proclaiming and practicing Emmanuel – God with us – in daily life! Ephphatha! Be Opened **Visit us at:** www.emmanuelofrochester.org



**Worship—Eve of
Pentecost XV
September 4, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

Service of the Word

* *indicates stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements: "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!"

***Entrance Song: "Healer of Our Every Ill" — WOV #738**

*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 lived among us,

C: And we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth. (John 1)

***Song: "Word of God, Come Down on Earth" WOV #716**

"Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from heaven descending: touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and hope and love unending. Word almighty, we revere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation, Word that came from heaven to die, crucified for our salvation; saving Word, the world restoring, speak to us, your love outpouring."

*Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray: Heavenly Father, always lead and follow us with your grace, that we may be still more intent on doing good. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson: Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalm 146 (*Responsively by half verse*) **SEE INSERT**

Second Lesson: James 2:1-10, 14-18

***Gospel Verse: “Alleluia” — WOV page 31**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Holy Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

Children’s Message: “Ephphatha - Be Opened!” (On Facebook)

Sermon: “Astonished Beyond Measure!”—Rev. David Steffenson

***Song of the Day: “O Son of God, in Galilee”—LBW #426**

(To the tune of “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”—LBW #320)

*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, & was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, & 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, & 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.*)

3. The speechless tongue, the lifeless ear,
You can restore O Lord.
Your “Ephphatha” O Savior dear, Can instant help afford.

4. Mean-while to them the listening ear,
Of steadfast faith impart,
And let Your Word bring light & cheer,
To every troubled heart.

5. Then in your promised happy land,
Each loss will prove a gain.
All myst’ries we shall understand,
For you will make them plain.

SONG: “There is a Balm in Gilead” — WOV #737

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead,
to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit, revives my soul again. **Refrain**
2. If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus
and say, "He died for all." **Refrain**

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: The Lord’s salvation changes everything for those who believe. Isaiah proclaimed that the coming of the Lord would bring healing and wholeness. This wholeness is reflected in James’ instructions to the church to show no partiality among members of the Body of Christ. All people are to be treated with equal respect. Jesus healed the daughter of a Gentile woman & opened the ears & tongue of deaf & mute man in the region of the Decapolis, demonstrating the impartiality of God’s love.

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

INSERT — Songs & Scriptures

Opening Song: “Healer of Our Every Ill” — WOV #738

Refrain: Healer of our every ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.

1. You who know our fears and sadness,
Grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. **[Refrain]**
2. In the pain and joy beholding
How your grace is still unfolding,
Give us all your vision, God of love. **[Refrain]**
3. Give us strength to love each other,
Every sister, every brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. **[Refrain]**
4. You who know each thought and feeling,
Teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. **[Refrain]**

Isaiah 35:4-7a — He will Come & Save You!

4 Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.” 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; 6 then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; 7 the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146 — Read responsively

L: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C: I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

L: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

C: When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

L: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

C: Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

L: Who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

C: The LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

L: The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

C: The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

James 2:1-10, 14-18 — A Faith that Works!

1 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. 2 For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, & a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, 3 and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” 4 have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? 5 Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? 6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called? 8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. 9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. ... 14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have

works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed & filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. 18 But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Mark 7:31-37

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Mark the 7th. Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

31 Then [Jesus] returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. 32 And they brought to him a man who was deaf & had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. 33 And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, & after spitting touched his tongue. 34 And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “*Ephphatha*,” that is, “Be opened.” 35 And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. 36 And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. 37 And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SONG: “O Son of God, in Galilee”—LBW #426

(To the tune of “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”—LBW #320)

1. O Son of God, in Galilee, You made the deaf to hear,
The mute to speak, the blind to see; O blessed Lord be near.

2. Oh listen to the silent prayer, Of your afflicted ones.
Oh bid them cast on you their care;
Your grace to them make known.

(verses 3-5 continue on the next page)

The Emmanuel Weekly

September 4, 2021

Eve of Pentecost 15 - 6 pm

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

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.

September 25—Bible Saturday!

We will celebrate the gift of Scripture on Sept. 25. Bring your Bible with you to worship. A Gideon presentation and an offering in support of Bible Distribution will be received on September 25.

Looking Ahead: Women’s Study

On Wednesday, October 6 at 1pm a Bible Study on Women of the Bible will begin! Contact Judy Pearce or Leitha Bothun if you would like to attend this study or need more information.

Children’s Ministry

Worship Bags are available for kids each week. We hope children enjoy these resources during worship. Youth are asked to take the bags home with them.

The September Emmanuel Epistle Newsletter & Prayer Calendar are available! Also, pick up your copy of Our Daily Bread Devotional for



CALENDAR ITEMS

- Saturday, Sept. 4 - Labor Day Weekend; Eve of Pentecost 15 Worship;
- Wednesday, Sept. 8 Men’s Bible Study at Oasis Church (11am)
- Thursday, Sept. 9 - Zoom Council Mtg. @1pm
- Saturday, September 11 Iowa Mission District Convocation in Emmons (8am-3:30pm); Eve of Pentecost 16 Worship at 6pm; Rally Day for Christian Education
- Sat., Sept. 18 — Coffee Fellowship; Communion
- October 6—Women’s Bible Study Begins!

**4:31 – Prayer Time!
Thanks for joining us.**

Men’s Bible Study (Email & In-Person): Men of Emmanuel Lutheran are currently meeting on Tuesday mornings at 8:30am via email & studying the Scripture Lessons for the upcoming weekend. Let Pastor Dave know if you would like the study notes. We will have In-Person studies on: **Wednesdays, Sept. 8, 15 & 29 at 11am.**

Coffee Fellowship: Once a month, members of Emmanuel are hosting & serving refreshments following worship. Julie & Gary Engle will be hosting on September 18. Contact Pastor Dave if you would like to host a coffee hour during the months of October or November. Judy Pearce has already volunteered for December.

Thrivent Choice Dollars: Got Thrivent Products? Don’t forget to designate your Choice Dollars. Call #1-800-847-4836 or go online at www.thrivent.org. We’ve received \$1,418 in Thrivent Choice Dollars so far in 2021. Thank You!

Rally Day — Saturday, Sept. 11. We will meet in the fellowship hall after worship. This Fall (September-December), Stories on the **MIRACLES in the Bible** will be packaged in monthly sessions for youth ages 4-grade 3. Youth in grades 4-8 are invited to join Pastor Dave in a reading of C.S. Lewis’ “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe”. Pastor Dave will host a monthly Zoom Meeting for participating youth & their parents. Weekly instruction videos will be posted on Facebook.

Emmanuel 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. **On the Ballot in January of 2022:** Council Member: 2-year term: 2 positions; Nominating Committee: 4 needed; 1 year term; Audit Committee Members: 2 needed; one—3 year term & one 2 year term; & Lay Voting Members for NALC Convocations.

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 & Friends of Emmanuel are connecting for prayer. 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.”

Prayers for Pentecost 15 — September 4, 2021

L: Trusting, through the power of the Holy Spirit, in the goodness of our heavenly Father, let us pray in Jesus' name for the Church, the world, and one another.

A brief silence

L: Father, thank you for James' blunt words about partiality and judgment, and about faith and works. Thank you for stretching our hearts, minds, and souls as you challenge and enlarge our faith in Jesus. Thank you for opening our ears to hear and our tongues to speak. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Give the people of this congregation such confidence in the love of Christ that they trust his holy Word, treasure his life-giving Sacraments, and constantly tell others of his great mercy. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: On this Labor Day Weekend, we thank you for the dignity of work, the joy of relaxation, and the opportunity to create. Grant satisfaction and just reward for honest labor of hand and mind. Help us provide relief for those who cannot work, or whose businesses are struggling. Teach us to honor all work that is done with an upright heart. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: You are Lord of all the nations. To you all the rulers of the earth shall bow down and give an account of their deeds. Teach them to act with wisdom and without partiality. Let them care for the widows, widowers, orphans, and destitute. Cause them to seek justice within and peace beyond their

borders. Make them examples of integrity & compassion to their citizens. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Protect and guide our military and all who stand in harm's way. Bring healing to the wounded and give strength and patience to their families. Use their skills, whether here or abroad, to establish the blessings of liberty, justice, and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Grant that all who cry to you for help and healing; for forgiveness and restoration; or for guidance and comfort, may find your grace sufficient for their need. Especially we lift before you: [NAMES]. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Father, we entrust to you all who cling to your promises in this life, and whose death we now mourn. Grant us hope in our Lord Jesus, so our sorrow turns to joy. Help us to encourage and assist each other. By your gracious Spirit, let us, with all the redeemed, bless and adore you for the majesty and love which shines in the face of your dear Son. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, incline your ear to our prayers and answer them according to your most gracious and holy will, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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