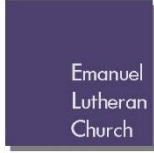


IN-PERSON & ONLINE



Emanuel Lutheran Church

A member of the New England Synod of the ELCA
(a "Reconciling In Christ" Congregation)

60 Church Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 643-1193

www.emanuelmanchester.org



This worship service is broadcast live on Zoom, recorded and the full worship service is uploaded to YouTube. In alignment with our safe church policy and with recommendation from the ELCA, anytime children are present in front of the camera, the recording device will blur faces.

If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Joanna.

Recently there have been a lot of new people worshipping with us at Emanuel. If you have a magnetic nametag hanging on the ribbons in the narthex, please take it on your way into worship and wear it while you are in church. This way, we can meet each other more easily.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

August 30, 2026

*Please rise, in body or in spirit, at the points indicated by *.*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Hannah Nemiah and Finn Lambert, vocalists

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

*Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin to God. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,

All: we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Pastor: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

All: Amen.

***Greeting**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

***Prayer of the Day**

Pastor: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

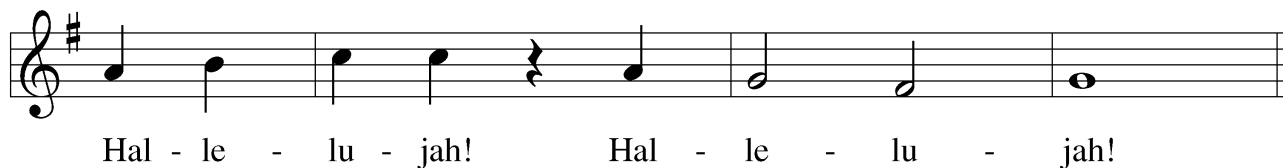
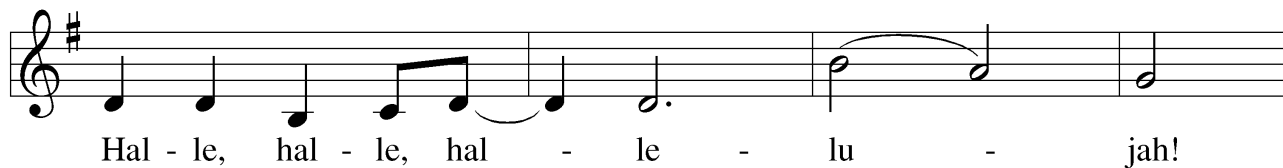
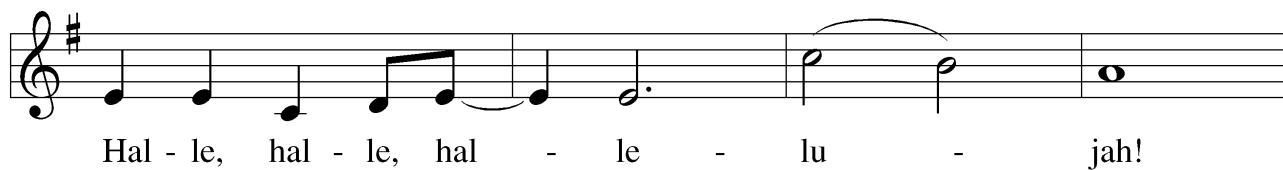
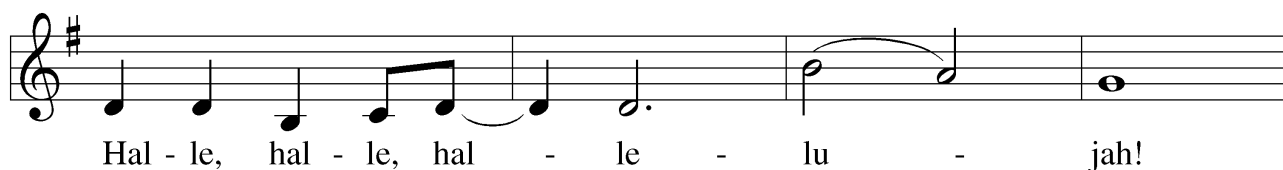
⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



***Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-28**

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ From that time on, after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Joanna Hertzog Betkoski

***Hymn of the Day**

Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

***Apostles' Creed**

Pastor: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come 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.

Prayers of the People

AM: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

To the words: "Merciful God," the congregation responds: "receive our prayer."

AM: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

***Sharing of the Peace**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

ELW 802

***Offertory Prayer**

Pastor: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

***Holy Communion**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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*The Words of Institution

(not printed)

*The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**All: 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 and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Holy Communion

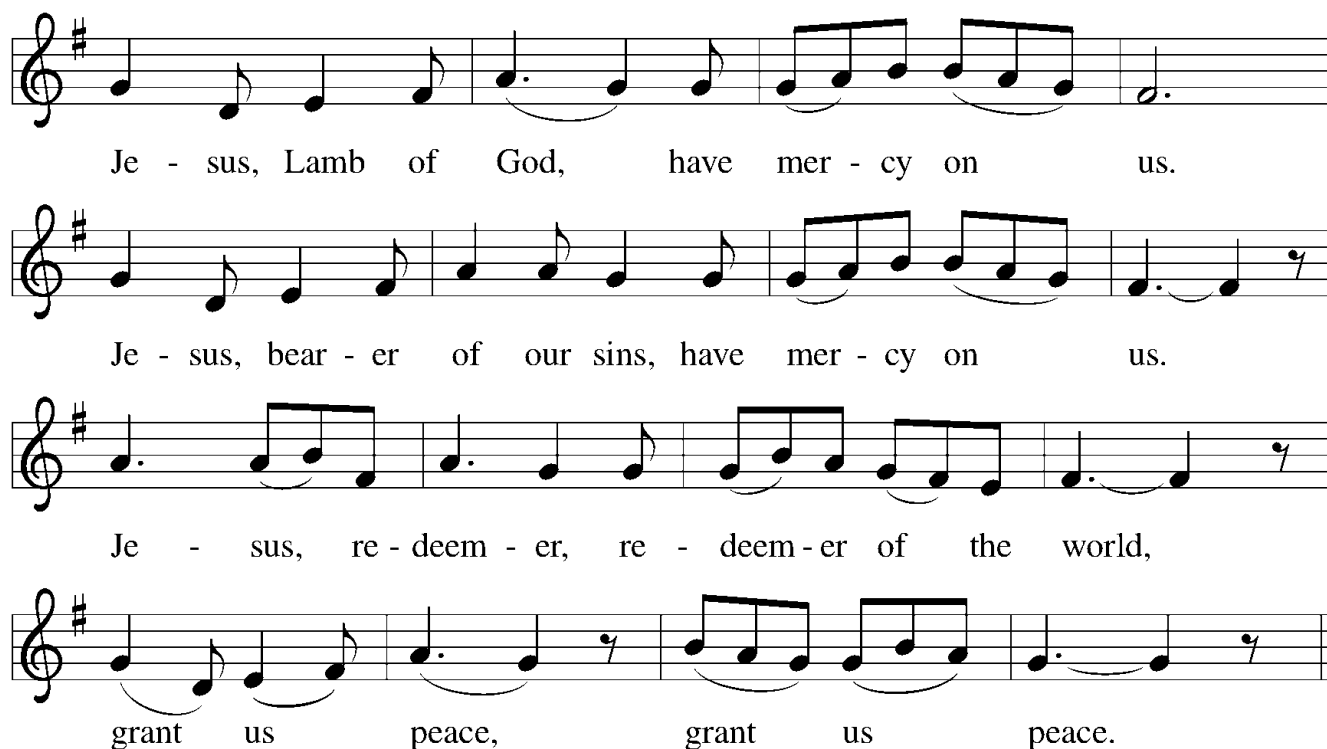
Pastor: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

All: Amen.

*All are welcome to receive communion—if this is your first time receiving or your 500th time receiving. In this meal, Jesus meets us in and through the bread and wine. Communion will be offered in a continuous style in front of the altar as well as at the altar rail. We'll commune the right side first, moving to the left side, starting with the front pews and moving towards the back. If you would like to receive communion at the altar rail, do so by using the center steps. You are welcome to stand or kneel at the altar rail. Please wait until the group is blessed and dismissed before going back to your seat by **using the side steps that lead to the side aisles**. If you are receiving in front of the altar, when you come forward, you will receive a wafer. We have a gluten free option available. There will be a tray of cups of red wine and of white grape juice. After you drink the wine/juice, please dispose of your cup in the receptacles on the sides of the sanctuary. If you are unable to come forward, we are happy to bring communion to you. Those who prefer not to commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.*

Communion Hymns

Jesus, Lamb of God



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

ELW 659

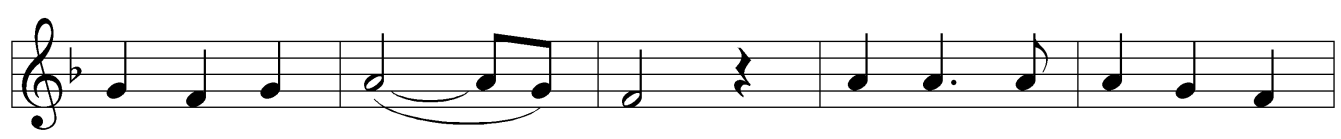
Bind Us Together

WOV 748

Refrain



Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that



can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,



bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.



1 There is on - ly one God. There is on - ly one King.

2 You are the fam-'ly of God. You are the prom-ise di - vine.



Refrain

There is on - ly one Bod-y; that is why we can sing.
You are God's cho - sen de - sire, . . . you are the glo-rious new wine.

*Post Communion Prayer

AM: Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

All: Amen.

Blessing of Backpacks

***Blessing**

Pastor: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

All: Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Let Streams of Living Justice

ELW 710

***Dismissal**

AM: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Instrumental

Please join us after worship for Coffee Hour downstairs in Luther Hall.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Assisting Minister: Beverly Niemann

Ushers: Richard Marsh, Pat Nelson, Marianne Wilcox, ***volunteer needed***

Communion Assistants: ***2 volunteers needed***

Lector: Jake Auger

Altar Guild: Lisa Little, Pat Nelson, Emily Braman

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Hearing Assistance devices are available in the lobby. Many people who have difficulty hearing, and even people attending worship who happen to sit in an audio “dead spot” in the sanctuary could benefit from using a Hearing Assistance device during the service. If you would like to give one a try, please ask an usher for assistance.

QR Code

There is a QR code on the front cover of the bulletin and on small cards placed in the pews of the sanctuary. If scanned, the code will take you directly to Emanuel’s secure donation page. Once you are on the donation page, you can choose to designate your donation to a specific fund or the General Fund. We want to give people the option to easily donate online at any time.

Emanuel’s family room space is available for Sunday morning guests!

The family room is located on the lower level of the building directly across from the Sunday School room. For whatever reason, if you and your child/children need a quiet place to retreat to during worship, the family room is equipped with toys for the children and comfortable furniture for the adults. Worship can be streamed live, on Zoom through the TV in the family room.

Special Offering Envelopes

The Special Offering envelope for August is **SPECIAL MUSIC FUND**. If you would like to give to any of the special offerings in 2026, you can drop your check in the offering plate (or mail your check to the church office), made out the Emanuel Lutheran Church with the specific special offering listed on the memo line.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Scripture Readings—Sunday, September 6, 2026:

Ezekiel 33:7-11

The prophet’s responsibility to warn the people

Psalms 119:33-40

I desire the path of your commandments. (Ps. 119:35)

Romans 13:8-14

Live honorably as in the day

Matthew 18:15-20

Reconciliation in the community of faith

If you are visiting with us this morning, we would love for you to fill out a Welcome Card!

Cards are located on the table in the narthex. If you need assistance, an usher can direct you. You can share your name, phone number and email with us as well as let us know if you have a prayer request that you would like printed on our prayer list, or if you would like to be added to our email communications list to receive our monthly newsletter and Friday Weekly Update emails. Cards can be left in the basket located next to the cards, given to an usher, or placed in the offering plate.

Emanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH Staff

Church Office: 860-643-1193

Joanna Hertzog Betkoski, Pastor

Jeff Sirois, Director of Music

Anne Heinrich, Office Administrator

Katie Kurlak, Director of Family Ministries

Donna Connolly, Parish Nurse

Kathy Hatch, Property Supervisor

Barton Sattler, Treasurer

Gail McGrath and Kathy Rusch, Co-Financial Secretaries

Berk and Lisa Little, Worship Support Specialists

Thursday morning Bible Study resumes on September 3, 2026 at 10 AM in the Library.

Emanuel's Pop-Up Shop

We have taken over ministry previously supported by Concordia Lutheran Church. We are collecting donations of **gently used children's clothing** from our congregation that we can offer to families from Highland Park School. We need in **infant clothing and up through clothing for 9–10-year-old children**. *For the older children, adult-sized tee shirts, sweats and pajama pants would be useful.* We ask that the donations are clean and in good condition. **Donations can be left in the room at Emanuel designated for the Pop-Up Shop. The room is located on the lower level of the building, all the way at the end of the Sunday School hallway, in the room on the far right directly next to one of the children's restrooms. The door is labeled with a sign: "Pop-Up Shop".**

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity! If you have questions, please call Diane Gawlinski at 860-643-6532 or 860-916-8092.

Ruth Circle Gathering

Tuesday, September 1, 2026 beginning at 6:00 pm in Luther Hall

Please join us for a Cold Potluck/2027 Planning Event. All women of Emanuel are invited to attend! If you are new to Emanuel and want to learn more about the women's group, you are welcome to attend.

IT'S TIME TO ORDER MEMORIAL BRICKS FOR EMANUEL'S MEMORIAL GARDEN

If you would like to have a Memorial Brick placed in Emanuel's Memorial Garden in memory of a loved one, please submit an order form to the Church Office by **Sunday, September 13th**. Order Forms are in the Narthex, in the Church Office and as a PDF link on the Friday weekly update. We will be dedicating the memorial bricks for this year on All Saints Sunday—November 1, 2026. Please contact the church office at 860-643-1193 or email Anne (ahleinrich@emanuelmanchester.org), if you have any questions.

Nametags—Are you a member of Emanuel or attend worship on a regular basis? We would love to make you a magnetic nametag to wear on Sunday mornings for worship! If you don't already have one, or need a new one, please sign up on the sheet on the bookcase by the ramp or in the narthex. You may also contact Kathy Rusch in person or by email: krusch2@comcast.net

Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 30, 2026

Assisting Minister - Beverly Niemann

Blessing of Backpacks during worship

10:00am –11:00am Emanuel Worship Service - Sanctuary

11:00am –12:00pm Emanuel Coffee Hour - LH

1:30pm –4:00pm Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary

2:00pm –4:00pm Protest Music Through the Years –

Sing-Along Concert in Center Park, Manchester

Monday, August 31, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM

Visitor newsletter mailing

10:00am –12:30pm Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: CLOSED

6:00pm –8:00pm Ruth Circle Gathering: Cold Potluck
and 2027 Planning Meeting – LH

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM

6:00pm –8:00pm Greater Hartford Conference Discernment Mtg. - LH

7:00pm –9:00pm The Hem Hangout - CR

Thursday, September 3, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: CLOSED

10:00am –11:00am Bible Study – Library

Friday, September 4, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM

10:00am –12:00pm ACT – LH

Saturday, September 5, 2026

Sunday, September 6, 2026

Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier

10:00am –11:00am Emanuel Worship Service - Sanctuary

11:00am –12:00pm Emanuel Coffee Hour - LH

12:00pm –1:00pm Ministerio Nueva Creacion (MNC) Worship - CR

1:30pm –4:00pm Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary

Protest Music Sing-Along Concert

August 30, 2026
Center Memorial Park
Manchester, CT
2:00-4:00 PM



Local Musicians
Present a
Retrospective of
American Protest
Music

Artists Include:

- Emanuel Lutheran Church Choir Members
- Meetinghouse
- Music from the Heart
- Sandy Johnson
- Andy Ricci

And maybe
more...



Join Us!
Bring a lawn chair
and your voice!



opportunity to donate to
local community
organizations

Brought to you by your friends at Emanuel Lutheran Church, Unitarian Universalist Society East

EMANUEL LUTHERAN RALLY DAY SUN. SEPT. 13 AT 10AM

- BIBLES FOR 3 YEAR OLDS AND 3RD GRADERS
- PIZZA AND KONA ICE FOR LUNCH
- PING PONG TOURNAMENT
- BRING IN CANS OF SOUP OR CANNED PASTA MEALS FOR MACC!



New to
Sewing?

Working on
a project?

Join us to learn how to sew anything from satchels to clothing or simply come join for community as we sew together.

Please bring functional equipment.



The Hem Hangout will meet in the **COMMUNITY ROOM** on Wednesday, 9/2 at **7 PM**.

Please note the change in the room at the church and the later start time for the September meeting.