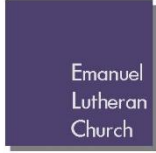


IN-PERSON & ONLINE



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.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

October 4, 2026

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

Welcome and Announcements

Stewardship Temple Talk

Ligi-Elin Milord

Prelude

Anthem Choir

***Now Thank We All Our God*, arr. Michael Roswell**

Children are invited to attend Sunday School downstairs in the Sunday School Room.

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,

**All: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Pastor: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

All: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

ELW 803

***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: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration
of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance,
help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

¹ I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

² He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

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

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul writes: ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:
⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.
⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death,
¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

*Gospel Acclamation

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

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Repeat alleluia

*Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:33-46

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Joanna Hertzog Betkoski



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - ry's roots a - live
3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

*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: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

To the words: "Hear us, O God.," the congregation responds: "Your mercy is great."

AM: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through 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

Build a Longer Table (verse 2)

ACS 1062



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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*Offertory Prayer

Pastor: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.

All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have.

Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

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

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

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

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

*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: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Day By Day
Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

ELW 790
W&P 95



1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;
 Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope;
 It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,



where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;
 where there is dark - ness, on - ly light;
 in giv - ing of our - selves that we re



and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.



3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so



much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be



un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be



loved as to love with all my soul.



ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

Text: Sebastian Temple
 Music: PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS, Sebastian Temple

Text and music © 1967 OCP Publications

*Post Communion Prayer

AM: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

All: Amen.

*Blessing

As You Go On Your Way

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four lines of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: G, C, G, C/G, D7, G, G/F#, C/E, Ami, D7, G, C, G, G/F#, Emi, C, G, C, G, Ami, D7sus, D7, G. The lyrics are: 'As you go on your way may Christ go with you. May he go before you to show you the way; May he go behind you to encourage you; Beside you to befriend you; Above you to watch over; Within you to give you peace.'

As you go on your way may Christ go with you. May he go be-

fore you to show you the way; May he go be- hind you to en-

cour- age you; Be- side you to be- friend you; A- bove you to watch

o- ver; With- in you to give you peace.

*Dismissal

AM: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Go Make Disciples

New Day Singers

If you would like Individual Healing Prayer, please approach the altar rail following the postlude.

Please join us after worship for the Ministry Fair and Coffee Hour downstairs in Luther Hall.

The "little white church" is out in the Narthex this morning to collect monetary donations for the Samaritan Fund.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Assisting Minister: Kim Boerner-Mercier

Ushers: Richard Marsh, Pat Nelson, Kurt Buescher, Ann-Linda Bray

Communion Assistants: Carol Kohl, Ann-Linda Bray

Lector: Beatrice Luciano-Santiago

Sunday School Teacher: Ligi-Elin Milord

Sunday School Volunteer: Judy Polito

Altar Guild: Elsa Robinson, JaneMarie Galiette, Kim Boerner-Mercier

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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.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost Scripture Readings—Sunday, October 11, 2026:

Isaiah 25:1-9

The feast of victory

Psalms 23

You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (Ps. 23:5)

Philippians 4:1-9

Rejoice in the Lord always

Matthew 22:1-14

The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast

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.

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

Emanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH Staff
Church Office: 860-643-1193

Joanna Hertzog Betkoski, Pastor

Anne Heinrich, Office Administrator

Donna Connolly, Parish Nurse

Barton Sattler, Treasurer

Jeff Sirois, Director of Music

Katie Kurlak, Director of Family Ministries

Kathy Hatch, Property Supervisor

Gail McGrath and Kathy Rusch, Co-Financial Secretaries

Berk and Lisa Little, Worship Support Specialists

Ruth Circle Gathering/Program on Tuesday, October 6th at 7 PM in Luther Hall

The congregation is invited to attend.

Donna Connolly, Emanuel's Parish Nurse, will present the following:

Alzheimer's Disease and dementia. *(This presentation was rescheduled from earlier this year due to weather).* Information that will be covered includes the various types of dementia, along with what is going on in the body and brain of those afflicted. We'll talk about the stages, the care and support of individuals and families going through this progressive illness, current research and treatment. Over 7 million Americans are afflicted with Alzheimer's and it's something we don't talk about much so hopefully the information will offer some preventative and supportive guidance.

October Family Ministry Event

Saturday, October 10th from 1:00pm –3:00pm: Hike at Talcott Mountain State Park - Heublein Tower in (Simsbury, CT)

If you would like to attend the Hike at Talcott Mountain State Park, please contact Katie Kurlak:

familyministry@emanuelmanchester.org

Pews in the Chapel

One of the many generous things we received from Concordia Lutheran Church is about 30 chairs from their Garden Room. The Property Committee and Church Council have discussed using those chairs in the chapel to make it easier to set up for different events rather than the pews that are currently in there. If we do choose to do that, we would offer the pews to congregation members to take home with a suggested donation to the Structural Preservation Fund. We'd love to hear from you about this. Please reach out to any council member or Pastor Joanna with questions and feedback.

This is just a reminder for all members of Emanuel that we have an Online Member Pictorial Directory.

You can access the directory on your laptop, desktop computer or on your phone (through the *Instant Church Directory* app). You'll need to create an account using the email listed for your family's profile in the directory and create your own password.

To access the directory please go to: members.instantchurchdirectory.com. If you need assistance setting up your account, please email Anne: aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org

The October – December issue of *Christ In Our Home* daily devotion books are available to pick up at both entrances of the Sanctuary. Regular and large print copies are available.

Special Offering Envelopes

The Special Offering envelope for October is **STRUCTURAL PRESERVATION**. 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.

Friends of Music at Emanuel

SEASON OPENING CONCERT



"Extraordinary Talent, Unforgettable Performances"
(Gramophone Magazine)

A standout chamber ensemble that has brought excitement and elegance to the stages of New York, Australia, Belgium, Italy, China, and the UAE.

Saturday, October 10, 7 p.m.

Emanuel Lutheran Church
60 Church Street, Manchester, CT

Concert is FREE and open to the public

Donations Welcomed

2027 ELCA
YOUTH GATHERING

IMAGINE more

Minneapolis, MN

MYLE and the tAble: June 26-28, 2027
Main Event: June 28 - July 2, 2027

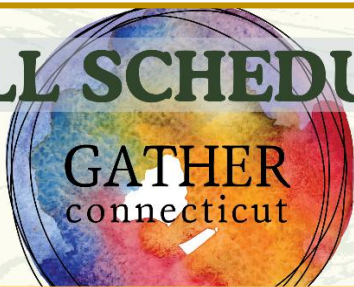
Youth Gathering Info Session

Hartford Conference of the NE Synod

Sunday, October 11th
12 noon

at Emanuel Lutheran, Hartford

FALL SCHEDULE



THURS.
SEPTEMBER
24

LAST THURSDAY: 7PM
@ PARKVILLE MARKET
food and fellowship the last Thursday of the month

SUN.
OCTOBER
11

APPLE PICKING: 12:30PM
@ LYMAN ORCHARDS
with LuMin at Yale and Bethesda Lutheran Church

THURS.
OCTOBER
29

LAST THURSDAY: 7PM
@ PARKVILLE MARKET
food and fellowship the last Thursday
of the month
with Bishop Pipho!



SAT.
DECEMBER
5

FOOD PACKAGING: 9-11:30AM
@MIDWEST FOOD BANK
volunteer to pack and sort food donations
join us for brunch after!

RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/A6Dh5mv3RCQsuRiN8>



Greater Hartford
— Interfaith —
Action Alliance



POWER SUMMIT 2026

Thursday, October 15

6:30-8:30 pm (doors open at 5:30)

Immanuel Congregational Church

10 Woodland St. Hartford, CT

Join 700+ leaders from 50+ GHIAA member institutions to uplift our priority issues, launch new action campaigns, and seek commitments from elected officials in our districts

Visit cljct.org/power-summit for more info

If you would like to attend the Power Summit 2026, please RSVP to mncnuevacreacion@gmail.com. The Power Summit is a great way to learn more about GHIAA's work!

Calendar of Events

Sunday, October 4, 2026

Ministry Fair in Luthie Hall following worship

Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier

Stewardship Temple Talk - Ligi Milord

10:00am –10:45am Emanuel Sunday School - Sunday School Room

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

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

12:00pm –1:00pm Ministerio Nueva Creacion (MNC) Worship Service –
Community Room

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

Monday, October 5, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM

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

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: CLOSED

7:00pm –8:30pm Ruth Circle Gathering - Program: Dementia
by Donna Connolly, Parish Nurse
(Congregation is Invited) - LH

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM

7:00pm –9:00pm Bible Study led by MNC - CR

7:00pm –9:00pm The Hem Hangout - LH

Thursday, October 8, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: CLOSED

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

6:15pm –7:15pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary

7:30pm –9:00pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room

Friday, October 9, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM

Saturday, October 10, 2026

9:00am –11:00am Grow With Me Music - CR

11:00am –1:00pm Christ Church Pastor's Anniversary Brunch - LH

1:00pm –3:00pm Family Ministry: Hike at Talcott Mountain State Park –
Heublein Tower in Simsbury, CT

7:00pm –9:00pm FME Chamber Music Concert Series

Sunday, October 11, 2026

Assisting Minister - Beverly Niemann

Stewardship Temple Talk - Kim Boerner-Mercier

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

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

11:00am –12:00pm Walk through of the Parish House

1:30pm –2:30pm Worship Service at Evergreen Crossings, S. Windsor

5:00pm –7:30pm Christ Church Pastor's Anniversary Service - SA