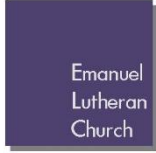


IN-PERSON & ONLINE



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.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

August 23, 2026

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

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Will You Come and Follow Me

Summer Choir

*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.

***Gathering Hymn**

O Savior, Precious Savior

ELW 820

***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, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

*Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

*Hymn of the Day

Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand

ACS 1024

Refrain



Kwa - ke Ye - su na - si - ma - ma, ndi - ye
Here on Je - sus Christ I will stand. He's the



mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma. Ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la -
sol - id rock of my life. He's the sol - id rock of my



ma, ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma.
life. He's the sol - id rock of my life.



1 There's no oth - er place I can hide till the
2 It is not the work of my hands that has
3 When my days on this earth are done, and I



storm that rag - es sub - sides. My voice cries to God from the
washed a - way all my sins. I'm re - deemed, and all of my
stand at God's ho - ly throne, my heart will not have an - y

Refrain



flood, and I'm saved be - cause of his blood.
days, Je - sus Christ will be my heart's praise.
fear; in Christ's righ - teous - ness I am here.

Text: Kenyan hymn; adapt. Greg Scheer, b. 1966

Music: KWAKE YESU NASIMAMA, Kenyan melody; adapt. Greg Scheer

Text © 2007 East African Annual Conference, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik

English adapt. and arr. © 2007 Greg Scheer, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik

***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

We Are an Offering

ELW 692

***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



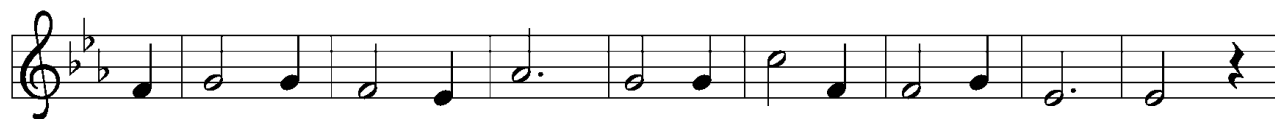
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



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
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com
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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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Seek Ye First

WOV 783



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God and its
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and



right - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
you shall find; knock and the door shall be



add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Give Me Jesus

ELW 770

*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

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

All: Amen.

*Sending Hymn

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 583

*Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Please join us this morning for Coffee Hour in Luther Hall.

Thank you to The Reverend Dr. Laurie Andersen for preaching and presiding at worship this morning while Pastor Joanna is at Camp Calumet leading the Congregation Retreat.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Assisting Minister: Ben Hogue

Ushers: Richard Marsh, Pat Nelson, Ann-Linda Bray, ***volunteer needed***

Communion Assistants: Ann-Linda Bray, ***volunteer needed***

Lector: Valerie Norris

Altar Guild: Kim Boerner-Mercier, Melissa Benson

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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...

FREE ENTRY

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

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.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Scripture Readings—Sunday, August 30, 2026:

Jeremiah 15:15-21

God fortifies the prophet against opposition

Psalms 26:1-8

Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you. (Ps. 26:3)

Romans 12:9-21

Live in harmony

Matthew 16:21-28

The passion prediction and rebuke to Peter

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

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

Flowers for Summer Sunday mornings

If you would like to provide fresh flowers for the altar or lectern on Sunday mornings, altar guild would love to put them on display in the sanctuary for worship! Whether the flowers are from your garden or fresh cut from the store, if you bring them in Sunday morning before worship (around 9:30 AM), someone from altar guild will put them in a vase or vases for you. You are welcome to take the flowers (but not the vase), home after worship. If you have any questions, please talk with Kim Boerner-Mercier.

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.

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

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 (aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org), if you have any questions.

Congregation Rock Painting

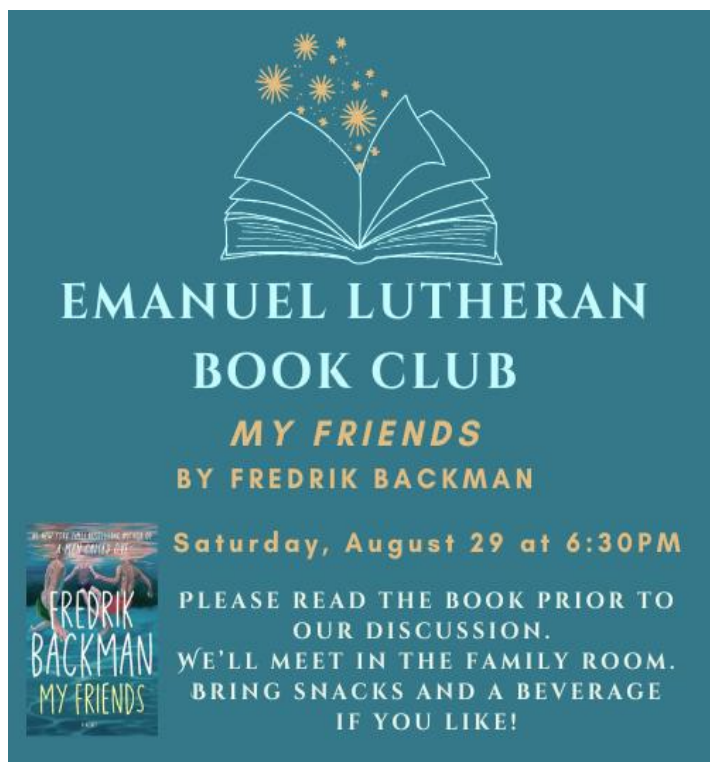
Thursday, August 27th from 6 - 8 PM in Luther Hall

All ages are invited and welcomed to paint rocks for Emanuel's Kindness Rock Garden.

All supplies will be provided.

Blessing of Backpacks—Sunday, August 30th during worship

Any children, teacher or working professional can come and have a blessing on their backpack or workbag before the beginning of the school year.



Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 23, 2026

Congregation Retreat at Calumet

Assisting Minister - Ben Hogue

Pastor Laurie Andersen preaching and presiding

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

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

12:00pm – 1:00pm MNC Worship Service - CR

1:00pm – 2:30pm Ministerio Nueva Creacion (MNC) Meeting - LH

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

Monday, August 24, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: CLOSED

10:00am - 11:00am Celebration of Life for Charlie Billmyer

7:00pm – 8:30pm Worship & Arts Meeting - Library

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: CLOSED

No events are scheduled.

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: CLOSED

No events are scheduled

Thursday, August 27, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: CLOSED

6:00pm – 8:00pm Congregation Rock Painting (All ages welcome) - LH

7:00pm – 9:00pm Gather CT: Last Thursdays - Parkville Market,
1400 Park Street, Hartford (RSVP:
tinyurl.com/gatherCTthur)

Friday, August 28, 2026

CHURCH OFFICE: CLOSED

5:00pm – 7:00pm Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR

Saturday, August 29, 2026

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

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