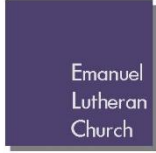


ONLINE



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.*

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

September 7, 2025

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

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Instrumental

*Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,

All: we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found. Amen.**

Pastor: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.

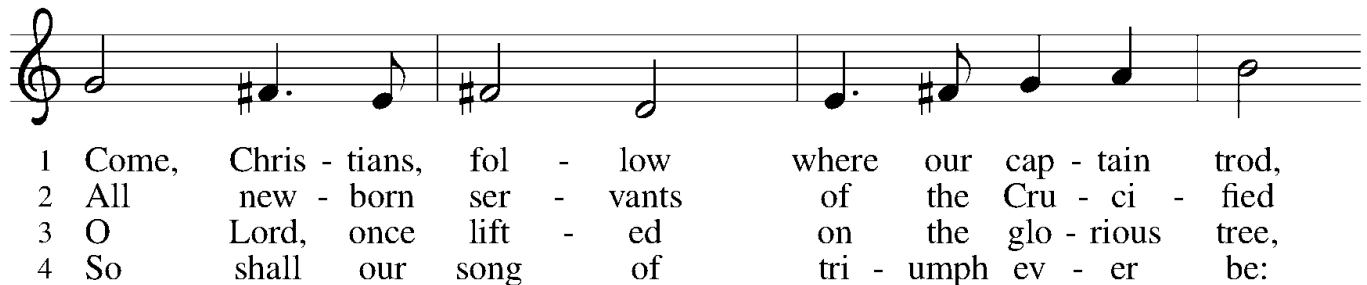
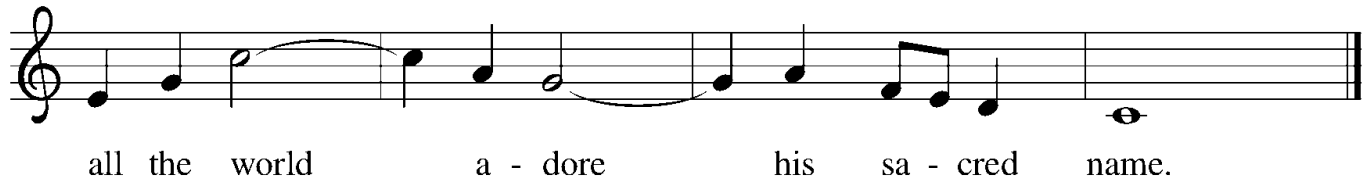
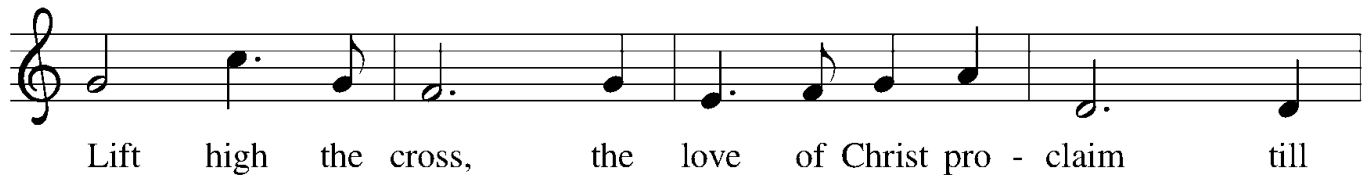
In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

All: Amen.

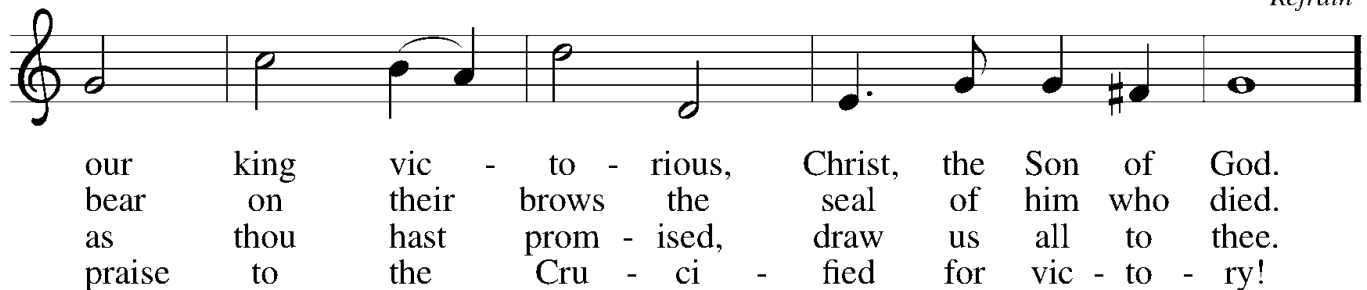
***Gathering Hymn**

Lift High The Cross

ELW 660



Refrain



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

***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: Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: **Amen.**

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵ “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

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

Second Reading: Philemon 1-21

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To our beloved coworker Philemon, ² to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

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

*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

* Gospel Reading: Luke 14:25-33

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?

²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Joanna Hertzog Betkoski



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

***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: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

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

AM: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

All: Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Offertory Music

Summer Choir

Take My Life That I May Be—ELW 583

***Offertory Prayer**

Pastor: Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, 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

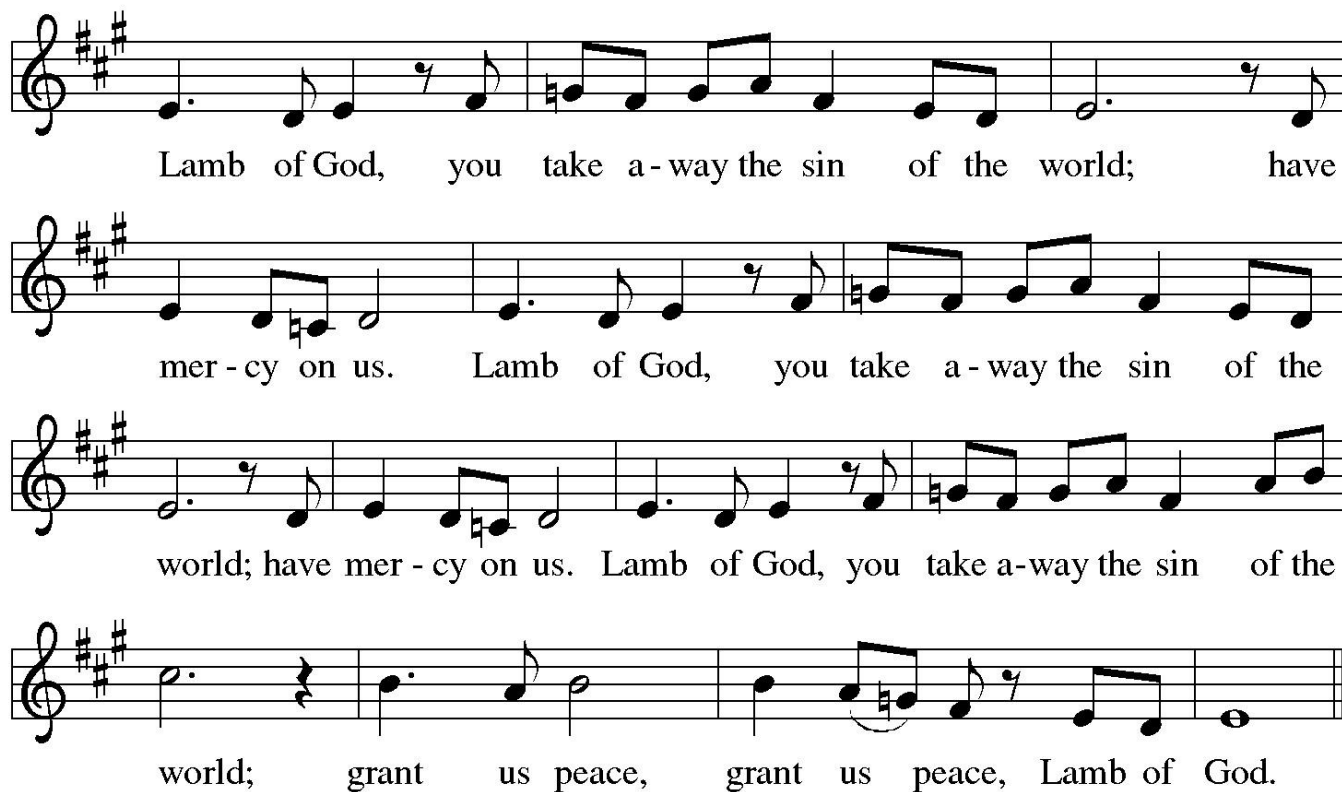
Pastor: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

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



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, Lamb of God.



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt-ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



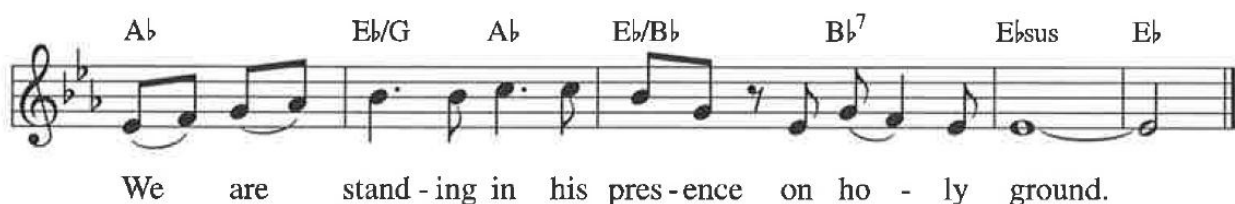
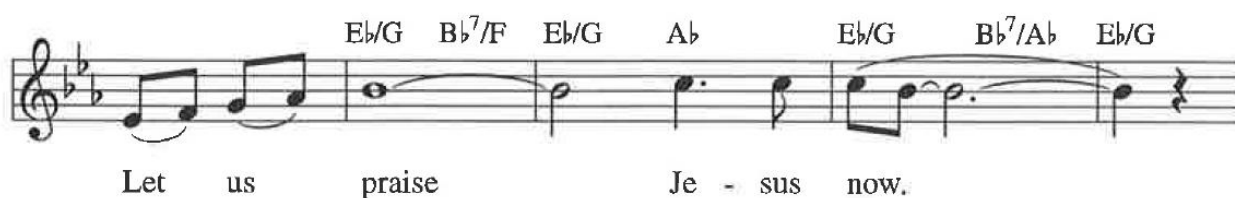
nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard-ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

Holy Ground

W&P 59



*Post Communion Prayer

AM: O God,
 through this meal you have strengthened us
 and appointed us to be your servants.
 Send us to do good and to share our possessions
 with all in need.
 We ask this in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Go, Make Disciples

ELW 540

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "Go, make dis - ci - ples, bap - tiz - ing them, teach - ing them. Go, make dis - ci - ples, for I am with you till the end of time. Go, be the salt of the earth. Go, be the light for the world. Go, be a cit - y on a hill, so all can see that you're serv - ing me. Go, make dis - ci - ples."

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GO, MAKE DISCIPLES, Handt Hanson

Text and music © 1996 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

***Blessing**

Pastor: The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✠ bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

***Dismissal**

AM: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Go Light Your World

Finn Lambert and Hannah Nemiah, vocalists

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

Please join us for Coffee Hour downstairs in Luther Hall following worship.
All are welcome!

Thanks to Barbara Stephens for the arrangement of beautiful hydrangeas that were grown in her garden and for sharing them with us this morning.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Assisting Minister: Kim Boerner-Mercier

Ushers: Richard Marsh, Pat Nelson, Marianne Wilcox, Jodi Eskin

Communion Assistants: Susan Tracey, **volunteer needed**

Lector: Beverly Niemann

Coffee Hour Host: Beverly Niemann

Altar Guild: Kim Boerner-Mercier, Melissa Benson, Emily Braman

Portions from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, sundaysandseasons.com, 2020-21 © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress.

Music images and song selections in this bulletin are reprinted under one of the following licenses: One License #A-700300; CCLI #1857476; Augsburg Fortress Annual Hymn License # 45905 (Sundays and Seasons). All Rights Reserved.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, September 7, 2025

Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier

10:00am –11:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary

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

Monday, September 8, 2025

CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM

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

7:00pm –8:30pm Property Committee Meeting – LH

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED

7:00pm –8:00pm Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM

No events are scheduled.

Thursday, September 11, 2025

CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED

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

6:00pm –7:00pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary

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

Friday, September 12, 2025

CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM

8:30am –1:00pm Health Collective - LH/MR

Saturday, September 13, 2025

11:00am –12:00pm Elsie Elizabeth Calve Graveside Visitation –

East Cemetery, Manchester

12:00pm –1:00pm Celebration of Life Reception for Elsie Elizabeth Calve

Sunday, September 14, 2025

RALLY DAY

Assisting Minister - Ray Purtell

10:00am –11:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary

11:30am –1:30pm Rally Day Pizza Lunch and Kona Ice Truck - LH

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

Emanuel's family room space is ready 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.

QR Code

You may have noticed the 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 wanted to give people the option to easily donate online at any time.

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.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Scripture Readings—Sunday, September 14, 2025:

Exodus 32:7-14

Moses begs the LORD to turn from anger against the Hebrews

Psalms 51:1-10

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. (Ps. 51:1)

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Christ Jesus came for sinners

Luke 15:1-10

Looking for the lost sheep, silver coin: Jesus eating with sinners

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 next to the guest book 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.

Special Offering Envelopes

The Special Offering envelope for September is **Parish Nurse Fund**. If you would like to give to any of the special offerings in 2025, 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.

Emanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH Staff

Church Office: 860-643-1193

Joanna Hertzog Betkoski, Pastor

Anne Heinrich, Office Administrator

Donna Connolly, Parish Nurse

Barton Sattler, Treasurer

Berk Little, Worship Support Specialist

Jeff Sirois, Director of Music

Katie Kurlak, Director of Family Ministries

Kathy Hatch, Property Supervisor

Jodi Eskin, Financial Secretary

Kathy Rusch, Worship Support Specialist



Check out this exciting new event, the **Calumet Obstacle & Trail Challenge**, a 5K trail run/walk with the challenge of a dozen obstacles along the way. From Jackman Ridge to the Outdoor Chapel (ODC) to Ossipee Lake, our course will have you traversing the entire Calumet property. This fundraising event is a fun way to challenge yourself while supporting the programs we offer year round at Calumet.

5K + 12 obstacles + Calumet's beautiful property = Fun for everyone!
(Modifications available, walk run or sing your way through each challenge)

How to Sign Up

1. Go to www.Calumet.org or click the link in our bio to visit the Obstacle Course page.
2. Click "Register Now."
3. On the next page, select "Register/Login."
4. Fill out the form and complete your registration!

How to Sponsor a Participant

1. Go to www.Calumet.org or click the link in our bio to visit the Obstacle Course page.
2. Select "Learn More" under the section about sponsoring a participant.
3. Choose your participant and make your donation!

Emanuel member, Sara J. Anderson is participating in the Challenge! If you would like to sponsor her, please follow these instructions.

Event Details:

- Registration Fee: \$100
- Event Date: Friday, September 12, 2025
- Start time: 10am EDT
- Location: Camp Calumet - 1090 Ossipee Lake Road, Freedom, NH

Join us after the challenge for a complimentary BBQ outside the Johnson Dining Hall

Coffee Hours

You can sign-up to host coffee hour in one of three ways:

- ♦ On the paper sign-up sheet in the narthex
- ♦ Through the online sign-up sheet:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1uFDDtVaSqBAxWhfcOeNICaNBfsM6oeYYcdt7IMOD_ZE/edit?usp=sharing
- ♦ Call or email Anne in the Church Office: 860-643-1193 or aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org

Women's Breakfast

Wednesday, September 17 at 9 AM at the Cosmic Omelet, 485 Hartford Road, Manchester

If you would like to attend, a RSVP to Lynne Gustafson: cgustafson01@snet.net is required by MONDAY, September 15th.

Emanuel Lutheran

BOOK CLUB

Sat. | Sept. 27 | 6:30PM

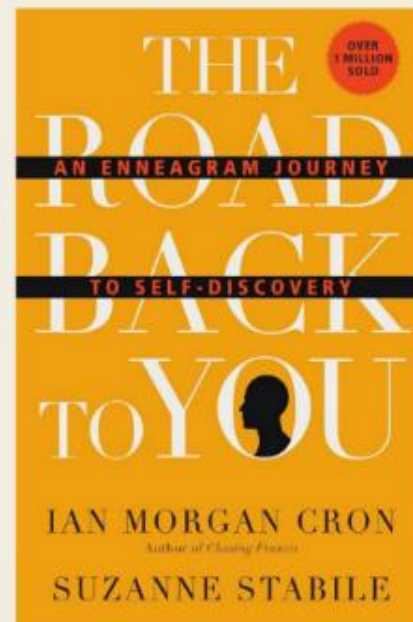
We'll meet in the family room

THE ROAD BACK TO YOU

An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery

by Ian Morgan Cron and Suzanne Stabile

Please read the book before coming to the meeting.



Book Club Sign-up: <https://forms.gle/gcouVhPXD8UEGVpE8>
or email Anne in the Church Office: aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org.



ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14, ALL PARENTS are invited and encouraged to attend a **brief meeting** to learn about the Sunday School program for 2025-26. Please plan to join us for the meeting in the Sunday School Room 10 minutes after the worship service ends. **If you are unable to attend, please let Katie Kurlak know ahead of time at** (familyministry@emanuelmanchester.org) so she can touch base with you before the Sunday School year begins.

If you would like to take part in the Ping Pong Tournament, please sign up on the sheet posted in the narthex THIS MORNING so that we will have an idea on how to structure the tournament.