

The Beginning of  the End >

Reformation

It's time to stay steadfast
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
October 25, 2026

Welcome!

We are honored that you are with us today. May the Word of God that you hear strengthen your faith and increase your desire to serve the Lord! If you are a guest today, we are thankful you have joined us. We hope that you will join us again soon.

For your convenience

For your convenience, please take note of the following:

- **Restrooms** are to the left as you exit the sanctuary.
- **Nursery.** There is a room where children may be quieted to the left down the hall across from the bathrooms as you exit the sanctuary. A television allows you to see and hear the service.
- **Children's worship notes** are available. Ask an usher.
- **Hearing assistance.** A hearing loop is available in the worship area for hearing aids equipped with a T-coil.



If there is any other way in which we can assist you, let us know.

The service is streamed live online at elctempe.org/worship.

For the latest information about services schedules, please visit elctempe.org.



Connection card

*During the offering
we ask that you
complete an online
connection card.*

Reformation Day —October 25, 2026

The Beginning of the End: It's time to stay steadfast

Jesus told his followers, "You will be hated by everyone because of me" (Matthew 10:22). So, the time between Christ's first and second coming is going to be perilous for believers. Jesus himself said it would be this way.

We see a good example of this in Martin Luther. All that priest wanted to do was to clean up abuses in the church, so that the church would share the pure gospel with the world. For trying to do just that, both political and religious leaders wanted to end his life.

The Festival of the Reformation emphasizes our unfailing reliance on the Word of God. We give unflinching testimony to that Word even in the face of persecution. Today we pray that the Lord would keep us steadfast in the faith.

Service of the Word and Sacrament



Pre-Service Music

How Firm a Foundation

David Cherwien

Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Johann Pachelbel and Timothy Albrecht

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Flor Peeters

Opening Hymn

800 How Firm a Foundation

Stand for the final stanza of the hymn.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*During our services,
the congregation
speaks the responses
in **bold**.*

Confession and Absolution

CW 172

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against
you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole
heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both
now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent
suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a
sinner.**

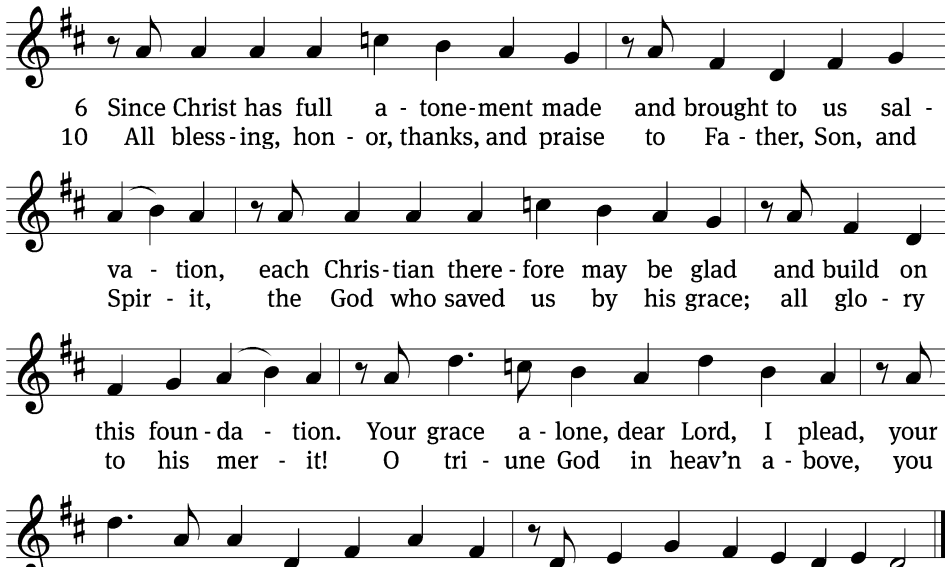
Silence for meditation and reflection.

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only-
begotten Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins
of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his
authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Response

558 Salvation unto Us Has Come



6 Since Christ has full a - tone-ment made and brought to us sal -
10 All bless - ing, hon - or, thanks, and praise to Fa - ther, Son, and
va - tion, each Chris - tian there - fore may be glad and build on
Spir - it, the God who saved us by his grace; all glo - ry
this foun - da - tion. Your grace a - lone, dear Lord, I plead, your
to his mer - it! O tri - une God in heav'n a - bove, you
death is now my life in - deed, for you have paid my ran - som.
have re - vealed your sav - ing love; your bless - ed name be hal - lowed!

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

Daniel 6:10–12,16–23

¹⁰Now, when Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went to his house. It had windows on its upper story that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day he would get on his knees and pray and offer praise before his God. He continued to do that, just as he had been doing before this. ¹¹Then these men came as a group and found Daniel praying and seeking favor from his God.

¹²They then went and asked the king about the decree. “Your Majesty, did you not sign a decree that anyone who prays to any god or person for thirty days except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the den of lions?”

The king answered, “Indeed I did. The order is established as a law of the Medes and the Persians that cannot be revoked.”

¹⁶Then the king gave the order, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you.” ¹⁷A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the pit. The king sealed it with his signet ring and the signet rings of his nobles so that nothing could be changed with regard to Daniel's situation. ¹⁸Then the king went to his palace. He spent the night without food, and no entertainment was brought before him. But he could not sleep.

¹⁹At dawn the king arose as soon as it was light and hurried to the lions' den. ²⁰As he came near the pit, he cried out in a fearful voice. The king said to Daniel, “Daniel, servant of the living God, was your God, whom you serve continually, able to rescue you from the lions?”

²¹Then Daniel spoke with the king. “Your Majesty, may you live forever! ²²My God sent his angel and shut the mouth of the lions. They have not hurt me because he found me innocent in his presence. Also before you, Your Majesty, I have committed no crime.”

²³Then the king was very glad and said that Daniel should be brought up from the pit. So Daniel was brought up from the pit, and he was unharmed because he trusted in his God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Even though it potentially meant death by lion, Daniel got on his knees and prayed to the Lord as he always had, demonstrating steadfast faith.

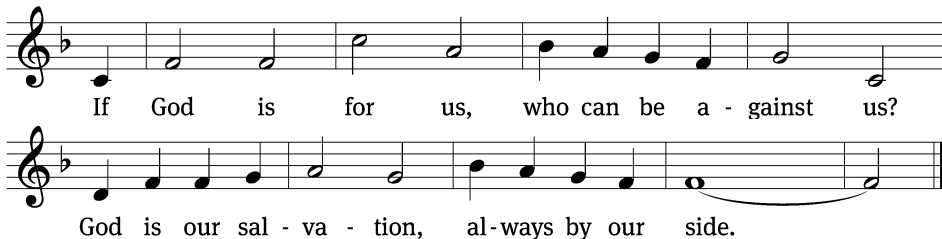
Psalm of the Day

The congregation sings each refrain and verses 2 and 3.

Psalm 46

James Chepponis

Refrain



If God is for us, who can be a - gainst us?
God is our sal - va - tion, al - ways by our side.

Verses



1 God is our ref - uge and our strength, an
2 A riv - er flows whose streams make glad the
3 Be - hold the won - drous deeds of God, who
ev - er pres - ent aid, and there - fore, though the
cit - y of our God, the ho - ly dwell - ing
caus - es wars to cease, the weap - ons of the
earth be moved, we will not be a - fraid; though
of the LORD, the place of God's a - bode. Since
strong de - stroyed, God brings a - bid - ing peace. "Be
hills in - to the seas be cast, though foam - ing wa - ters roar,
God is in the midst of it, our safe - ty is se - cure;
still and know that I am God, ex - alt - ed ev - er - more;"
the LORD of hosts is by our side, a
the LORD of hosts is by our side, a
the LORD of hosts is by our side, a
ref - uge strong and sure. Refrain
ref - uge strong and sure. Refrain
ref - uge strong and sure. Refrain

Second Reading

Romans 3:19–28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to God's judgment. ²⁰For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin.

God justifies those who have been given the gift of steadfast faith in Jesus Christ.

²¹But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. ²²This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, ²³because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ²⁴and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood. God did this to demonstrate his justice, since, in his divine restraint, he had left the sins that were committed earlier unpunished. ²⁶He did this to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so that he would be both just and the one who justifies the person who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷What happens to boasting then? It has been eliminated. By what principle – by the principle of works? No, but by the principle of faith. ²⁸For we conclude that a person is justified by faith without the works of the law.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 2:10

The congregation sings each refrain.



Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Refrain

Gospel

Matthew 10:16–23

*Our trust in Jesus
doesn't mean absence
of persecution, but
faithfulness despite it.*

¹⁶“Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. ¹⁷Be on guard against people. They will hand you over to councils, and they will whip you in their synagogues. ¹⁸You will be brought into the presence of governors and kings for my sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹Whenever they hand you over, do not be worried about how you will respond or what you will say, because what you say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰In fact you will not be the ones speaking, but the Spirit of your Father will be speaking through you.

²¹“Brother will hand over his brother to death, and a father will do the same with his child. Children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. ²²You will be hated by all people because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved. ²³And when they persecute you in one town, flee to the next. Amen I tell you: You will not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Remain standing.

Hymn of the Day

864 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

*This served as the
hymn of the week in
our school. Our school
learns roughly 26
hymns a year. Some
get repeated every
three years and every
two years. This is one
of two hymns that gets
done every year.*

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a trust - y
2 With might of ours can naught be done, soon were our
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, all ea - ger

shield and weap - on; he helps us free from ev - 'ry
loss ef - fect - ed; but for us fights the val - iant
to de - vour us, we trem - ble not, we fear no

need that has us now o'er - tak - en.
one whom God him - self e - lect - ed.
ill; they shall not o - ver - pow'r us.



The an - cient e - vil foe now means to work us woe;
 You ask who this may be? Christ Je - sus, it is he,
 The prince of dark - ness still may scowl fierce as he will,
 deep guile and aw - ful might are his dread arms in
 the Lord of hosts his name, from age to age the
 his rag - ing harms us none. He's judged; the deed is
 fight; on earth is not his e - qual.
 same, he holds the field for - ev - er.
 done; one lit - tle word can fell him.

Be seated.

Sermon

Daniel 6:10–12, 16–23

A Lair of Lions... no match for the LORD

Please stand.

Confession of Faith

Te Deum

Spoken together.

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
 All creation worships you, Father everlasting.
 To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
 Cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
 Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heavenly hosts,
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 The glorious company of apostles praise you.
 The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
 The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
 Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:
 Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son,
 And the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
 You, Christ, are the King of glory,
 The eternal Son of the Father.

Martin Luther valued the ancient Te Deum Laudamus and suggested it might be considered among the ecumenical creeds of the Christian Church.

Prayer of the Church

With grateful hearts, O Lord,
we remember before you this day...

The reformers and confessors who faced the terror of church and empire but stood firm in your truth because they were moved by grace, empowered by faith, and guided by Scripture.

Inspire us as we remember them, O Lord.

With grateful hearts, O Lord,
we remember before you this day...

Your faithful followers of every age, among them our own mothers and fathers, pastors and teachers, called, gathered, enlightened and sanctified by the Holy Spirit to be your Church and by whose faithful witness the gospel of your grace has reached at last to us.

Inspire us as we remember them, O Lord.

With grateful hearts, O Lord,
we remember before you this day...

The early and present leaders of our synod, the teachers who trained our grandfathers and those who now teach us, the missionaries who once went to lands uncharted and unmapped, and those who now walk among teeming millions in over-crowded cities.

Inspire us as we remember them, O Lord.

With grateful hearts, O Lord,
we remember before you this day...

Our own loved ones whose memories still burn within our hearts, whom you have called in your good time from their labors in life to that life which knows no end.

Inspire us as we remember them, O Lord,

To carry on their work in this our day, trusting your Son, holding to your Word, confessing your truth, loving the lost, reaching out with your love, until you call us, too, by your great grace in Jesus Christ, to join them where memories are swallowed up by everlasting joy.

This prayer of the church was written by James Tiefel, a long-time music and worship professor at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He joined the saints triumphant this past spring.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Be seated.

Offering

Musical Offering

A Mighty Fortress
Kyle Pederson



Give online

*If you prefer
online giving, you
may scan this code.*

Personal Preparation for Holy Communion

As you prepare to receive the Sacrament today, you may use the Christian Questions on page 295 in your blue hymnal or Personal Preparation on page 23 of this service folder.

Please stand.



Connection card

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connection card.*

The Sacrament

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in blessing his saints of the past has given us assurance and hope that, following their example, we may run the race marked out for us and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus

Tune: AURELIA



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

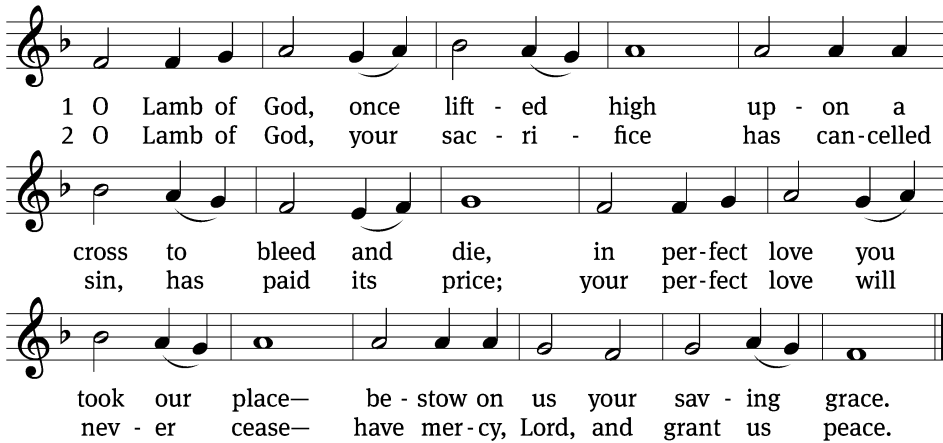
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

Tune: HAMBURG



1 O Lamb of God, once lift - ed high up - on a
2 O Lamb of God, your sac - ri - fice has can-celled
cross to bleed and die, in per-fect love you
sin, has paid its price; your per-fect love will
took our place— be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.
nev - er cease— have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace.

Be seated.

Distribution

For our distribution today, you may approach the altar using the side aisles. The two sides will meet at the bottom step in the middle. For those who prefer a low-gluten wafer, please indicate such to the pastor when he distributes the host. The low-gluten wafers are in a soufflé cup on the paten. The grape-colored cups in each tray are alcohol-removed wine. We will dismiss down the center aisle.

Members and any guests who have spoken with a pastor prior to the service about receiving Communion may come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution Hymns

669 In This Holy, Blest Communion
870 O Church, Arise

Please stand.

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Remain standing.

Closing Hymn

864 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

4 The Word they still shall let re - main nor an - y
thanks have for it; he's by our side up - on the
plain with his good gifts and Spir - it.
And should they take our life, goods, hon - or, child, and wife,
though all of these be gone, our vic - to - ry is
won; the king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Post-Service Music

A Mighty Fortress

Aaron David Miller

Serving at Worship

Preaching Minister

Presiding Minister

Organ

Instrumentalist

Acolyte

Video streamer and slides

Video captions

Sound

Pastor Daniel Gensmer

Pastor Gary Pufahl

Kevin Bode

Kali Gonzalez, *violin*

King (8:00 a.m.)

Sallquist

Angie Keezer

Jacob Sallquist

Acknowledgments

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In our prayers

- Chris Heise – Home recovering.
- Jeff Itoh – Recovering from a car accident.
- Family of Pastor Doug Lange, who was called home to heaven on October 17.
- Kaylee – Receiving treatments for cancer.
- Scott Trautman – Receiving treatments for cancer.
- Bill Welker – Receiving treatments for cancer.
- Bill Zidar – Receiving treatments for cancer.
- Much-needed rain for the state of Arizona.

Ushers

8:00 a.m.

David Kraus, Jim Olson, Jacob Pufahl

10:30 a.m.

Caden Head, Michael Kobs, Ryan Konig, Michael Prael

Communion

Thank you to Sandy Buchholz and Karen Henriksen for helping set up Communion for this weekend.

Flowers

Thank you to Randy and Rose Moore for beautifying our sanctuary with altar flowers in honor of their 46th wedding anniversary.

Landscaping

Thank you to Pastor Buchholz and family for helping maintain, trim and clean the outside church property this week.

This week at Emmanuel

Sunday

Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
In-person adult Bible study	9:15 a.m.
	<i>Adult Bible class: Taboo Topics</i>
	<i>Table Talk: Galatians</i>
Sunday school, teen and junior high Bible study	9:15 a.m.
Public school Catechism	12:00-1:30 p.m.
East Valley Area Reformation service	4:00 p.m.
	<i>Fellowship following the service</i>

Monday

Light in the Valley – campus ministry	6:00 p.m.
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Tuesday

Quarterly Voters' meeting	6:30-8:30 p.m.
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Wednesday

Wednesday Bible study	8:30 a.m.
Adult choir practice	6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Thursday Bible study at Denny's	6:00 a.m.
	<i>21st Century Lessons from the Life of Joseph</i>
	<i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i>
	<i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>
God's Ways Bible study	6:00-8:30 p.m.
Bible Basics class	6:30-8:00 p.m.

Friday

ELS chapel	8:30 a.m.
	<i>ELS Christ ~ Connection ~ Coffee fellowship following chapel</i>
Joy Fellowship movie and potluck	9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
ELS early release	1:50 p.m.

Saturday

Setup for Family Fall Festival	8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
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Sunday, November 1

Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
In-person adult Bible study	9:15 a.m.
	<i>Adult Bible class: Taboo Topics</i>
	<i>Table Talk: Galatians</i>
Sunday school, teen and junior high Bible study	9:15 a.m.
Public school Catechism	12:00-1:30 p.m.
Family Fall Festival	4:00-6:00 p.m.

Looking ahead

November 3	Stewardship meeting	8:00 p.m.
November 4-6	ELS Arizona-California teachers' conference	No school
November 6	<i>Helping the Hurting</i> training session	6:30-8:30 p.m.
	<i>Heritage Lutheran Church, Gilbert, Arizona</i>	
November 7	<i>Helping the Hurting</i> training session	9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
	<i>Heritage Lutheran Church, Gilbert, Arizona</i>	
	Memorial service for Elaine Kern	10:00 a.m.
	<i>Reception following the service</i>	
November 10	Evangelism meeting	6:30 p.m.
November 11	Veterans Day program	1:00 p.m.
November 15	Emmanuel teen night	6:00-8:00 p.m.
November 17	Church Council meeting	6:00-8:00 p.m.
November 20	ELS Christ ~ Connection ~ Coffee	9:00-10:00 a.m.
	<i>following ELS chapel</i>	
November 21	Elders' meeting	7:30-9:00 a.m.
November 22	Grief Share - Surviving the Holidays	2:00-4:00 p.m.
November 25	ELS Thanksgiving break	Noon dismissal
	Thanksgiving Eve worship service	6:30 p.m.
	Adult choir	No practice
November 26-27	ELS Thanksgiving break	No school
November 26	Thanksgiving Day	Church office closed
	Thursday Bible study at Denny's	No class
	Thanksgiving Day worship service	9:00 a.m.
	God's Ways Bible study	No class
	Bible Basics class	No class
November 27	Day after holiday	Church office closed
November 28	Decorate church and MEC for Christmas	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
November 29	Public school Catechism	No class
November 30	ELS	Classes resume
December 1	Stewardship meeting	8:00 p.m.
December 2	Midweek Advent worship	3:30 and 6:30 p.m.
	Midweek Advent meal	4:45-6:15 p.m.
December 5	Elders' meeting	7:30-9:00 a.m.
	Invitation handout: Christmas	9:00-11:00 a.m.
December 6	Emmanuel Lutheran Church's 75th anniversary	
	Adult Bible study, Sunday school, teen Bible study	No classes
	Emmanuel's 75th anniversary celebration	9:15 a.m.
	<i>Fellowship and presentation</i>	
	Advent by Candlelight	2:00-4:00 p.m.
December 8	Grief Share - Surviving the Holidays	6:00-8:00 p.m.
December 9	Midweek Advent worship	3:30 and 6:30 p.m.
	Midweek Advent meal	4:45-6:15 p.m.



Connection card

*During the offering
we ask that you
complete an online
connection card.*

Notes and News

Connection cards

The connection cards have a valuable purpose in helping us serve you better. We ask all our worshipers to help us serve you by scanning the QR code, by going to elctempe.org/connect, or by filling out one of the cards in the pews. Thank you!

Staff Spotlight | Pastor Appreciation Month

Our pastors dedicate their lives to the service of God and sharing his Word. October is Pastor Appreciation Month and is a time to serve as an opportunity to highlight our pastors and honor their service to our church, community and Jesus' mission. Let's show our thanks and gratitude to our pastors this month.

As part of Pastor Appreciation Month, each week we will be highlighting one of our pastors. This month we have highlighted Pastor Dan Pautz, Pastor Jon Buchholz and Pastor Gary Pufahl. This week we are highlighting Pastor Daniel Gensmer. Do you know why he joined the ministry? What about his hobbies? Know his favorite Bible verse? See page 21 to find the answers and other interesting facts about Pastor Gensmer!

Thank you to those who joined us Saturday!

A big thank-you to everyone who came out yesterday (Saturday) for our campus work day to prepare our campus for Reformation and Family Fall Festival. Your service to beautify our campus is very much appreciated. Thank you!

East Valley Joint Reformation Service | This afternoon (October 25)

The special East Valley Joint Reformation Service will be held here at Emmanuel this afternoon (Sunday, October 25) at 4:00 p.m. Join us for another powerful celebration of God's grace! The service theme this year is: *The truth will set you free*. In a world where truth is relative and the future is uncertain, we build our lives on the solid rock of God's Word, the immovable truth of Scripture. Pastor Timothy Henning of Chino Valley, Arizona, will serve as our guest preacher. Following the service, we will enjoy food and fellowship in the Ministry and Education Center. If you are able to help set up, prep food, serve, clean up, or donate, please review the volunteer opportunities and items needed, and sign up today. Your contributions are greatly appreciated!

JOY Fellowship | October 30

Our Joy Fellowship group is for those 55 years and older. Join us as we meet this Friday, October 30, at 9:30 a.m. in the MEC, to watch *The Great Awakening*. It is a historical film of an unlikely friendship between the Rev. George Whitefield and founding father Benjamin Franklin. The focus is the surge of Christianity in the Colonies. We will have a movie discussion and enjoy a potluck. Please bring a main dish and/or dessert to share. If you have any questions, contact Wendy Binger at (480) 452-6169.



*Reformation
fellowship dinner
- Volunteer sign-up*

Family Fall Festival | Next Sunday (November 1)

Our annual Family Fall Festival is next Sunday, November 1, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. This is a fun, family-friendly event with Trunk-or-Treat, bounce houses and more. Visit our website (elctempe.org/fallfestival) or use the QR code for more information.

We are still in need of donations and volunteers. Donations needed include cans of soda, cases of water bottles, juice boxes, non-chocolate candy, fruit snacks, and snack size bags of: chips, pretzels, popcorn, and cookies.

In order to make this a successful event, we need people like you. If you're interested in volunteering, please visit our [website](#) by scanning the QR code. Volunteer opportunities may include: providing and decorating a [trunk for Trunk-or-Treat](#), setting up, decorating, staffing an activity (such as bounce house, food table, etc.), clean-up and take-down ([full list of volunteer opportunities found here](#)).



*Family Fall Festival
- Information*

Kingdom Workers' Helping the Hurting training sessions | November 6-7

[Kingdom Workers](#) is a global, Christian nonprofit that partners with Christians to share Jesus' love while helping their neighbors. Their aim is physical and spiritual healing for the people they serve, which results in lasting change that glorifies God. One of Kingdom Workers' programs is [RISE](#), a program that helps train advocates to support survivors of relationship abuse. They are hosting *Helping the Hurting* training sessions at Heritage Lutheran Church in Gilbert, Arizona, on Friday, November 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and Saturday, November 7, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Sign up for one or both sessions using [the sign-up form](#) or scan the QR code.



*Helping the Hurting
training*

Help needed for livestream captioning

Have a computer? Like creating PowerPoint slides? Got a few extra hours you could lend a hand? The livestream team needs help creating captions for Sunday services. Requirements: Computer with access to the internet, and working knowledge of PowerPoint and a few hours of your time. Work can be done from home. Training is available. Please contact Chris Wempner at cwempner@elstempe.org.

Veterans Day program | November 11

Emmanuel Lutheran School will be hosting a Veterans Day Program on Wednesday, November 11. All veterans and their spouses are invited to a luncheon beginning at noon. Invitation flyers are available in the back of church for veterans. Feel free to take as many as you need to share with veterans.

Please RSVP for the lunch by calling the school office at (480) 967-3991, emailing Miss Chris Wempner at cwempner@elstempe.org, using the provided QR code, or clicking on this [lunch link](#). The students will present a program beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the church. All congregational members and parents are invited to attend and help us honor the veterans.



*RSVP for Veterans
Day program*



Grief Share

Grief Share

Christians grieve differently than the world around us because of the hope we have in Christ. But even though Christians grieve with hope, the loss of a loved one presents unexpected challenges as they learn to navigate a world without their loved one. The holiday season can be especially challenging. With this in mind, Emmanuel is excited to present our new Grief Share support group, which intends to provide a safe space to share our struggles, our experiences, and find comfort in God's word. If you or someone you know has struggled with grief, consider joining our Grief Share support group on either Sunday, November 22, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., or on Tuesday, December 8, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Learn more and register for either event using the QR code or visiting our website (elctempe.org/griefshare). Reach out to Pastor Gensmer with any questions.

Christian education hour

Here is a list of our classes, topics, and locations for our Sunday morning education hour.

The **Adult Bible study** is meeting in the Oak Room of the Ministry and Education Center (MEC). The study topic today is "Taboo Topics."

The **Table Talk Bible study** is meeting in the Olive Room of the Ministry and Education Center (MEC). The study topic today is "Galatians."

The **Teen Bible study Grades 9-12** is meeting in the 7th grade classroom on the second floor of the MEC. The study topic today is "The Beginning of the End: It's time to stay steadfast."

The **Junior High Bible study Grades 7-8** is meeting in the 8th grade classroom on the second floor of the MEC. The study topic today is "The Beginning of the End: It's time to stay steadfast."

The Sunday School for **Grades 4-6** is meeting in the 4th grade classroom at the south campus. The study topic today is "A laughable promise."

The Sunday School for **Grades 1-3** is meeting in the 3rd grade classroom at the south campus. The study topic today is "A laughable promise."

The Sunday School for **4K Preschool-Kindergarten** is meeting in the kindergarten classroom at the south campus. The study topic today is "A laughable promise."

The Sunday School for **two- and three-year-olds** is meeting in the preschool classrooms at the south campus. Parents are encouraged to remain with their children. The study topic today is "God gives Josiah His Word."

The **MUMs** (mothers understanding mothers) group is meeting in the church nursery. This is for moms and their children under age 2.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



PASTOR DANIEL GENSMER



EDUCATION

Martin Luther College
(2020, Bachelor of Language Arts)
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary
(2026, Master of Divinity)

SERVICE AT EMMANUEL

- Ordained at Emmanuel in July 2026
- Youth and family ministry pastor
- Areas of Service:
 - Youth and family ministry, including teen group, Sunday school, Catechism, Light in the Valley campus ministry, Counseling, Grief Share support group, etc.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO ENTER THE MINISTRY?

I always knew that I wanted to help people. I could be a doctor and mend a wound, but people will get hurt again. I could serve in the police or the military but the issues those heroes resolve never fully go away. But if I could connect people to Jesus, that is the greatest way I could ever help someone. Heaven is forever, that's an eternal solution!

TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF

FAMILY: My wife, Rachel, and I are coming up on our 3rd anniversary this December. We have been blessed with our happy healthy little girl, Lillian, who is coming up on her 4th month.

HOBBIES: I love sports. I am rather competitive. I played football all the way through college, but now I enjoy tennis, pickleball, and the occasional basketball game. I also love cooking. It's such a cathartic break to put together a challenging meal. I also like trying to challenge myself, I've tried teaching myself guitar, gone geocaching, hiking... I am always up for a challenge.

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE:

Romans 1:16 - I am not ashamed of the Gospel!

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT ARIZONA:

I love the fact that the mountains surround us. It's such a beautiful backdrop to this great area.

WHAT ARE YOU CURRENTLY READING OR LISTENING TO?

I've been reading through "Christian, Who are You," which focuses on our identity in Christ. I also love this artist called Poor Bishop Hooper, who puts all the Psalms to some beautiful melodies.

**Join us for Emmanuel's
Family Fall Festival!**
**Sunday, November 1,
4:00 - 6:00 PM**

- Trunk -or- Treat in a safe, fun environment
- Photo Booth
- Bounce Houses
- Face Painting
- Door Prizes
- Food available (cash only)



Learn more



Personal preparation for Holy Communion

The following questions for self-examination (adapted from various sources) may be helpful as you prepare to receive the Sacrament.

As we prepare to partake of the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, it is appropriate that we diligently examine ourselves, as St Paul exhorts us. For this Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort and strengthening of those who humbly confess their sins and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But if we thus examine ourselves, we find nothing in ourselves but sin and death, from which we can in no way set ourselves free. Therefore our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy upon us and has taken upon himself our nature, so that he might fulfill the whole will and law of God and for us and for our deliverance suffer death and all that we by our sins have deserved. In order that we should more confidently believe this and be strengthened in faith and cheerful obedience to his holy will, he has instituted the holy Sacrament of his Supper, in which he feeds us with his body and gives us to drink of his blood.

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup firmly believing the words of Christ, lives in Christ and Christ in him, and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of him, proclaiming his death – that he was delivered over for our sins and raised to life for our justification. Then with thankful hearts we commit ourselves again to take up our cross and follow him, keep his commandments, and love one another as he has loved us.

As you examine yourself, consider these questions before God, who searches the heart:

Q: Do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserved his wrath and punishment?

A: *Truly you should confess, for Holy Scripture declares, "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."*

Q: Do you heartily repent of all your sins committed in thought, word, and action?

A: *Truly you should repent, as did the penitent sinners: King David, who prayed for a contrite heart; Peter, who wept bitterly; the woman caught in adultery; the prodigal son; and others.*

Q: Do you sincerely believe that God, by his grace, for Jesus' sake, forgives you all your sins?

A: *Truly you should believe, for Holy Scripture declares, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."*

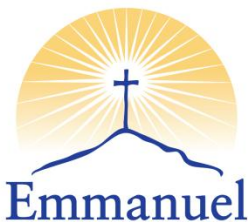
Q: Do you promise that with the help of the Holy Spirit you will from this time forward amend your sinful life?

A: *Truly you should so promise, for Holy Scripture declares, "No one who lives in him keeps on sinning," and Jesus himself declares, "If you love me, you will obey what I command."*

Personal prayer:

Lord Jesus, as a penitent sinner filled with joy and gratitude, I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of love and kindness to others. Amen.

A person should examine himself before eating of the bread and drinking from the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment (1 Corinthians 11:28,29,31).



About Us

Emmanuel Lutheran Church shares the love of Jesus and the truth of his saving Word with the people in our church, our community and the world.

The objectives of our mission are:

- To **preach**, by proclaiming the Word of God, as we worship and praise God in a loving Christian atmosphere;
- To **teach**, by fostering an ongoing increase in knowledge and maturity in God's Word;
- To **reach**, by sharing the Gospel of God's Word with all people, and to do so;
- By **each** member actively participating in our ministry.

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Pastor Daniel R. Gensmer

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Emmanuel Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the Wisconsin Synod as well as the churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).



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