

The Beginning of the End >



Pentecost 19

It's time to be fruitful
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
October 4, 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.*

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost —October 4, 2026

The Beginning of the End: It's time to be fruitful

God showers us with his love. God gives us everything we need for our bodies and souls. God forgives our sins and lavishes us with his abundant grace.

The message of repentance and forgiveness of sins through Jesus falls on eager ears and living hearts. God's Spirit turns our focus away from self and fixes our thoughts on Jesus. We respond to God's grace with the fruit of righteousness. Our whole lives are devoted to serving the Lord and serving our neighbor.

We're not trying to score points. We're not trying to win God's favor. We're simply responding with sincere and grateful hearts to all of the mercy God has given us.

We have been bought by him. We belong to him. We produce good fruit in him!



Matins

Matins was an order of worship followed by the early Christians. It took place from a few hours after midnight until dawn. Some notable elements of this order of worship feature a spoken or sung Venite and Te Deum.

Introit

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Karle Erickson

The Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him.

New to our normal worship routine but old to any style of Christian worship, the introit serves as an opening song of praise as the minister enters the sanctuary. Historically, it is based off of a Psalm in which the choir sings the verses and the congregation sings a repeated refrain.

Opening Hymn

917 God Himself Is Present

Join the choir in singing the entire hymn.

Remain seated.

Invocation

The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

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

O Lord, o - pen my lips,
and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

Has - ten to save me, O God;
O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

General Jesus Christ is Lord of all:
praise and thanks to God!

O Come, Let Us Sing

Sung by the adult choir.

Venite
Cindy Berry

*O come, let us sing with joy to the Lord, O come.
Come, bow down before him, kneel and adore him
And praise him with music and song.*

*For he is holy, Shepherd, Creator and King.
For he is worthy, forever his praises I'll sing.*

*Sing unto God the creator, he made the sea and the land.
Sing unto God the Almighty.
We are the work of his hands.*

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

*The LORD Almighty
pictures his patient
love for Israel as an
owner of a vineyard
patiently waiting for
a good crop of fruit.*

¹Let me sing for my loved one a song about my loved one's vineyard.

My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile ridge.

²He dug it up and gathered the stones out of it.

He planted it with the best vines.

He built a tower in the middle of it.

He also cut a winepress into it.

He expected it to produce clusters of sweet grapes,
but it produced only sour grapes.

³"So now, you residents of Jerusalem and you men of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more could have been done for my vineyard
that I have not already done for it?

When I expected it to produce clusters of sweet grapes,
why did it produce sour grapes?

⁵Now, let me tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will take away its hedge, and it will become a pasture.

I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a wasteland.

It will not be pruned or hoed.

So briars and thorns will shoot up.

I will also command the clouds not to pour rain on it."

⁷Yes, the vineyard of the LORD of Armies is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah are the planting that was pleasing to him.

He expected justice, but instead there was oppression.

He expected righteousness, but there was an outcry.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philippians 3:12–21

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus also took hold of me.

¹³Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it yet, but there is one thing I do: Forgetting the things that are behind and straining toward the things that are ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal, for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Therefore, let all of us who are mature continue to think this way. And if you think differently about anything, God will reveal this to you too. ¹⁶Only let us think the same thing and walk in line with what we already have attained.

¹⁷Brothers, join together in imitating me and in paying attention to those who are walking according to the pattern we gave you. ¹⁸To be sure, many walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. I told you about them often, and now I am saying it while weeping. ¹⁹Their end is destruction, their god is their appetite, and their glory is in their shame. They are thinking only about earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven. We are eagerly waiting for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹By the power that enables him to subject all things to himself, he will transform our humble bodies to be like his glorious body.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Matthew 21:33–43

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. He leased it out to some tenant farmers and went away on a journey. ³⁴When the time approached to harvest the fruit, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵The tenant farmers seized his servants. They beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶Then the landowner sent even more servants than the first time. The tenant farmers treated them the same way. ³⁷Finally, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. ³⁸But when the tenant farmers saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance!’ ³⁹They took him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰So when the landowner comes, what will he do to those tenant farmers?”

⁴¹They told him, “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end. Then he will lease out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him his fruit when it is due.”

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

Through Christ we have been given the kingdom of heaven. God patiently waits for us to respond to his grace by living drastically different lives than the people of this world.

Jesus tells us a story of God’s abundant patience.

“The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?

⁴³“That is why I tell you the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and
given to a people that produces its fruit.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Anthem (10:30 a.m.)

Jesus Loves Me

Sung by Preschool and Kindergarten

*Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong. (Refrain)*

*Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.*

*Jesus loves me! He who died
heaven's gates to open wide.
He will wash away my sin,
let his little child come in. (Refrain)*

Hymn

862 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Sermon

Isaiah 5:1–7

Abundant love, lavish grace

After the sermon, please stand.

We Praise You, O God

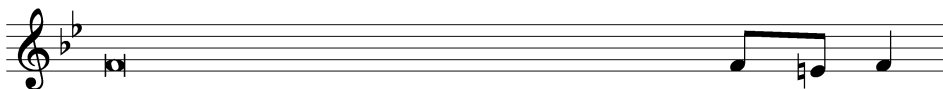
CW 210



- 1 We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
- 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of heav'n - ly hosts,
- 3 The white-robed army of martyrs praise — you.



- 1 all creation worships you, Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing.
- 2 heaven and earth are full — of your glo - ry.
- 3 Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



- 1 To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,
- 2 The glorious company of apostles praise — you.
- 3 Father of majesty unbounded; your glorious, true, and on - ly Son;



- 1 cherubim and seraphim, sing in end - less praise:
- 2 The noble fellowship of proph - ets praise — you.
- 3 and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide.



- 4 You, Christ, are the King of glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther.

Song continues on next page.

5 When you became man to set us free,
6 You sit at the right hand of God

5 you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.

5 You overcame the sting of death
6 We believe that you will come

5 and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be our judge.

7 Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple,
7 bought with the price of your own blood,

7 and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

Be seated.

Offering

Musical Offering

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word
Matthew Manthe, Dennis E. Northway

Please stand.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 213

The musical notation is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two lines of music. The first line has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody begins with a half rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. This is followed by a half rest, then a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second line continues the melody with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful and answer me.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness, keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayers of intercession, seasonal prayers, and the Prayer of the Day may follow.

The following prayer is said:

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

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.

Thanksgiving



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

Blessing



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

Be seated.

Closing Hymn

925 On What Has Now Been Sown

Serving at Worship

Minister

Organ

Choirs

Acolytes

Video streamer and slides

Video captions

Sound

Pastor Jon Buchholz

Kurt Rosenbaum

Adult Choir

John Nolte, *accompanist*

ELS Preschool-Kindergarten

Cameron (8:00 a.m.), Grayson (10:30 a.m.)

Cathy Wightman, Charlie

Jeremy Burmeister

George Willis

Acknowledgments

Morning Prayer from Christian Worship

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In our prayers

- Ken Dins – Home recovering.
- Chris Heise – Home recovering.
- Kaylee – Receiving treatments for cancer.
- Louise Sallquist – Recently hospitalized and recovering at home.
- Bill Welker – Receiving treatments for cancer.
- Bill Zidar – Receiving treatments for cancer.

Ushers

8:00 a.m.

David Kraus, Peter Nimmer, Jim Olson, Jacob Pufahl

10:30 a.m.

Caden Head, Michael Kobs, Ryan Konig, Michael Prahl

This week at Emmanuel

Sunday

Blood Drive

7:00-10:30 a.m.

Worship services

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

In-person adult Bible study

9:15 a.m.

Adult Bible class: Beyond the Temple Walls

Table Talk: Creation and Science: Friends or Foes?

Sunday school, teen and junior high Bible study

9:15 a.m.

Public school Catechism

12:00-1:30 p.m.

Monday

Light in the Valley – campus ministry

6:00-7:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Communications meeting

6:30 p.m.

Stewardship meeting

8:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Wednesday Bible study

8:30 a.m.

Book of Daniel

Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl

School Board meeting

6:00 p.m.

Adult choir practice

6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Thursday Bible study at Denny’s

No class this week

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.
ELS early release	1:50 p.m.

Saturday

Invitation handout: Family Fall Festival	9:00-11:00 a.m.
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Sunday, October 11

Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
Pastor appreciation reception	9:00-9:30 a.m.
Church open forum	9:15 a.m.
Adult Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	No classes
Public school Catechism	12:00-1:30 p.m.

Looking ahead

October 12-16	ELS Fall break	No school
October 14	Adult choir practice	6:30 p.m.
October 15	God's Ways Bible study	No class this week
October 17	ELS football tournament	TBA
	<i>Arizona Lutheran Academy</i>	
October 19	ELS	Classes resume
October 20	Church Council meeting	Canceled
October 21	Wednesday Bible study	No class this week
October 23	ELS parent/teacher conferences	No school
October 24	ELS volleyball tournament	TBA
	<i>Arizona Lutheran Academy</i>	
	Fall campus work day	8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
	WELS Youth Night @ Emmanuel	5:00-8:00 p.m.
October 25	East Valley Area Reformation service	4:00 p.m.
	<i>Fellowship following the service</i>	
October 27	Quarterly Voters' meeting	6:30-8:30 p.m.
October 30	ELS Christ-Connection-Coffee	9:00-10:00 a.m.
	<i>following ELS chapel</i>	
November 1	Family Fall Festival	4:00-6:00 p.m.
November 3	Stewardship meeting	8:00 p.m.
November 4-6	ELS Arizona-California teachers' conference	No school
November 7	Elders' meeting	7:30-9:00 a.m.
	Memorial service for Elaine Kern	10:00 a.m.
	<i>Reception following the service</i>	
November 10	Evangelism meeting	6:30 p.m.

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!



Connection card

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

Fall blood drive at Emmanuel | This morning (Sunday, October 4)

The Vitalant bloodmobile is at Emmanuel this morning, Sunday, October 4, 7:00 to 10:30 a.m. Your donation could help a family member, friend or neighbor in need. Spread the word and please consider donating. To schedule your donation appointment, visit donors.vitalant.org/dwp/portal/dwa, click on "Blood Drive Code" and enter code: EmmanuelLC, or use the provided QR code.



*Blood Drive
sign-up*

Invitation handout: Family Fall Festival | October 10

Come walk with us to hand out invitations for our annual Family Fall Festival. We will be reaching out to our neighbors on Saturday, October 10, meeting in the Ministry and Education Center at 9:00 a.m.

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.

Join us next Sunday, October 11, after the first service in the Ministry and Education Center for cake and to show our appreciation for our pastors.

As part of Pastor Appreciation Month, each week we will be highlighting one of our pastors. This week we are highlighting Pastor Dan Pautz. Do you know what his favorite Bible verse is? What about his favorite lunch spot near Emmanuel? See page 16 to find the answers and other interesting facts about Pastor Pautz!

LWMS West and East Fall Retreat

LWMS (Lutheran Women's Missionary Society) West and East Fall Retreat will be on Saturday, October 10. This year's host is Grace Lutheran in Glendale, Arizona. The rally is from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with check-in starting at 8:15 a.m. A light breakfast will be served and lunch is included. More information and registration forms are available in the narthex and the MEC, and online at www.grandcanyonlwms.org. Retreat registration fee is \$20. Please mail or register on-line by next Friday, September 25. A sign-up sheet for those who wish to carpool is in the MEC. For those who cannot attend but would like to contribute to missions, a freewill offering will be collected after each service this morning (Sunday, October 4).

Memorial service for Elaine Kern | November 7

Elaine Kern was called home to heaven on Sunday, September 13. A memorial service has been scheduled for Saturday, November 7, at 10:00 a.m. here at Emmanuel Lutheran. A reception will take place in the Ministry and Education Center following the service.

Campus Fall work day | October 24

With the weather turning to our favor, it's time to do some of our outdoor projects that have been a challenge over the summer. This clean-up day also helps us prepare for Reformation and our Family Fall Festival. We will start at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 24, until completed. You are welcome to come when you can and help as long as you're able. Thank you!

WELS Youth Night | October 24

Calling all teens! Join us on Saturday, October 24, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church for WELS Youth Night. This is an evening for Phoenix-area high school teens to gather around God's Word, have some fun, and encourage one another in Christ. The event will be from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and you can look forward to food, games, fellowship, and a keynote on fear and how God's Word combats it in our lives. Come join us and invite a friend! Visit our website (elctempe.org/youth), or use the QR code, to learn more and to [register](#) prior to the event. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the event, use the [volunteer link](#).



WELS Youth Night

East Valley Joint Reformation Service | October 25

The special East Valley Joint Reformation Service will be held here at Emmanuel on 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.

Family Fall Festival | Donations and volunteers needed

Our annual Family Fall Festival is scheduled for 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 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*

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



PASTOR DANIEL PAUTZ

EDUCATION

Northwestern College
(1963, Bachelor's Degree)
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary
(Master's Degree)

SERVICE AT EMMANUEL

- Began serving at Emmanuel in June 1968
- Visitation pastor
- Areas of Service:
 - Visitation with elderly, hospitalized, homebound

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO ENTER THE MINISTRY?

My brother encouraged me - and I wanted to serve God and His people.

TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF

FAMILY: Ingrid and I have seven children and eleven grandchildren.

HOBBIES: Gardening, traveling

FAVORITE EMMANUEL MEMORY:
Among my favorite memories are the faithful and wonderful people of Emmanuel.

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE:
Jeremiah 29:11

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT ARIZONA:
The weather from October-May. The beautiful scenery in the high country.

FAVORITE LUNCH SPOT NEAR EMMANUEL:
Red Devil Pizza

ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?
Emmanuel has been a wonderful and blessed congregation!



The Truth Will Set You Free

"If you remain in my word, you are really my disciples. You will also know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

—John 8:31,32

The 509th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation
East Valley Area Reformation Service
Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church
Tempe, Arizona
October 25, 2026

**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



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 “Beyond the Temple Walls.”

The **Table Talk Bible study** is meeting in the Olive Room of the Ministry and Education Center (MEC). The study topic today is “Creation and Science: Friends or Foes?”

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 be fruitful.”

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 be fruitful.”

The Sunday School for **Grades 4-6** is meeting in the 4th grade classroom at the south campus. The study topic today is “Hand Made (Adam and Eve).”

The Sunday School for **Grades 1-3** is meeting in the 3rd grade classroom at the south campus. The study topic today is “Hand Made (Adam and Eve).”

The Sunday School for **4K Preschool-Kindergarten** is meeting in the kindergarten classroom at the south campus. The study topic today is “Hand Made (Adam and Eve).”

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 “Hannah and Samuel.”

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



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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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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