



**Seventh Sunday of Easter
Confirmation**

He lives to give me the eager expectation of glory

Emmanuel Lutheran Church


May 17, 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.

Seventh Sunday of Easter / Confirmation — May 17, 2026

What Difference Does It Make?

He lives to give me the eager expectation of glory

It's been a long time since Jesus ascended into heaven. In this world I languish. Sometimes I suffer. Has Jesus forgotten about me? When will he return?

Remember, Jesus lives, and it makes a difference.

I know how life turns out. I don't know what the future holds, but I know the One who holds the future. And being certain about the future helps with life's present uncertainties.

Meanwhile, I wait for Jesus' return on Judgment Day. I'll wait as long as God wants me to wait because God always keeps his promises. And until Jesus returns, for as long as he allows me more time in this world, I know that God has a purpose and a plan for me and will work everything out for my good.



Connection card

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

Service of the Word and Sacrament



Pre-Service Music (8:00 a.m.)

Christ Be My Leader

Opening Hymn

Stand for the final stanza.

597 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

arr. John Ferguson and Lloyd Larson

Invocation

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

Amen.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

This is the day the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Confession and Absolution

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.

Introduced at the Song Service two weeks ago, this is a newer hymn in our hymnal.

Response

615 Jesus, Thank You

Refrain

Your blood has washed a-way my sin; Je-sus, thank you.

The Fa-ther's wrath com-plete-ly sat-is-fied;

Je-sus, thank you. Once your en-e-my, now

seat-ed at your ta-ble; Je-sus, thank you.

The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of five lines of music. The first line is the refrain. The second line begins with the lyrics 'Your blood has washed a-way my sin; Je-sus, thank you.' The third line begins with 'The Fa-ther's wrath com-plete-ly sat-is-fied;'. The fourth line begins with 'Je-sus, thank you. Once your en-e-my, now'. The fifth line begins with 'seat-ed at your ta-ble; Je-sus, thank you.' The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes.

Holy Baptism (10:30 a.m.)

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

Acts 1:15–26

¹⁵In those days, when the group there numbered about 120 people, Peter stood up among the brothers and said, ¹⁶“Gentlemen, brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through the mouth of David about Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷Judas was counted as one of us and was given a share in this ministry.

¹⁸“Now this man acquired a field with what he was paid for his wicked act. When he fell headfirst, his middle burst open, and all his intestines spilled out.”

¹⁹(This became known to all the residents of Jerusalem, and so in their own language that field was called Akeldema, which means Field of Blood.)

²⁰“Indeed, it is written in the book of Psalms:

May his residence be deserted.

Let there be no one dwelling in it.

And, let someone else take his position.

²¹“Therefore it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us during the entire time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from his baptism by John until the day Jesus was taken up from us, become a witness with us of his resurrection.”

²³They proposed two: Joseph called Barsabbas (who was also called Justus) and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this apostolic ministry from which Judas turned away to go to his own place.”

²⁶Then they assigned lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias. So he was counted with the eleven apostles.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Matthias is chosen to join the apostles whose testimony about Christ's resurrection gives the Church the expectation of future glory.

Response (8:00 a.m. only)

819 If God Himself Be for Me

All sing:

1 If God him - self be for me, I may a host de - fy;
for when I pray, be - fore me my foes, con-found - ed, fly.
If Christ, my head and mas - ter, be - friend me from a - bove,
what foe or what dis - as - ter can drive me from his love?

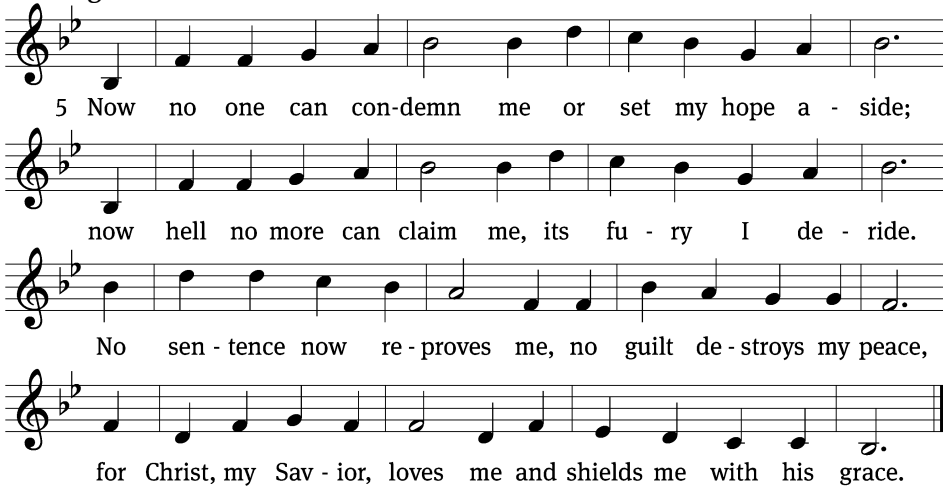
Choir: If God is for us, who can be against? God is our salvation, always by our side.

All sing:

2 This I be - lieve, yea rath - er, of this I make my boast,
that God is my dear Fa - ther, the friend who loves me most,
and that, what - e'er be - tide me, my Sav - ior is at hand
thro' storm - y seas to guide me and bring me safe to land.

Choir: If God is for us, who can be against? God is our salvation, always by our side.

All sing:



5 Now no one can con-demn me or set my hope a - side;
now hell no more can claim me, its fu - ry I de - ride.
No sen - tence now re - proves me, no guilt de - stroys my peace,
for Christ, my Sav - ior, loves me and shields me with his grace.

Choir: *If God is for us, who can be against? God is our salvation, always by our side.*

Second Reading

1 Peter 4:12–17; 5:6–11

¹²Dear friends, do not be surprised by the fiery trial that is happening among you to test you, as if something strange were happening to you. ¹³Instead rejoice whenever you are sharing in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

¹⁴If you are insulted in connection with the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ¹⁵Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or as a meddler. ¹⁶But if you suffer for being a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God in connection with this name. ¹⁷For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God. Now if it begins with us, what will be the end for those who disobey the gospel of God?

⁶Therefore humble yourselves under God's powerful hand so that he may lift you up at the appointed time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Have sound judgment. Be alert. Your adversary, the Devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him by being firm in the faith. You know that the same kinds of sufferings are being laid on your brotherhood all over the world.

¹⁰After you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who called you into his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will himself restore, establish, strengthen, and support you. ¹¹To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

The God of all grace has called us to future glory. Until that time, he encourages us to bring all our anxiety to him.

Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 2:10

Spoken by all.

**Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.
Alleluia.**

Gospel

John 17:1–11a

*Jesus says that his
suffering will lead to
glory, both his and
ours.*

¹After Jesus had spoken these things, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you. ²For you gave him authority over all flesh, so that he may give eternal life to all those you have given him. ³This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you sent. ⁴I have glorified you on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. ⁵Now, Father, glorify me at your own side with the glory I had at your side before the world existed.

⁶“I revealed your name to the men you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me, and they have held on to your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸For I gave them the words you gave me, and they received them. They learned the truth that I came from you. They believed that you sent me.

⁹“I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All that is mine is yours, and what is yours is mine. And I am glorified in them. ¹¹I am no longer going to be in the world, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day

680 Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

Sermon

1 Peter 4:12–17; 5:6–11

Firm in the faith

Please stand.

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

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.



Give online

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

Offering

Musical Offering (8:00 a.m.)

Christ Is with Me
arr. Gerald Coleman

(As the pianist and oboist play, you may meditate on the lyrics.)

*We were buried with him into death,
that as he was raised by God's glory,
we might walk in life made new by grace;
having died with Christ, we shall live with him.*

Refrain:

*Christ is with me ev'rywhere I go
never to leave me, this I know.*

*I have now been grafted to the vine,
drawing life from roots rich in mercy,
bearing fruit as I abide in him,
fruit forever fresh, glorifying God. (Refrain)*

*I have now been crucified with Christ,
I no longer live, Christ lives in me;
now I live by faith in God's own Son –
one who loved me so, gave himself for me. (Refrain)*



Connection card

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we ask that you
complete an online
connection card.*

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 27 of this service folder.

Rite of Confirmation

Hymn of Invocation

O Holy Spirit, Enter In

1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in and in our hearts
3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, let your dear Word,
your work be - gin, your dwell - ing place now make us.
in doubt and strife, in us be strong - ly burn - ing
Sun of the soul, O Light di - vine, a - round and in
that we be faith - ful un - to death and live in love
us bright - ly shine, to joy and glad - ness wake us
and ho - ly faith, from you true wis - dom learn - ing.
that we may be tru - ly liv - ing, to you giv - ing
Your grace and peace on us show - er; by your pow - er
prayer un - ceas - ing and in love be still in - creas - ing.
Christ con - fess - ing, let us see our Sav - ior's bless - ing.

The names of youths being confirmed in the 8:00 a.m. service are printed on pages 20-21. The Rite of Confirmation for adults being received into communicant membership varies slightly from the youth format and is not printed in the bulletin.

Adult Confirmation (10:30 a.m.)

The 10:30 a.m. service continues on page 16.

Youth Confirmation (8:00 a.m.)

The confirmands stand and face the congregation. The pastor will ask the parents and guardians of the confirmands to stand.

Dear parents and guardians, our Lord Jesus Christ blessed you with the gift of children. When you brought your children to baptism, the Holy Spirit washed away all their sins and planted saving faith in their hearts. These past many years you have taught your children by what you say and especially by what you do to love our Lord Jesus.

Confirmation is about faithful study and growth in saving faith. I, therefore, ask you: Is it your sincere intent to continue to bring up your children in the way of the Lord; to continue to instruct them diligently in the truths of God's saving Word, and to this end to make faithful use of the assistance offered by the church? Do you intend to continue to encourage your children to be faithful in the use of the gospel in Scripture and the Lord's Supper so they may grow in faith, serve God with a Christian life, and remain in God's grace unto the end? If so, answer: "Yes with the help of God."

Yes, with the help of God!

The pastor will also ask the congregation to stand.

Dear Members of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, confirmation is about faithful study and growth in saving faith. I, therefore, ask you: Is it your sincere intent to continue to pray for these young people, to remind them of their confirmation, and as far as possible, to continue to give your counsel and help that they may continue to grow in the true knowledge and respect of God according to the teachings of the Scriptures as confessed by our Lutheran Church and remain in God's grace unto the end? If you intend gladly and willingly to do this, then answer, "Yes, with the help of God."

Yes, with the help of God!

Be seated. The confirmands turn to face the pastor.

My dear young friends, when you were baptized, your gracious Lord forgave all your sins and covered you with the robe of Christ's righteousness. Through water and Word he created faith in your hearts and adopted you into the family of believers. As you matured and heard and studied the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit enlightened your minds and preserved you as children of God.

You have expressed the desire to confess the truths you believe before your Savior, your family and friends, and this congregation. You are ready to say with St. Paul, "I believed; therefore I have spoken." You have learned to

examine your thoughts, words, and actions in the light of God's law, and you have experienced the comfort of forgiveness in the Savior's gospel. With this preparation you are eager to receive the Savior's body and blood in the sacrament.

As we worship with you on this day, we are filled with joy as we see how the Lord has grown your faith and love. We are bringing our prayers to the Savior's throne of grace and imploring him to keep you faithful to him and his Word until you join us and all believers in the glories of heaven.

I now ask each of you:

Are you ready and willing to confess your faith before the triune God and those who are worshiping with you today?

I am.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

I do reject him.

Do you believe that all the books of the Bible are the inspired and inerrant Word of God?

I do.

Do you believe that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know them from Luther's Small Catechism, are faithful and true to the Word of God?

I do.

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus and his Word all the days of your life?

Yes, and I ask God to help me.

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to live a life that pleases God, to value his Word and sacraments, and to witness to your Savior wherever you go?

Yes, and I ask God to help me.

The pastor speaks to the congregation:

Friends in Christ, the Word of God urges us to pray for one another and especially for the youth of the church. On this special day, it is fitting that we bring our prayers before God, firmly believing that he alone is able to strengthen us by the power of the Holy Spirit and keep us faithful to the Savior until we die. Let us pray.

Gracious Father, in Holy Baptism you created faith in the hearts of these young people and gave them a new birth as members of your family. Help them remember their baptisms every day and find comfort in your promise that you will never leave them or forsake them. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give them strength to put down and drown the sinful nature that lives within them so that each day their faith may triumph in their living and loving and in their words and actions. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lead them to see and believe that in the word of the gospel they find forgiveness for their sins and relief for their guilt. Use the remembrance of your commandments to drive them to the comfort of the gospel and then to guide them as they live for you and others. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Protect them from Satan when he tempts them to be careless with your Word and sacrament, to make plans for this life and not for the life to come, or to find popular theories more appealing than your truth. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Empower them by the gospel of your Son to live in their world with kindness, humility, and patience that others may see their good works and glorify their Father in heaven. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Help us provide fitting examples of faithfulness to your Word and sacraments. Lead us to encourage and admonish them in wisdom and love even after they have left our homes and made new homes for themselves. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

When the end comes and we all stand before the judgment seat of Christ, have compassion on us despite our sins and accept us as eternal dwellers in your royal rooms, through the merits of Jesus our Savior, who became sin for us so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer. Amen.

The pastor speaks to those being confirmed.

What we as a Christian congregation have here asked our heavenly Father to confer on you all, we will now ask him to grant to each and every one of you individually. Give now your hand at the Lord's altar, as an assurance of your promise, and receive God's blessing.

The pastor speaks a blessing over each confirmand. The confirmands will recite their confirmation passages which are printed on pages 20-21.

The confirmands return to their seats.

Anthem (8:00 a.m.)

Christ Be My Leader
arr. Daniel Musselman

*Christ be my leader by night as by day;
safe through the darkness, for he is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future his care,
darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.*

*Christ be my teacher in age as in youth,
drifting or doubting, for he is the truth.
Grant me to trust him; though shifting as sand,
doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.*

*Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
death cannot hold me, for he is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.*

The 10:30 a.m. service continues with the Words of Institution:

The Sacrament

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.

Lamb of God

Agnus Dei



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, 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

551 Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep

713 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

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.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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.

Be seated.

Post-Service Music

Serving at Worship

Preaching Minister	Pastor Gary Pufahl
Presiding Minister	Pastor Jon Buchholz
Acolyte	
Organ	Kurt Rosenbaum
Piano	Mary Cota, Noah Gruman
Choir (8:00 a.m.)	Adult choir John Campbell, <i>director</i>
Soloists (8:00 a.m.)	Christina Crabtree, Jay Wiechmann
Accompanist (8:00 a.m.)	Heidi Zimmermann
Instrumentalists (8:00 a.m.)	Sarah Kern, <i>tin whistle</i> ; Rachel Severeid, <i>oboe</i> Nathan Crabtree, <i>trumpet</i> ; Josh Severeid, <i>timpani</i>
Video streamer and slides	Reed Bode, Chris Wempner
Video captions	Chris Wempner
Sound	George Willis

Acknowledgments

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In our prayers

- Guidance, wisdom, and courage for the youth confirmands who confessed their faith today.
- Conner, who was baptized and confirmed in Christian faith today.
- Brandi and Nathan, and Seth, who were confirmed in the Christian faith today.
- Ken Dins – Recovering from illness.
- Chris Heise – Continuing to recover at home.
- Kaylee – Home recovering from surgery and going through additional treatments.
- Much-needed rain for the state of Arizona.

Flowers

Thank you to George and Rikki Willis for beautifying our sanctuary with altar flowers in honor of their 24th wedding anniversary.

Communion

Thank you to Carol Campbell and Stacey Peter for helping set up Communion for this weekend.

Landscaping

Thank you to Dan Redman and Barry Redman for helping maintain, trim and clean the outside church property this week.

Ushers

8:00 a.m.

Joe Beatrice, Joel Hahnke, Lucas Hahnke, Doug Thompson

10:30 a.m.

Tom Bernthal, Caden Head, Tim Kriewall, Josh Winterstein

Confirmands and verses

Jude 22,23 (NIV) – “Be merciful to those who doubt; save others by snatching them from the fire; to others show mercy, mixed with fear – hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.”

The reason why I chose this passage is it tells me to lead people to Jesus and to not lose your way doing so.

Isaiah 41:10 (EHV) – “Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be overwhelmed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

The reason why I chose this passage is it comforts me for every fear I have, especially since I worry a lot. Its wording is also very easy to understand, so anyone can get comfort from it.

Jeremiah 29:11 (EHV) – “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to give you peace, not disaster, plans to give you hope and a future.”

The reason why I chose this passage is it comforts me so I can know that I won't be in this life on my own, but God will be with me and help me.

Proverbs 3:6 (EHV) – “In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”

The reason why I chose this passage is it tells me that God is all-powerful and that if we follow him, we will go to heaven. It also shows that we have a clear way to go in life and will not stray from his Word.

Romans 8:28 (EHV) – “We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose.”

The reason why I chose this passage is no matter what happens, God will always be with me and work good things, even through troubling times.

Psalm 23:1 (EHV) - "The LORD is my shepherd. I lack nothing."

The reason why I chose this passage is that I don't need anything besides God.

Psalm 121:1,2 (EHV) - "I lift up my eyes to the mountains. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth."

The reason why I chose this passage is because it gives me comfort that I can always look up to God no matter what. It guides me to know that God is always there and that he will help me.

1 John 1:5 (EHV) - "God is light. In him there is no darkness at all."

The reason why I chose this passage is I know that God will always let his light shine, and he will always care for me.

Psalm 46:1 (EHV) - "God is our refuge and strength, a helper who can always be found in times of trouble."

The reason why I chose this passage is because it brings a sort of peace to my mind. It helps to remind me that God is there, and he is all I need. He brings me safety and gives me the strength to continue in all I do. No matter what, he will do what's best for me and always help me through troubles, if his will allows. I can pray to him and come to him for everything, anything, and nothing. God can do it all.

This week at Emmanuel

Sunday

Confirmation Sunday
Worship services 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
Confirmations during 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. services
Confirmation reception 9:15 a.m.
In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study No classes

Tuesday

Church Council meeting 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Wednesday Bible study 8:30 a.m.
Drive through the Gospels
Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl
ELS – Last Day of School Noon dismissal
Adult choir on break *No practice in the summer*
ELS 8th grade graduation service 7:00 p.m.

Thursday

Thursday Bible study at Denny's 6:00 a.m.
21st Century Lessons from the Life of Jacob
Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at
Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)
ELS End-of-Year Party

Friday

Chapel 8:30 a.m.
ELS early release 1:50 p.m.
ELS Spring concert 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 24

Worship services 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study No classes

Looking ahead

May 25 Memorial Day Church office closed
May 27 Wednesday Bible study 8:30 a.m.
Drive through the Gospels
Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl
May 28 Thursday Bible study at Denny's 6:00 a.m.
21st Century Lessons from the Life of Jacob
Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at
Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)
May 29 Joy Fellowship meal and planning meeting 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
May 31 Worship services 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study 9:15 a.m.
June 2 Stewardship meeting 8:00 p.m.

June 3	Wednesday Bible study	8:30 a.m. <i>Drive through the Gospels</i> <i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
June 4	Thursday Bible study at Denny's	6:00 a.m. <i>21st Century Lessons from the Life of Jacob</i> <i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i> <i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>
June 7	Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
	In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
June 8 – 10	Arizona-California District Convention	
June 8	Convention opening worship service at Emmanuel	9:30 a.m.
June 9	Convention meal and fellowship at Emmanuel	<i>evening</i>
June 9	Summer Art Camp (lower grades)	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
June 10	Wednesday Bible study	No class this week
	Summer Art Camp (lower grades)	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
	Emmanuel Family Night	6:00-8:00 p.m.
June 11	Thursday Bible study at Denny's	6:00 a.m. <i>21st Century Lessons from the Life of Jacob</i> <i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i> <i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>
	Summer Art Camp (lower grades)	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
June 12	Summer Art Camp (lower grades)	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
June 14	Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
	In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
June 15	Summer Art Camp (upper grades)	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
	Evangelism meeting	6:30 p.m.
June 16	Summer Art Camp (upper grades)	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
	Free estate planning seminar	11:00 a.m. <i>at Arizona Lutheran Academy</i>
	Church Council meeting	6:00 p.m.
June 17	Wednesday Bible study	8:30 a.m. <i>Drive through the Gospels</i> <i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
	Summer Art Camp (upper grades)	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
June 18	Thursday Bible study at Denny's	6:00 a.m. <i>21st Century Lessons from the Life of Jacob</i> <i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i> <i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>
	Summer Art Camp (upper grades)	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
June 19	Summer Art Camp (upper grades)	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
June 21	Father's Day	
	Blood Drive at Emmanuel	7:00-11:30 a.m.
	Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
	In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.



Notes and News

Connection card

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

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!

Christian education hour

There will be no Christian Education Hour today, Sunday, May 17, due to Confirmation. Please join us following the 8:00 a.m. service in the Ministry and Education Center for a reception honoring the confirmands.

Emmanuel summer family nights

This summer we will be hosting four Emmanuel Family Nights. This is a fun opportunity for us to gather for a meal or snack, a devotion, and a fun activity. These will be held on Wednesdays in the summer from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in Emmanuel's Ministry and Education Center. Any questions, contact Alysha Bergsma at church@elctempe.org or (480) 967-3983.

June 10 – Game night, join us for an optional meal (5:00 p.m. in the MEC) before our evening activity begins

June 24 – Craft night, snacks and drinks

July 8 – Game night, snacks and drinks

July 22 – Movie night, join us for an optional meal (5:00 p.m. in the MEC) before our evening activity begins

Our first summer night will be Wednesday, June 10, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Join us for game night – bring your favorite board game or card game, and let's have some fun!



June 10 – Summer Night meal sign-up

We'll also be serving a meal before our evening activity begins, if you'd like to join us for dinner. The meal will be at 5:00 p.m. in the MEC (Ministry and Education Center). We'll be providing food from Someburros, along with water.

Sign up [here](#) (or use the QR code) to let us know you plan to join us for dinner and if you want to bring something to share. Please RSVP by Wednesday, June 3, to ensure we order enough food.

Joy Fellowship meal and meeting | May 29

Before our summer break, we will meet for a potluck and discuss ideas for outings in the next year. Our potluck will be on Friday, May 29, at 11:30 a.m. in the MEC at Emmanuel. Bring a dish to serve along with your ideas. Our Joy Fellowship group is for those 55 years and older. Please speak with Wendy Binger or Chet Jaehnig if you have any questions.

Free estate planning seminar | June 16

Reliant Law Group, owned and operated by Arizona Lutheran Academy (AZ Lutheran) alumni, invites you to a free estate planning seminar on Tuesday, June 16, at 11:00 a.m. Seminar will take place at AZ Lutheran, Room 33.

- Don't have an estate plan?
- Have an existing estate plan or trust that needs updating?
- Learn how to keep your family and assets out of Arizona Probate Court.
- Ensure you have a plan to leave a legacy!

Learn more and register at: ALAcoyotes.org/estate.

Father's Day gift idea from Northwestern Publishing House

Why God Made Dads is a book that helps kids see dads and fatherhood as one of many of God's good gifts. This is a faith-filled, family-friendly book highlighting God's love, guidance, and protection – along with spiritual nurturing – that kids receive through their fathers. Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to learn more about this book and purchase your copy.



*Northwestern
Publishing House –
Book information*

Church campout at Woods Canyon Lake

Plan your summer escape by attending our annual church campout this June on the cool Mogollon Rim. The 2026 Emmanuel campout is Friday through Sunday, June 26-28. If you have a tent, camper, trailer, or RV (max 30-ft), this is a great time for fun and fellowship. Join us at Woods Canyon Lake campground, about 30 miles east of Payson. The cost is \$55 per family or \$30 for a single person. Enjoy hiking, group activities for adults and kids, s'mores around the bonfire, and Sunday morning worship.



*Church campout -
registration*

John and Alysha Bergsma will once again be our camp hosts, and they are excited to get out of the heat and enjoy the beauty of nature. If you have any questions, please contact Alysha Bergsma at (480) 789-0726. Registration deadline is Wednesday, June 3; use the provided QR codes to register (or click [here](#)) and make your payment (via [online giving – Church Campout Fee](#)). More details will follow for those who sign up to attend.



*Church campout -
Fee payment (via
online giving)*

Good Shepherd Bible Camp | July 12-18

Registration is now open for Good Shepherd Bible Camp (GSBC). We are planning to send two buses of campers from our church and school to Good Shepherd Bible Camp in Angelus Oaks, California. Camp this year will be July 12-18, 2026 (Sunday-Saturday). This is for students entering grades 4th through 10th. Learn more and register [here](#). If you would like to serve as a travel chaperone or be part of camp staff for this fun getaway, please speak with Benjamin Ruppel at bruppel@elctempe.org.



GSBC camper
carpool sign-up

Carpool available for Good Shepherd Bible Camp

Emmanuel Lutheran will be caravanning with Crosswalk Church and Emmanuel will be taking up to two vans to Good Shepherd Bible Camp (GSBC) this summer. If your camper is in need of transportation to and/or from GSBC, reserve their seat today as seats are limited. Click [here](#) or scan the QR code for more information and to reserve a seat on the van. Pick-up and drop-off will be at Arizona Lutheran Academy (AZ Lutheran) Sunday morning, July 12, and Saturday evening, July 18. Once information is gathered, there will be follow-up communication on carpool cost and further details. Register for carpool by June 14.

Trip to Israel in 2027

Imagine walking through Jerusalem where Jesus walked, or taking a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee where Jesus calmed the storm. From January 26 to February 4 2027, Pastor Daniel Cole of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Springerville and Taylor, Arizona, will be hosting a tour of Israel through *Imagine Tours and Travel*. This trip includes airfare, deluxe motor coaches, guided sightseeing, all entrance fees, and breakfast and dinner daily. If you have any questions or would like more information, there are brochures in the back of church (or scan the QR code), or please contact Pastor Cole at (920) 588-0309 (call or text), revdan.cole@gmail.com or visit immanuelaz.com.



Pastor Cole
2027 Israel trip
brochure

Employment opportunities at MLC

Martin Luther College (MLC) in New Ulm, Minnesota, is accepting applications for the following two positions:

Full-time Executive Director of Mission Advancement. This role helps connect donor support to the preparation of future pastors, teachers, and staff ministers.

Part-time Assistant Volleyball Coach. In this role, you can help promote excellence in competition while supporting the formation of student-athletes for lives of Christian service

Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

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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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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