



Third Sunday of Easter

He lives to restore my hope

Emmanuel Lutheran Church


April 19, 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.
- **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.*

Third Sunday of Easter — April 19, 2026

What Difference Does It Make?

He lives to restore my hope

Without Jesus' resurrection there is no hope.

That might sound extreme, but it's the sad truth. If Jesus' didn't rise, then we won't rise either. Everything he said and taught was a lie. Christianity is a cruel hoax. When a loved one dies, you'll never see them again. When you die, it's lights out, bring down the curtain, everything is finished. So live fast, live hard, enjoy the now, because you only go around once, and when it's over, it's over.

Without the resurrection of Jesus, I would have little hope for the future. That's how the disciples felt after this death. "We hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel" (Luke 24:19) said two disciples trudging toward Emmaus. Their hope for a better life, for meaning, for purpose – for everything! – had died along with Jesus.

But Jesus lives, and it makes a difference. My hope for the future is restored. I have victory over the feeling of hopelessness, because the one who heals me and gives me a better life is himself alive. He lives to restore my hope.

Service of the Word



Pre-Service Music

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

David Cherwien

Opening Hymn

675 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Stand for the final stanza.

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to
5 Might - y Vic - tim from the sky, hell's fierce
6 Now no more can death ap - pall, now no
7 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy! This a -
8 Fa - ther, who the crown shall give, Sav - ior,

our vic - to - rious King, who has washed us in the tide
pow'rs be - neath you lie. You have con - quered in the fight,
more the grave en - thrall; you have o - pened par - a - dise,
lone can sin de - stroy; from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
by whose death we live, Spir - it, guide through all our days,

flow - ing from his pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
you have brought us life and light. Al - le - lu - ia!
and your saints in you shall rise. Al - le - lu - ia!
new - born souls in you to be. Al - le - lu - ia!
Three in One, your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

Invocation

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

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

*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.

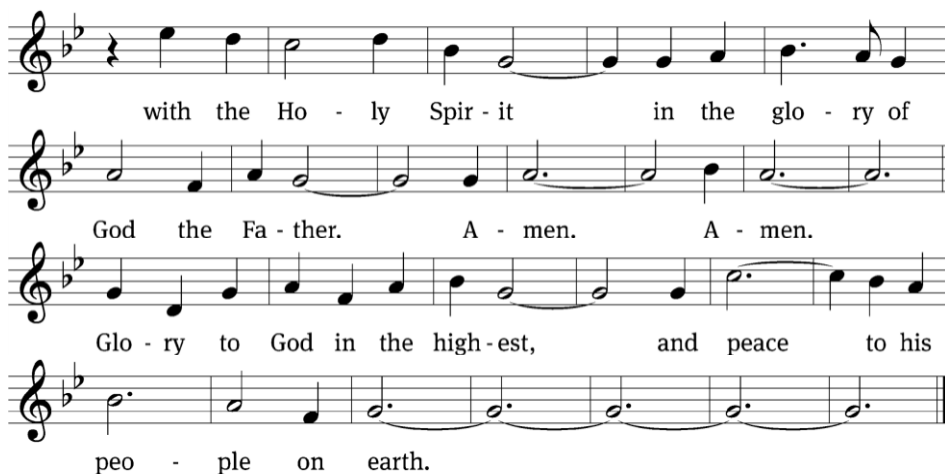
Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we".

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth. For you a -
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,



with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
 peo - ple on earth.

Holy Baptism (8:00 a.m.)

Bettie Farmer

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; 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.

Anthem (10:30 a.m.)

Praise Him
Carey Bonner

*Praise him all you little children;
 God is love.*

*Love him, all you little children;
 God is love.*

*Thank him, all you little children;
 God is love.*

*Serve him, all you little children;
 God is love.*

First Reading

Acts 2:14a,32-41

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and spoke loudly and clearly to them:

³²“This Jesus is the one God has raised up. We are all witnesses of that. ³³So, after he was exalted to the right hand of God and after he received the promised Holy Spirit from the Father, he poured out what you are now seeing and hearing.

³⁴“For David did not ascend into heaven, and yet he says:

The Lord said to my Lord,
‘Sit at my right hand,
³⁵until I make your enemies
a footstool under your feet.’

³⁶“Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

³⁷Now when the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Gentlemen, brothers, what should we do?”

³⁸Peter answered them, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far away, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

⁴⁰He testified solemnly with many other words and was appealing to them, saying, “Escape from this crooked generation.”

⁴¹Those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The message of Christ crucified and risen gives the certain hope of forgiveness to sinners.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 116

The congregation sings each refrain. The vocalists sing the verses.



*I love the Lord for he heard my voice;
heard my cry for mercy,
because he turned his ear to me,
I'll call on him today.*

Refrain

*For you have delivered me from death,
my feet from stumbling,
that I may walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.*

Refrain

*What shall I then return to the Lord
for his goodness to me?
I'll lift up the cup of salvation,
and call on the name of the Lord.*

Refrain

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17–21

Our hope and expectation is joining our Savior in the glory of heaven. Until that day, we live as pilgrims heading toward home.

¹⁷If you call on the Father who judges impartially, according to the work of each person, conduct yourselves during the time of your pilgrimage in reverence, ¹⁸because you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, not with things that pass away, such as silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰He was chosen before the foundation of the world but revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹Through him you are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 24:32

The congregation sings each refrain. The vocalist(s) sing the verse.

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Were not our hearts burning within us
while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?*

Refrain

Gospel

Luke 24:13–35

¹³Now, on that same day, two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴They were talking with each other about all of these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing this, Jesus himself approached and began to walk along with them. ¹⁶But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷He said to them, “What are you talking about as you walk along?” Saddened, they stopped.

*Jesus restored the
hope of two disciples
as he explained the
Scriptures.*

¹⁸One of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

¹⁹“What things?” he asked them.

They replied, “The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet, mighty in deed and word before God and all the people. ²⁰The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be condemned to death. And they crucified him. ²¹But we were hoping that he was going to redeem Israel. Not only that, but besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²²Also some women of our group amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning. ²³When they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb. They found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.”

²⁵He said to them, “How foolish you are and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and to enter his glory?” ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸As they approached the village where they were going, he acted as if he were going to travel farther. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, since it is almost evening, and the day is almost over.”

So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he reclined at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and began giving it to them. ³¹Suddenly their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. Then he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was speaking to us along the road and while he was explaining the Scriptures to us?” ³³They got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem. They found the Eleven and those who were with them assembled together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord really has been raised! He has appeared to Simon.” ³⁵They themselves described what had happened along the road, and how they recognized him when he broke the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Anthem

Dear Jesus on Your Pilgrim Way
retranslation by Michael D. Schultz

*Dear Jesus, on your pilgrim way,
since evening's come, where will you stay?
Come, make my heart your place of rest –
I could not be more richly blest!*

*The day is past; it quickly ends
as light withdraws and night descends.
And so, true Light, don't be inclined
to leave this needy soul of mine!*

*Enlighten me to recognize
the narrow path to heaven's prize,
that I might not be led astray
when sin's dark pow'r would have its way!*

*And when I die, Lord Jesus, stay
to make my death a glorious day!
You know I need you desp'rately;
I know you won't abandon me.*

Hymn of the Day

510 In Christ Alone

Sermon

Luke 24:13-35

Let's go for a walk

Please stand.

The Apostles Creed

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

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.

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.

Be seated.

Offering

Musical Offering

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Jan Bender

Please stand.

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.

Hymn

449 This Joyful Eastertide

Please stand.



Give online

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



Connection card

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we ask that you
complete an online
connection card.*

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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.

Remain standing.

Closing Hymn

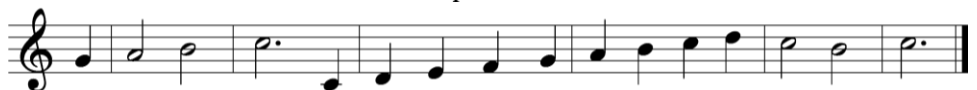
524 Rejoice, the Lord is King!



1 Re - joi - ce, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!
2 The Lord, our Sav - ior, reigns, the God of truth and love;
3 His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4 Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come



Re - joi - ce, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
and take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home:



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re - joi - ce!
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re - joi - ce!
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re - joi - ce!
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re - joi - ce!

Post-Service Music

Rejoice the Lord is King!

Sam Eatherton

Serving at Worship

Minister

Pastor Jon Buchholz

Organ

Kevin Bode

Quartet

Leia Hahnke, Kris Pufahl, Josh Severeid, Josh Winterstein

Choir (10:30 a.m.)

Preschool and Kindergarten

Molly Heyn, *director*

Video streamer and slides

Colton, Jacob, and Lauren Sallquist

Video captions

Angie Keezer

Sound

George Willis

Acknowledgments

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“Rejoice the Lord is King!” Sam Eatherton, © 2015 CPH.

In our prayers

- Ken Dins – Recovering from illness.
- Bettie Farmer, who was baptized today.
- Chris Heise – Hospitalized at St. Joseph’s.
- Kaylee – Home recovering from surgery and going through additional treatments.
- Louise Sallquist – Recovering at home.
- Family of Wayne Score, who was called home to heaven on April 15.
- Much-needed rain for the state of Arizona.

Flowers

Thank you to Steven and Shannon Meyers for beautifying our sanctuary with altar flowers in honor of their 29th wedding anniversary.

Ushers

8:00 a.m.

Peter Gross, Dan Warskow, Rob Wenzel, Justus Wenzel

10:30 a.m.

Caden Head, Michael Kobs, Ryan Konig, Michael Prael



*Emmanuel usher
sign-up.*

This week at Emmanuel

Sunday

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

Monday

Worship Committee meeting	6:30 p.m.
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Tuesday

Church Council meeting	6:00 p.m.
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Wednesday

Wednesday Bible study in the MEC	8:30 a.m.
	<i>Drive through the Gospels</i> <i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
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 Jacob</i> <i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i> <i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>
God's Ways Bible study in the MEC	6:00 p.m.
	<i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
Bible Basics in the MEC	6:30 p.m.
	<i>Led by Pastor Jon Buchholz</i>

Friday

Chapel	8:30 a.m.
ELS early release	1:50 p.m.
Joy Fellowship at Organ Stop Pizza	4:00 p.m.

Saturday

WELS Youth Night in the MEC	6:00-8:00 p.m.
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Sunday, April 26

Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
Public School Catechism	12:00-1:30 p.m.

Looking ahead

April 27	Communications meeting	6:30 p.m.
April 28	Quarterly voters' meeting	6:30 p.m.
April 29	Wednesday Bible study	8:30 a.m.
	<i>Drive through the Gospels</i> <i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>	
	Adult choir in the MEC	6:30 p.m.

April 30	Thursday Bible study at Denny's <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>	6:00 a.m.
	God's Ways Bible study in the MEC	6:00 p.m. <i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
	Bible Basics in the MEC	6:30 p.m. <i>Led by Pastor Jon Buchholz</i>
May 1	Chapel	8:30 a.m.
	ELS early release	1:50 p.m.
	ELS Grades 5-8 musical	7:00 p.m.
May 2	Elders' meeting	7:30 a.m.
	ELS Grades 5-8 musical	2:00 p.m.
May 3	Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
	In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
	<i>Donuts for Dollars</i> Emmanuel teens fundraiser	Between services
	Public School Catechism	12:00-1:30 p.m.
	Mother's Day tea	2:00-4:00 p.m.
May 5	Arizona Pastors' conference	<i>Peace Lutheran, Gilbert</i>
	Stewardship meeting	8:00 p.m.
May 6	Arizona Pastors' conference	<i>Peace Lutheran, Gilbert</i>
	Wednesday Bible study	No class this week
	<i>Culver's</i> Emmanuel teens fundraiser	5:00-8:00 p.m. <i>at Culver's on Southern Ave in Tempe</i>
	ELS Spring music recital	6:00-8:00 p.m.
	Adult choir in the MEC	6:30 p.m.
May 7	Thursday Bible study at Denny's <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>	6:00 a.m.
	God's Ways Bible study in the MEC	6:00 p.m. <i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
May 8	Chapel	8:30 a.m.
	ELS early release	1:50 p.m.
May 10	Mother's Day	
	Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
	In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
	Public School Catechism	12:00-1:30 p.m.
May 12	School Board meeting	6:30 p.m.
May 13	Wednesday Bible study	8:30 a.m.
	<i>Drive through the Gospels</i> <i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>	
	Adult choir in the MEC	6:30 p.m.



Notes and News

Connection cards

Connection card

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

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!

Mr. Kevin Bode has declined his call

This week Mr. Kevin Bode declined his call to serve St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School in Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin, and he will continue to serve here at Emmanuel as our fifth-grade teacher and congregational music coordinator. Mr. Bode and his family thank you for your prayers and words of encouragement, as he deliberated where he could best serve the Lord.

Pastor Meyer has declined his call to Emmanuel

Pastor David J. Meyer has declined the call to serve as our pastor and will continue serving St. John's, Oak Creek, Wisconsin. We wish him the Lord's continued blessings upon his ministry!

Since this call was declined, Emmanuel will request that a graduate from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary be assigned to our congregation to serve in the areas of youth and family ministry. Our request will be presented to the Assignment Committee of the WELS, and we will learn in late May if a graduate is assigned.

Mr. Andrew Olson receives a divine call

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School in Columbus, Ohio, called Mr. Andrew Olson to teach grades 3-4. He currently serves as our 6th-grade teacher and director of athletics. Please keep Mr. Olson and his family in your prayers as he considers the ministries here and at St. Paul's.

Joy Fellowship event | April 24

Enjoy good music? Like a good slice of pizza? Have a fascination for organs? Join our Joy Fellowship group this Friday, April 24, as we enjoy music, pizza, and fellowship at Organ Stop Pizza. Our Joy Fellowship group is for those 55 years and older. We will meet at Organ Stop Pizza (1149 E. Southern Ave, Mesa, 85204) at 4:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is available on the table in the MEC.

WELS Youth Night at Emmanuel | April 25

Emmanuel is hosting a WELS youth night for high schoolers (grades 9-12) from all over the area this Saturday, April 25, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. This will take place in the Ministry and Education Center at Emmanuel. There will be pizza, music, God's Word, and a friendly Nerf war! To ensure we have enough food for everyone, please RSVP by this Thursday, April 23. Visit elctempe.org/youth for more information and to sign up to attend. Any questions, contact Pastor Pufahl at gpufahl@elctempe.org.



News & Events – Youth Night information and sign-up

Survey on Emmanuel's ministry

As our Personal Member Ministry is taking form, Benjamin Ruppel (Emmanuel's Personal Member Ministry Coordinator) is gathering information on members' perspectives of our overall ministry atmosphere. Please click on this [assessment link](#) or scan the provided QR Code. Printed assessments are available upon request. Please take a few minutes and read each question and prayerfully answer all the questions you are comfortable with. This will be kept confidential. This assessment will be available until April 30. Any questions please feel free to contact Benjamin Ruppel at the church office or email bruppel@elctempe.org.



Member ministry
assessment

Mother's Day tea | May 3

Ladies of Emmanuel, the WOW group (*Women of the Word*), is cordially inviting you, mothers and daughters (age 6 and up), to a Mother's Day tea on Sunday, May 3, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Ministry and Education Center. We will enjoy finger sandwiches, fruit cups, scones, and a variety of desserts. Each guest is asked to bring their favorite teacup to use at the tea. Please RSVP by April 30; use the sign-up sheet on the table in the MEC, this [link](#), or the provided QR code.

On Saturday, May 2, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., we will be setting up and prepping food for the tea. Please use the sign-up sheet (paper, link or QR code) to sign up to help and also to bring a food item (a dessert and/or fruit).



Mother's Day tea –
sign up

Maintenance Request form

You can now easily find our Maintenance Request form on our website. Notice a lightbulb out? Something broken? Simply visit our Get Involved page (hover over "Connect") and click on the blue "Maintenance Request" button. You can also access the form at elctempe.org/maintenance.

Summer art camps

Join Mrs. Amber Bode this summer for a week of artistic fun. This summer Mrs. Bode is offering two art camps; see below for details. Email Mrs. Bode at amber.lee.bode@gmail.com to register by May 15. These camps aren't for the *paint* of heart!

Art Camp Week 1

Current 1st-4th graders

When: June 9-12 (No Monday due to district convention)

Time: 9:00-12:00pm

Location: Emmanuel art classroom

Fee: \$100 (ESA accepted)

Art Camp Week 2

Current 5-8th graders

When: June 15-19

Time: 9:00-12:00pm

Location: Emmanuel art classroom

Fee: \$115 (ESA accepted)

Emmanuel family nights

This summer we will be hosting four Emmanuel Family Nights, when families can gather for a meal or snack, a devotion, and a fun activity. These will be held on Wednesdays in the summer: June 10, June 24, July 8, and July 22. More information to come.

Travel with WELS groups

Interested in traveling with members of your faith family? The [OWLS](#) (WELS Seniors) is partnering with [Father's World Tours](#) to offer group tours that incorporate daily devotion and connections with local WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) ministries. The next trip ready to register for is [Adventures in Alaska](#) scheduled for July 20 through August 4. Trips are open to WELS members of all ages. Visit www.fathersworldtours.com or contact Steve Balza (steve@fathersworldtours.com or 507-217-1731) to learn more.

Come sail away!

Join fellow WELS members for a fun and relaxing Fall Break cruise departing from California, October 12–16, 2026. Enjoy beautiful ocean views and a refreshing getaway with friends in faith. All are welcome. Passports are not required, but highly recommended. Double occupancy rooms starting at just \$425 per person. April early booking promo: 3rd and 4th guests in the same room sail for free (just pay taxes and port fees). Click [here](#) for more information or contact Emmanuel member Bethany Olson at bethany@mickeyworldtravel.com.



Fall Break cruise information

Save the date for our annual church campout at Woods Canyon Lake

It's warming up here in the Valley and it's only going to get warmer. Plan your summer escape by attending our annual church campout this June on the cool Mogollon Rim. The 2026 Emmanuel campout is scheduled for 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)

Save the dates for Good Shepherd Bible Camp

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.

Employment opportunities at MLC

Martin Luther College is accepting applications for a full-time Sports Information Director and a part-time Assistant Volleyball Coach. In each of these roles, you will help promote excellence in competition while supporting the formation of student-athletes for lives of Christian service.

MLC is also accepting applications for part-time summer seasonal positions, offering valuable hands-on experience, practical skill development, daytime hours, and flexible scheduling.

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

Christian education hour

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

Please note, there will be no **Adult Bible study** today (April 19, 2026) due to our church open forum. Classes will resume next Sunday, April 26. Join us at 9:15 a.m. in the Ministry and Education Center for the open forum. *Please note **Table Talk** will resume again after Labor Day.*

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 "What Difference Does It Make? He lives to restore my hope."

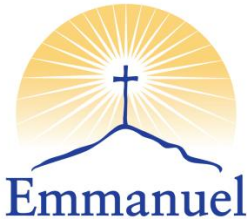
The **Junior High Bible study Grades 7-8** is meeting in the 8th grade classroom on the second floor of the MEC. The study topic today is "What Difference Does It Make? He lives to restore my hope."

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

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

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

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 "Philip teaches about Jesus."



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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gpufahl@elctempe.org

(262) 744-1619 (cell)

Pastor Jon D. Buchholz

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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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