



What Makes Christians *Different*

Pentecost 7

Christians are planted by the Word

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

July 12, 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.*

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost — July 12, 2026

What Makes Christians Different? Christians are planted by the Word

Planting seed by hand can be an extraordinary experience that yields amazing results.

In your hand, the seed looks lifeless and insignificant. You put the seed into the soil, and suddenly, all by itself, the seed germinates and sprouts and reaches for the sun.

Except when it doesn't! When we plant multiple seeds, often only some will grow.

The Bible describes Christians as planted by the Word. Why do some people grow in faith, and not others? What makes Christians different? The Bible describes the supernatural process by which God calls people to faith through the gospel. He promises that his Word always accomplishes his purpose. It is powerful all on its own, without our help.

As we grow in faith, we give God thanks for the miracle of his work in our lives.

Service of the Word and Sacrament



Pre-Service Music

God Bless Our Native Land

John Carter

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Barbara Boertje

Here I Am, Lord

Zach Unke

This Is My Father's World

Zach Unke

Opening Hymn

608 Glory Be to God the Father

Stand for the final stanza.

Gathering Rite on the Word

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the $\dagger$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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

1 Al - might - y God, your Word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and right - eous fruits a - bound.

Oh, how I love your law!

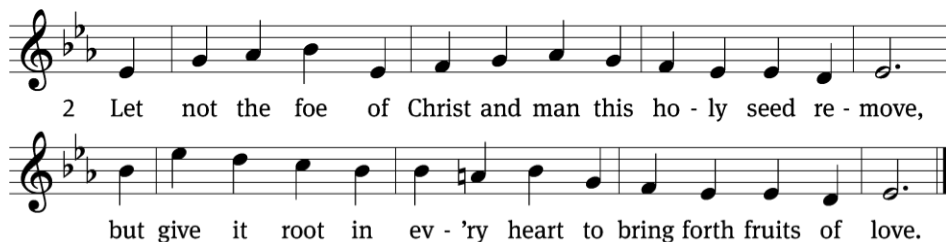
I meditate on it all day long.

Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,
for they are ever with me.

I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.

How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

– Psalm 119:97-99,103



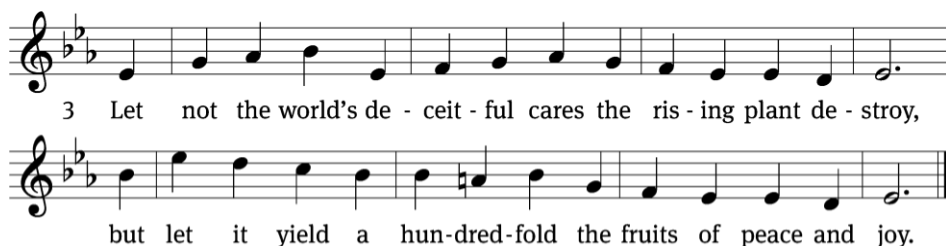
All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

– 2 Timothy 3:16,17

so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.

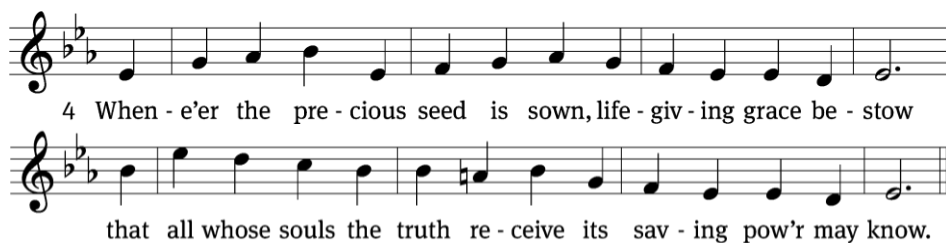
Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



– John 20:31

God gave his Word so “that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name”. The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. 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.



The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since you have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

Isaiah 55:6–11

*God's word refreshes
the land like rain
and snow and makes
it flourish.*

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found!
Call on him while he is near!

⁷Let the wicked man abandon his way.
Let an evil man abandon his thoughts.
Let him turn to the LORD,
and he will show him mercy.
Let him turn to our God,
because he will abundantly pardon.

⁸Certainly my plans are not your plans,
and your ways are not my ways, declares the LORD.

⁹Just as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so my ways are higher than your ways,
and my plans are higher than your plans.

¹⁰Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky
and do not return there
unless they first water the earth, make it give birth, and cause it to sprout,
so that it gives seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹in the same way my word that goes out from my mouth
will not return to me empty.
Rather, it will accomplish whatever I please,
and it will succeed in the purpose for which I sent it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

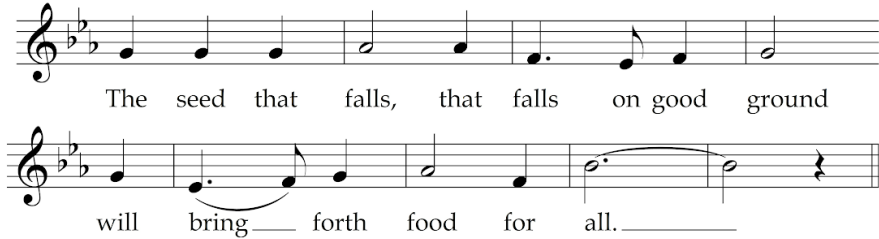
The vocalists will sing each refrain first, followed by the congregation. The vocalists will sing the verses.

Psalm 65

Steven Warner

Vocalists: The seed that falls, that falls on good ground will bring forth food for all.

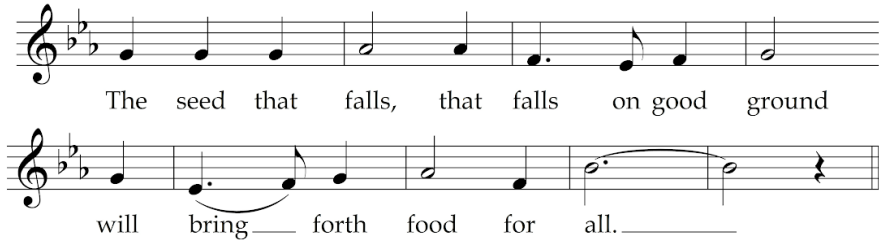
All:



*Praise awaits you, our God; you call forth songs of joy.
You care for the land and water it; it softens and crops are blessed.
God's streams are filled with water to provide the people with grain.*

Vocalists: The seed that falls, that falls on good ground will bring forth food for all.

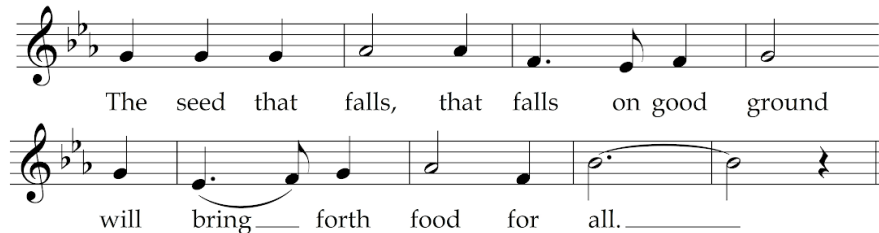
All:



*You crown the year with your bounty, your carts overflow with abundance.
The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders.
The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys with grain;
they shout for joy and sing.*

Vocalists: The seed that falls, that falls on good ground will bring forth food for all.

All:



Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:5–11

⁵What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? They are ministers through whom you believed, and each served as the Lord gave him his role. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. ⁷So then, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but it is God who causes the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters are united, and each will receive his own reward according to his own labor. ⁹For God is the one whom we serve as coworkers, and you are God's field, God's building.

We can plant. We can water and fertilize. But only God can make it grow.

¹⁰In keeping with the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder, I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. But let each person be careful how he builds on it. ¹¹In fact, no one can lay any other foundation than the one that has been laid, which is Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Isaiah 55:11

Spoken by the minister.

Alleluia. My word will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

¹That same day Jesus left the house and was sitting by the sea. ²A large crowd gathered around him. So he stepped into a boat and sat down, while all the people stood on the shore. ³He told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen, a sower went out to sow. ⁴As he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it. ⁵Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil. Immediately the seed sprang up, because the soil was not deep. ⁶But when the sun rose, the seed was scorched. Because it had no root, it withered away. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns. The thorns grew up and choked it. ⁸But some seed fell on good ground and produced grain: some one hundred times, some sixty, and some thirty times more than was sown. ⁹Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear."

The Word of God is proclaimed, just as seed is cast onto the ground. It falls on different kinds of soil. A good heart produces an abundant harvest of righteousness.

¹⁸"So listen carefully to the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the Evil One comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the seed that was sown along the path. ²⁰The seed that was sown on rocky ground is the person who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he is not deeply rooted and does not endure. When trouble or persecution comes because of the

word, he immediately falls away. ²²The seed that was sown among the thorns is the one who hears the word, but the worry of this world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it produces no fruit. ²³But the seed that was sown on the good ground is the one who continues to hear and understand the word. Indeed he continues to produce fruit: some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty times more than was sown."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day

895 Preach You the Word

Sermon

1 Corinthians 3:5–11

Only God can make it grow

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.

Offering

Musical Offering

On Eagles' Wings

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 19 of this service folder.

Please stand.

The Sacrament

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



Give online

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



Connection card

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

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -
san - na in the high - est!

Words of Institution

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

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

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei



Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your 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

745 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying

670 I Come, O Savior, to Your Table

Please stand.

Thanksgiving

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

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

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

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

Be seated.

Post-Service Music

Before You, Lord, We Bow
Benjamin Culli

Serving at Worship

Preaching Minister
Presiding Minister
Piano
Vocalists
Instrumentalists

Video streamer and slides
Video captions
Sound
Hymn selections

Pastor Jon Buchholz
Pastor Gary Pufahl
Lisa Thiesfeldt
Grace Gray, Joel Hahnke
Nathaniel Ehlers, *acoustic*
Kevin Bode, *bass*
Ryan Pufahl, Lauren Sallquist
Jeremy Burmeister
Jacob Sallquist
Lisa Thiesfeldt

Acknowledgments

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“Before You, Lord, We Bow” Benjamin Culli, © 2006 CPH.

In our prayers

- Safe travels for all those who are traveling to Good Shepherd Bible Camp today.
- Chris Heise – Home recovering and anticipating additional treatments.
- Kaylee – Home recovering from surgery and going through additional treatments.
- Bill Zidar – Battling cancer.

Flowers

Thank you to Alysha Bergsma for beautifying our sanctuary with altar flowers in honor of her husband, John’s, birthday.

Communion

Thank you to Christine Olson and Tina Wentzel for helping set up Communion for this weekend.

Ushers

8:00 a.m.

Reggie and Mason Marquez, Lance Marten

10:30 a.m.

Caden Head, Steve Meyers, Roger Odle, Mike Wilson

This week at Emmanuel

Sunday

Worship services

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study

9:15 a.m.

Tuesday-Friday

WELS Youth Rally

Wednesday

Wednesday Bible study

8:30 a.m.

Drive through the Gospels

Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl

Thursday

Thursday Bible study at Denny’s

No class

Resumes on July 23

Sunday, July 19

Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
Church open forum	9:15 a.m.
In-person Bible study	No class
Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
Ordination and installation service of Pastoral candidate Daniel Gensmer	4:00 p.m.
<i>Meal to follow</i>	

Looking ahead

July 21	Church council meeting	6:00 p.m.
July 22	Wednesday Bible study	8:30 a.m.
<i>Drive through the Gospels</i> <i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>		
July 23	Emmanuel Family Night	6:00-8:00 p.m.
	Thursday Bible study at Denny's	6:00 a.m.
	<i>21st Century Lessons from the Life of Joseph</i> <i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i> <i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>	
July 26	Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
	In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
July 28	Quarterly voters' meeting	6:30 p.m.
July 29	Wednesday Bible study	8:30 a.m.
<i>Jonah: Running from God</i> <i>Led by Pastor Daniel Gensmer</i>		
July 30	Thursday Bible study at Denny's	6:00 a.m.
	<i>21st Century Lessons from the Life of Joseph</i> <i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i> <i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>	
	Back-to-School work day	7:00-11:00 a.m.
August 2	Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
August 4	In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
	Stewardship meeting	8:00 p.m.
August 5	Wednesday Bible study	8:30 a.m.
<i>Jonah: Grace in the deep</i> <i>Led by Pastor Daniel Gensmer</i>		
August 6	Back-to-School orientation	4:30-7:30 p.m.
	Thursday Bible study at Denny's	6:00 a.m.
	<i>21st Century Lessons from the Life of Joseph</i> <i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i> <i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>	

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.

Emmanuel summer family nights

This summer we have been hosting Emmanuel Family Nights. This is a fun opportunity for us to gather for a meal or snack, a devotion, and a fun activity. These have been held on Wednesdays in June and July; our final night is July 22 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in Emmanuel's Ministry and Education Center (MEC). Any questions, contact Alysha Bergsma at church@elctempe.org or (480) 967-3983.

Our fourth and final summer night will be Wednesday, July 22, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Join us for movie night! We'll be watching *Angel Studio's* animated movie *David*. We'll be popping up bags of popcorn, but we encourage you to bring your favorite movie snack!

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 pizza, along with lemonade and 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. RSVP by Wednesday, July 15, to ensure we have enough food.



July 22 – Summer Night meal sign-up

Please donate plastic bags

A member of our congregation makes mats for the homeless out of plastic bags. Please bring these bags on the fourth Sunday of the month to help her service to the homeless.

Installation service and meal for Pastoral candidate Daniel Gensmer | July 19

Emmanuel is receiving a new pastor this month. Pastoral candidate Daniel Gensmer will be ordained into the Holy Ministry and installed as Emmanuel's youth and family ministry pastor next Sunday, July 19. A special service will be held on Sunday, July 19, at 4:00 p.m., followed by a meal served in the Ministry and Education Center. Daniel and his wife, Rachel, recently welcomed their first child last month and are moving to Arizona in the coming days. Please keep them in your prayers during this new and exciting time and move to Arizona.

For the meal, we will be hosting a Southwest fiesta and serving Mexican food. Please bring a dish to share; sign up [here](#) (or use the QR code) to see what food is needed and available service opportunities.



Meal and serving sign-up

“Welcome” donation drive

We are collecting gift cards, drinks, diapers and wipes for the Gensmer family. Please drop off all donations to the church office before Wednesday, July 15.

Some specific items we are hoping for are the following:

- Restaurant gift cards
- Grocery store gift cards
- Target or Walmart gift cards
- Bottled water
- Cans of Diet Coke
- Cans of Celsius energy drinks
- Huggies diapers (size 1 and up) – *please include receipt in case they need to exchange sizes*
- Huggies baby wipes



Gensmer
Meal Train

Meal Train for the Gensmer family

Let's help welcome the Gensmer family as they settle into Arizona and life with a newborn. Any help with home-cooked meals or take out/delivery would be greatly appreciated. You can sign up to provide a meal using the QR code or this link: <https://mealtrain.com/8lqo28>; available dates and meal details can also be found on this link.

Support our Emmanuel Lutheran School teachers | School supply drive

As you walk down the store aisles and notice the back-to-school displays, please keep our school's wonderful teachers in mind. Teachers often purchase extra classroom supplies out of their own pockets to ensure their students have everything they need to succeed.

If you would like to bless our educators with a donation of school supplies, items can be dropped off at either the church or school office. Please clearly mark your bags or boxes *Donations for Teachers*. Thank you for your generosity and for supporting our school community!

Supplies needed:

- Expo markers - fine tip (black)
- Expo markers - broad tip (all colors)
- Crayola markers - broad tip (classic, tropical and bold colors)
- Crayola markers - fine tip (all colors)
- Crayola colored pencils
- Ink stamp pads - variety of colors
- Clear packing tape
- Masking tape
- Sharpie markers - all colors
- Fun pens - felt tip, ball point, gel (all colors)

Emmanuel Lutheran School art donations

The art department of Emmanuel Lutheran School is asking for donations for the upcoming school year. Please place all donations in the church or school offices. Please direct questions to Mrs. Amber Bode at (480) 694-4698. Thank you for making our art program a success!

- plastic water bottles (standard size - 16.9 oz)
- aluminum foil
- plastic tablecloths
- cleaned plastic (or glass) yogurt containers
- foam or paper plates
- cardboard squares or circles
- Ziploc (or off brand) plastic baggies of any size

Back-to-School work day | August 1

The annual Back-to-School work day is scheduled for Saturday, August 1. All parents, teens, and students are invited and encouraged to come and help get the campus and classrooms ready for the 2026-2027 school year. To beat the heat, the work day will begin at 7:00 a.m. and continue through the morning until the project list is completed. Even if you can't make it at 7:00 a.m., feel free to come a little later and stay for however long you are able. Many supplies will be made available, but you are welcome to bring your own cleaning supplies and materials.

Christian education hour

Here is a list of our classes, topics, and locations for our Sunday morning education hour. *Please note the changes to our Christian education hour through the summer.*

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

The **Teen Bible study Grades 9-12** will be joining the adults in the Oak Room of the MEC.

The **Junior High Bible study Grades 7-8** is meeting in the 7th grade classroom on the second floor of the MEC. The study topic today is "What Makes Christians Different? Christians are planted by the Word."

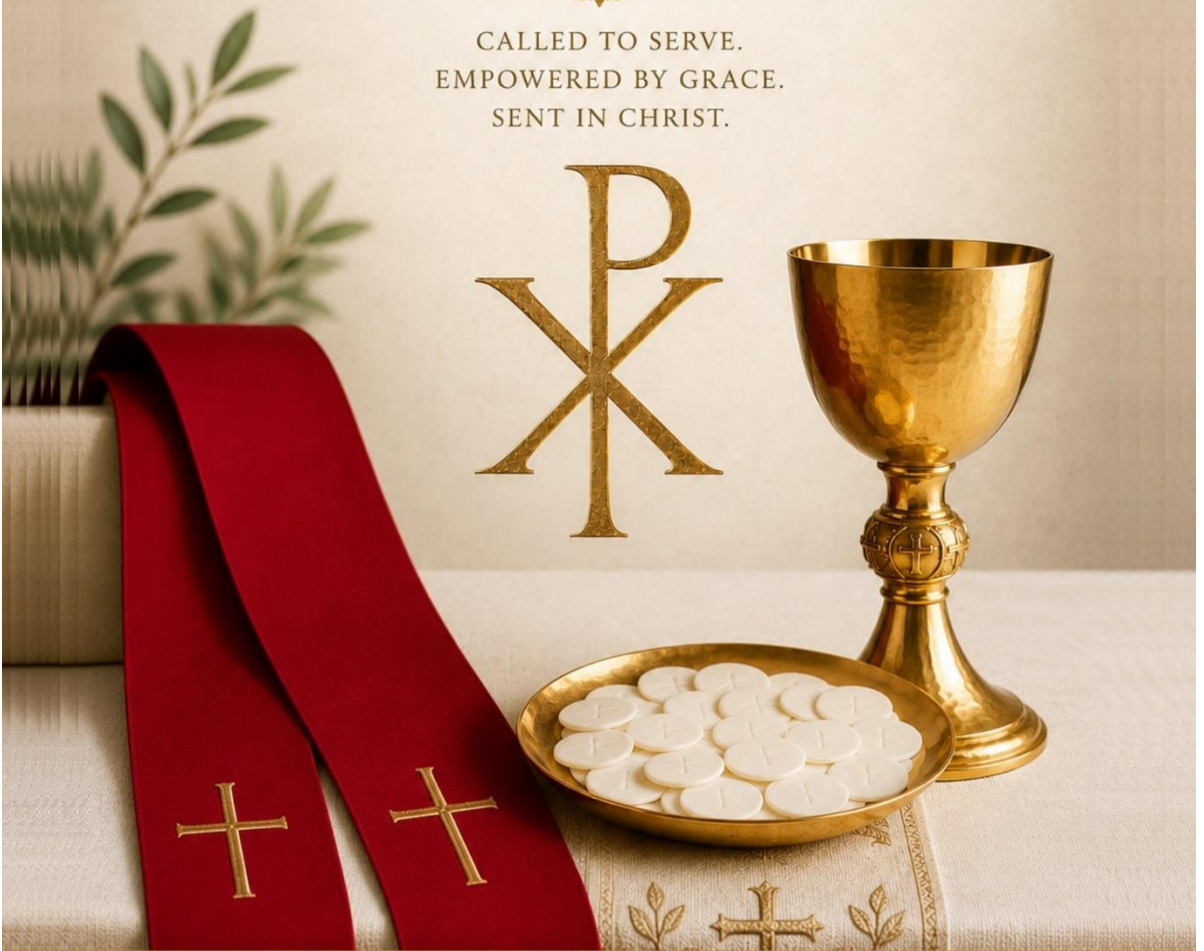
The Sunday School for **Grades 3-6** is meeting in the 8th grade classroom on the second floor of the MEC. The study topic today is "Jesus is crucified."

The Sunday School for **Kindergarten-Grade 2** is meeting in the 6th grade classroom on the second floor of the MEC. The study topic today is "Jesus is crucified."

The **Sunday School for two- and three-year-olds and 4K** is meeting in the church nursery. Parents are encouraged to remain with their children. The study topic today is "David and Goliath."

THE
ORDINATION
AND INSTALLATION
OF
CANDIDATE FOR THE HOLY MINISTRY
DANIEL GENSMER

— ♦ —
CALLED TO SERVE.
EMPOWERED BY GRACE.
SENT IN CHRIST.



Sunday, July 19, 4:00 p.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
715 W. Southern Avenue, Tempe

Meal following the service
Mexican food potluck
Please bring a dish to share

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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