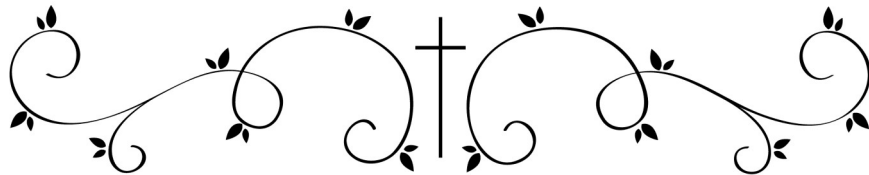
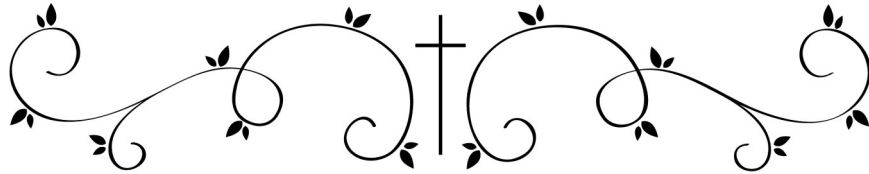


Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church



1001 North Capitol Avenue Lansing, MI 48906
www.emanuelfirst.org; www.facebook.com/EmanuelLutheran
(517) 485-4118

Service Times: Sunday 8:00AM & 10:30AM - Wednesday 6:30PM

Radio Broadcast Sunday 8:00AM on WJIM 1240 on the AM dial

Live streaming 8:00 and 10:30AM follow the prompt on the website

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Paul J. Lindloff

Pastor Joel A. Voss

Notes for Visitors:

- **Welcome!** If you are a guest this morning, please fill out a cream colored card. These cards are placed in every pew. One side of the card is for members receiving communion, the other side is for visitors. You may place the card in the collection plate. Feel free to also speak with one of the pastors to introduce yourself or ask any questions.
- **Restrooms** are located in the hallway north of the sanctuary.
- **Nursery Room:** If you need a quiet place for your children, we have a room near the church offices. If you need help finding the room, please ask an usher for assistance.
- **Hymnals:** Use the blue hymn books in the rack ahead of your pew to follow along in the service. If you need help or guidance, please ask someone nearby to assist you.
- **Holy Communion:** The Sacrament of Holy Communion (The Lord's Supper) will be celebrated at the close of our church services today. If you are a communicant member of another WELS congregation, we invite you to share this Sacrament with us. If you are not a member of our church, we ask you to honor our Biblical practice of close communion and refrain from coming forward until you have completed doctrinal discussions with one of our pastors. (Please read "Attending the Lord's Supper" for more information. Pamphlets are in the Capitol Ave. entryway.)

May 14, 2023
Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Pastors' Notes

We bask in the glory of Jesus' resurrection for several weeks following Easter. The Sundays of Easter are colored white to remind us of that glory. During these weeks, the First Reading comes from the book of Acts, instead of an Old Testament book. Acts shows the advancement of the gospel through the Church. Each Sunday in Easter will focus on this life-changing truth: Christ is risen! He lives! Throughout this season, we explore what that means.

These last Sundays of the Easter season focus us on a deeper relationship with Jesus as we anticipate Ascension (May 18) and Pentecost (May 28). And so today we see that Jesus lives, and he calls us to live for him. Jesus shows us his true love for us. And we see that our love, in response, involves obedience. Jesus did not simply say he loved his heavenly Father. He proved it by obeying his Father, even when that obedience meant dying on a cross for our sake. Love for God who lives in us leads us to a life of obedience. The God who lives in us calls us to live for him. It is as simple as that. Love for our risen Lord means obedience to his commands. May he give us the strength to do so, that we might give him glory and serve one another.

Order Of Worship: Setting Two pg. 172

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Hymns..... | 449; 757 (8:00); 617 |
| ELS Choir (10:30)..... | <i>Surely I Will Be with You</i> |
| Communion Hymns..... | 557; 606 |
| Sermon Theme..... | 1 Peter 3:13-22 |

Where There's Hope There's Life

Prayer Of The Day

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

22 Then Paul stood up in front of the council of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. 23 For as I was walking around and carefully observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar on which had been inscribed, ‘To an unknown god.’ Now what you worship as unknown—this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

24 “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples made with hands. 25 Neither is he served by human hands, as if he needed anything, since he himself gives all people life and breath and everything they have. 26 From one man, he made every nation of mankind to live over the entire face of the earth. He determined the appointed times and the boundaries where they would live. 27 He did this so they would seek God and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. 28 ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘Indeed, we are also his offspring.’

29 “Therefore, since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by human skill and planning. 30 Although God overlooked the times of ignorance, he is now commanding all people everywhere to repent, 31 because he has set a day on which he is going to judge the world in righteousness by the man he appointed. He provided proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

Psalm 66

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

13 Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 14 But even if you should happen to suffer because of righteousness, you are blessed. Do not be afraid of what they fear, and do not be troubled. 15 But regard the Lord, the Christ, as holy in your hearts. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that is in you. 16 But speak with gentleness and respect, while maintaining a clear conscience, so that those who attack your good way of life in Christ may be put to shame because they slandered you as evildoers.

17 Indeed, it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil, 18 because Christ also suffered once for sins in our place, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in flesh but was made alive in spirit, 19 in which he also went and made an announcement to the spirits in prison. 20 These spirits disobeyed long ago, when God's patience was waiting in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In this ark a few, that is, eight souls, were saved by water. 21 And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the guarantee of a good conscience before God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. 22 He went to heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Gospel Acclamation

If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you. (John 14:15,16)

Gospel: John 14:15-21

15 “If you love me, hold on to my commands. 16 I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. 17 He is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see him or know him. You know him because he stays with you and will be in you.

18 “I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. 19 In a little while the world will see me no longer, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 The one who has my commands and holds on to them is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father. I too will love him and show myself to him.”

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