

Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church



You
will need
faith as
your shield

E P H E S I A N S 6 : 1 6

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.
- **Difficulty hearing?** Tune headphones to 103.3FM (closed circuit broadcast of service). Ask for a portable FM radio and headphones if you need some.
- **Difficulty reading small print?** Magnifying readers with light are available by the bookshelf in the narthex and in the ramp by the pulpit.
- **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.
- **Bibles:** Available at the bookshelf in the narthex and on the ramp by the pulpit.

September 15, 2024

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Pastors' Notes

Jesus Christ is the perfect leader of our congregation, our home, our lives. When we find things awry in those places, what we need is better *follower-ship*. For several weeks, our services center on *The Need for Followership*. May the Lord fill us with his Holy Spirit in order that we better follow his lead and serve him and our neighbor better.

Followers of Christ Are Armed for the Battle: The worst war in human history began when the first shot was fired in the Garden of Eden. Ever since, it has been raging throughout creation. This is a war against “spiritual forces of evil” (Ephesians 6:12), a war for souls. The reality is that there are demonic forces that want to do more than kill you; they want to claim you for all eternity. Here is the good news: Christ has already called you his own and equipped you for this battle. Go to Jesus. Remain in his Word. Take up the armor of God.

Order Of Worship: Setting Three pg. 188

Hymns.....829; 797; 517; 870
 Capitol Choir (10:30).....*In Unity & Peace* (Hymn 732)
 Sermon Theme.....Mark 9:14-27

How Long Will You Put up with It?

Prayer Of The Day

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Reading: 1 Kings 18:21-39

21 Then Elijah said to all the people, "How long will you stagger around on two crutches? If the Lord is God, follow him. If Baal is God, follow him." But the people did not answer him a single word.

22 Then Elijah said to the people, "I am the only one left of the Lord's prophets, but the prophets of Baal total four hundred fifty men. 23 Provide two bulls for us. Let them choose one bull for themselves and cut it up and place it on the firewood, but they are not to light the fire. I will prepare the other bull and place it on the firewood, but I will not light the fire. 24 Then you will call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers with fire, he is God."

All the people said, "This proposal is good."

25 Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose for yourselves one bull, and you go first because there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god. But do not light the fire."

26 So they took the bull which had been given to them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, "Baal! Answer us!" But there was not a sound. No one answered. So they staggered around the altar which they had made.

27 When noon came, Elijah mocked them: "Shout louder! He is a god, isn't he? He may be deep in thought or busy or on a journey. Perhaps he is asleep and will wake up!" 28 So they cried out with a loud voice, and according to their practice they cut themselves with daggers and spears until their blood flowed. 29 After noon, they kept up a prophetic frenzy until the time of the evening sacrifice, but there was no sound. No one answered. There was no response.

30 Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." So they came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. 31 Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come and had proclaimed, "Your name shall be Israel." 32 He built the stones into an altar in the name of the Lord. Around it he made a trench big enough to hold about twenty-five pounds of seed. 33 He arranged the wood, cut up the bull, and placed it on the wood.

Then he said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it on the sacrifice and on the wood." 34 Then he said, "Do it again." So they did it again. Then he said, "Do it a third time." So they did it a third time. 35 The water flowed all around the altar. It even filled the trench.

36 When the time of the evening sacrifice had arrived, Elijah the prophet stood up and said, "O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and that I have done all these things by your word. 37 Answer me, Lord! Answer me so that this people will know that you, O Lord, are God and that you are turning their hearts back to you."

38 Fire from the Lord fell on the sacrifice and on the wood, the stones, and the dirt. It even licked up the water in the trench. 39 When all the people saw this, they fell on their knees and said, "The Lord, he is God! The Lord, he is God!"

Psalm 46

Second Reading: Ephesians 6:10-18

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can stand against the schemes of the Devil. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13 For this reason, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to take a stand on the evil day and, after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand, then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness fastened in place, 15 and with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace tied to your feet like sandals. 16 At all times hold up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the Evil One. 17 Also take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

18 At every opportunity, pray in the Spirit with every kind of prayer and petition. Stay alert for the same reason, always persevering in your intercession for all the saints.

Gospel Acclamation

(Seasonal Verse: God's Love)

*In you, Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness. (Psalm 31:1)*

Gospel: Mark 9:14-27

14 When they returned to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, and some experts in the law were arguing with them. 15 As soon as all the people in the crowd saw Jesus, they were very excited and ran to greet him. 16 He asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?"

17 One man from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who has a spirit that makes him unable to speak. 18 Wherever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive it out, but they could not."

19 "O unbelieving generation," Jesus replied. "How long will I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring him to me."

20 They brought the boy to Jesus. As soon as the spirit saw him, it threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

21 Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has this been happening to him?"

"From childhood," he said. 22 "It has often thrown him into the fire and into the water to kill him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."

23 "If you can?" Jesus said to him. "All things are possible for the one who believes."

24 The child's father immediately cried out and said with tears, "I do believe. Help me with my unbelief!"

25 When Jesus saw that a crowd was quickly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit. "You mute and deaf spirit," he said, "I command you to come out of him and never enter him again!"

26 The spirit screamed, shook the boy violently, and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many of them said, "He's dead!" 27 But Jesus took him by the hand, raised him up, and he stood up.

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