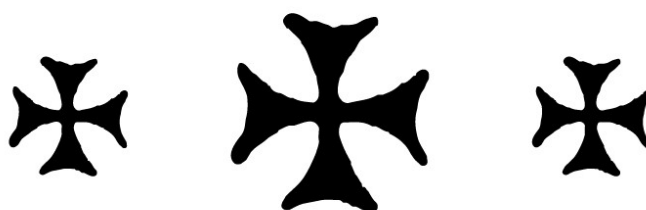


Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church

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LAMB
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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.

May 4, 2025
Third Sunday of Easter

The Pastors' Notes

In the seven Sundays of Easter, the paraments (cloths on altar, lectern, and pulpit) are white, symbolizing the holiness and glory of our risen Lord. Because Jesus lives, our Easter joy remains!

Because Jesus lives, we can see clearly! Navigating life without sight presents many challenges that those with sight do not face. This is why Scripture often uses the concept of blindness as a metaphor for how hard it is to navigate life without a correct understanding of Christ. Spiritual blindness can take many different forms. In some cases, it is hostile opposition to the message of Jesus. In others, spiritual blindness might be demonstrated in confusion about Jesus' true identity. In still others, spiritual blindness might be the inability to understand our spiritual condition. No matter the form spiritual blindness takes, Easter has the power to replace it with sight. Easter allows us to see where we sinners stand with a holy God. It enables us to see the path through life that is worth pursuing (as opposed to those that lead to a dead end). Spiritual sight gives us the ability to see who holds our future in his hands and who is worth our eternal worship.

Order Of Worship: Setting Two pg. 172

Hymns.....512; 459; 511; 519
 Senior Choir (10:30.....*Rise, Shine, You People*
 Sermon Theme.....Revelation 5:11-14

A Song of Hope

Prayer Of The Day

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.

First Reading: Acts 9:1-22

1 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the disciples of the Lord. He went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any men or women belonging to the Way, he might bring them to Jerusalem as prisoners.

3 As he went on his way and was approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"

5 He asked, "Who are you, Lord?"

He replied, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you need to do."

7 The men traveling with him stood there speechless. They heard the voice but did not see anyone.

8 They raised Saul up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes, he could not see anything. They took him by the hand and led him into Damascus. 9 For three days he could not see, and he did not eat or drink.

10 There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

He answered, "Here I am, Lord."

11 The Lord told him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. In fact, at this very moment he is praying. 12 In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he can regain his sight."

13 Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many people about this man and how much harm he did to your saints in Jerusalem. 14 And he has authority here from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

15 The Lord said to him, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the people of Israel. 16 Indeed, I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

17 Ananias left and entered the house. Laying his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, whom you saw on your way here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

18 Immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. 19 And after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. 20 Immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

21 All who heard him were amazed and said, "Isn't this the one who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? Didn't he come here for this very purpose: to bring them as prisoners to the chief priests?" 22 But Saul continued to get stronger and kept confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ.

Psalm 30

Second Reading: Revelation 5:11-14

11 And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels who were around the throne and around the living creatures and the elders. Their number was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands upon thousands. 12 With a loud voice they were saying:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive
power and riches and
wisdom and strength and
honor and glory and blessing.

13 I also heard every creature that is in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever.

14 The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders bowed down and worshipped.

Gospel Acclamation

(Seasonal Verse: Easter)

Christ Jesus has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (2 Timothy 1:10)

Gospel: John 21:1-14

21 After this, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how he showed himself: 2 Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. 3 Simon Peter said to them, "I'm going fishing."

They replied, "We'll go with you."

They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. 4 Early in the morning, Jesus was standing on the shore, but the disciples did not know it was Jesus.

5 Jesus called to them, "Boys, don't you have any fish?"

"No!" they answered.

6 He told them, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." So they cast the net out. Then they were not able to haul it in because of the large number of fish.

7 The disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard, "It is the Lord!" he tied his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the little boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about one hundred yards. 9 When they stepped out on land, they saw some bread and a charcoal fire with fish on it. 10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught."

11 So Simon Peter climbed aboard and hauled the net to land, full of large fish, 153 of them. Yet even with so many, the net was not torn.

12 Jesus said to them, "Come, eat breakfast."

None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord.

13 Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them, and also the fish. 14 This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

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