

# Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church



You make known to me  
**THE PATH OF LIFE**  
in your presence there is  
**FULLNESS OF JOY**

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

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

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, as well as large print bulletins 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.
- **Holy Communion:** The Sacrament of Holy Communion (The Lord's Supper) will be celebrated in our church services today. If you are not yet 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. If you are a WELS member desiring to receive communion, please inform a pastor or an usher. (Please read "Attending the Lord's Supper" for more information. Pamphlets are in the Capitol Ave. entryway.)

**April 12, 2026**  
*Second Sunday of Easter*

## *The Pastors' Notes*

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! It makes all the difference! He lives! The season of Easter is a 50 day celebration of that fact. During the 7 weeks of the Easter season, the church dresses in white to signify Jesus' holiness and victory.

His victory of life means you have proof and peace. Without the resurrection of Jesus, you would have to wonder whether anything he said was true. Thomas had been taught and trained by Christ himself. He heard Jesus predict his death and resurrection. Even after hearing the eyewitness testimony of friends, Thomas still had doubts about the resurrection of Jesus. But Jesus lives, and it makes a difference. Today you have great comfort about Christ's promises in your life. Jesus engages you with continuing assurances in Word and sacrament. You have proof. You have peace.

## Order Of Worship: Setting Two pg. 172

Hymns.....	448; 456; 511
Communion Hymns.....	455; 464
Sermon Theme.....	John 20:19-31

*Peace Be With You!*

### Prayer Of The Day

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-32

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

22 “Men of Israel, hear these words! Jesus the Nazarene was a man recommended to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know. 23 This man, who was handed over by God’s set plan and foreknowledge, you killed by having lawless men nail him to a cross. 24 He is the one God raised up by freeing him from the agony of death, because death was not able to hold him in its grip.

25 “Indeed, David says concerning him:

I saw the Lord always before me.  
Because he is at my right hand,  
I will not be shaken.

26 Therefore my heart was glad,  
and my tongue rejoiced.

27 My flesh also will rest in hope,  
because you will not abandon my life to the grave,  
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

28 You have made known to me the paths of life.  
You will fill me with joy in your presence.

29 “Gentlemen, brothers, I can speak confidently to you about the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath that he would seat one of his descendants on his throne, 31 he saw what was coming and spoke about the resurrection of Christ, saying that he was neither abandoned to the grave nor did his flesh see decay.

32 “This Jesus is the one God has raised up. We are all witnesses of that.

### Psalm 16

## Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he gave us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. 5 Through faith you are being protected by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

6 Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials 7 so that the proven character of your faith—which is more valuable than gold, which passes away even though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, yet by believing in him, you are filled with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, 9 because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

## Gospel Acclamation

*(Seasonal Verse: Easter)*

*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. (John 20:29)*

## Gospel: John 20:19-31

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." 22 After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

24 But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe."

26 After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe."

28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

29 Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

30 Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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