

**Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio**

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**Pastor James L. Castello**

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**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost — July 5, 2015**

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Emanuel’s mission is to witness to the good news of salvation through Christ to individuals, the community and the world through discipleship and service.*

**LBW–Lutheran Book of Worship      WOV–With One Voice**

**\* Please stand as you are able**

**PRELUDE**    *Reflection on “America”*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P    Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the creator of wind and rain, field and ocean, the bread of life coming down from above, the power at work within us and this world.

**C    Amen.**

P    Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin.  
God and Father of all,

**C    we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have told lies, said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action was needed. In your mercy, O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and heal us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.**

P    If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new! In Christ, you are a new creation: your sins are taken away and you are made new. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

**C    Amen.**

**\* HYMN LBW # 569**    *God Bless Our Native Land*

**\* GREETING**

P    Sisters and brothers, called to freedom in Christ: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

**C    And also with you.**

**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P    *Let us pray.* God of glory and love, peace comes from you alone. Send us as peacemakers and witnesses to your kingdom, and fill our hearts with joy in your promises of salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C    Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:1–5**

He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. <sup>2</sup>And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. <sup>4</sup>The descendants are impudent and

stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." <sup>5</sup>Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

A    The Word of the Lord.

**C    Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 123**

To you I lift <sup>1</sup> up my eyes,\*  
to you enthroned <sup>1</sup> in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup>**As the eyes of servants look to the hand <sup>1</sup> of their masters,\*  
and the eyes of a maid to the hand <sup>1</sup> of her mistress,**

<sup>3</sup>so our eyes look to the <sup>1</sup> LORD our God,\*  
until he show <sup>1</sup> us his mercy.

<sup>4</sup>**Have mercy upon us, O <sup>1</sup> LORD, have mercy,\*  
for we have had more than enough <sup>1</sup> of contempt,**

<sup>5</sup>too much of the scorn of the in- <sup>1</sup> dolent rich,\*  
and of the derision <sup>1</sup> of the proud.

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 12:2–10**

<sup>2</sup>I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that such a person — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows — <sup>4</sup>was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup>even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to

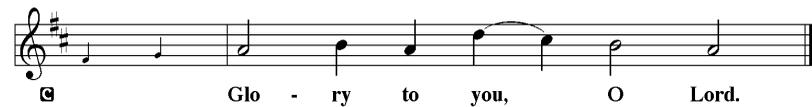
keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

A The Word of the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (tune: *Come, Thou Fount*)

As we gather at your altar, as we listen to your word,  
Help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story til we claim it as our own;  
Teach us through this holy Gospel how to make Love's vict'ry known.

**\* GOSPEL: Mark 6:1–13**



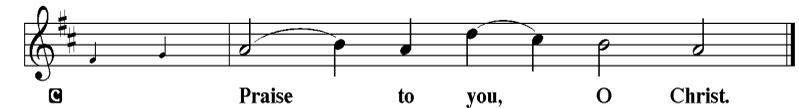
He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup>On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man

get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon,

and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." <sup>5</sup>And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup>He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.

<sup>8</sup>He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup>If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup>They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.



**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**HYMN LBW # 567** *God of Our Fathers*

**SERMON**

**\* HYMN LBW # 332** *Battle Hymn of the Republic*

**\* NICENE CREED**

**C 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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**

**THE PRAYERS** *(please be seated)*

A Gathered by the Holy Spirit and fed by the word, we come together as the people of God to pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*Brief silence.*

A Gracious God, we pray for the church throughout the world, that you guide it in all its endeavors and inspire it to proclaim the gospel with boldness. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A We pray for earth and sky, seas and deserts, plant and animal habitats, that your good creation thrive and flourish. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

C We pray for leaders eager to show mercy, that your justice spreads to all nations and that all may celebrate freedom from oppression. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A We pray for this assembly, for those who are visiting, those who are traveling, and those who cannot be with us today, that all experience Christ's presence and peace. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A We remember with gratitude the saints who endured persecutions for the sake of Christ. Uphold us also with your all-sufficient grace until we join them at the heavenly banquet. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

*Other petitions.*

P We pray for those who live with chronic pain or disease that leaves no outward sign, for those who grieve, and for all those who are sick or hospitalized (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Into your hands, loving God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the grace of Jesus our Savior.

**C Amen**

**\*PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

**TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**\* OFFERTORY** *(tune: Doxology)*

Create in me a new heart, Lord  
That gladly I obey your Word,  
Let what you will be my desire,  
And with new life my soul inspire.

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

A God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

**C Amen.**

**\*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

Harp selections: *With Malice Toward None*  
*Deep in the Meadow*  
*In Dreams*

**\* BLESSING**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C Amen**

**\* POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A Wise and generous God, we thank you that at this holy table you have fed us again with the food of everlasting life. Send us with your blessing to seek the good of our neighbor and call others to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

**\* BENEDICTION**

**\* HYMN** *(tune: Go, My Children)*

May the Lord, our great creator, bless you this day;  
Give you peace and hope and courage along your way.  
May you stay within God's keeping in your waking, in your sleeping,  
In your joy, and in your weeping, God be with you.

**\* DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

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**Altar flowers**

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Tom & Beth Jenny for their 44<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**Gluten-free wafers are available**

Gluten-free communion wafers are available – please let the Pastor know before the service if you wish to receive these. Others will continue to receive the regular wafers.

There are also glasses of white grape juice in the center of each wine tray for those who would prefer to receive juice.

**Summer Coffee Hours**

All are invited to attend our coffee hour after worship. Our host today is the Church Council Executive Board. Next week's hosts are the Youth Gathering kids who will be attending the National Youth Gathering from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup>!

**WELCA Missionary Fund**

Donations are being accepted for the WELCA Missionary Fund. Please use the envelope mailed with your 2015 program booklet (or use any regular envelope, marking it "Missionary Fund"). You may also use your regular weekly offering envelope. Checks should be made payable to *Emanuel Women of the Church*.

**Please note: Holy Communion THIS Thursday evening!**

Please make a note: we will be offering Holy Communion at THIS Thursday evening's service (instead of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – for this month only). If you are unable to attend our Sunday service, we invite you to join us in worship at 7 p.m.

**This Week**

Wednesday 5:00 p.m. Soul Food  
Thursday 9:00 a.m. Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

**Addresses**

We are planning to publish a new membership address/phone directory in the next few weeks. If your address or phone number have changed, please let us know as soon as possible so that the publication can be as accurate as possible! Thank you to those who have notified us so far!!

**Serving Today**

Pastor James L. Castello  
Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes  
Worship Assistant - Jack Robbins  
Sound Board - Larry Ashbaugh  
Acolytes - Tessa Rhodes & Jessica Yunker  
Altar Guild - Laura Ellis & Sue Kruse  
Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Carol Castello (419-592-0847) or [cjcast@yahoo.com](mailto:cjcast@yahoo.com)

**Caring Corner** for July & August — *back-to-school supplies*

We are collecting school supplies to be distributed locally through United Way’s “Stuff the Bus” and internationally through Lutheran World Relief School Kits.

**Mud Hens Home Plate Event**

The Toledo Mud Hens will host a Home Plate Event presented by Proclaim FM on Sunday, August 9, at 4 p.m. Players and coaches for both teams, along with special guest speaker, Nate Robertson, will share their faith in Jesus Christ at this unique event. Tickets are available for \$18. This includes tickets to the game and a hot dog meal. There will be a postgame fireworks show. Contact Hannah Tyson at 419-725-9258 or email her at htyson@mudhens.com for information and tickets.

**Needed: Sound Board Operators!!!**

We need sound board operators for July 19 and the month of August. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex, or you may call Shelly Storch, Peggy Snyder, or the church office. You may sign up for the month or for the week (remember... there is only service this summer). THANK YOU!!!!

**Statistics**

6/25 (69)      6/28 (140)    Tithes and Offerings \$4,648 (\$40 Bldg Fd; \$25 Wrld Hngr; \$51 Conf Exp)    Simply Giving 6/22-6/28 \$105 Gen Fd; \$20 Bldg Fd

**Flowers needed**

Open dates: August 30; September 27; October 4; and December 20. If you would like to furnish flowers for any of these days, please sign up on the chart in the narthex.

**Tent Revival**

All are welcome to an Old Fashioned Tent Revival on July 23, 24 and 25 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 671 Clinton, Defiance - across from Defiance Junior High School. (Look for the tent near Triangle Park.)

Thursday - July 23 at 6:30

Pastor Dave Brobston, St. Paul Choir, Defiance Community VBS Youth Sing

Friday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Pastor Keith Hunsinger, Special Music by Northwesterners

Saturday, July 25 a 4:00 p.m.

Pastor Dave Brobston, Special music, BBQ served

**Ice Cream Social**

You are invited to an Ice Cream Social on July 19, 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Domersville & Nagel Roads, 3 miles north of Tinora School, Defiance, Ohio. They will be serving bratwurst, hot chicken & hot dog sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans, chips, desserts, Schwan’s Ice Cream and drinks for a free will donation. Carry outs will be available. Proceeds will be used for Missionary Sponsorship. They are handicap accessible.

**Check out our videos**

Check out videos of Emanuel’s church services which are always available on YouTube (just search for “Pastor Castello”). They are also available on NC-TV at various times. If you are on Facebook, please share our services with your friends.

**Devotionals**

The new daily devotionals, *Portals of Prayer* and *Christ in Our Home*, are available at both entrances (regular and large print).

**Art Walk**

The Henry County Chamber of Commerce, Outlaw BBQ and Henry County Arts Partnership (HC Chorale, MVCT, Nap City Band, HC Historical Society, HCAC) present an Art Walk on July 12, 2015 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. on the Central School front lawn. Admission is free. There will be live entertainment, musicians, artists, crafters, mimes, Strolling Drum Line, sidewalk art, NHS Jazz Choir, buskers, Justin the Clown, food court, art sales, Henry County Chorale, street entertainers, NHS Band, vendors, Maumee Valley Civic Theater, Headline Band Bliss, River City Rodders Car Show. Proceeds will benefit the Napoleon Civic Center.



### *Communing with God*

After Apollo 11 landed on the moon on July 20, 1969, pilot Buzz Aldrin requested via radio that people pause to give thanks for the achievement in their own way. When his broadcast ended, Aldrin read a verse from the Gospel of John and took communion, which his church had sent to space with him.

“It was interesting for me to think: the very first liquid ever poured on the moon, and the very first food eaten there, were the communion elements,” the astronaut said. “At the time, I could think of no better way to acknowledge the enormity of the Apollo 11 experience than by giving thanks to God.”

### *Sometimes an explanatory word solves a problem*

In the 1930s it was legal for people to explode fireworks quite freely. Thus it was that in 1937, when the Fourth of July was on a Sunday, some of the youth in Paulding, Ohio, were popping firecrackers while the Rev. Eldred Johnston was starting to lead a worship service. A couple of loud explosions were enough for the pastor to realize that he needed to deal with the problem.

Therefore, the preacher asked the choir director to lead a hymn-sing for a few minutes. Then he slipped out a door, walked out to where the boys were gathered and began talking kindly to them. “Fellows,” he said, “I used to enjoy shooting fireworks as much as you do, and I know it’s an historic way to show our patriotic pride on Independence Day. But don’t forget that many in this town are gathered in worship at this hour, and the noise is very distracting. Now, I don’t want to interfere with your religious liberty. All I’m asking is that you wait until church services are over — about noon — and then shoot your firecrackers all you want.” The pastor smiled at each of the boys and returned to the church. Writing about the experience later, he said that he half-expected to hear rebellious explosions in defiance of his request. The boys, however, respectfully waited until the worship hour was over.

Kind and sincere words explaining a problem and requesting help in solving it often bring desirable results. The book of James reminds us of what we might call “heavenly wisdom,” something we all need:

“The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity” (James 3:17).

—Pastor Johnston’s experience, found in Liberty magazine

### *A God-created super star*

“God made ... the greater light to rule the day ...” (Genesis 1:16, NRSV). The first biblical description of Creation reveals that God made the sun — a truly amazing body of light.

At the sun’s center (where the temperature reaches 15 million degrees!), every second, 600 million tons of hydrogen fuse into 596 million tons of helium. The 4 million “missing” tons become sunshine, making life on earth possible. The sun’s magnetic field (which reverses direction every 11 years) and the resulting sunspots and solar flares impact the earth in ways most of us rarely think about.

Writes Dennis Overbye in the *New York Times*: “In all of recorded history, as far as scientists have been able to tell, the sun’s output has varied by only a tenth of a percent.” If the sun were more volatile, like many stars, earth would either burn up or freeze at regular intervals.

As you spend time outside this summer, give thanks for this bright marvel that God designed.

### *A message from Ben Franklin*

God governs in the affairs of man. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured in the Sacred Writings that “except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it” [Psalm 127:1, KJV]. I firmly believe this. I also believe that, without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel.

—Ben Franklin at the Constitutional Convention of 1787