

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Pastor James L. Castello

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Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost — September 17, 2017

LBW—Lutheran Book of Worship WOV—With One Voice

* Please stand as you are able

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude Bell Choir

He Is Lord -Living Spirit

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(you may remain seated)*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Source of all life,

C we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

P God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C Amen

HYMN WOV # 788 *Glory to God* (sing twice)

8:00 Seth Tonjes, song leader 10:30 Ryan Kruse, song leader

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

(10:30) **Special Music** *You Are My King (Amazing Love)* -Living Spirit

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him,

and said, "We are here as your slaves."
¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103 Living Spirit sings verses; congregation sings refrain

SECOND LESSON: Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and

give thanks to God. ⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Living Spirit will sing once, congregation will join)

* **GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35** (please stand as you are able)

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not

seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and

threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P The Gospel of our Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN WOV # 665 *Where True Charity and Love Abide* -Holly Mohring, flute
Living Spirit sings once in Latin, congregation sings twice in English

SERMON

HYMN LBW # 107 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* (you may remain seated)

* **APOSTLES' CREED** (please stand as you are able)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

OFFERINGS (8:00) *You Are My King (Amazing Love)* -Living Spirit
(10:30) Bell Choir

OFFERTORY (*you may remain seated*)

THE PRAYERS (*you may remain seated*)

A Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.
A brief silence.

A Good and gracious God, we pray for the church. Bless the ministries of congregations in our community. Unite us in the proclamation of your life-giving gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Creator God, you spoke light into being, you separated the waters, you formed the dry land. Protect and enliven the creation you so love, and make us willing partners in its care.

Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God of the nations, you love all tribes, peoples, and languages. We pray for all who govern. Give them wise and generous hearts for those they serve. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for this assembly; for our guests and visitors, for newcomers to this community, for those who are certain and those who doubt, and for all who seek you in this place. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We remember and give thanks for the faithful of every age who did not live to themselves but lived to you. Raise us with them on the last day. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Divine Healer, calm the anxiety of those who are wrongly accused, who suffer under crushing debt, or who are in prison. Reassure those who are lonely, impatient, brokenhearted, homebound, hospitalized, or ill (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.

C Amen

*** LORD'S PRAYER** (*please stand as you are able*)

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

BENEDICTION

HYMN *Go Now In Peace*

POSTLUDE *Happy Day*

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Altar flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Terry Hershberger in loving memory of Jim and Arlene.

On the radio

Our services are being broadcast on WNDH during the month of September at 10:30 a.m. (This will be a recording of a previous service.)

PLEASE help if you can!!

Volunteers are needed to run the sound board at the 10:30 service this month. We are also in need of readers and sound board operators for the month of October. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex or call the church office!

After School Club

After School Club will be starting on Wednesday, October 4. Busing will be provided by the Henry County Transportation Network. Permission slips are available today at both entrances!

Statistics

9/7 Attendance 50 9/10 Attendance 56+100 (156) communed 91
Tithes and offerings 9/3 \$5,843 (\$660 Bldg Fd; \$10 Wrld Hngr; \$100 Hurricane Relief)
9/10 \$8,057 (\$1,405 Bldg Fd; \$5 Wrld Hngr; \$1,680 Door Offering for Bldg Fd)
Simply Giving 9/04-9/10: \$130 Gen Fd; \$45 Bldg Fd; \$25 Wrld Hngr; \$25 Good Sam Fd

Lutheran World Relief

On the Caring Corner table there are instructions for the different LWR kits (Personal Care, Baby, Fabric, School). We are also in need of drawstring backpacks to include with the School kits, and those instructions are on the Caring Corner table as well. The kits must be turned in to the Caring Corner table by October 1, 2017. If you have questions, please contact Michelle Slee 419-966-4896.

Caring Corner — September **Books for Thailand**

Marcus Mt.Castle, living and working in Thailand with the Peace Corps, is setting up an English library for his students to help them in their learning of our language. Dr. Seuss books or simple, small worded books that you may have lying around the house and are willing to part with, would be put to very good use! Picture books are also great. Please be mindful of reading levels – these students are learning English; it is NOT their first language; and keep in mind that paperback books will be cheaper to ship than hard-cover books. *If you don't have any books lying around that you want to part with and would rather give a monetary donation, that money will be used to help with the shipping costs, as it is very costly to ship to Thailand.*

Activity Bags

Activity/Busy/Church bags are available on the coat trees at each entryway and in the balcony. Please feel free to take one for your child to enjoy during the worship service, and then return it to the tree afterward. All are welcome to our service, as “it is better to have a child wiggle in church than to wiggle out of it.”

Devotionals

The new devotionals are available at both entrances. We have *Portals of Prayer* and *Christ in Our Home* in both regular and large print. Be sure to pick one up.

Newsletter

The deadline for the October newsletter is noon tomorrow! Please be sure all your meetings are on the calendar by that time.

CROP Hunger Walk — October 1

Mark your calendars now for the 13th annual Napoleon/Henry County CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 1, beginning and ending here at Emanuel. The Walk will begin at 2 p.m., and you may walk either a 1-mile or a 3-mile route. We walk to be a part of “ending hunger, one step at a time!” You can even ask your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to walk WITH you OR to support your walk on-line. Just go to www.churchworldservice.org and click the tabs for “CROP Hunger Walk”, and it will “step” you through.

Thursday worship – 7:00 p.m. Holy Communion will be offered.

Emanuel Decorates for Harvest Home

We’d like to decorate the altar area of the church for Harvest Home – bring the fruits of your harvest to your church home! We haven’t done this for a few years, but our church is going to be busy this fall! Fall begins September 22, 2017.

- Sunday, October 1, we welcome walkers for the Napoleon/Henry County CROP Hunger Walk.
- Our church is hosting the conference WELCA gathering on October 7.
- “God’s Word, Our Hands Concert” on Saturday, October 28.
- Reformation Sunday followed by Congregational Meeting and Potluck on Sunday, October 29.
- Emanuel is hosting the Community Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 22.

We’d like to decorate on Saturday, September 30, at 9:00 a.m. If you can bring in some “fall” things to decorate with, it would be greatly appreciated. If you can’t be here to decorate, please just bring in your fall items to the overflow area. They can be taken home after the service on Sunday, November 26. (Please put your name on your items somewhere.)

We are looking for pumpkins, gourds, apples, fresh garden produce, HOME canned goods in glass jars, mums, baskets, SMALL bales of straw ... anything that “says” fall to you! Let’s show the community how we appreciate the bounty of God’s harvest! If you have any questions, feel free to call or text me (419-260-6582) or email me phyllis_kloos@yahoo.com. Thank you!

This Week

Monday	noon	Newsletter deadline
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Soul Food
	6:30 p.m.	Choir
	6:30 p.m.	7 th grade catechism
	7:30 p.m.	Catechism bells
	7:30 p.m.	Living Spirit
	8:00 p.m.	8 th grade catechism
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion

Deployed military...

If someone in your family has been deployed and would appreciate receiving a Care Package, please give their name and address to Denise Etzler, the church office, or Pastor.

Serving Today

Pastor James L. Castello

Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes

Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning

Lay Assistant - 8:00 Carol Castello 10:30 Laura Ellis

Sound Board - 8:00 Jack Robbins 10:30

Acolytes - 8:00 Cale Perdew & Derek Miller

10:30 Alyssa Kruse & Emma Rowland

Ushers - 8:00

10:30 Alan Storch, Jeff Mires, Kurt Rohrs, Ken Lange

Altar Guild - Joyce Rohrs & Jennifer Jenny

Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Carol Castello (419-592-0847) or cjcast@yahoo.com

“Good works transpire without our willing them, like a good tree can’t help but produce good fruit. Faith is such a busy thing, Luther added, that it’s impossible for the faithful not to be doing good works.”



Did you know...

Luther was convinced he lived in the last days. In the foreword to his translation of Daniel, he identified the Antichrist of Daniel 11 as the papacy; the “small horn” of Daniel 7 was the invading Turks.

Reformation Recipe Booklet

A recipe booklet of favorite traditional dishes is being put together for Reformation Sunday. We would like to collect one or more recipes from each family of Emanuel, something traditional you bring to a church potluck or just something that is special in your family. Email your recipes to Judy Hoffman at 2judith@bright.net or turn in to the church office. Deadline is October 1. Booklets will be available on October 29 at the Reformation service at 9:00 a.m. Please consider making your favorite recipe for the potluck dinner that day!

S-M-I-L-E!

It’s time for another pictorial directory for our congregation, and it won’t be complete without YOU.

Sign-up sheets for scheduling your appointment to be photographed will be available every Sunday at the table in the overflow area. There are price brochures on the table in the overflow also.

Or throughout the week, you can schedule it yourself by going on-line to www.emmanuelnapoleon.org (the church webpage). On the left, click on the circle “What’s new”, and then scroll to the bottom of that “What’s new” page. There is a link to “schedule your photograph” and “Click here”. That will then step you through signing up to schedule your photographs.

Photos will be taken on Saturday, October 21; Sunday, October 22; and Tuesday, October 24.

Lutheran Disaster Response -Hurricanes Harvey & Irma

Now that the devastating impact of recent hurricanes is coming fully into focus, we see that the need will be great and recovery will take many years.

Thrivent is matching gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response. If you’re a member, visit Thrivent.com and follow the instructions for personal donations.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for “Hurricane Response – United States” will be used entirely (100 percent) for these disasters. Give through your congregation *or* make your check out to **“Lutheran Disaster Response”** and send it to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

ELCA Gift Processing Center

P.O. Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Write “*Hurricane Response, United States*” or “*Lutheran Disaster Response, U.S.*” on your check’s memo line.