

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Pastor Janine Shearer

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Eighth Sunday after Pentecost † August 3, 2025

P - Pastor ♦ C - Congregation ♦ A - Assisting Minister

ELW-Evangelical Lutheran Worship-Red ♦ **WOV**-With One Voice-Blue

PRELUDE *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* arr. Wilda J. Auld

WELCOME

SPECIAL MUSIC *The Gift of Love* arr. Hal Hopson -Choir

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.
Merciful God,

C you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW # 393 *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!*

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.

KYRIE

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

C This is the Feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory of our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his, This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, ¹⁹and who knows whether my successor will be wise or foolish? Yet my successor will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun.

This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 49:1-12

¹ Hear this, ¹ all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell ¹ in the world,

² **you of high degree and low,
rich and ¹ poor together.**

³ My mouth shall ¹ speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on ¹ understanding.

⁴ **I will incline my ear ¹ to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵ Why should I be afraid in ¹ evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my ¹ heels surrounds me,

⁶ **the wickedness of those who put their trust in ¹ their own prowess,
and boast of ¹ their great riches?**

⁷ One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

⁸ **for the ransom of a life ¹ is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

⁹ in order to live forever and ever
and never ¹ see the grave.

¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come ¹ after them.**

¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from
generation to ¹ generation, though they had named lands after themselves.

¹² **Even though honored, they cannot ¹ live forever;
they are like the ¹ beasts that perish.**

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11

¹If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. ⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get

rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please rise in body or spirit)*

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.
Alleluia.**

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But Jesus replied, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And Jesus said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then Jesus told them a parable: "The

land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being

demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

P The Gospel of our Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Build a Longer Table*

- 1 Build a longer table, not a higher wall,
feeding those who hunger, making room for all.
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,
Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.
- 2 Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;
where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.
For any place where justice is denied,
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.
- 3 Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.
When we embrace compassion more than fear,
Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.
- 4 When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.
So must our tables welcome those who roam.
None can be excluded; all must find a home.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

NICENE CREED *(please rise in body or spirit)*

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

PRAYERS *(you may be seated)*

A In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

A Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear especially those on our hearts and minds. Give strength to those who give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love known. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Give Thanks* arr. Anthony Burger

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING *(please rise in body or spirit)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you. **C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts. **C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary...

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER *(please rise in body or spirit)*

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

This is God's table. All are welcome here!

COMMUNION HYMN ELW # 515 *Break Now the Bread of Life*

SPECIAL MUSIC *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)* arr. James Koerts -Choir

BLESSING *(please rise in body or spirit)*

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

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN ELW # 650 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

POSTLUDE *Toccata on "Amazing Grace" arr. J. Christopher Pardini*

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Altar Flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Maggi Mohler in loving memory of John.

Altar Flowers Needed – Open dates: October 5, 12, 26 - November 9, 16 - December 14. If you would like to furnish flowers for any of these days, please sign up on the chart in the narthex.

This week please hold in prayer: Mary Lou Zwiebel, Paul & Connie Long, Ed Panning, Lee Weirauch, Bob Lulfs, Nancy & Ken Lange, Oneta Wiechers, Matt Von Seggern, Phil Bowen, Jude Gerken, Linda Hill, Scott Vasher, Terry Roehl, Leo Clausen, Jamie Bostelman, Joanne Neu, Natalie Long, Nancy Bressler, for all those on our hearts and minds, and for peace in our nation and the whole world.

Summer Coffee Hour

Thank you to our coffee hour hosts this morning, the Adult Choir - Sopranos & Tennors. Please plan to stay after worship as we gather for some refreshments and fellowship in the overflow area. Next week's hosts: Altar Guild - April, May, June.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE – Out of stewardship both for creation and for finances, Council has decided to shift to a primarily email newsletter. We will still mail newsletters to folks who are unable to attend worship. For those who do attend worship and don't have email, a printed newsletter will be available near the bulletins for you to pick up. If you have questions or need to update your email address, please contact the office.

Caring Corner for August

Please pick up instruction sheet(s) for any of the 3 Mission Kits for Lutheran World Relief. LWR collects these kits and sends them to communities/countries that need them. **Fabric Kits** supply fabric and supplies needed for individuals to sew clothing for themselves or others.

Personal Care Kits provide items needed for personal hygiene. **School Kits** provide needed school supplies. There are Mission Kit lists placed at the 3 entrances of the church for each of the kits. Items can be placed in the Caring Corner & we will put the kits together. We will also gladly take monetary donations for this cause; simply make your check out to Emanuel Lutheran Church and write LWR KITS in the Memo line. This is our project for the month of August. As always, thank you for your generous support of the projects!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES are OUT @ Walmart! We will be collecting school supplies for our September Caring Corner project as well as we are collecting them now for LWR kits! If you would like to pick some extras up now while the prices are better & the supplies are plentiful, we will divide them up between our Caring Corner projects for July, August and September. We appreciate all you do to help the causes in the Caring Corner!

This Week

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|---------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Wednesday, August 6 | 1-2:30pm | Open Office Hours |
| | 5pm | Soul Food Café |
| Thursday, August 7 | 9:30am | Bible Study |
| | 4pm | Staff Meeting |
| | 5:15pm | Zoom Bible Study |
| | 7pm | Worship |
| Sunday, August 10 | 9am | Worship |
| | 10am | Coffee Hour |

Offering

We have another option for giving now through Emanuel's Paypal and Venmo account. You are welcome to give that way if you would like. If you don't typically use Paypal or Venmo, the way you're giving now is perfectly fine! Donations through Paypal or Venmo will go to where it is most needed now-- the general fund (unless otherwise specified).



venmo

