# **Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio**

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# Pastor Janine Shearer

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# Ninth Sunday after Pentecost † August 10, 2025

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

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

PRELUDE Andante Religioso by Francis Thome

WELCOME

SPECIAL MUSIC Abba, I Belong To You -Marv & Julie MtCastle

by Peder Eide & Bob Stromberg

# **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 # 641** All Are Welcome

# **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**

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

#### FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no

one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>The Lord brought Abram outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then the Lord said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

# **PSALM 33:12-22**

- <sup>12</sup> Happy is the nation whose God <sup>1</sup> is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to <sup>1</sup> be God's heritage!
- <sup>13</sup> The LORD looks | down from heaven, and sees all | humankind.
- God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell <sup>I</sup> on the earth.
- <sup>15</sup> God fashions <sup>|</sup> all their hearts and observes <sup>|</sup> all their deeds.
- A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
- <sup>17</sup> The horse gives vain | hope for victory; despite its great strength it | cannot save.
- <sup>18</sup> Truly, your eye is upon those who fear <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your <sup>1</sup> steadfast love,
- 19 to deliver their | lives from death,
  - and to keep them alive in I time of famine.
- <sup>20</sup> Our innermost being waits for <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD, our helper <sup>1</sup> and our shield.

Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.

<sup>22</sup> Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, <sup>1</sup> be upon us, even as we place our <sup>1</sup> hope in you.

# SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For Abraham looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered faithful the one who had

promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." <sup>13</sup>All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth. 14 for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, God has prepared a city for them.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION A (please rise in body or spirit) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

# GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40 C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, <sup>32</sup>"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give the dominion to you. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. <sup>35</sup>"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom

the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If the master comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. <sup>39</sup>"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, the owner would not have let the house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son-of-Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

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

#### SERMON

# HYMN OF THE DAY ELW # 818 O Master. Let Me Walk With You

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

# **APOSTLES' CREED** (please rise in body or spirit)

C 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.

# **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 Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace,

# C hear our prayer.

A Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace,

#### C hear our prayer.

A You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace,

# C hear our prayer.

A Let your lovingkindness be on those in need especially those on our hearts and minds. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace.

# C hear our prayer.

A Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace,

# C hear our prayer.

A We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. 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 When Peace Like a River -Mary & Julie MtCastle

# 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.

# 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

#### BENEDICTION

#### **SENDING**

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

**SENDING HYMN ELW # 632** O God, Our Help in Ages Past

# **POSTLUDE** A Festal Fanfare by J.S. Bach

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# **Altar Flowers**

Flowers are given to the glory of God by the family of Karen Rohrs in honor of her birthday.

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

<u>This week please hold in prayer</u>: 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 Altar Guild - April, May, June. Please plan to stay after worship as we gather for some refreshments and fellowship in the overflow area. Next week's hosts: Soul Food.

**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 months of July and 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**

IIII2 AAGGK		
Wednesday, August 13	11am	Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group  @ Senior Center
	1-2:30pm	Open Office Hours
Thursday, August 14	9:30am	Bible Study
	4pm	Staff Meeting
	7pm	Worship
Sunday, August 17	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