

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Pastor Janine Shearer

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Tenth Sunday after Pentecost † August 17, 2025

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

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME

SPECIAL MUSIC Playing a duet -Jenna Mikuls and Peggy Snyder

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 # 796 *How Firm a Foundation*

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 O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29

²³Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? ²⁴Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" ²⁶How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back— those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they

tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 82

¹ God stands to charge the divine council assembled,
giving judgment in the midst ¹ of the gods:

² **"How long will you ¹ judge unjustly,
and show favor ¹ to the wicked?**

³ Save the weak ¹ and the orphan;
defend the humble and needy;

⁴ **rescue the weak ¹ and the poor;
deliver them from the power ¹ of the wicked.**

⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about
in darkness; all the foundations of the ¹ earth are shaken.

⁶ **Now I say to you, ¹ 'You are gods,
and all of you children of ¹ the Most High;**

⁷ nevertheless, you shall ¹ die like mortals,
and fall like ¹ any prince.' "

⁸ **Arise, O God, and ¹ rule the earth,
for you shall take all nations ¹ for your own.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29—12:2

²⁹By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. ³²And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³who through faith conquered realms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned to death; they were sawn in

two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—³⁸of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. ^{12:1}Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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 12:49-56

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, ⁴⁹“I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, and in-laws

against one another.” ⁵⁴Jesus also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW # 779 *Amazing Grace*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

BACKPACK BLESSING

P Dear God, as we have started another year in school, we ask your blessing on these backpacks, and especially on these children who will wear them. As they do the very important work of being students, bless them with: eagerness to learn, that their world may grow large; respect for teachers and students, that they may form healthy relationships; love for nature, that they may become caretakers of your creation; happiness when learning is easy and stick-to-it-iveness when it is hard; faith in Jesus as their best teacher and closest friend. We ask that you would protect these, your own children. Watch over them and keep them safe as they travel to and from school. As they learn, help them also to discover the different gifts that you have given each one of them to be used in your work in the world. As they hear the many voices that will fill their days, help them to listen most carefully for your voice, the one that tells them you will love them always, no matter what. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

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 Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence.

A Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to protect fresh water sources. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Bridge divisions across partisan lines. Strengthen cooperative efforts among lawmakers who enact policies that protect our neighbors who are most vulnerable. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, and those who are sick or homebound especially those on our hearts and minds. Reassure them of your care in all times and places. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

C Amen.

OFFERTORY MUSIC Playing a duet -Jenna Mikuls and Peggy Snyder

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 # 815 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

POSTLUDE

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Altar Flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Rupert Schweinhagen's birthday.

Altar Flowers Needed – Open dates: October 5 - November 16. 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 Soul Food Café. Please plan to stay after worship as we gather for some refreshments and fellowship in the overflow area. Next week's hosts: Adult Sunday School.

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!

Ordained into the Ministry

By the grace of God and the call of the Church **RACHEL SOSEBEE** will be ordained into the ministry of Word and Service on Saturday, August 30th, 2025 at 2pm at Zion Lutheran Church, 9535 Clarence Center Road, Clarence Center NY. Live stream available:

www.youtube.com/@zionclarencecenter Preservice music by local musicians will begin at 1:40pm.

This Week

Monday, August 18	12pm	Newsletter deadline
	6:30pm	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 20	11am	Alzheimer's Class - Responding to Dementia Behavior @ Senior Center
	1-2:30pm	Open Office Hours
	5pm	Soul Food Café
Thursday, August 21	9:30am	Bible Study
	4pm	Staff Meeting
	5:15pm	Zoom Bible Study
	7pm	Worship with Communion
Sunday, August 24	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

