

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost † September 7, 2025

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

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

PRELUDE *Bist Du Bei Mir (Be Thou With Me)* by J. S. Bach

WELCOME

SPECIAL MUSIC *Just a Closer Walk* by Don Besig and Nancy Price -Choir

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

GATHERING HYMN ELW # 335 *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

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 Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses said to the people: ¹⁵"See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in the Lord's ways, and observing God's commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other deities and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live

long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹"I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying the Lord, and holding fast to your God, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel ¹ of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats ¹ of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law ¹ of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching ¹ day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that ¹ do not wither; everything they ¹ do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so¹ with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind¹ blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when¹ judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council¹ of the righteous.

⁶ **For the LORD knows the way¹ of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall¹ be destroyed.**

SECOND READING: Philemon 1-25

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, ²to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. ⁸For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus.

¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do

nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask. ²²One thing more: prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you. ²³Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, ²⁴and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my coworkers. ²⁵The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

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 14:25-33

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and said to them,

²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate

father and mother, spouse and children, siblings, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether there is enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when a foundation has been laid and the builder is not able to finish the building, all who see it will begin to ridicule the builder, ³⁰saying, 'This person began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able

with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW # 798 *Will You Come and Follow Me*

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 Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely especially those on our hearts and minds. May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ, and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Sanctuary* -Choir
by John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, arr. Lloyd Larson

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 # 471 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

SPECIAL MUSIC *Welcomed Home Again* by Ruth Elaine Schram -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 O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN ELW # 660 *Lift High the Cross*

POSTLUDE *Processional* by Chester Nordman

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Altar Flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Brian & Dea Plummer in honor of their 18th wedding anniversary.

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.

The September Caring Corner collection continues to be school supplies. Many times, students show up for school with little to no supplies. We'd like to assist the teachers in helping supply items to those students. Just buy what you think makes sense for any student in mind, elementary or older. We appreciate your kindness in donating to the Caring Corner. TWCMADI has asked us to continue to collect food pantry items. You can leave your shelf stable food items on the Caring Corner table anytime.

Piano Concert

"Looking for a fun way to wrap up Rally Day?? **Please join us on Sunday, September 14 at noon for an exciting concert with pianist Cole Burger!** Cole will be featuring classical favorites with tunes you already know and love such as Pirates of the Caribbean, Over the Rainbow, Maple Leaf Rag, and more. This program is designed to be entertaining,

approachable, and inspiring for ALL ages. Bring the kids, bring a friend, and come enjoy an afternoon of music that will make you smile!"

This Week

Tuesday, September 9	10am	A Space to Grieve
	7pm	A Space to Grieve
Wednesday, September 10	11am	Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group @ Senior Center
	1-2:30pm	Open Office Hours
	6pm	Brass Ensemble
	7pm	Choir
Thursday, September 11	9:30am	Bible Study
	4pm	Staff Meeting
	5:15pm	Zoom Bible Study
	7pm	Worship with Communion
Sunday, September 14	9am	RALLY DAY - Worship
	10am	Bounce Houses and fun for kids of all ages!
	12pm	Piano Concert featuring Cole Burger

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

