Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS ~ page 201-202

Pastor: The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22)

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Bless we the Lord. (Psalm 103:1)

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION ~ page 202 (Numbers 6:24-26)

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING SONG ~ *Even So Come*

All of creation, all of the Earth,
Make straight a highway, a path for the Lord. Jesus is coming soon.
Call back the sinner, wake up the saint,
Let every nation shout of Your fame. Jesus is coming soon.

Chorus: **Like a bride waiting for her groom we'll be a church ready for You.**
Every heart longing for our King. We sing:
Even so come, Lord Jesus, come. Even so come, Lord Jesus, come.

There will be justice, all will be new.
Your name forever faithful and true. Jesus is coming soon. *Chorus*

So we wait, we wait for You. God we wait, You're coming soon. *Repeat, then Chorus twice*

Please remember to place your offering for the work of the Lord at Emanuel in the offering plate as you leave.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rev. David O. Stecker
Guitar, Vocals: Trevor Hunt Drum: Jason Miller
Acolyte: Braxton Dager Elder: Jerry Schlund

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026 ~ 10:30 a.m.



Emanuel Lutheran Church
www.emanuelnh.org
749-2163

Central Lutheran School
www.cluth.org
493-2502

Emanuel Lutheran Church is a united and growing family of Christians joyfully dedicated to furthering God's Kingdom.

† The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost †

Divine Service III ~ *Lutheran Service Book* page 184, adapted

WELCOME to those visiting us this Lord's Day. It is our joy to have you worshipping with us. We invite you to come again and worship the Lord.

FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORY ~ Everyone, please sign in!

AS WE GATHER ~ As we reach the end of the Church Year, there is a heightened sense of urgency in all the Readings, hymns, and other propers. These remind us that Christ will certainly come again, that this return draws closer with each passing day, and that we do not know when that day will be. Therefore, we are to be ready and prepared for Jesus to come again—and to meet Him at our own death. Paul, in writing to the Thessalonians in the Epistle, warns that "the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night" (1 Thessalonians 5:2). Paul warns against complacency, exhibited by those who say, "There is peace and security" (v. 3). In the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the talents, warning again that we do not know when He, the master, will return; the precious gift of faith must be invested in His means of grace now (Matthew 25:14–30). In the Old Testament Reading, the prophet Zephaniah warns about complacency and misjudging God's character, so that he can point us to God's true nature: "a mighty one who will save" (Zephaniah 3:17).

PRE-SERVICE ~ *Sunday is Coming*

A great light dawns in Galilee. Some say mad man, some say King.
Wonder working rebel priest, Jesus Christ, the Nazarene.
He knew well what it would take to free us all from sin and grave.
A perfect man would have to die, and only He could pay that price.

Chorus: **Friday's good 'cause Sunday is coming.**
Don't lose hope 'cause Sunday is coming.
Devil, you're done, you better start running.
Friday's good 'cause Sunday is coming.

So He let those soldiers take Him in as His friend betrayed Him with a kiss.
There before the mocking crowd like a lamb to the slaughter didn't make a sound.
Then He carried that cross to Calvary, and He shed His blood to set us free.
As the nails went in and the sky went dark
The redemption of the world was on His heart. *Chorus*

Then He breathed His last, and bowed His head.
The Son of God and man was dead.
With bloody hands, tears on their face, they laid Him down inside that grave.
But that wasn't the end, that wasn't the end, that wasn't the end.
Let me tell you what happened next:

The women came before the dawn to find that stone already gone.
When they looked inside, the angel said
"Why you looking for the living among the dead?"

He's alive, He's alive, hallelujah, He's alive.
Give Him praise, lift Him high, hallelujah, He's alive. *Repeat*

Hallelujah, hallelujah! Don't lose hope 'cause Sunday's coming.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Now Jesus reigns upon the throne. All Heaven sings to Him alone.
We watch and wait like a bride for a groom.
Oh, church arise, He's coming soon.

WELCOME/SHARING OF THE PEACE

OPENING SONG ~ *I Will Rise*

There's a peace I've come to know though my heart and flesh may fail.
There's an anchor for my soul, I can say "It is well".

Bridge: **Jesus has overcome, and the grave is overwhelmed.**
The victory is won, He is risen from the dead!

Chorus: **And I will rise when He calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain.**
I will rise on eagles' wings, before my God fall on my knees,
And rise, I will rise.

There's a day that's drawing near when this darkness breaks to light,
And the shadows disappear, and my faith shall be my eyes. *Bridge and Chorus*

And I hear the voice of many angels sing, "Worthy is the Lamb".
And I hear the cry of every longing heart, "Worthy is the Lamb" *x2 then Chorus*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

INVOCATION ~ page 184

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen. (Matthew 28:19b; 18:20)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ~ page 184

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. (Hebrews 10:22)

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
People: who made heaven and earth. (Psalm 124:8)

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,
People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen. (John 20:19-23)

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PSALM 90:1-12

Pastor: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
People: Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Pastor: You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"
People: For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

Pastor: You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:
People: in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

Pastor: For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.
People: You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

Pastor: For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
People: The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

Pastor: Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?
People: So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

KYRIE ~ page 186 (Mark 10:47)

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.
People: Christ, have mercy upon us.
Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.
All: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE ~ *Only a Holy God*

**Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?
Who else could make every king bow down?
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles? Only a Holy God.**

**What other beauty demands such praises? What other splendor outshines the sun?
What other majesty rules with justice? Only a Holy God.**

Chorus: **Come and behold Him, the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God. Come and worship the Holy God.**

**What other glory consumes like fire? What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated? Only a Holy God.** *Chorus twice*

**Who else could rescue me from my failing? Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father? Only a Holy God.** *Chorus 3x*

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY~ page 189

Pastor: The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22)
People: And with Thy spirit.
Pastor: Let us pray.
Almighty and ever-living God,
You have given exceedingly great and precious promises
to those who trust in You.
Dispel from us the works of darkness
and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ,
that our faith may never be found wanting;
through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING **Zephaniah 1:7-16 *(ESV)***

7 Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is near;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
8 And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.
9 On that day I will punish
everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.
10 "On that day," declares the Lord,
"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.
11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the men
who are complacent,

those who say in their hearts,
'The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do ill.'
13 Their goods shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them."
14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud there.
15 A day of wrath is that day,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

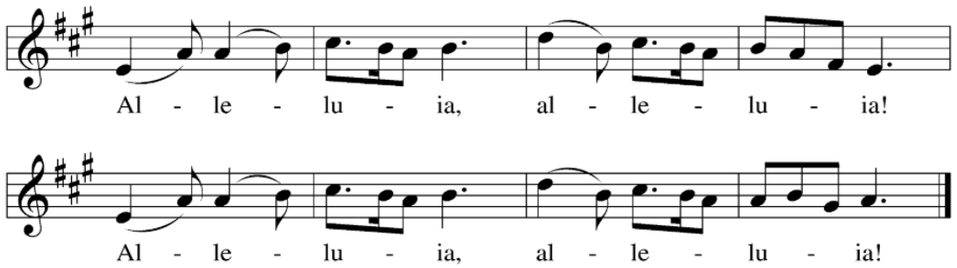
EPISTLE READING **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 *(ESV)***

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

[10]who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.
[11]Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA



GOSPEL READING **Matthew 25:14-30 *(ESV)***

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
People: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

[14][Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. [15]To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. [16]He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. [17]So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. [18]But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. [19]Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. [20]And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' [21]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' [22]And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' [23]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' [24]He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, [25]so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent

in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26]But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? [27]Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. [28]So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. [29]For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. [30]And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

SONG OF THE DAY ~ *Christ is Mine Forevermore*

Mine are days that God has numbered, I was made to walk with Him
Yet I look for worldly treasure and forsake the King of kings.
But mine is hope in my Redeemer. Though I fall, His love is sure.
For Christ has paid for every failing, I am His forevermore.

Mine are tears in times of sorrow, darkness not yet understood.
Through the valley I must travel where I see no earthly good.
But mine is peace that flows from heaven, and the strength in times of need.
I know my pain will not be wasted, Christ completes His work in me.

Mine are days here as a stranger, pilgrim on a narrow way.
One with Christ I will encounter harm and hatred for His name.
But mine is armour for this battle, strong enough to last the war.
And He has said He will deliver, safely to the golden shore.

And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk.
For there my heart has found its treasure - Christ is mine forevermore.
Come rejoice now, O my soul, for His love is my reward.
Fear is gone and hope is sure - Christ is mine forevermore!

NICENE CREED ~ page 191

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified,
who spoke by the Prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Us men means all people.
Christian: the ancient text reads "catholic," meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine.

SERMON ***It's Getting Dark*** **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

OFFERTORY (Psalm 51:10-12)
Create in me a clean heart, oh God, and renew a right spirit within me. *Repeat*
Cast me not away from Thy presence, oh Lord, and take not Thy holy spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and renew a right spirit within me.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm, and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

As we prepare for the presence of Christ in this sacrament, we rise.

PREFACE ~ page 194
Pastor: The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22)
People: And with thy spirit.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts. (Colossians 3:1)
People: We lift them up unto the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. (Psalm 136)
People: It is meet and right so to do.
Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

***SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy* ~ page 208** (Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)
Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

LORD'S PRAYER ~ page 196
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. (Matthew 6:9-13)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION ~ page 197
(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread; and, when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying, "Take, eat; this is my † body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.

In the same way He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new Testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

***PAX DOMINI ~ The Peace of the Lord* ~ page 197** (John 20:19)
Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: Amen.

***AGNUS DEI ~ Lamb of God* ~ page 210** (John 1:29)
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, and grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

COMMUNION SONGS ~ *Jesus Messiah*
He became sin, who knew no sin, that we might become His righteousness.
He humbled Himself and carried the cross. Love so amazing, love so amazing.

Chorus: **Jesus Messiah, name above all names, blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel.**
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from Heaven,
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all.

His body, the bread; His blood, the wine, broken and poured out all for love.
The whole earth tremble and the veil was torn. Love so amazing. love so amazing. *Chorus*

All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You,
All the glory to You, God, the Light of the world. *Chorus*

O Come to the Altar
Are you hurting and broken within? Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?
Jesus is calling…
Have you come to the end of yourself? Do you thirst for a drink from the well?
Jesus is calling…

Chorus: **O come to the altar, the Father's arms are open wide.**
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes, come today there's no reason to wait,
Jesus is calling…
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy. From the ashes a new life is born.
Jesus is calling… *Chorus twice*

Oh, what a Savior, isn't He wonderful? Sing hallelujah, Christ is risen.
Bow down before Him, for He is Lord of all. Sing Hallelujah, Christ is risen.
Repeat, then chorus twice

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown, tell the world of the treasure you found.

DISMISSAL ~ page 199
Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.
People: Amen.

THANKSGIVING ~ page 200 (Psalm 107:1)
Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
People: and His mercy endureth forever.