



Emmanuel
LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

**10 AM Worship, September 13, 2026
God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Year of Matthew**

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Vienna, VA

Worship Livestream at
facebook.com/elcvienna
youtube.com/user/ELCVienna
elcvienna.org





Gathering: The Holy Spirit Gathers Us in Worship

Prelude

"On Eagle's Wings" by Charles Callahan. One License 109446.

Welcome

Good morning and welcome to worship at Emmanuel Lutheran Church! You can find bulletins and ways to give online at elcvienna.org. Here in person, you will find hymnals, Bibles, prayer cards, offering envelopes, and a QR code for offerings in the pew holders. Our liturgy is projected on the walls. We do have large-print bulletins and hearing assistance devices available. Ask our ushers in the back of the sanctuary about those. We invite newcomers to stop by our welcome table just outside the sanctuary after worship.

Prayer Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of 9/11

Pastor: O God of healing, our hope and refuge, we come on this tragic anniversary remembering those who lost their lives in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania on September 11th, 2001. We are mindful of the sacrifice of public servants, who demonstrated the greatest love of all by laying down their lives for friends. As we remember this tragedy, we give you thanks for your presence in our time of need, and we seek to worship you in Spirit and in truth, our guide and our guardian.

All: Amen.

Invocation

Pastor: In this holy season after Pentecost, we are gathered in the name of the Father, ☩ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

All Are Welcome

ELW 641

1

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;



here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

2

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: Refrain

3

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: Refrain

4

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: Refrain

5

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: Refrain

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. One License 00004.



Word: God Speaks to Us in Scripture and Prayer

Genesis 50:15-21

Reader: A reading from the Book of Genesis, chapter fifty.

Reader:

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

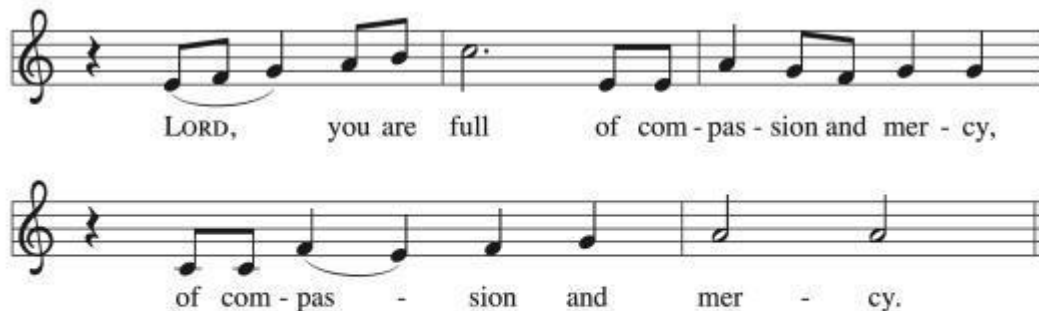
Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 103:1-13

We will be singing the Psalm. The cantor sings the refrain, and the congregation repeats the refrain. The verses are sung responsively. The refrain is repeated as indicated by "R".

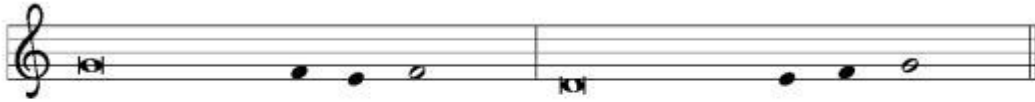
[R] Refrain:



Psalm 103:8

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Tone:



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹ Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.
- ² **Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and forget not | all God's benefits—**
- ³ who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
- ⁴ **who redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy; R**
- ⁵ who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.
- ⁶ **O LORD, you provide | vindication
and justice for all who | are oppressed.**
- ⁷ You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
- ⁸ **LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love; R**
- ⁹ you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
- ¹⁰ **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.**
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
- ¹² **As far as the east is | from the west,
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.**
- ¹³ As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O LORD. **R**

Romans 14:1-12

Reader: A reading from Saint Paul's letter to the Romans, chapter fourteen.

Reader:

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the



Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Men's Chorus Special Music

"To God Be the Glory". Text: Fanny J. Crosby. Music: William H. Doane.
Arranged: Joe Johnson. One License 298243.

Children's Message

Children are invited forward for a message just for them! After the children's message, children are invited to Children's Chapel and will return to the sanctuary afterward.

Gospel Acclamation

Christ, Be Our Light
ELW 715, refrain

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957. One License 80229.



Matthew 18:21-35

Pastor: The good news of Jesus Christ according to the gospel of Saint Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord!

Pastor:

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord!

All: Praise to you, O Christ!

Message

“Forgiveness” based upon Matthew 18 by Pastor Lydia Posselt

Song of the Day*

It Really Is Amazing Grace

Verse 1

Amazing grace

How sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost

But now I’m found



Was blind but now I see

Chorus 1

Singing Hallelujah
There's no chains on me
Thank You Jesus
You have set me free
You welcomed me in
Called me by name
Was dead in my sin
Now I'm dancing on that grave
Hallelujah it really is amazing grace

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught
My heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did
That grace appear
The hour I first believed

Bridge

I'll testify
Of what He did
He gave me life
I'm born again
My heart is free
My soul is saved
It really is amazing grace

Tag

It really is it really is
It really is amazing grace
It really is it really is
Sing Hallelujah

Chorus 2

Hallelujah
There's no chains on me
Thank You Jesus
You have set me free
You welcomed me in
Called me by name



Was dead in my sin
Now I'm dancing on that grave
Hallelujah it really is amazing grace

Ending
It really is
It really is amazing grace
It really is it really is
It really is amazing grace

David Crowder, Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham
CCLI Song #7260988

Apostle's Creed

Leader: We confess our common faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 of Intercession

Leader: Let us pray.

Leader: God our faith, you call the church to make disciples of all nations.
Encourage your people in the proclamation of the gospel and into lives of
humble service. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.



Leader: God our life, you spoke creation into being and called it good. Protect lands and waters and sustain living creatures of every kind. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: God our peace, you have called us to love our neighbor. Heal divisions between nations, that all people might live in your peace. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: God our healer, you call us to do your work with our hands for your children in need. We pray for... Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: God our salvation, you give rest when our work is done. We give thanks for all the saints who now rest in you, confident in the promise of resurrection life in the age to come. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: Hear our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.

All: Amen.

Peace

Leader: May the peace of the Risen Lord be with you always!

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share signs of peace.

Offering

Offerings in support of our mission and ministry can be made at elcvienna.org/give or mailed to the church. Offering envelopes and QR codes are in the pew holders. Ushers will take the offering in person. Every gift matters—thank you!

Choral Offertory

"God's Work, Our Hands." The text and music by Wayne L. Wold. One License AF2019203.

Meal: Jesus Gives Us Forgiveness and Life

Holy Communion Words of Institution



Pastor: We remember that in the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Pastor: And again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me."

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**All: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Pastor: All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

All: Thanks be to God!

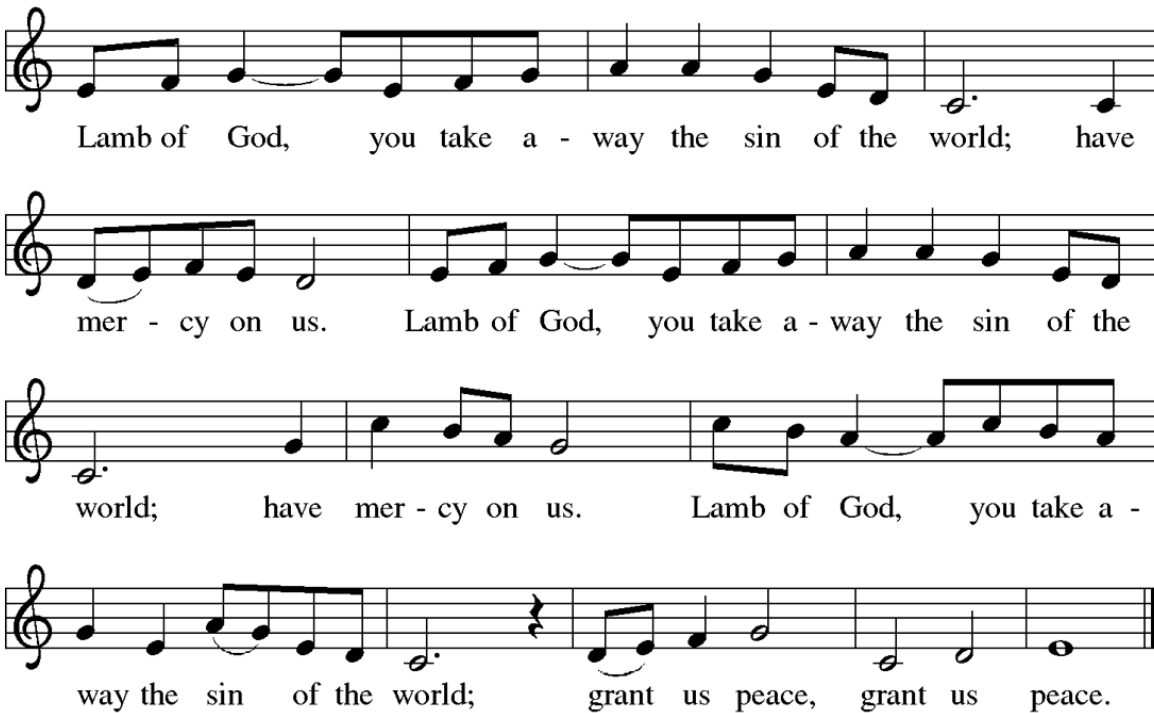
Communion Instructions

All are invited to come forward to receive communion or a blessing. Wafers will be dipped in wine and handed to you. If you prefer a wafer without wine, please let us know. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. We have goldfish and a blessing for our children who are not communing. You are also welcome to pray at the communion rail after you have been communed.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

ELW Setting One, p. 112



One License # AF2019242

Communion Hymn*

Here I Am, Lord
ELW 574

- 1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

- 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.



I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?" Refrain

- 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?" Refrain

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946. One License 250767.

Sending: The Holy Spirit Leads Us in Mission to the World

Invitation to Ministry

As the Spirit leads us out into mission in the world, we invite you to join us in our ministries. We invite our newcomers to stop by the welcome table just outside the sanctuary to connect and learn more about the work of our congregation.

Blessing

This Aaronic Blessing is based on Numbers 6:22-27.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

All: Amen.

Sending Song*

Build Your Kingdom Here

Verse 1

Come set Your rule and reign
In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray



Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are Your church
We need Your pow'r in us

Verse 2

We seek Your kingdom first
We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives
For You're our joy and prize
To see the captives' hearts released
The hurt the sick the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause
We are Your church
We pray revive this earth

Chorus

Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here we pray

Verse 3

Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r
Reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop
Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
We are Your church
We are the hope on earth

Chris Llewellyn, Gareth Gilkeson, William Herron
CCLI Song #6186078



Sending

Leader: Go in peace and share the good news!

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude*

Build Your Kingdom Here

Chris Llewellyn, Gareth Gilkeson, William Herron

CCLI Song #6186078

Thank you so much for worshipping with us!

Join Us in Making a Difference

Our mission is to nurture, grow, and share our Christian faith as Lutherans in a multicultural world. We envision Emmanuel Lutheran Church as a welcoming, vibrant, growing, and faith-filled Christian community whose participants generously share their time, talents, and resources in a changing world.

You Are Welcome Here

Emmanuel Lutheran Church welcomes all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome and affirm full participation by all because God welcomes all, regardless of race, culture, national origin, citizenship status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, relationship or socio-economic status, addictions, physical or mental health, disability, imprisonment, age, or other circumstances. Our unity is in Christ.

We Honor the First People

As the Holy Spirit gathers us in worship, we acknowledge that Lutherans in the Metropolitan Washington D.C. Synod, ELCA, worship, live, and work on the ancestral homelands of the Nacotchtank (also referred to as Anacostan), Piscataway peoples, Pamunkey, Putuxent, Susquehannock, and Yacocomico peoples; as well as the Doeg, and the Virginia tribes—including the Rappahannock, Pamunkey, Upper Mattaponi, Chickahominy, Eastern Chickahominy, Nansemond, Monacan, Manahoac, Mattaponi, Patawomeck, and Nottaway. Emmanuel Lutheran Church gathers upon the ancestral lands of the Piscataway and Manahoac peoples. Find out more about the Piscataway at en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piscataway_people and the Manahoac at



en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manahoac. Learn more about native ancestral lands at <https://native-land.ca/>.

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