



Emmanuel
LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

9 AM Contemporary Worship, September 27, 2026
The Eighteenth 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

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.

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 Song

It Is Well With My Soul

Verse 1

Our scars are a sign of grace in our lives
And Father how You brought us through
When deep were the wounds and dark was the night
The promise of Your love You proved
Now ev'ry battle still to come
Let this be our song

Chorus 1

It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well it is well with my soul

Verse 2

Weeping may come remain for a night
But joy will paint the morning sky
You're there in the fast You're there in the feast
Your faithfulness will always shine
Now ev'ry battle still to come
Let this be our song

Chorus 2



It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well it is well with my soul
Trust Your ways (trust Your ways)
Trust Your name (trust Your name)
It is well it is well with my soul
(It is well it is well with my soul my soul)

Bridge
You lead us through battles
(You lead us through battles)
You lead us to blessing
(You lead us to blessing)
And You make us fruitful
(And You make us fruitful)
In the land of our suffering God
It is well it is well with my soul

Beth Redman, Matt Redman
CCLI Song #7043170

Word: God Speaks to Us in Scripture and Prayer

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Reader: A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel, chapter eighteen.

Reader:

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the



Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Philippians 2:1-13

Reader: A reading from Saint Paul’s letter to the Philippians, chapter two.

Reader:

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,

¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my



presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Special Music

King Of Kings

Verse 1

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Chorus

Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory
Majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings

Verse 2

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross

For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died

Verse 3

And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath



Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death

And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

Verse 4

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint

By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

Brooke Ligertwood, Jason Ingram, Scott Ligertwood
CCLI Song #7127647

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

Come, All You People
ELW 819 v.1

- 1 Come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;
come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;
come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;
come now and worship the Lord.

Text: Alexander Gondo; tr. I-to Loh, b. 1936, alt. Copyright AF20220648.

Matthew 21:23-32

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord!



Pastor:

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord!

All: Praise to you, O Christ!

Message

"The Best Son" based upon Matthew 21 by Pastor Lydia Posselt

Song of the Day

Holy Unafraid

Verse 1

Greater are You

God Who was and is and is to come

Greater than the darkness

In this world You overcome

Pre-Chorus

We believe

We are more than conquerors

Jesus victory is Yours

We receive the gift You left for us



Chorus

So we pray pray pray
Would You shake our souls awake
Holy Spirit open the gates
You lead the way with pow'r and strength
You send us in Your name
You're with us
Now we are made holy unafraid
Holy unafraid

Verse 2

There's no one nor thing
Nor weapon formed that will prevail
With man it is impossible
But You are stronger still

Bridge

In Your love that's wide enough
We are holy
By Your pow'r inside of us
We are unafraid
(REPEAT)

Jason Walker, Tim Timmons
CCLI Song #6318585

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: Led by the Holy Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Leader: We pray for the church universal, for its ministries, and for the spread of the gospel through our hands. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the nations and those who govern. Give those in authority understanding hearts, that they work together to bring justice and peace on earth. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: For those in need, we pray for... God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: We remember the faithful departed. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us in faith. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

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!

Offertory

Chain Breaker



Verse 1

If you've been walking the same old road
For miles and miles
If you've been hearing the same old voice
Tell the same old lies
If you're trying to fill the same old holes inside
There's a better life
There's a better life

Chorus

If you've got pain He's a pain taker
If you feel lost He's a way maker
If you need freedom or saving
He's a prison shaking Savior
If you got chains He's a chain breaker

Verse 2

We've all searched for the light of day
In the dead of night
We've all found ourselves worn out
From the same old fight
We've all run to things we know just ain't right
When there's a better life
There's a better life

Bridge

If you believe it
If you receive it
If you can feel it
Somebody testify

Ending

Oh if you need freedom or saving
He's a prison shaking Savior
If you got chains well He's a chain breaker

Jonathan Smith, Mia Fieldes, Zach Williams
CCLI Song #7060031

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: The gifts of God for the people of God. All are welcome here at the Lord's table.

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.

Communion Song

Come Jesus Come



Verse 1

Sometimes I fall to my knees and pray
Come Jesus come let today be the day
Sometimes I feel like I'm gonna break
But I'm holding on to a hope that won't fade

Chorus

Come Jesus come
We've been waiting so long
For the day You return to heal every hurt
And right every wrong
We need You right now
Come and turn this around
Deep down I know this world isn't home
Come Jesus come
Come Jesus come

Verse 2

There'll be no war and there'll be no chains
When Jesus comes let today be the day
He'll come for the weak
And the strong just the same
And all will believe in the power of His name

Verse 3

One day He'll come and we'll stand face to face
Come and lay it all down 'cause it might be today
The time is right now there's no need to wait
Your past will be washed by rivers of grace

Tag

Come Jesus come come
Come Jesus come

Bryan Fowler, Hank Bentley, Stephen McWhirter, Tara McWhirter
CCLI Song #7154136

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

Leader: May God the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you in faith, hope, and love.

All: Amen.

Sending Song

Your Grace Is Enough

Verse 1

Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

Pre-Chorus

(So) remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Chorus 1

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Verse 2

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Chorus 2

Yeah Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me for me



Matt Maher
CCLI Song #4477026

Sending

Leader: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Your Grace Is Enough
Matt Maher
CCLI Song #4477026

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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