

# *Emanuel Lutheran Church*

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

241 S. Prospect Street, Marion, OH 43302

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## *Contemporary Worship* *Third Sunday after Epiphany* *Sunday, January 21, 2024*



**Rev. Michael L. Poole Jr.**

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**Parish Deacon Ann Thomas**

**Mission Statement:**

Emanuel: God with Us ~ Loving Christ, Loving Others

## *Praise Band*

*Teri Turner..... Director & Keyboard*  
*Tom Schifer ..... Drums/Percussion*  
*Pat Thomas..... Bass/Guitar*  
*Rick Lyon..... Guitar*

## *Praise Chorus*

*Carolyn Bailey, Cindy & Steve deWeber, Nancy Dunnigan, Roger Kerr,  
William Obenour, Mackenzie Pryor, Cory Shay, Bethany Rice, Jean Yake*

## *Audio Visual Team*

*Carolyn Fox, Kelli Hundley, Betty Jo Lill, Christy Penrod,  
Matt Primmer & Ed Stofcheck, Dee Rinehart*

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## **2024 Congregational Watchword -**

**"Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you  
have because God has said never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."**

**Hebrew 13:5**

**2023 Theme - What is God Calling Us to Do?**

.....  
**Special Music                      "David's Giant Problem"                      Children's Choir**

**Welcome**

**Opening Reading**

## **2024 Watchword**

**L:     Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with  
         what you have;**

**C:     For God has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you."**

## Gathering

## *"Your Name is Holy"*

### **Introduction**

You are the sovereign I AM; Your Name is holy.

You are the pure, spotless Lamb; Your Name is holy!

You are the Almighty One; Your Name is holy.

You are the Christ, God's own Son; Your Name is holy!

In Your Name there is mercy for sin,

There is safety within; In Your holy Name.

In Your Name there is strength to remain,

To stand in spite of pain, In Your holy Name!

### **Musical Interlude**

You are the sovereign I AM; Your Name is holy.

You are the pure, spotless Lamb; Your Name is holy!

You are the Almighty One; Your Name is holy.

You are the Christ, God's own Son; Your Name is holy!

In Your Name there is mercy for sin,

There is safety within; In Your holy Name.

In Your Name there is strength to remain,

To stand in spite of pain, In Your holy Name!

Your Name is holy. Your Name is holy.

## Call to Worship

L: For God alone our souls wait in silence. Our hope is from God, our fortress.

C: **God is our rock and our salvation. God is our refuge and our deliverance.**

L: Trust in God at all times, in all places. Pour out our hearts to the One who hears.

C: **All people are valuable in God's sight. No one is more important than another.**

- L: Worship God, who is ready to speak to us. Open our lives to God's steadfast love.
- C: **All power in the universe belongs to God. Yet God depends on our faithful service.**

Song

*"Still"*

Hide me now under Your wings;  
Cover me within Your mighty hand.  
When the oceans rise and thunders roar,  
I will soar with You above the storm;  
Father, You are King over the flood,  
I will be still, And know You are God.  
When the oceans rise and thunders roar,  
I will soar with You above the storm;  
Father, You are King over the flood,  
I will be still, And know You are God.  
Find rest, my soul, In Christ alone;  
Know His power in quietness and trust.  
When the oceans rise and thunders roar,  
I will soar with You above the storm;  
Father, You are King over the flood,  
I will be still, And know You are God.  
When the oceans rise and thunders roar,  
I will soar with You above the storm;  
Father, You are King over the flood,  
I will be still, And know You are God.

Confession and Forgiveness

- L: We await your message, Lord of all places and times. Sometimes we do not like what we hear, but we know we need to listen. Your message is inclusive and fair, while we like to make distinctions

that favor us and our friends. You call us out of our comfort zones to do new things and try better ways. You direct us to reach out to people with whom we seem to have little in common. Speak your truth to us at this service so we can carry it to the places where you want us to go, to the people you are eager to reach.

**C: God's Word sometimes comes as a warning. How often we have pushed aside the Word we find unpleasant. Even if we grudgingly acknowledge its truth, we like to postpone any action to change. God comes to us today, saying that our days are fewer than we think. This time for us to repent is now.**

**L: Sovereign God, we reluctantly confess that we have installed our own gods in our lives.**

**C: They take our time. They use our resources. They exact from us care and devotion. We do not like to hear that our way of life is endangered. Yet we sometimes realize that innocent steps into self-indulgence are really deliberate strides away from you. We hear distant echoes of warning and judgment. We want to return to you, O Lord, before it is too late. We repent of everything in our lives that cuts us off from you. Hear our prayer.**

**L: The people of Nineveh proclaimed a fast and put on the garments of repentance. They begged God to turn around what seemed so inevitable - their own destruction. God listened, and they were saved. The present form our world is passing away. God has better things in store for us than we have yet known. Our lives, enlisted in God's realm, can count for something good. Forgiven and forgiving people make a difference.**

**C: God, whose reign is nearer that we have realized, and whose realm is available to us even here and now, speak your**

invitation to us today in ways we have never fully heard before. Confront us again with the good news you want us to share. Enlist us in reaching out to the world with love and joy, so all may be saved from calamity and know the fulfillment you intend for every person. Amen.

### Prayer of the Day

L: Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

### Song

#### *"Love Came Down"*

If my heart is overwhelmed and I cannot hear Your voice,  
I hold on to what is true though I cannot see.  
If the storms of life, they come, and the road ahead gets steep,  
I will lift these hands in faith; I will believe.  
I'll remind myself of all that You've done  
And the life I have because of Your Son.  
Love came down and rescued me. Love came down and set me free.  
I am Yours, I am forever Yours.  
Mountains high or valley low, I sing out and remind my soul  
I am Yours, I am forever Yours.  
When my heart is filled with hope, Every promise comes my way,  
When I feel Your hands of grace rest upon me,  
Staying desperate for You, God, Staying humble at Your feet,  
I will lift these hands in praise. I will believe.  
I'll remind myself of all that You've done  
And the life I have because of Your Son.  
Love came down and rescued me. Love came down and set me free.  
I am Yours, I am forever Yours.

Mountains high or valley low, I sing out and remind my soul  
I am Yours, I am forever Yours.  
I am Yours, I am Yours, All my days, Jesus, I am Yours.  
I am Yours, I am Yours, All my days, I am Yours.  
Love came down and rescued me. Love came down and set me free.  
I am Yours, I am forever Yours.  
Mountains high or valley low, I sing out and remind my soul.  
I am Yours, I am forever Yours.  
Love came down and rescued me. Love came down and set me free.  
I am Yours, I am forever Yours.  
Mountains high or valley low, I sing out and remind my soul  
I am Yours, I am forever Yours.

Passing of the Peace & Offering  
Offertory & Special Music

<u>Old Testament Reading</u>	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Pew Bible pg. 655
<u>New Testament Reading</u>	1 Corinthians 7:29-31	Pew Bible pg. 810

Song of the Day

*"I Will Follow"*

All Your ways are good, All Your ways are sure  
I will trust in You alone, Higher than my sight  
High above my life, I will trust in You alone  
Where You go, I'll go, Where You stay, I'll stay  
When You move, I'll move, I will follow You  
Who You love, I'll love, How You serve I'll serve  
If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah, I will follow You, yeah  
Light into the world, Light into my life  
I will live for You alone, You're the one I seek  
Knowing I will find, All I need in You alone.  
Where You go, I'll go, Where You stay, I'll stay

When You move, I'll move, I will follow You  
Who You love, I'll love, How You serve I'll serve  
If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah, I will follow You, yeah  
In You there's life everlasting, In You there's freedom for my soul  
In You there's joy, unending joy, And I will follow  
Where You go, I'll go, Where You stay, I'll stay  
When You move, I'll move, I will follow you  
Who You love, I'll love, How You serve, I'll serve  
If this life I lose, I will follow.  
Where You go, I'll go, Where You stay, I'll stay  
When You move, I'll move, I will follow you  
Who you love, I'll love, How You serve, I'll serve  
If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah  
I will follow You, yeah, I will follow You, yeah, I will follow You, yeah

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:14-20

Pew Bible pg. 707

Sermon

"Carrying Baggage"

Pastor Mike

Mark 1:14-20

Apostles' Creed

**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 the Church

### The Lord's Prayer

**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

- L: God sends us out into the world with good news. God directs us to warn and to give assurance.**
- C: We are disciples of Jesus Christ. We have been commissioned and blessed.**
- L: We go out as people who know our own weakness. We rise above our shortcoming in the strength Christ gives.**
- C: We will trust in God at all times. We will speak God's truth in love.**
- L: The reign of God is drawing near to us. It can be realized in our lives here and now.**
- C: We accept God's rule among us. We are citizens of God's realm. Amen.**

### Sending Song

#### *"I Will Rise"*

Sweetly, Lord, have we heard Thee calling, Come, follow Me!  
And we see where Thy footprints falling, Lead us to Thee.  
Though they lead o'er the cold, dark mountains, Seeking His sheep;  
Or along by Siloam's fountains, Helping the weak.  
Footprints of Jesus, That make the pathway glow;  
We will follow the steps of Jesus, Where'er they go

If they lead through the temple holy, Preaching the Word;  
Or in homes of the poor and lowly, Serving the Lord.  
Footprints of Jesus, That make the pathway glow;  
We will follow the steps of Jesus, Where'er they go  
Then, at last, when on high He sees us, Our journey done,  
We will rest where the steps of Jesus, End at His throne.  
Footprints of Jesus, That make the pathway glow;  
We will follow the steps of Jesus, Where'er they go  
We will follow the steps of Jesus, Where'er they go

### Dismissal

L: God in peace. Turn to God.

C: **Thanks be to God.**