

# *Emanuel Lutheran Church*

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

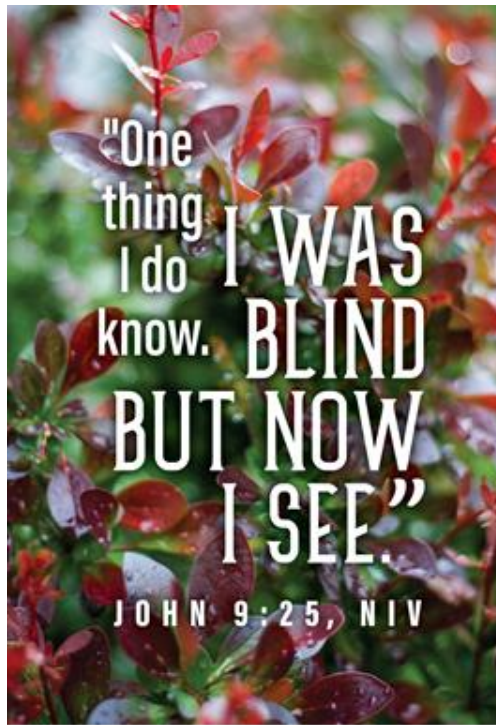
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## *Contemporary Worship*

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

*Sunday, March 19, 2023*



**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, Nancy Dunnigan, Roger Kerr, 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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**2023 Congregational Watchword -**

**"It is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these  
little ones should be lost." - Matthew 18:14**

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

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Welcome

Opening Reading

Special Music

*"The Lord's Prayer"*

Children's Choir

Gathering

**"Facing a Task Unfinished"**

Facing a task unfinished

That drives us to our knees.

A need that, undiminished,

Rebukes our slothful ease.

We, who rejoice to know Thee

Renew before Thy throne

The solemn pledge we owe Thee,  
To go and make Thee known.  
Where other lords beside Thee  
Hold their unhindered sway,  
Where forces that defied Thee  
Defy Thee still today,  
With none to heed their crying  
For life, and love, and light,  
Unnumbered souls are dying,  
And pass into the night.  
We go to all the world,  
With kingdom hope unfurled.  
No other name has power to save  
But Jesus Christ, the Lord.  
We bear the torch that, flaming,  
Fell from the hands of those  
Who gave their lives proclaiming  
That Jesus died and rose.  
Ours is the same commission,  
The same glad message ours,  
Fired by the same ambition,  
To Thee we yield our powers.  
We go to all the world,  
With kingdom hope unfurled.  
No other name has power to save  
But Jesus Christ, the Lord.

### **Musical Interlude**

O Father who sustained them,  
O Spirit who inspired;  
Savior, whose love constrained them  
To toil with zeal untired,

From cowardice defend us,  
From lethargy awake!  
Forth on Thine errands send us  
To labor for Thy sake.  
We go to all the world,  
With kingdom hope unfurled.  
No other name has power to save  
But Jesus Christ, the Lord.  
We go to all the world,  
With kingdom hope unfurled.  
No other name has power to save  
But Jesus Christ, the Lord

### Call to Worship

### Psalm 23

- L: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
- C: **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**
- L: You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- C: **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
- L: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- C: **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

### Song

### *"Arms of Love"*

I sing a simple song of love, To my Savior, To my Jesus.  
I'm grateful for the things You've done,  
My loving Savior, Oh precious Jesus.

My Heart is glad that You've called me Your own.

There's no place I'd rather be than in Your arms of love,  
In Your arms of love.

Holding me still, holding me near, In your arms of love.

I sing a simple song of love, To my Savior, To my Jesus.

I'm grateful for the things You've done,

My loving Savior, Oh precious Jesus.

My Heart is glad that You've called me Your own.

There's no place I'd rather be than in Your arms of love,

In Your arms of love, Holding me still, holding me near

In your arms, In your arms of love. In your arms of love.

Holding me still, holding me near, Holding me still, holding me near

Holding me still, holding me near, In Your arms of love.

### Confession and Absolution

L: Light in darkness, sound in silence, you break through our fences  
of pride.

C: **And our walls of despair.**

L: We act in deadly ways that hurt others.

C: **We act in deadly ways that hurt ourselves.**

L: We run from you, but again and again you find us.

C: **Expose now what is in our hearts.**

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination)*

L: God does not judge us on our outward appearances or our  
outward actions alone, for God sees far more than humans see.  
God sees the heart.

C: **May God's word of truth cleanse you from all sin that your  
hearts might radiate God's light and your actions flow boldly  
from God's love.**

L: In the name of the Triune God (+), all our sins are forgiven. God  
calls us into light. May our eyes be opened to see God.

C: Like parents who seek the best for their children, your love, O God, is always with us. We pray that we would be given eyes to see you at work in the world: healing, reconciling, and making all things new, by the power of the Holy Spirit, and through the One who heals our blindness and allows us to see, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### Prayer of the Day

L: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

### Watchword                      Matthew 18:14

L: It is not the will of your Father in heaven

C: **That one of these little ones should be lost.**

### Song                                      *"At the Cross"*

There's a place where mercy reigns

And never dies

There's a place where streams of grace

Flow deep and wide

Where all the love I've ever found

Comes like a flood

Comes flowing down

At the cross, at the cross

I surrender my life

I'm in awe of You

I'm in awe of You

Where Your love ran red  
And my sin washed white  
I owe all to You  
I owe all to You, Jesus  
There's a place where sin and shame  
Are powerless  
Where my heart has peace with God  
And forgiveness  
Where all the love I've ever found  
Comes like a flood  
Comes flowing down  
At the cross, at the cross  
I surrender my life  
I'm in awe of You  
I'm in awe of You  
Where Your love ran red  
And my sin washed white  
I owe all to You  
I owe all to You  
Here my hope is found  
Here on holy ground  
Here I bow down  
Here I bow down  
Here arms open wide  
Here You save my life  
Here I bow down  
Here I bow  
At the cross, at the cross  
I surrender my life  
I'm in awe of You  
I'm in awe of You

Where Your love ran red  
And my sin washed white  
I owe all to You, I owe all to You  
I owe all to You, I owe all to You  
Jesus, Jesus

### Passing of the Peace & Offering

\*Please place yellow slips in the offering plate

### Offertory & Special Music

### Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray. O God, we discover what we truly need. Placing what you have entrusted to us back into your hands, we see your goodness sustaining us in every dimension of our lives.

C: **Give us hearts to love and hands to embrace, that every thought, word, and act that comes forth from us might be filled with your holy love. Amen.**

### Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Pew Bible pg. 202

### New Testament Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

Pew Bible pg. 829

### Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

Pew Bible pg. 759

### Sermon

*"An Amazing House"*

Pastor Mike

John 9:1-41

### Song of the Day "Amazing Grace" (*Sung to the tune of House of the Rising Sun*)

- 1 Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.
- 2 T'was grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed



- 3 Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead  
me home.
- 4 The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;  
He will my Shield and Portion be, As long as life endures.
- 5 Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, And mortal life shall  
cease, I shall possess, within the veil, A life of joy and peace.
- 6 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, The sun forbear to  
shine; But God, who called me here below, Will be forever mine.
- 7 When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as  
the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd  
first begun.
- 8 Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like  
me! I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.

### Nicene Creed

**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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who**

with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 of the Church

The Lord's Prayer *(Sung to the tune of the house of the rising sun)*

Our Fath-er who art in heav-en, ---- ----  
Hall---owed be Thy name. ---- ---- Thy  
King-dom come, ---Thy will be done, --on  
Earth as it is--- in heav'n. ---- ---- Give  
Us this day our dai-ly bread. --For-  
Give-us all---our--- debts. ---- -- As  
We---for- give our debt-ors---- -- who  
Sin a- gainst--- us.--- ---- --Don't  
Lead ---us in temp tat-ion, ---- ----De-  
live----er us from the bad.---- ---- For---  
Thine's - the king-dom, ---the pow'r, and glo-ry, --for-  
Ev-er and ev----- ---- er more. --- ---- A-  
men, ---- A-men --- ----A-men, --- --A-men, A-men.

## Benediction

L: May the cleansing and healing of this day continue through the week, that each day you may see the goodness of God at work and live in you.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

"1000 Tongues"

We are a sea of voices.

We are an ocean of Your praise.

We're gathered under one Name.

We are a tide that's rising

And we cannot be contained,

Gathered under one Name.

O for a thousand tongues to sing the glories of our Lord God Almighty.

O to sing the Savior's praise,

The triumph of His grace.

You are worthy, You are worthy, God.

We have found our anthem

At the cross where sin was slain. We're gathered under one Name.

Where ev'ry chain is broken,

Ev'ry sorrow swept away,

Gathered under one Name.

O for a thousand tongues to sing the glories of our Lord God Almighty.

O to sing the Savior's praise,

The triumph of His grace.

You are worthy, You are worthy, God.

With all Heaven sing, and all earth below,

One holy King, one highest throne.

With all Heaven sing, and all earth below,

One holy King, one highest throne.

O for a thousand tongues to sing the glories of our Lord God Almighty.

O to sing the Savior's praise,

The triumph of His grace.

You are worthy, Yes, You are worthy, God.

O for a thousand tongues to sing the glories of our Lord God Almighty.

O to sing the Savior's praise,

The triumph of His grace. You are worthy. You are worthy God.

## Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Open your eyes!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

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