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SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be mindful of our worship time together. As we praise and thank God, please "silence" all cell phones and pagers. We also ask that no flash photographs be taken during the service. Thank you.

Our Nursery is open for parents to use with their children. It is located off of Luther Hall and you may get there from the worship space by taking either of the two stairwells at the rear of the church, or by taking the elevator to the lower level. The worship service can be heard in the Nursery if the doors are open. If you need directions to the Nursery, an usher will be happy to escort you.

Sunday School begins after the Children's Message at the 10:00 a.m. worship service. For more information, please see Natalie Bloomquist.

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Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 25, 2015

7:00 p.m.



EMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Growing in Faith Together.

Emanuel Lutheran Church

311 Capitol Ave.

Hartford, CT 06106, 860-525-0894

www.emanuelhartford.org



THE MISSION OF
EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

In response to Christ's love we:

Worship God in joyful celebration,
Invite others into this community of Christ,
Serve those in need in the community and in the world,
Nurture all people in faith through Christian education,
Encourage and support one another in Christian living and fellowship.

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All food collected this evening will be donated to Hands On Hartford's MANNA Program

Hands on Hartford was founded in 1969 by downtown congregations as a shared ministry providing basic human needs services for Hartford residents. Today, Hands On Hartford is a private, non-profit, non-sectarian, multi-service agency that assists approximately 5,000 Hartford residents each year.

The agency is supported by congregations, individuals, foundations and corporations, community organizations and government grants and contracts. More than 400 trained volunteers make the ministry of Hands on Hartford possible. Their mission: Hands On Hartford, in partnership with others, strengthens community in Hartford by responding faithfully to people in need through

programs that change lives and renew human possibility. Programs include: MANNA, a program that provides meals for homeless and low-income individuals, emergency assistance for families, and meals for frail seniors on weekends; Center for Youth, a comprehensive resource center that includes children's programming and family support services; and Peter's Retreat, supportive housing for people living with HIV/AIDS.

†Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

Gracious God, **Lord of all mercies, when you open your hand you satisfy the desire of every living thing. Gather up our love and labor in your name, bless the land and waters, and give the world a plentiful harvest. Let your Spirit go forth to renew both the face of the earth and the depth of our hearts. As you show us your love and kindness in the bounty of land and sea, save us from the selfish use of your gifts, so that people everywhere may give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

†Benediction

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 + give you peace. Amen.

†Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God

Hymn 840

Dismissal

With thankful hearts,

we go into the world to love and serve God and our neighbor.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

T H O S E S E R V I N G T H I S E V E N I N G

Presiding and Preaching Minister..... Vicar Dominic Smyth

Director of Music..... Jonathan Reuning-Scherer

Musicians..... Choir

Lector..... Lee Sherman

Sound and Recording.....Mal Doyle

Upcoming Worship Services & Events

On Sundays

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. in the Chapel

10:00 a.m. in the Church

Sunday School begins after the Children's Message at the 10:00 a.m. service.

St. Lucia Festival

Friday, December 4:

Performances:

5:00 and 8:00 p.m.

1st Sunday Hoops!

Join Pastor Corgan, Vicar Dominic and others in the gym on **the first Sunday of every month** for some basketball, starting on December 6.

Bible

Conversation:

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

in the Music Room

Receiving

New Members!

Advent

Sunday Worship

Sundays, December 6, 13,

and 20; 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Services of Holy

Communion

Christmas Eve

Worship

Thursday, December 24:

The Nativity of Our Lord

Two Services: 5:00 & 11:00

5:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve

Candlelight Festival

Service of Worship

10:30 p.m.:

Christmas Prelude

11:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve

Candlelight Festival

Service of Worship

The First Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, December 27

One Service only at

10:00 a.m.

College Students and Modeen Scholars leading us in worship

New Year's Eve

At Emanuel

Thursday, December 31

5:00 p.m. - Service of

Worship

God of abundant blessing, you provide us with every good gift. Teach us to share abundantly with others, that your love may be visible through our generosity. In your compassion, **hear us, O God.**

We pray for those whose lives are marked by illness, injustice, sorrow or other forms of brokenness. We pray that you would bring healing as Christ once brought wholeness to the lepers who cried out to him. In your compassion, **hear us, O God.**

(Here, other intercessions may be offered.)

We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in the faith. As they are in your nearer presence, so renew your promise that we will be reunited in a joyful eternity. In your compassion, **hear us, O God**

Rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

†Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as Jesus taught us,
Our Father who art . . . Amen

†Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Offering

**Congregation please come forward with your food donations for
Hands on Hartford's MANNA**

At this time, you are invited to bring forward any canned and packaged foods and place them on the steps before the altar. These gifts will be taken to the Hands on Hartford MANNA Food Pantry.

The plate offering will be received following presentation of food gifts.

Offertory

Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 25, 2015
7:00 p.m.

Welcome to Emanuel Lutheran Church and to this worship service on Thanksgiving Eve. During tonight's service, we will use the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, located in the pew racks. Spoken responses for the congregation are shown in bold print.

† Denotes times when the congregation stands.

Prelude and Preparation for Worship

Dick Reuning, violin

A time to offer silent prayers of thanks for life, family, friends, possessions and for God's love and mercy in Christ Jesus.

Welcome

†Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

Hymn 879

†Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray,

Almighty God, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading

A Reading of God's Word from 1 Kings 8:55-61

⁵⁵he stood and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice: ⁵⁶Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to his people Israel according to all that he promised; not one word has failed of all his good promise, which he spoke through his servant Moses. ⁵⁷The LORD our God be with us, as he was with our ancestors; may he not leave us or abandon us, ⁵⁸but incline our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, his statutes, and his ordinances, which he commanded our ancestors. ⁵⁹Let these words of mine, with which I pleaded before the LORD, be near to the LORD our God day and night, and may he maintain the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Israel, as each day requires; ⁶⁰so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no other. ⁶¹Therefore devote yourselves completely to the LORD our God, walking in his statutes and keeping his commandments, as at this day."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

A Reading of God's Word from Paul's first letter to Timothy 6:6-19

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. ¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. ¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring

Hymn 691

†Gospel Reading

Mark 5:1-20

Before reading: P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the fifth Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. ²And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. ³He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; ⁴for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. ⁵Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. ⁶When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; ⁷and he shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." ⁸For he had said to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" ⁹Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion; for we are many." ¹⁰He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. ¹¹Now there on the hillside a great herd of

swine was feeding; ¹²and the unclean spirits begged him, "Send us into the swine; let us enter them." ¹³So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea. ¹⁴The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. ¹⁵They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. ¹⁶Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it. ¹⁷Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. ¹⁸As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. ¹⁹But Jesus refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you." ²⁰And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.

After reading: P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Vicar Dominic Smyth

†Hymn of the Day

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

Hymn 680

†PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Surrounded by a cloud of witnesses, let us offer our prayers to our gracious God.

(A Brief silence)

Your gifts to us mean life itself, O God. At this time of thanksgiving we praise you for many things, mindful that your grace, forgiveness and promise of salvation stand above all the rest. In your compassion, **hear us, O God.**

In all things, O God, we rely upon you. Keep us from believing that we do not need you. Turn us from self-sufficiency and deepen our dependence on you. In your compassion, **hear us, O God.**

We pray for our leaders who have been entrusted with the responsibility to keep our citizens safe and well. We pray for President Obama, for Governor Malloy, and for all elected leaders. In your compassion, **hear us, O God.**

We pray for our nation, giving thanks for its history and the blessings it has received. Enable justice, goodwill, and compassion to characterize our leaders, policies and people. In your compassion, **hear us, O God.**

(Continued on next page)