

Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024



WELCOME TO EMANUEL

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please ask an usher.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT EMANUEL

Recognizing that we live in a broken world, Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness. As members of Emanuel Lutheran Church and children of a loving and merciful God, we acknowledge that this reconciliation extends to people of any gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, race, culture, physical or mental ability, economic circumstances, relationship status, or any person that has ever experienced pain or oppression. Because members of different communities may have been excluded from the Church in the past, we wish to make explicit our welcome to all. It is for this purpose that we affirm that ALL people are welcome here, just as they are, contributing their individuality to the wholeness of the Body of Christ.



SERVING TODAY

Presider.....Pastor Mark Olsen
Worship Leader.....Vicar Christine Pelfrey
Assisting Minister.....Janice Favreau
Reader.....Diane Troutman
Communion Preparer.....To Be Decided
Director of Music.....Jonathan Reuning-Scherer

EMANUEL MUSICIANS

Sarah Asmar, David Altschuler, Reham Atef, Adam Desmarais, Hillary Ekwall, Andy Foreman, Trey Hazard, Linda Helmke, Morgan Hunt, Aron Kiehne, Kathryn Lees, Dan Luddy, Honoka Masuyama, Andy Nagle, Kari Olsen, Morgan Pope, Joel Reuning-Scherer, Jane Roets, Gavin Tarling, Austin Tewksbury, Rachan Vamsi, Anna VanDeBerg, Pastor Nancy Wright
AV Technicians: Paul Christianson, David Counterman, Baker Wainscoat

ALTAR FLOWERS

In thanksgiving for the gift of life, dedicated by Lynn and Lee Sherman

Though not expected, when it happens, applause is a spontaneous expression of our thanksgiving to God for the gifts of music and of musicians that enrich our lives and enhance our worship.

Soli deo gloria – Glory to God alone

INTRODUCTION

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

PRELUDE

A Tanzanian Alleluia

Emanuel Bell Choir

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C: **Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

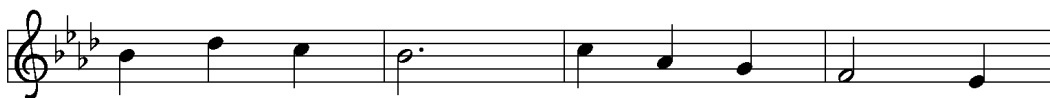
C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
 Music © 1969 Contemporary Worship 1, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

This Is the Feast

This is the feast of vic-to-ry. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

This is the feast of vic-to - ry — Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

VERSE 1

Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis - dom and strength, and

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.

VERSE 2

Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of

all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo - ry and might be² to

God and the Lamb for ev - er. A men.

LAST REFRAIN

This is the feast of vic-to-ry. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia. For the

Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: O God,

C: **you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The children are now dismissed for Sunday School.

FIRST READING: ACTS 8:26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 4:7-21

We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Halle, Halle

Hal le, le, hal le lu jah! Hal le, le, hal le jah! Hal le lu jah! Hal le lu jah!

***GOSPEL: JOHN 15:1-8**

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Vicar Christine Pelfrey

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

We Know That Christ Is Raised

ELW 739



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:

Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924
Text © John B. Geyer.

THE BAPTISM OF MAEVE LIND KENNEDY

PRESENTATION FOR HOLY BAPTISM

P: In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Who presents this child for Holy Baptism?

R: We present Maeve Lind Kennedy for baptism.

P: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

R: I do.

P: As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in her hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture her in faith and prayer,
so that your child may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

R: I do.

- P: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture this person in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?
- R: I do.
- P: People of God, do you promise to support Maeve Lind and pray for her in her new life in Christ?
- C: **We do.**

***PROFESSION OF FAITH**

- P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.
Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?
- R: I renounce them.
- P: Do you believe in God the Father?
- C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
- P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C: **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.**
- P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C: **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.**

The assembly may be seated.

BAPTISM

- P: Maeve Lind, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen. Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.**
- P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Maeve Lind with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**
- P: Maeve Lind child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
- C: **Amen.**

WELCOME

- A: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Let us welcome the newly baptized.
- C: **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition

- A: God of Grace,
C: **hear our prayer.**

*PEACE

- P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: **And also with you.**

We offer each other a sign of God's peace.

OFFERING MUSIC

Thou, True Vine – American Folk Hymn
Emanuel Choir

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



*We offer our gifts – our time, our talent, and our treasure - to God,
in thanksgiving for all that God has given us.*

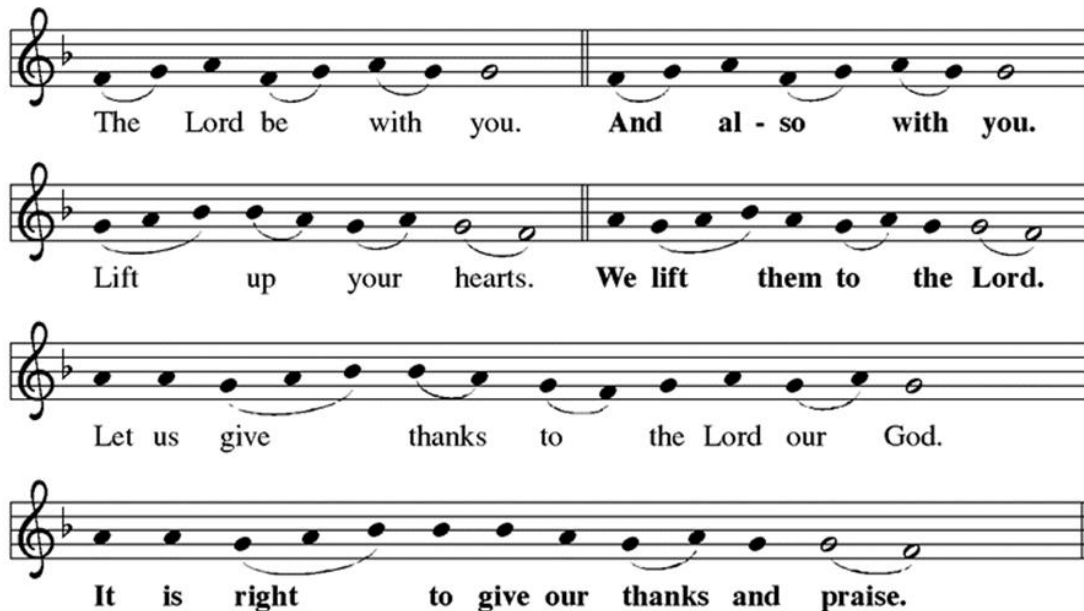
*To make your gift online, scan this code using your phone's camera
or QR scanner app.*

***OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Risen one,

C: **you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY HOLY HOLY**



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might;
Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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

C: **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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

All Are Welcome at the Table!

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

This is the Lord's Table and all are welcome to receive the bread & wine of communion.

Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available as needed.

The ushers will guide you out of your pew down the center aisle to the front of the church. Once you receive communion, please return to your seat by the side aisles.

If you would like to receive communion at your seat, please let an usher know. If, for any reason, you choose not to receive the bread and wine, we invite you to come forward for a blessing.

***LAMB OF GOD**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us,
mer - cy on us, mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, in, with, and under the bread of the Earth and the fruit of the vine, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray.

C: **Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.**

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

Reham Atef and Aminu Yakubu (Sharaf) Sharafudeen – ELC's 2023-2024 HIU Interns

***BLESSING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING HYMNThe Water of Change*

I've been washed by the wa - ter. I've been cleansed by the sea. I've been



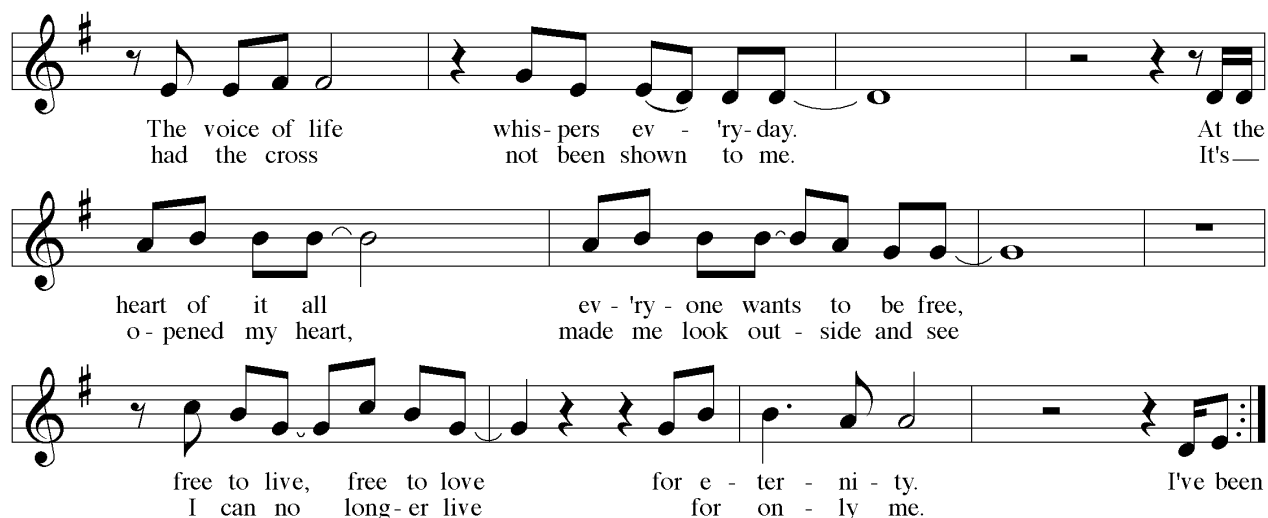
touched by the riv-er of e - ter - ni - ty. Though I don't un - der - stand it, I have



nev - er been the same. I can't turn back the wa - ter, the wa - ter of change. The



riv - ers they run, the riv - ers they roll a - way.
won - der a - loud where in the world I might be



The voice of life had the cross whis-pers ev - 'ry-day. At the heart of it all o - pened my heart, not been shown to me. It's— ev - 'ry - one wants to be free, made me look out - side and see free to live, free to love I can no long - er live for e - ter - ni - ty. I've been for on - ly me.

©1989 Dakota Road Music
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

***DISMISSAL**

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebration of Baptism

Today, we celebrate the rite of Holy Baptism as Maeve Lind Kennedy is brought to the waters of baptism by her parents, Melissa and Jamieson Kennedy, and baptismal sponsors, Nishan and Andrea Valenti. Let us rejoice as we welcome Maeve into the body of Christ and our community of faith.

Food Pantry

Thank you to all who have donated to the Food Pantry. Your continued support is needed and appreciated. For April, we are asking for donations of 2 lb. bags of rice, peanut butter, and jelly. Monetary donations are always appreciated, as well.

Coffee Hour

If you, your ministry team, or another organization would like to sponsor our after-service coffee hour, please sign-up by scanning this QR code with the camera on your phone.



Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

Carol Johnson † Karin Gottier † Bert Johnson † Betsyann Carter † Anne Louise Swanson
† Lee Sherman † Jennings-Marzett Family † Mckenna Jobes † Brooklyn King † Elaine Wilson
† Vito Vitrano † Monique Jennings † Rae Ann Gremel
† Harris Kannah † Jerry Vigil † Janet Starkes

Homebound: Ellie Olson † Elaine Wilson † Joan Johnson † Anna-Lisa Johnson
Doris Barron † Peggy Zachariasen

Emanuel Lutheran Church

311 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Office: 860-525-0894 | Emergency: 860-365-9510

www.emanuelhartford.org | www.facebook.com/emanuelhartford



STAFF

Pastor Mark Olsen

Senior Pastor—extension 1
pastorolsen@emanuelhartford.org

Vicar Christine Pelfrey

Intern—extension 2
Christine.Pelfrey@emanuelhartford.org

Jonathan Reuning-Scherer

Director of Music
Jonathan.rs@emanuelhartford.org

Kate Bozzo

Operations Manager—extension 4
Kate.Bozzo@emanuelhartford.org

Naomi Ngoma

Community Life & Outreach—extension 3
Naomi.Ngoma@emanuelhartford.org

Hannah Maynard

Education Coordinator
Hannah.Maynard@emanuelhartford.org

John Michael Walker

Administrative Assistant—extension 5
adminassist@emanuelhartford.org

Rachid Chelali

Sexton