

# *First Sunday in Lent*

## *March 9, 2025*

WELCOME TO EMANUEL

**Whoever you are, wherever you are from,  
we're glad you're here!**



- If you are here for the first time, please make a **nametag** for yourself in the Welcome Area (located outside the entrance to the worship space) so we can greet you by name. Please provide your **contact information**, either in our guestbook on the desk in the Welcome Area or by using this QR code, so that we can keep in communication with you.
- **Restrooms** are located downstairs outside our fellowship space, Luther Hall. You can use the elevator or the stairs to get to the lower level. Please join us for **refreshments** in Luther Hall following the service.
- **Hearing assistance devices** and **pew cushions** are available in the Welcome Area.
- **Children are always welcome at worship at Emanuel! Children's bulletins** and **activity bags** are available in the Welcome Area. If you need more space for your child to move about, feel free to bring them into the Welcome Area to give them room to be active. If you prefer, **supervised childcare** for children ages 6 months to 4 years is provided in our Nursery downstairs in Luther Hall.
- **Sunday School** for children in kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade takes place during worship, September through May, and your child is welcome to participate. Sunday School teachers and students depart downstairs for class after the Prayer of the Day and return to worship in time for Holy Communion.
- All are welcome to receive **Holy Communion**. Gluten free wafers are available as an option on the small silver tray held by the assistant in the center of the aisle. Red wine and non-alcoholic white grape juice are both offered in each communion tray.



*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**

Presiding Minister ..... Pastor Mark Olsen  
Worship Leader ..... Vicar Christine Pelfrey  
Assisting Minister..... John Foote  
Reader.....Lee Sherman  
Communion Preparers..... Chet and Glenna Brodnicki  
Guest Director of Music.....Andy Foreman

**EMANUEL MUSICIANS**

Rebekka Almond, David Altschuler, Sarah Asmar, Hillary Ekwall, Andy Foreman, Trey Hazard, Morgan Hunt, Kathryn Lees, Dan Luddy, Honoka Masuyama, Hannah Maynard, Andy Nagle, Kari Olsen, Morgan Pope, Joel Reuning-Scherer, Jane Roets, Jeff Roets, Austin Tewksbury, Anna VanDeBerg, Pastor Nancy Wright

**AV TECHNICIANS**

Paul Christianson, David Counterman, Baker Wainscoat

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Given to the glory of God

*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

*These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.*

## PRELUDE

Tryptich on 'Erhalt Uns, Herr'

Walter Pelz

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

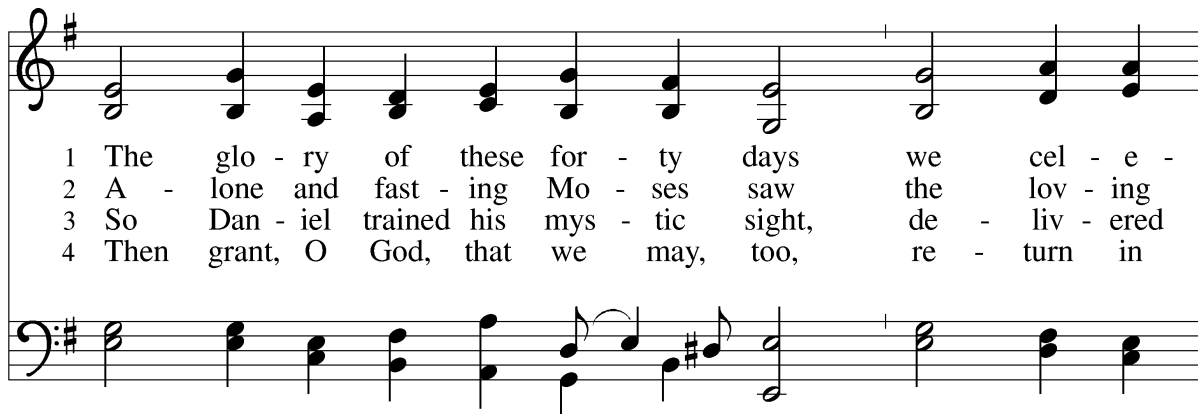
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Compassionate One,


C: **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

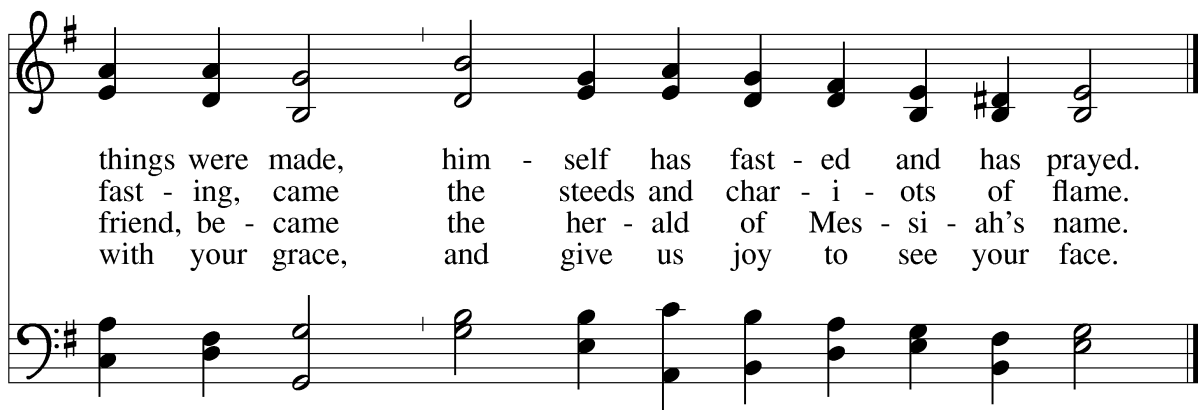
C: **Amen.**



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -  
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing  
 3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered  
 4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in



brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all  
 God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,  
 from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's  
 fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.  
 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.  
 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.  
 with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt.

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*. © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

## 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.**

## \*KYRIE

Verse 1, 3 Ky - ri-e e - le-i - son. Ky - ri-e e - le-i - son.  
Verse 2 Chris - te e - le-i - son. Chris - te e - le-i - son.

Ky - ri-e e - le-i - son. Ky - ri-e e - le - i-son.  
Chris - te e - le-i - son. Chris - te e - le - i-son.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O Lord God,

C: **you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, 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: DEUTERONOMY 26:1-11

*The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.*

<sup>1</sup> When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup> you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." <sup>4</sup> When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, <sup>5</sup> you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. <sup>6</sup> When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, <sup>7</sup> we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. <sup>8</sup> The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying

display of power, and with signs and wonders; <sup>9</sup> and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup> So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. <sup>11</sup> Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING: ROMANS 10:8b-13

*Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.*

<sup>8b</sup> “The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup> because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

<sup>11</sup> The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord your God, re -

3  
turn to the Lord your God \_\_\_\_\_ who is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful,

6  
slow to an - ger and a - bound-ing in stead-fast love.

## **GOSPEL: LUKE 4:1-13**

*After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called “the Son of God.”*

**L:** The holy gospel according to Luke.

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’”

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,’

<sup>11</sup> and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**L:** The gospel of the Lord.

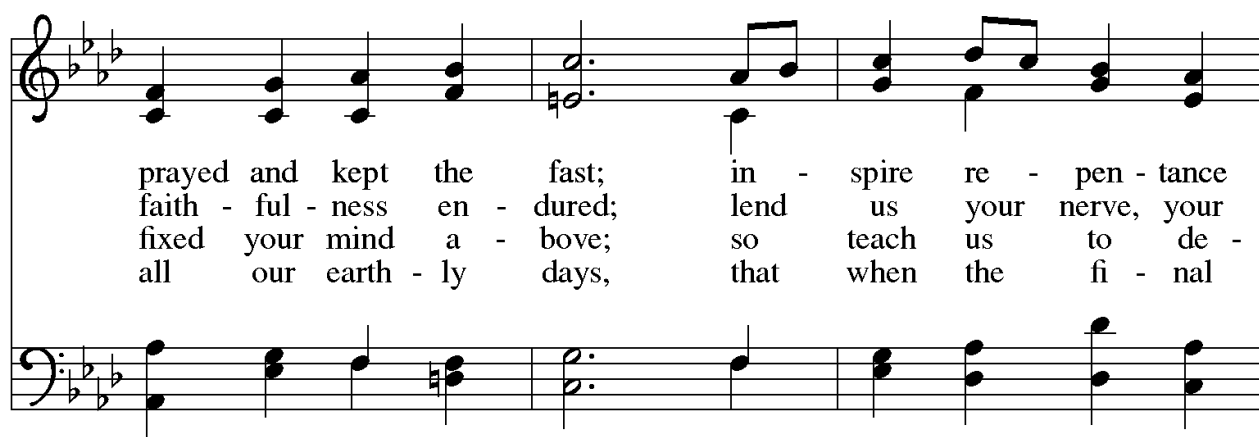
**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Vicar Christine Pelfrey**



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you  
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your  
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and  
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance  
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your  
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -  
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.  
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.  
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930  
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.



## **\*APOSTLES' CREED**

A: Let us join together in professing our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C: 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**

*The congregation is invited to be seated for the prayers. After each petition:*

A: God in your mercy,

**C: receive 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**      Richard de Castre's 'Prayer to Jesus' (1430)      set by Sir R.R. Terry  
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 the code using your  
phone's camera or QR scanner app.*

## \*OFFERING PRAYER

A: Gracious Provider,

C: you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, \_\_\_ God of pow'r, \_\_\_ God of  
might, hea-ven and earth are full of your glory, \_\_\_ Ho - san-na  
in \_\_\_ the high - est! Blest is he \_\_\_ who \_\_\_ comes \_\_\_ in the  
name \_\_\_ of the Lord. \_\_\_ Ho - san - - - na! \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Ho - san-na in \_\_\_ the high - - - est! \_\_\_

## \*EUCCHARISTIC 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: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

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

*Gluten-free wafers are served by the communion assistant in the middle  
and white grape juice is available in each communion tray, 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

Christ, thou Lamb of God, who takes a-way the  
sin of the world, have mer-cy on us. grant us your peace.

The musical notation is written on two staves in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of text, including a first ending (marked '1, 2') and a second ending (marked '3').

**\*POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Generous Host,

C: **you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN**

**Out in the Wilderness**



1 Driv - en by the Spir - it out in the wil - der - ness;  
2 Tempt-ed by the dev - il out in the wil - der - ness;  
3 An - gels all a - round you out in the wil - der - ness;  
4 "You are my be - lov - ed" out in the wil - der - ness.



driv - en by the Spir - it out in the wil - der - ness;  
tempt-ed by the dev - il out in the wil - der - ness;  
an - gels all a - round you out in the wil - der - ness;  
"You are my be - lov - ed" out in the wil - der - ness.



when the Spir-it says, "Go," you can't say, "No."  
though you try to be strong, it's been so long.  
you are far . . . from home where wild things roam.  
When you were . . . bap - tized, you re - a - lized



You lis - ten for the voice when you're bend - ed low;  
He whis - pers in your ear and you know he's wrong;  
There's dan - ger ev - 'ry - where but you're not a - lone;  
you'd heard the voice of God from the o - p'ning skies:



driv - en by the Spir - it out in the wil - der - ness.  
tempt-ed by the dev - il out in the wil - der - ness.  
an - gels all a - round you out in the wil - der - ness.  
"You are my be - lov - ed" out in the wil - der - ness.

**\*DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**C:** **Thanks be to God!**

## LIVING OUT OUR DISCIPLESHIP – WAYS TO HELP AND SERVE



**The Emanuel Food Pantry** serves hundreds of meals each month and helps to support our neighbors with basic needs. Thank you to all who have donated to help this cause! Your continued support is needed and appreciated. For March, we are taking a special Ramadan collection of dates, lentils, chickpeas, basmati rice, olive oil, flour, and sugar.

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### BE PART OF EMANUEL'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

There are many ways to serve in worship and all are welcome to volunteer! Please use the corresponding QR codes to sign up for a service. For assistance signing up, please contact Morgan in the church office. 860-525-0894 | [adminassist@emanuelhartford.org](mailto:adminassist@emanuelhartford.org)



**Serve as Assisting Minister**  
Coordinator: Maureen Leyes  
(860) 212-5492



**Assist with Communion**  
Coordinator: Valerie McDonald  
[valeriexyz@cox.net](mailto:valeriexyz@cox.net)  
(860) 965-6936



**Participate in Music**  
Contact Jonathan Reuning-Scherer  
Scan QR for more information

**Read the Lessons**  
Contact Lynn Sherman  
[lynnsherman480@gmail.com](mailto:lynnsherman480@gmail.com)  
(860) 550-0518

Parishoners of all ages are welcome!

### FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



**Host Coffee Hour**  
Individuals, ministry teams, or other organizations are invited to sponsor our after-service coffee hour. Contact Monique Jennings at [moniquegray400@gmail.com](mailto:moniquegray400@gmail.com).



**Sponsor Altar Flowers** in memory or honor of someone. Your donation of \$75 will cover the cost of the flowers.

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**Prayer Shawls** are available in a basket in the Narthex for anyone to take for themselves or to give away to someone needing to know we care. Baby blankets and a larger supply of shawls are available in the lounge of the Parish Building. Please be in touch with a member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry Team (Bobbee Canfield, Lynne Strecker, and Lynn Sherman) with questions.

*Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.*

Connor Mansbach † Jason Gray † Christopher Favreau † Brittany Milano-Martinez

*Homebound:* Elaine Wilson † Joan Johnson † Anna-Lisa Johnson † Peggy Zachariasen

**Emanuel Lutheran Church**

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Hartford, Connecticut 06106

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[www.emanuelhartford.org](http://www.emanuelhartford.org) | [www.facebook.com/emanuelhartford](https://www.facebook.com/emanuelhartford)



**Pastor Mark Olsen**

Senior Pastor—extension 1

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**Hannah Maynard**

Education Coordinator

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**Vicar Christine Pelfrey**

Intern—extension 2

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Director of Music

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**Rachel Blank, Natalie Fulmer, and**

**Maeghan O’Laughlin**

Nursery Staff

**Kate Bozzo**

Operations Manager—extension 4

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**Rachid Chelali**

Sexton

**Naomi Ngoma**

Community Life & Outreach—extension 3

[Naomi.Ngoma@emanuelhartford.org](mailto:Naomi.Ngoma@emanuelhartford.org)

**Mazmur Sihite and Iman Quansah**

HIU Interns 2024-2025

# MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

Wednesdays at 7:00pm

March 12, 19, and 26

April 2 and 9



EMANUEL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
IN THE CITY FOR GOOD

311 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

We will continue to gather for worship at 7:00pm on Wednesday evenings throughout Lent (March 12, 19, 26 and April 2, 9) for faith-nurturing worship and conversation. For our worship we will be using Holden Evening Prayer as the setting for a Midweek Lenten Worship Series entitled: "**Beneath the Cross of Jesus.**"

We live our lives beneath the cross of Jesus, beneath God's manifold love and grace that reach to us even from Calvary. Based on the hymn "Beneath the cross of Jesus" (ELW 338), through this midweek Lenten series we will explore what it means for us to abide at the foot of the cross, to cling to the rock of our salvation, to dwell in the house of the Lord, and to confess our sins and receive God's forgiveness. During our time of worship each week we will reflect together on the readings and weekly themes by engaging in conversation and discussion led by Pastor Mark and Vicar Christine. Thought provoking discussion questions and the readings for each Wednesday gathering will be shared in a supplemental issue of the Emanuel News each week, beginning the week of March 10<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for these midweek times of worship as you are able. **All are welcome!**