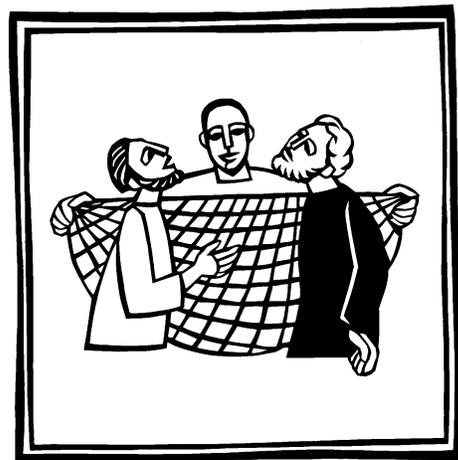


Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 25, 2026

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 6th 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. On the first Sunday of each month, there is a **children's message** offered by the preacher during the service in place of Sunday School.
- 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
Director of Music Jonathan Reuning-Scherer
Assisting Minister..... Trey Hazard
Reader..... Grant Kiehne
Communion Preparers..... Gary and Diane Troutman

EMANUEL MUSICIANS

Hannah Batsford, Jacob Bender, Hillary Ekwall, Andy Foreman, Trey Hazard,
Hannah Hickman, Kathryn Lees, GlenEllen Lehmborg, Dan Luddy, Honoka Masuyama,
Andy Nagle, Kari Olsen, Morgan Pope, Joel Reuning-Scherer, Jane Roets, Jeff Roets,
Austin Tewksbury, Arlo Tucker, Adam Desmarais, Stephanie Reuning-Scherer

AV TECHNICIANS

Paul Christianson, David Counterman, Baker Wainscoat, Liz Arcand

ALTAR FLOWERS

Given in memory of Gail Peterson Hazard by the Hazard family

*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

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

PRELUDE

‘The People Who Walk in Darkness’
from *Messiah*

G.F. Handel
(1685-1759)

Benjamin Rauch, voice; Hannah Hickman, saxophone; Morgan Pope, bassoon

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C: **Amen**

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,

C: **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

P: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ and forgives your sin in † Jesus’ name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others and bless you with the gift of peace.

C: **Amen.**

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893
 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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*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

Hear our prayer, Lord Je - sus, Hear our prayer, — Might-y God,
 — Hear our prayer, — Ho-ly Spir - it, Hear our Prayer, —
 — sweet Lord in your mer - cy, cy, Hear our Prayer.

1, 2. To Verses | 3.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Lord God,

C: **your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The children are dismissed for Sunday School.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

¹ There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the Lord] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le-lu - ia! Al-le-lu - ia! Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e-ter - nal life, Al-le-lu - ia!

***GOSPEL: MATTHEW 4:12-23**

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,

on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—

¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness

have seen a great light,

and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death

light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Mark Olsen



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to
 Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are
 go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.
 pre - cious in your sight.
 hill to val - ley flow.
 king - dom with out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.
 Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540-1602

***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: Merciful God,

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

The Lord is My Light

Emanuel Choir

Jane Best

(b. 1959)

Oh, the Lord is my light

and the Lord is my sure salvation

Oh, the Lord is the stronghold of my life.

Why should I be afraid?

For in my day of trouble

he keeps me safe in his shelter,

and he will set me high upon a rock

from Psalm 27

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: God of majesty,
C: **no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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 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!

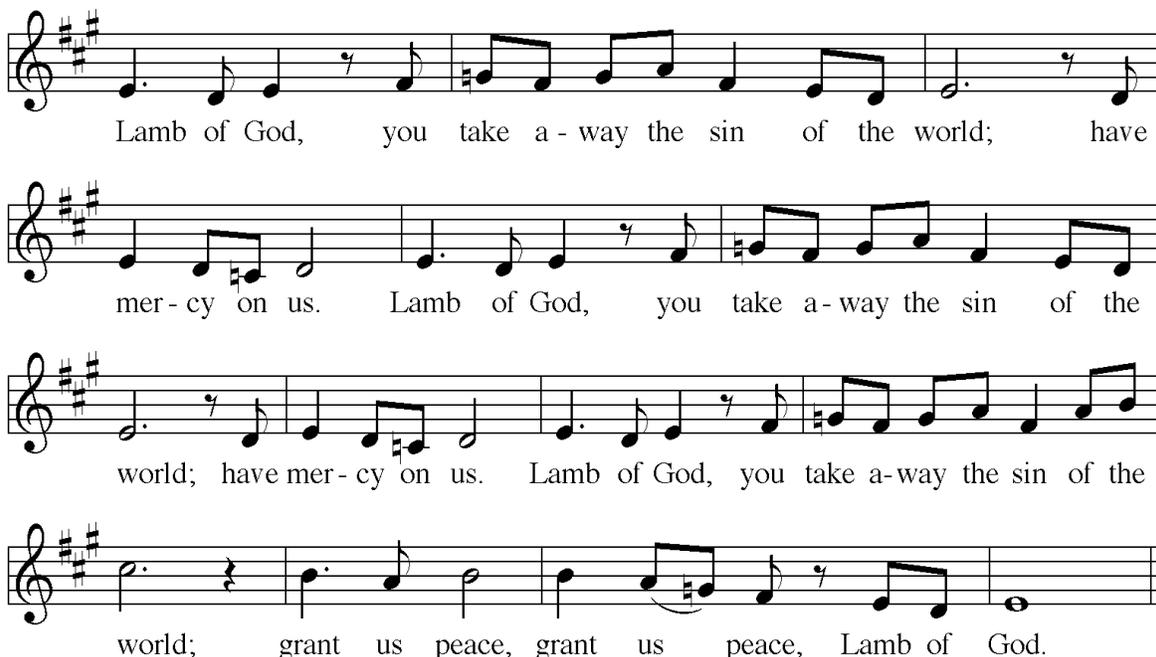
P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

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



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

from *Requiem*

Benjamin Rauch and Stephanie Scarcella, voice

Will You Come and Follow Me?

ELW 336



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
 Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
 www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

***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: Radiant God,

C: **we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***BLESSING**

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise † bless you now and forever.

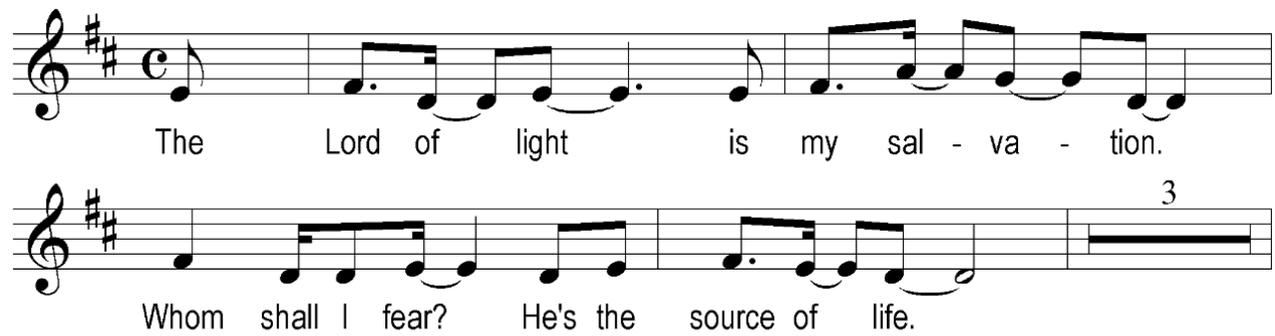
C: **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN**

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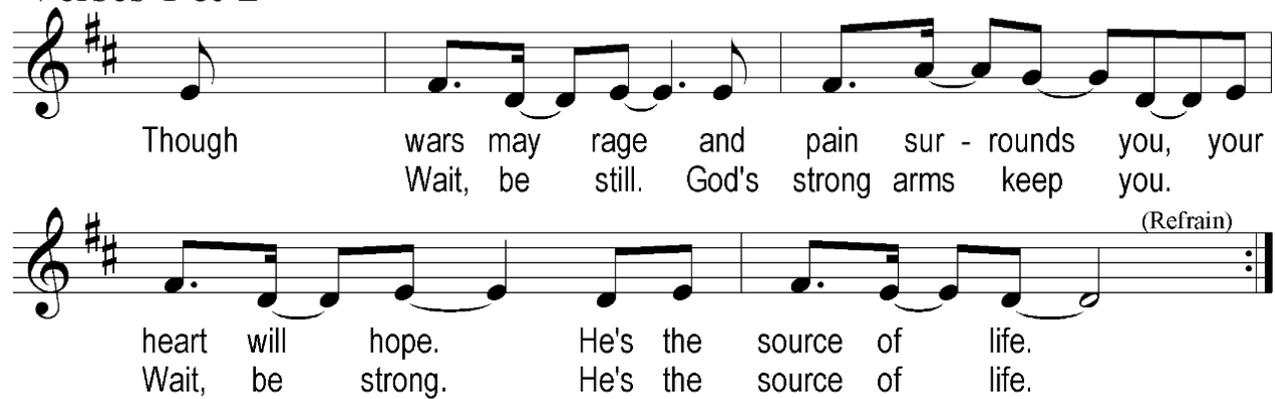
***SENDING HYMN**

The Lord of Light



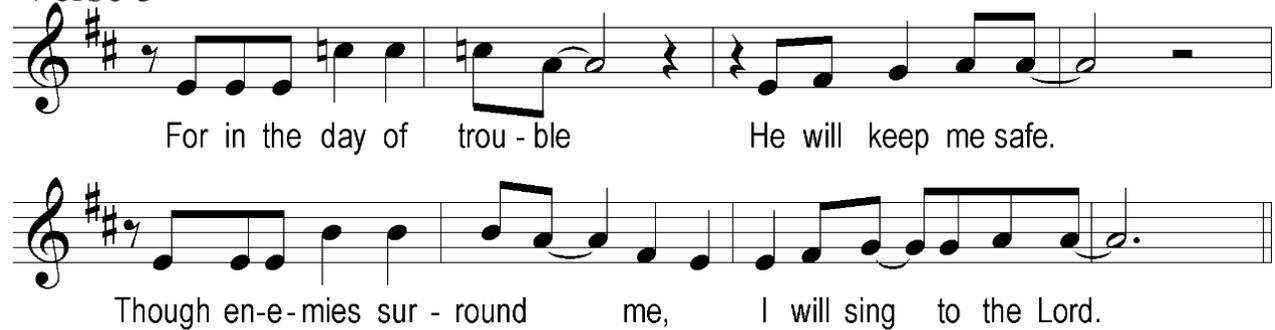
The Lord of light is my sal - va - tion.
Whom shall I fear? He's the source of life.

Verses 1 & 2



Though wars may rage and pain sur - rounds you, your
Wait, be still. God's strong arms keep you.
heart will hope. He's the source of life.
Wait, be strong. He's the source of life.

Verse 3



For in the day of trou - ble He will keep me safe.
Though en-e-mies sur - round me, I will sing to the Lord.

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

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 January, we are asking for donations of cooking oil and paper towels.

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



Serve as Assisting Minister

Coordinator: Maureen Leyes
(860) 212-5492



Assist with Communion

Coordinator: Valerie McDonald
valeriexyz@cox.net
(860) 965-6936



Participate in Music

Contact Jonathan Reuning-Scherer
Scan QR for more information



Read the Lessons

Coordinator: Lynn Sherman
lynnsherman480@gmail.com
(860) 550-0518



Serve as Usher

Contacts:
Bob Graulich (704) 996-1717
Rick Liljedahl (860) 280-6580

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.



Sponsor Altar Flowers in memory or honor of someone. Your donation of \$75 will cover the cost of the flowers and your dedication will be listed in the bulletin.



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 † Tracey Sherman † Christopher Favreau †
Erin and Joshua Morelli

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

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Education Coordinator

Morgan Pope
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**Rachel Blank, Natalie Fulmer, and
Maeghan O’Laughlin**
Nursery Staff

Rachid Chelali
Sexton

Tammy AbuZant, Dimitrios Passalidis
2025-2026 HIU Interns

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