

Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 15, 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, and we commit ourselves to embracing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care. 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..... Lynn Sherman
Reader.....Elizabeth Kieschnick
Communion Preparers..... Ellen Anderson and Marjorie Johnson

EMANUEL MUSICIANS

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

AV TECHNICIANS

Paul Christianson, David Counterman, Baker Wainscoat, Liz Arcand

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

Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. During the penitential season of Lent, we will refrain from using, "alleluia," a word of joy we won't say or sing again until Easter.

PRELUDE

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.**

LITANY OF CELEBRATION AND COMMITMENT FOR EMANUEL, HARTFORD

P: The Lord be with you!

C: **And also with you!**

P: This congregation became a Reconciling in Christ community in 2019. Let us celebrate that journey and how it still infuses our ministry of hospitality, welcome, affirmation, and justice.



Emanuel's updated Welcome Statement is read in affirmation of our commitment.

P: In years past, we have striven to live into the hospitality and promises in our welcome statement, but we know there is always more to learn and more to do to support people who have been marginalized in our community. We promise to listen to the stories and honor the experiences of our neighbors who are members of the LGBTQIA+ community so that we can better understand the difficulties of living as themselves in our church and society.

C: **We have open hearts and open minds and strive to learn more about our many different neighbors.**

P: In the years ahead, we commit to continue to work towards full inclusion in our congregation and community. We promise to work together with others to make this space one that provides a welcome in both words and deeds, one that is safe from humiliation and violence and offers sanctuary to those cast out by families and shunned by friends.

C: **We commit to the spirit of hospitality and authentic welcome.**

P: We renew our commitment to welcome all who have been treated as less than or who were told they do not belong, especially transgender, non-binary, and intersex people. We also commit to welcome and support women, children, and people from other nations who have been ignored or treated like property.

C: **We commit to the work of justice and inclusion.**

P: We renew our commitment to advocate for all LGBTQIA+ people as well as renew a commitment to racial and gender equity. We commit to advocacy and support for immigrants regardless of status. We commit to advocacy and support for neurodiverse and disabled people, who are often targets for shaming language that diminishes their humanity.

C: **We commit to using our voices to speak up for those who have been rendered voiceless in our church and society. We promise to continue to advocate for inclusion, affirmation, and justice in our church and in our community and in the wider world even when we encounter resistance or ignorance, or when our steps falter as we grow tired.**

We promise all these things as we take another step in our journey towards understanding God’s asymmetrical love.

C: Let us pray.

O God of compassion and liberation, guide our feet as we strive to walk the good road with Jesus, a road towards justice. We ask you to strengthen our hands as we use them to build your Blessed Community with space at the table for all of God’s beloveds. We ask you to support our voices as we speak words of welcome and compassion. We ask your Spirit to inspire and sustain us when our hearts grow weary, when our steps falter, when our boats feel so small on an endless ocean of pain and suffering. Be with us in and out of every day and night.

And as God’s children we say,

C: **Amen!**

***GATHERING HYMN**

Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair

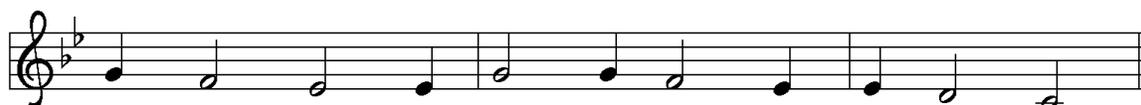
ELW 316



1 Oh, won - drous im - age, vi - sion fair of
 2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in -
 3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ
 4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high by
 5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son, and



glo - ry that the church may share, which Christ up - on the
 car - nate Lord holds con - verse high, and from the cloud, the
 deigns to man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be
 this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which in joy - ful
 Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one, we pray you, bring us



moun - tain shows, where bright - er than the sun he glows!
 Ho - ly One says, "This is my be - lov - ed Son."
 theirs a - bove who joy in God with per - fect love.
 song we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
 by your grace to see your glo - ry face to face.

Text: Sarum, 15th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

*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.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God,

C: **in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, 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 dismissed for Sunday School.

FIRST READING: EXODUS 24:12-18

At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The “glory of the Lord” settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

¹² The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³ So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴ To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you.

Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵ Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶ The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷ Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. ¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 2 PETER 1:16-21

At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.

¹⁶ We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹ So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹ because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from 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 17:1-9**

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” ⁸ And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.



⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Mark Olsen

1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,

al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
 al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
 al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
 at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;

in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
 here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
 for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
 there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

***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

O Radiant Dawn

Emanuel Choir

James MacMillan

(b. 1959)

O Radiant Dawn, Splendor of eternal Light, Sun of Justice,
Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

Isaiah had prophesied,

‘The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.’

Amen.

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!

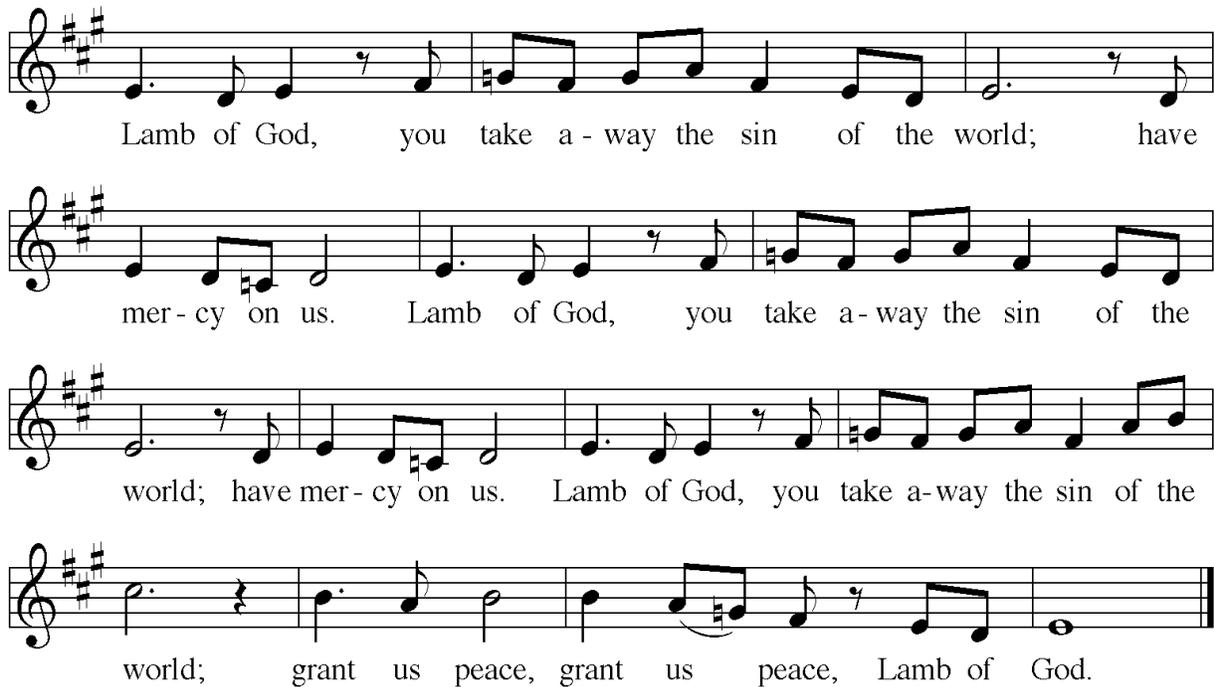
P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

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.

COMMUNION MUSIC

*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.**



Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



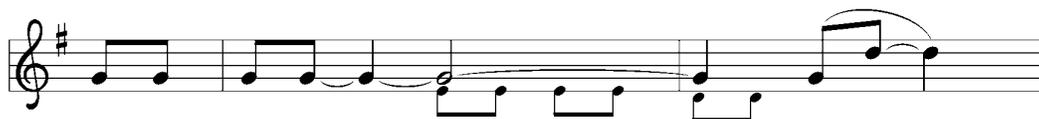
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:
We are dancing ...
We are praying ...
We are singing ...

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984
Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional
Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

*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 February, we are asking for donations of bar soap.

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

Emanuel Lutheran Church
311 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106
Office: 860-525-0894 | Emergency: 860-263-9096
www.emanuelhartford.org | www.facebook.com/emanuelhartford



Pastor Mark Olsen

Senior Pastor—extension 1
pastorolsen@emanuelhartford.org

Jonathan Reuning-Scherer

Director of Music and Worship Ministries
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

Brittany Caldwell

Education Coordinator

Morgan Pope

Administrative Assistant—extension 5
adminassist@emanuelhartford.org

**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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