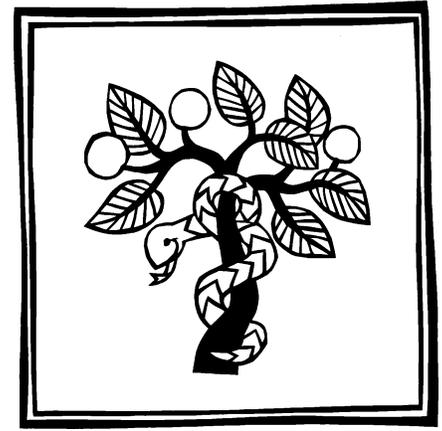


# *First Sunday in Lent*

*February 22, 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 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. 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..... Maureen Leyes  
Reader..... John Foote  
Communion Preparers..... Melanie Sinche

### 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

### AV TECHNICIANS

Paul Christianson, David Counterman, Baker Wainscoat, Liz Arcand

*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 gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.*

## PRELUDE

Tryptich on 'Erhalt Uns, Herr'

Walter Peltz

## 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 confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you, gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word, gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit, gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers, gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world, gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life, gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

C: Amen.

\*GATHERING HYMN

The Glory of These Forty Days

ELW 320

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: Lord God, our strength,

C: **the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, 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: GENESIS 2:15-17; 3:1-7

*Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.*

<sup>15</sup> The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

<sup>3:1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch

it, or you shall die.’ ”<sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die,<sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”<sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate.<sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: ROMANS 5:12-19**

*Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.*

<sup>12</sup> Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned<sup>13</sup> for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law.<sup>14</sup> Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

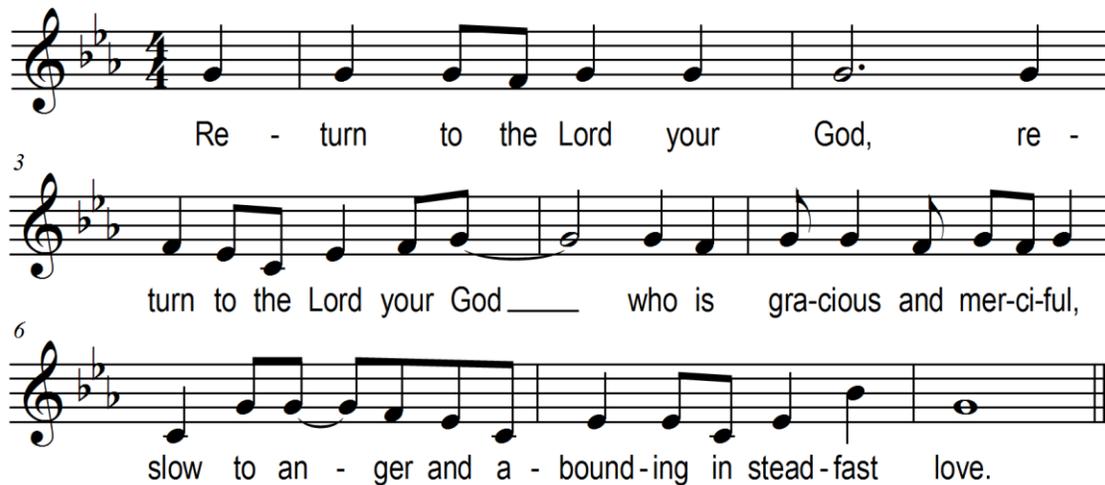
<sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.<sup>16</sup> And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification.<sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all.<sup>19</sup> For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord your God, re -  
turn to the Lord your God \_\_\_\_\_ who is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful,  
slow to an - ger and a - bound-ing in stead-fast love.

## \*GOSPEL: MATTHEW 4:1-11

*Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.*

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” <sup>4</sup> But he answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,  
‘He will command his angels concerning you,’  
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,  
‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’ ”

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

SERMON

Pastor Mark Olsen

\*HYMN OF THE DAY O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

ELW 318

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: Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

## **\*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**

*Call to Remembrance*

Emanuel Choir

Richard Farrant

(ca. 1530-1581)

Call to remembrance, O Lord,

Thy tender mercies and Thy loving kindness,

Which hath been ever of old.

Remember not the sins and offences of my youth,

But according to Thy mercy, think Thou on me, O Lord, for Thy goodness.

## 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: O God, maker of heaven and earth,

**C: your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. 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 glay, 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!

## \*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: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

***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 image shows two staves of musical notation in G minor (three flats) and common time (C). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics, with a first ending bracket over the first two measures and a second ending bracket over the last two measures, both marked with '1, 2' and '3' respectively. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

*Jesus Walked the Lonesome Valley*

traditional

Emanuel Choir and Instrumentalists

arr. Hal Hopson

Jesus walked this lonesome valley,  
He had to walk it by himself;  
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him,  
he had to walk it by himself.

Jesus bore the cross of sorrow;  
He had to hear it by himself.  
Oh, nobody could hear it for him,  
He had to bear it by himself.

We must walk this lonesome valley,  
We have to walk it by ourselves;  
Oh nobody else can walk it for us,  
We have to walk it by ourselves.

We must take our cross and follow;  
We must take it by ourselves.  
Nobody else can follow for us.  
We have to follow by ourselves.

## \*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: God of our salvation,

C: **we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

## \*BLESSING

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,  
✠ bless you now and always.

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. Believe the good news.

**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.**

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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**

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



#### **Serve as Usher**

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

### FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

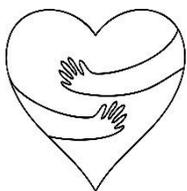


#### **Host Coffee Hour**

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

Senior Pastor—extension 1  
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**Brittany Caldwell**

Education Coordinator

**Morgan Pope**

Administrative Assistant—extension 5  
[adminassist@emanuelhartford.org](mailto: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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