

Welcome to ReFresh at Emmanuel

(Restoring Energy, Faith, and Relevance to Every Soul's Heart)

November 15, 2026

Welcome to ReFresh at Emmanuel

Welcome Visitors! We extend a special welcome to our visitors. Thank you for worshiping with us. We strive to live as a Safe and Healing Spiritual Community for all who come, regardless of socio-economic status, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or spiritual path. All are welcome in this holy space.

We invite you to worship with us on Sundays at our 8:30 am Emmanuel Traditional Worship Service in the chapel or our ReFresh 10:30 am Service either in person or on ZOOM. The Recorded Service is available on Facebook after the service.

To gather online by computer, tablet, or smartphone, use the following link.
http://us02web.zoom.us/j/82726742888?pwd=WFEwOVBXZGd3OHFzSXQ1WXlVTHppZz09

Don't forget to sign the greeting cards for our Emmanuel Family Members.
The cards are on the table in front of the Celebration Room.

Assisting in Worship Today

Presider: Pastor Frank Langholf
Lector & Communion Assistant: Marcia Terrill
Coordinator of Music Ministry: Tim Fenelon
Special Music: Emmanuel Choir
Accompanist: Clea Arbogast

Altar Guild: Brenden Noble
Consultant: Bill Houtkamp
Sound: Andrew Ehrhardt
Greeting Cards: Taj Guzzardo

Cardio Drumming, Mondays at 4:00 pm, Call Beth, (815) 742-0548, to join

Spiritual Journey's on Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30 am on Zoom

Bible Study on Wednesdays at Noon on zoom.
Dial 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 893 5688 8344 Passcode: 11999
To join by a land line or cell phone, dial the number above and then enter the meeting ID and passcode when prompted.

Silent meditation practice in the Benson Room:
Thursdays from 5:30 – 6:15pm. All are welcome. Enter by parking lot entrance. Questions or text Sara 815-742-0581.

November 15, 2026 - Theme: Generosity

Prelude: Clea Arbogast

Welcome: Pastor Frank Langholf

Meditation:

Even after all this time,
the sun never says to the earth, "you owe me."
Look what happens with a love like that
it lights up the whole sky.—Hafez

Our Community Declaration:

**Guided by Spirit's Wisdom, Inspired by Creator's Imagination,
Centered in Christ's Love, and knowing that God is our Source,
Emmanuel is a Spiritual Community that is progressive, inclusive, creative, and called to serve.**

<u>Opening of the Heart:</u>

Lord, teach me to be generous,
to serve you as you deserve,
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labor and not to look for any reward,
save that of knowing that I do your holy will.
—St. Ignatius

Proclamation of Grace:
Presider: The Good News is we are beloved children of God. We live in the promise of Christ, and NOTHING can ever separate us from God's love.

Gathering Song: God's Work, Our Hands (ACS 1000)



Continued…


feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
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First Reading: from "On Giving," by Kahlil Gibran

Then said a rich man, Speak to us of Giving.
And he answered:
You give but little when you give of your possessions.
It is when you give of yourself that you truly give…

There are those who give little of the much which they have—and they give it for recognition and their hidden desire makes their gifts unwholesome.
And there are those who have little and give it all.
These are the believers in life and the bounty of life, and their coffer is never empty.
There are those who give with joy, and that joy is their reward.
And there are those who give with pain, and that pain is their baptism.
And there are those who give and know not pain in giving, nor do they seek joy, nor give with mindfulness of virtue;
They give as in yonder valley the myrtle breathes its fragrance into space.
Through the hands of such as these God speaks, and from behind their eyes. He smiles upon the earth.

Second Reading: from the Dalai Lama

Giving material goods is one form of generosity, but one can extend an attitude of generosity into all one's behavior. Being kind, attentive, and honest in dealing with others, offering praise where it is due, giving comfort and advice where they are needed, and simply sharing one's time with someone - all these are forms of generosity, and they do not require any particular level of material wealth.

Scripture/Meditation Song: Open Your Hearts (Covenant 336) verse 1



Scripture: Matthew 25: 34-40

34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by
my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the
world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me
something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and
you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you
visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw
you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And
when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave
you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited
you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of
the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

Presider: This is the witness of an early Christian Community.
All: May we find wisdom for our living.

Sermon—Pastor Frank Langholf

Offering We take this time now to offer our gifts and intentions.

Special Music: **Look at the World —**by John Rutter
Emmanuel Choir

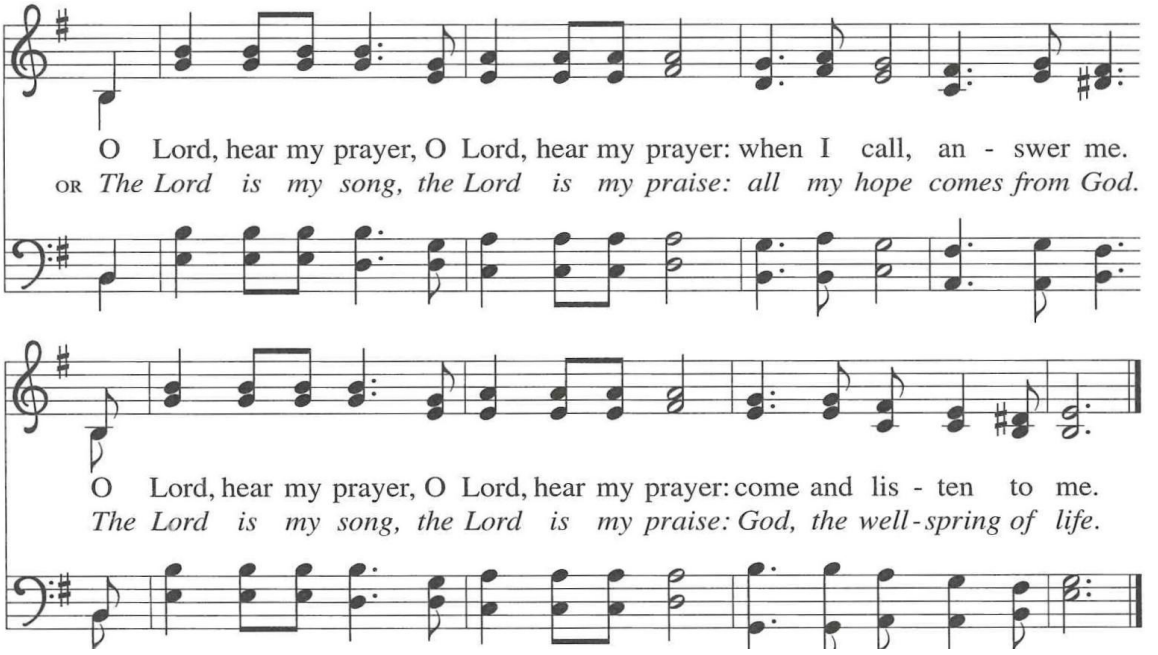
Time of Gratitude—Give Thanks (the Covenant Hymnal 74)

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord's Prayer—from the Aramaic
O Divine Beloved, Your Radiant Presence shines in all the universe.
I will hold your Radiant Presence in my heart.
Create Your Reign of Shalom NOW…(Use these willing hands and this passionate heart.)
May Your Heart's desire become mine. May they be joined as ONE.
Grant what we need each day in Bread and Wisdom.
Release us from the burden of our failures as we release those who have failed us.
Break the hold of our distractions and free us from the fears that hold us back…and the evil so close.
For yours is the Reign of Shalom, the Power, and the Song, from age to age.
AMEN. It is sealed in trust.

Communion Music— For the Fruit of All Creation—F. P. Green, Jane Holstein
Emmanuel Choir

Prayer Song and Response: O Lord, Hear My Prayer (ELW 751) Verses 1-2

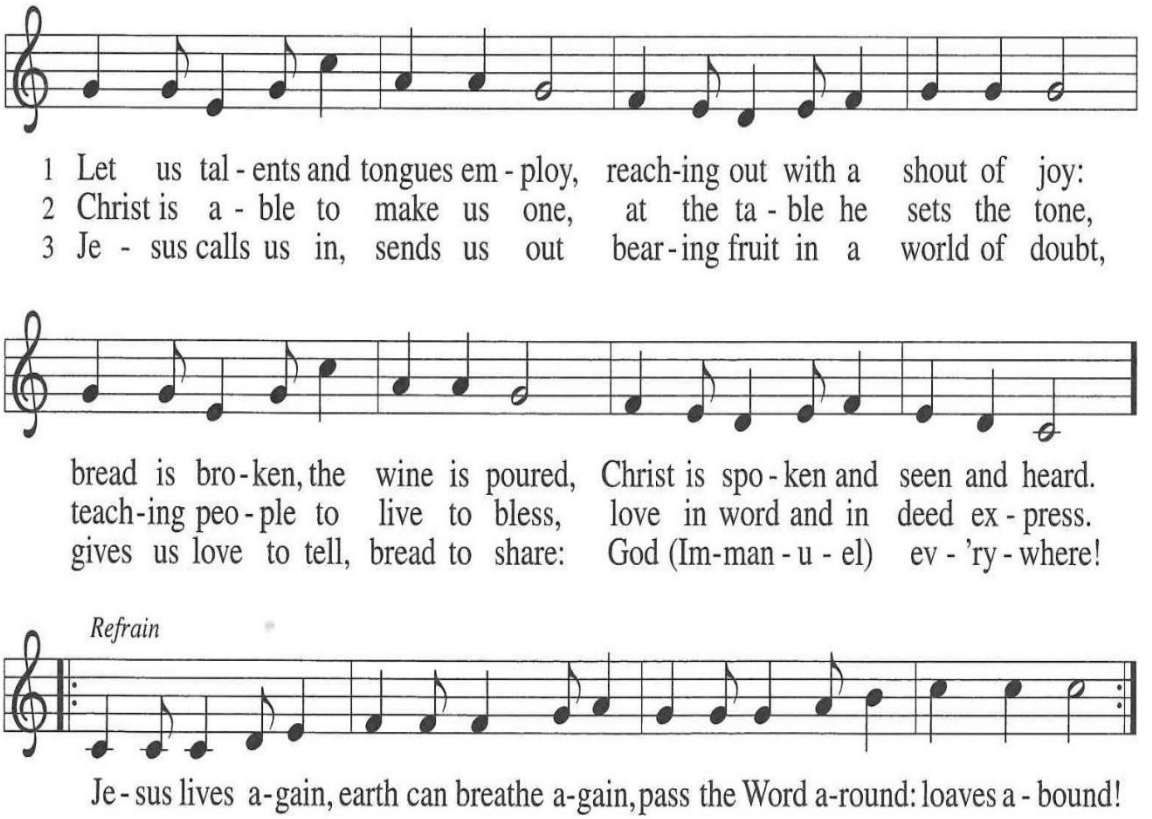


Prayers of the People

John, Linda, Lorraine, Lenny, Caryl, Deborah, Jerry, Vince, Miguel, Steve, Jim, Ruth Ann, Andrea, Char, Coulter, Judy, Kathy, Kristie, Julaine, Jeff, Sally

Announcements

Sending Song: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (ELW 674)



Benediction/Sharing of the Peace



Breathe Service:

Note change of date: Saturday, November 21st, 5:00 – 6:00pm

At Emmanuel's Breathe Meditation Service we gather for one hour to enter a sacred time - the "thin place" between the worlds - and Breathe. We listen to sacred scriptures and poetry from many traditions, we chant, and we sit in silence as we open ourselves to the Great Mystery.

Soul Garden Forest Preserve Walk: Come hike for an hour in Winnebago Counties Forest preserves. Text Holly if you want to join the hikes: 815-543-1191. Meet at the Forest preserve entrances unless otherwise instructed. All hikes begin at 10:00am **Saturday, November 21, 10:00am, Severson Dells, 8786 Montague Rd.**



Mark your calendar for Cleaning of the Sanctuary

November 19th, 9:00 – Noon.

The Messiah will be at Emmanuel again this year and we would like our sanctuary looking beautiful.

Can you usher or greet??

We need ushers and greeters for the *Rockford Choral Union's* performance of ***"Messiah".*** If you are available to help on Nov. 28th and/or Nov. 29th at 3:00pm, please contact Catherine at 815-621-5329

Hello Artists! - Artwork pick-up and drop-off.

Thank you for exhibiting in our "Echoes" show. Our next show, "Joy in the Midst" opens Nov. 20th. If you are exhibiting in this next show, you can drop off and pick up at the same time. The deadline for dropping off art is noon on Wednesday Nov 18th. We will hang the show at that time. Of you need to come on another day, the church office is open from 9-1, Tues through Thurs, 930-1130 on Friday and Sunday mornings. It's good to call ahead to let people know that you are coming. 815-963-4815.

INTERFAITH POTLUCKS

All women are invited to attend the interfaith potluck listed below, which starts at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass. Plates, silverware, and beverages will be provided.

- **Monday, November 30, 2026**, at Inscape Collective, 201 - 7th St., Rockford.

Free Turkey Dinner

Thursday, November 26th, 11:00 – 1:00pm
Carry out or drive-thru only. Limit of 2 meals per person.
Court Street Uinited Methodist Chruch,
215 N. Court St., Rockford, IL 61103 815-962-6061

WELCA – Women of the ELCA

Our Next meeting is Thursday, November 19th.

Come join us for our WELCA meeting from 9:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. on the third Thursday of the month in the Celebration room. Feel free to bring a guest. We are focusing on the Women of the Bible which should be interesting. All are welcome.

