



**Welcome to ReFresh at Emmanuel
(Restoring Energy, Faith, and Relevance to Every Soul's Heart)
July 5, 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=WFewOVbXZGd3OHFzSXQ1WXIVTHppZz09>

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: Bobbie Walter

Guest Musicians: Andrea Mahan and Lenae Weichel

Communion Assistant: Marcia Terrill

Accompanist: Clea Arbogast

Altar Guild: Brendan Noble

Consultant: Bill Houtkamp

Sound: Andrew Ehrhardt

Greeting Cards: Taj Guzzardo

Yoga With Claudette Pirrello, Mondays at 5:00 pm

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.

Date: July 5, 2026

Theme: Freedom

Prelude: Selection by Clea Arbogast

Welcome: Pastor Frank Langhof

Meditation:

Without freedom, creativity cannot flourish. The right to freedom is crucial to progress in any society; and the context is having a sense of global responsibility.—
The Dalai Lama

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.**

Opening of the Heart: Freedom Song by Desmond Tutu

“Dear Child of God, I write these words because we all experience sadness, we all come at times to despair, and we all lose hope that the suffering in our lives and in the world will ever end. I want to share with you my faith and my understanding that this suffering can be transformed and redeemed. There is no such thing as a totally hopeless case. Our God is an expert at dealing with chaos, with brokenness, with all the worst that we can imagine. God created order out of disorder, cosmos out of chaos, and God can do so always, can do so now--in our personal lives and in our lives as nations, globally. ... Indeed, God is transforming the world now--through us--because God loves us.”

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: This is My Song (ELW 887)

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,

(p)

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
my - self I give you; let your will be done.



First Reading: The Peace of Wild Things by Wendell Berry

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

Second Reading: from ELCA Sunday and Seasons 2026, Augsburg Fortress

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. The prophet, Zechariah 9:9-12, describes an everlasting realm that contrasts with earthly nations, one marked by peace, humility, and freedom. Jesus associates with those excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with selfish desires; we lament flawed systems; and we seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather around word, water, and meal by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Here we find rest for our souls and hope for life in beloved community.

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

**Open your hearts, all you who hear this,
Open your hearts to know God's love,
Open your hearts to hear his message: Jesus makes us one.**

Scripture: Galatians 5: 1a, 13-14

For freedom Christ has set us free.

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

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:

**Selection by
Andrea Mahan and Lenae Weichel**

Time of Gratitude—We Are an Offering (ELW 692)

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a 7/8 time signature. It consists of six lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering." There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) in the first, third, and sixth lines of music.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord's Prayer—traditional

Communion Music: Selection by Clea Arbogast

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

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.
OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

Prayers of the People

Julaine, Ray, Wanie, Norm, Jennie, Gary, Randy
Deborah, Jerry, Miguel, Steve, Jim, Ruth Ann, Josie

Announcements

Sending Song: Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with

The first system of music is in 3/4 time. The treble clef part features a melody of quarter and eighth notes, while the bass clef part provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble clef part has a longer note value for 'me;' before the main phrase begins.

meant to be. *With God our cre - a - tor,

The third system includes an asterisk before the phrase '*With God our creator,'. The treble clef part has a longer note value for 'meant to be.'

chil - dren all are we. Let us

The fourth system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble clef part has a longer note value for 'chil - dren all are we.'

walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.

The fifth system concludes the page with the final phrase. The treble clef part has a longer note value for 'walk with each oth - er'.

Continued...

Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mo - ment

now. With ev - ery step I take, let

this be my sol - emn vow: to take each mo - ment and

live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

Benediction/Sharing of the Peace

Dear Emmanuel Community,

On behalf of the marketing and communications committee, we are pleased to present a survey that will help guide Emmanuel through the threshold we find ourselves on the cusp of.

This committee was formed in late 2025, as we explored opportunities for growth through a marketing lens. During our annual community meeting on January 25th, 2026, the marketing and communications committee presented an array of opportunities, including opportunities for reclaiming our identity through name, branding, mission and values, website, and our in-person and online presence.

In the survey linked below, we seek input from our valued community members. Survey questions cover potential operating names, branding colors, logos, and more. Your input is vital as we navigate the opportunities presented by this transition. A strong brand identity ensures community recognition, consistency on marketing and communication materials, and an opportunity to message our values and identity.

To be clear, this survey will guide decision making, but will not be the sole deciding factor. The survey allows us to gain a pulse on our community's thoughts around this topic. As a reminder, the name "Emmanuel Lutheran Church" will continue to be our legal name. We are surveying for thoughts on potential chosen names, which would be used for our ministries, events, and spreading the word about our community. This operating name may appeal more to the broader community. This appeal can help us attract and welcome in new folks, bring in dynamic and diverse perspectives, and grow as a spiritual community. All of these aspects are important for the longevity of Emmanuel.

After survey results are in, the marketing and communications committee will present their findings to Council. Guidance will be given on how to move forward and results will be shared with our entire community.

Continued...

We understand that a change in branding can feel like a change of identity. We suggest viewing this opportunity as a chance to stand fully in our identity. Emmanuel is a spiritual community, meant for all people of all faiths. We embrace the arts, the environment, and all those who walk through our doors, regardless of spiritual path. To honor our community standards and embrace new folks into our community, we ask that you participate in this survey with an open mind and open heart.

This survey will be open through July 22. Please amplify your voice through this survey. We value the opinions of our community and want to ensure that all paths moving forward are appropriately explored.

Sincerely,

The Marketing and Communications Committee

Holly Hansen, Andrea Wallace-Noble, Brendan Noble, Jim Roberts, Christyn Rittenhouse

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Below is the link to the survey developed by the team. You are invited to light a candle before you take the survey, and invite the Spirit to stir within you as you do the survey.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdnAEyoYOaQRzmg2GxFm7p5g6\\_Ocx6LziniSUAFVhRjl9oGAw/viewform?usp=dialog](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdnAEyoYOaQRzmg2GxFm7p5g6_Ocx6LziniSUAFVhRjl9oGAw/viewform?usp=dialog)

**Allison Ruth Downie**

December 15, 1979 - May 21, 2026

A Celebration of Life will be held 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Visitation will be from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. prior to the service.

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Pastor Frank Langholf, phone 309-509-5241, email: [flangholf@gmail.com](mailto:flangholf@gmail.com)