



**WELCOME to ReFresh at EMMANUEL
(Restoring Energy, Faith and Relevance to Every Soul's Heart)
May 22, 2022**

WELCOME to ReFresh at EMMANUEL

Welcome to worship at Emmanuel Lutheran Church! The grace of God has brought us together to be Light and Leaven in and for the World. As a congregation, Emmanuel is committed to following the path of Jesus' spirituality, serving as an oasis of healing, and promoting unity and understanding among religious traditions. Our Food Pantry and Mission House reach out to the needs of our brothers and sisters in the Rockford community. "There is a place...Emmanuel."

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

We invite you to worship with us on Sundays at our 9:00am Traditional Worship Service in the chapel or our ReFresh 10:30am Service either in person or on ZOOM. The zoom link is available on constant contact weekly or in the weekly mailing. If you are not receiving the constant contact weekly, contact the church office at 815-963-4815. The Recorded Service will be available on Facebook after the completion of the 10:30am Service.

Congregation Council has set 3 Goals for 2022 **Food Ministry, On-line Presence, and Young Adults and Youth.**

The Council would like to give everyone the opportunity to share ideas for realizing these goals. Three tables will be set aside during the refreshment after worship on the first three Sundays in May. Each table will be assigned one of the goals, and post-it notes will be available for people write down their ideas, and there will be a facilitator at each table. If you wish to share ideas in conversation and/or writing simply join the tables of your choice.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 920 3rd Ave., Rockford, IL 61104
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emmanuelchurch07@gmail.com www.elcrockford.org
Pastor Frank Langholf, 309-509-5241 fslangholf@gmail.com

Date: May 22, 2022 - Theme: Rogation

Prelude: Selectin by Clea Arbogast

Meditation : All are but parts of one stupendous whole, whose body Nature is, and God the soul. —Alexander Pope

The seed is in the ground.

Now may we rest in hope while darkness does its work. —Wendell Berry

Welcome: Pastor Frank Langholf

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 —Wendell Berry

Sowing the seed,

my hand is one with the earth.

Wanting the seed to grow,

my mind is one with the light.

Hoeing the crop,

my hands are one with the rain.

Having cared for the plants,

my mind is one with the air.

Hungry and trusting,

my mind is one with the earth.

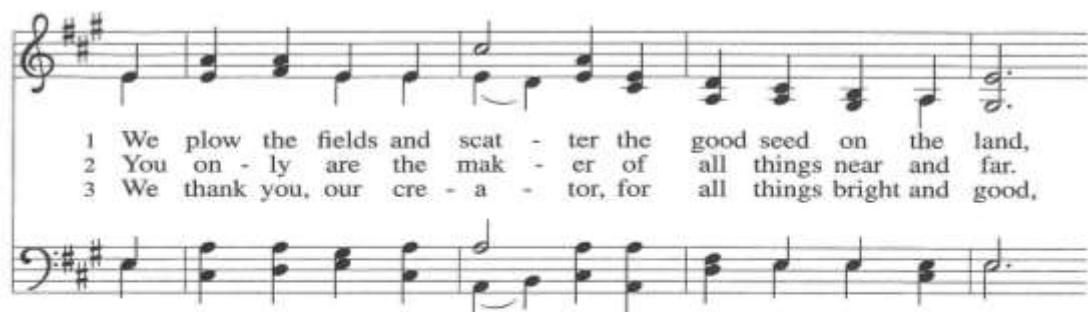
Eating the fruit,

my body is one with the earth.

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.

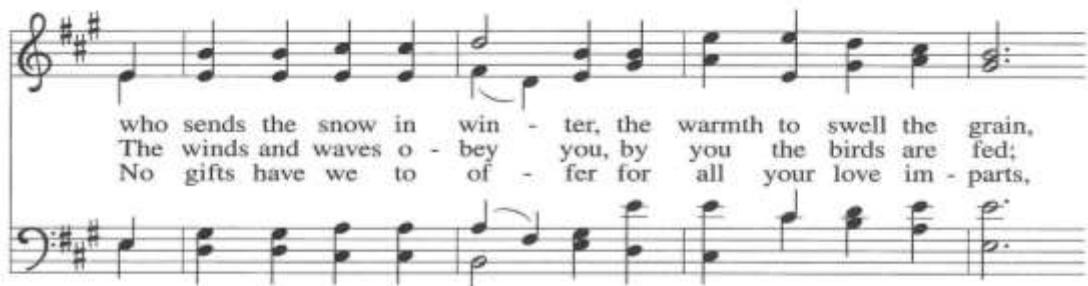
Gathering Song: We Plow the Fields and Scatter (ELW 681)



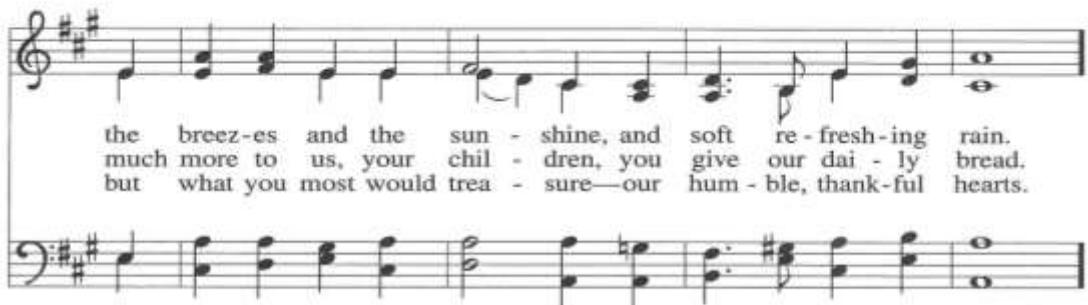
1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,
2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.
3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,
You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.
the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;
No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,



the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.
much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.
but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

Reading

**The Mad Farmer, Flying the Flag of Rough Branch,
Secedes from the Union—Wendell Berry**

From the union of power and money
From the union of power and secrecy,
From the union of government and science,
From the union of government and art,
From the union of science and money,
From the union of genius and war,
From the union of outer space and inner vacuity,
The Mad Farmer walks quietly away.

There is only one of him, but he goes.
He returns to the small country he calls home,
His own nation small enough to walk across.
He goes shadowy into the local woods,
And brightly into the local meadows and croplands.
He goes to the care of neighbors,
He goes into the care of neighbors.
He goes to the potluck supper, a dish
From each house for the hunger of every house.
He goes into the quiet of early mornings
Of days when he is not going anywhere.

Calling his neighbors together in to the sanctity
Of their lives separate and together
In the one life of the commonwealth and home,
In their own nation small enough for a story
Or song to travel across in an hour, he cries:

Come all ye conservatives and liberals
Who want to conserve the good things and be free,
Come away from the merchants of big answers,
Whose hands are metallated with power;
From the union of anywhere and everywhere
By the purchase of everything from everybody at the lowest price
and the sale of anything to anybody at the highest price;
From the union of work and debt, work and despair;
From the wage-slavery of the helplessly well-employed.

From the union of self-gratification and self-annihilation,
Secede into the care for one another
And for the good gifts of Heaven and Earth.

Come into the life of the body, the one body
Granted to you in all the history of time.
Come into the body's economy, its daily work,
And its replenishment at mealtimes and at night.
Come into the body's thanksgiving, when it knows
And acknowledges itself a living soul.
Come into the dance of the community, joined
In a circle, hand in hand, the dance of the eternal
Love of women and men for one another
And of neighbors and friends for one another.

Always disappearing, always returning,
Calling his neighbors to return, to think again
Of the care of flocks and herds, of gardens
And fields, of woodlots and forests and the uncut groves,
Calling them separately and together, calling and calling,
He goes forever toward the long restful evening
And the croak of the night heron over the river at dark.

Gospel/Meditation Song:

**The Sower's Song —Andrew Peterson
Emily Austin with Tim Austin and Tom Wilson**

Gospel: Mark 4: 26-29

26 He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, **27** and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. **28** The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. **29** But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

Presider: This is the witness of an early Christian community.

All: May we find wisdom for our living.

Sermon: Pastor Frank Langholf

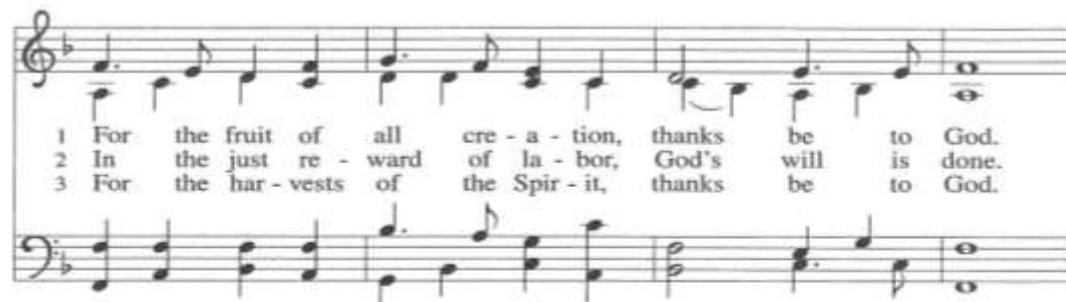
Offering

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

**Special Music: My Father's World
Emmanuel Choir**

Prayers of the People

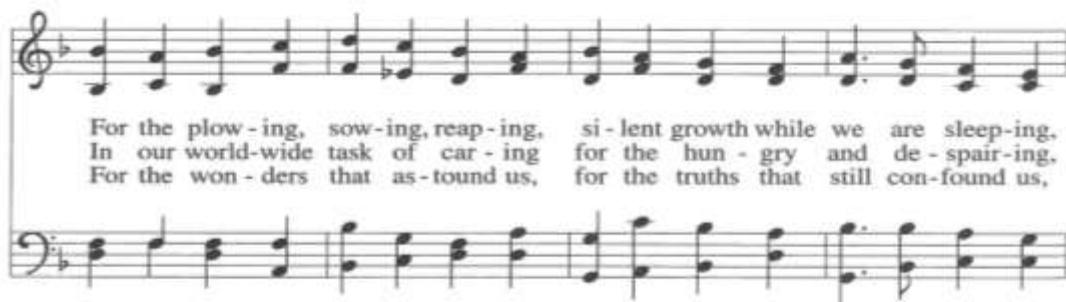
Prayer Song and Response: For The Fruits of All Creation (ELW 679) verse 1



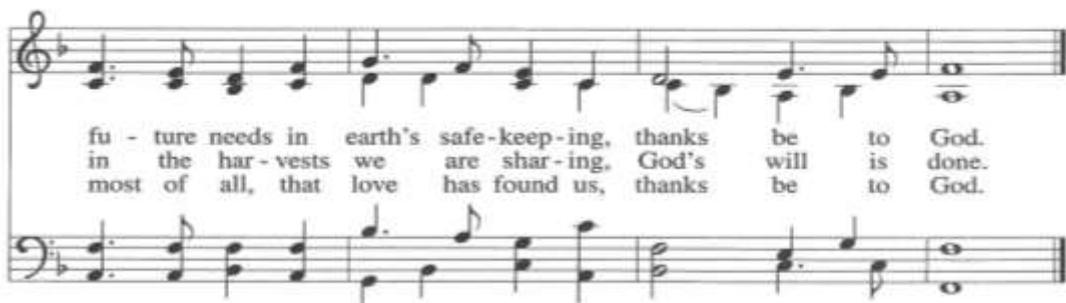
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing.
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Prayer of Peace: by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (verse 1)

**We pray for peace, O God of love and justice,
as once again, we face a time of war.**

**The meek and humble try — amid the crisis —
to love and build, to nurture and restore.**

**May leaders hear the truth the prophets teach us —
that gifts of peace are well worth struggling for.**

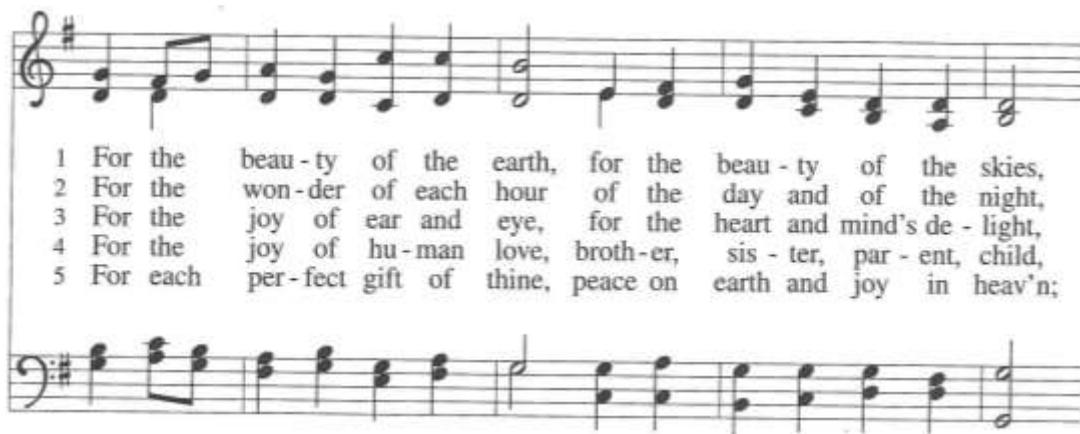
The Lord's Prayer—William L. Wallace

**O God of sky and God of Earth,
We honor your presence
Within us and beyond.
As we eat may we share your gifts
Of hope and compassion
With all the life of Earth.**

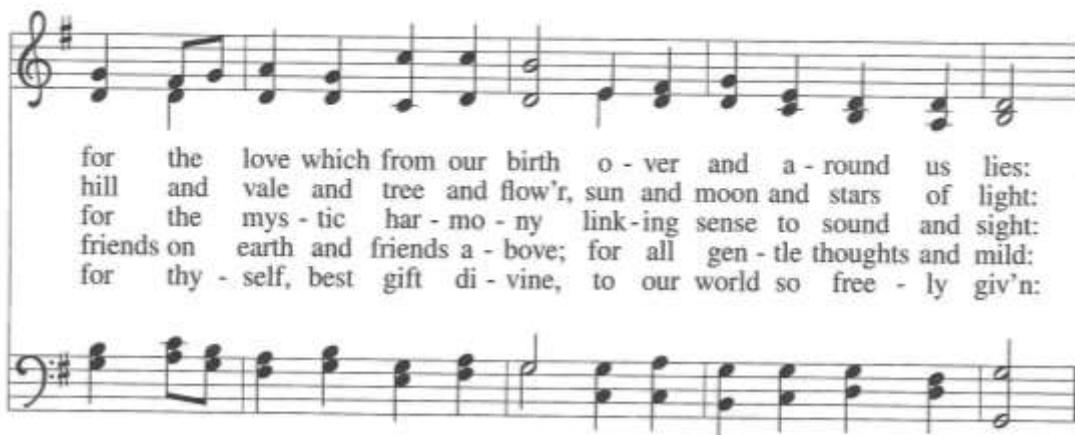
**Give us, O God, forgiving hearts
Affirming each other
With humor and with grace.
May we grow beyond narrow needs
To join in the spreading
Of just and loving peace.**

**You greet us here and everywhere,
In moments of oneness
And spaces of delight.
To all this we now say "Amen",
Your song is our anthem,
Your dance our cosmic joy.**

Sending Song: For the Beauty Of the Earth (ELW 879)

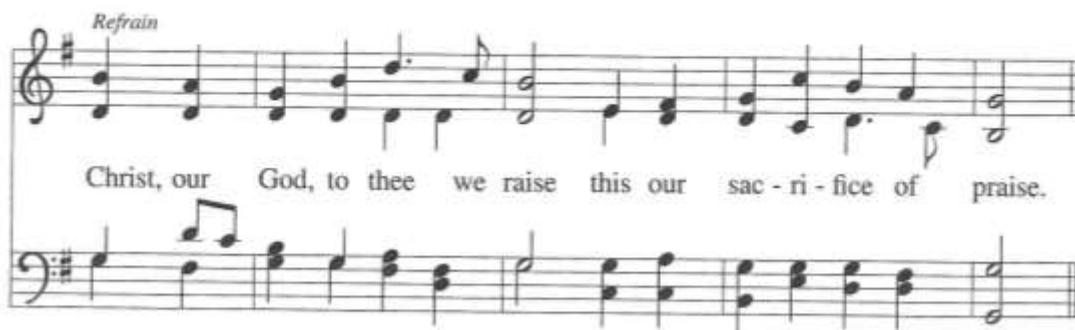


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Benediction:

May God, our creator,

Bless this good earth, and make it fruitful;

Bless our labour, and give us all things needful for our daily lives;

Bless the homes of this land and all who live within them;

Bless our common life and our care for our neighbor. Amen.

Sharing of Peace

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Presider: Pastor Frank Langholf

Sound: Andrew Ehrhardt

Lector: Dan & Susan Goldberg

Consultant: Bill Houtkamp

Coordinator of Adult Music Ministry: Tim Fenelon

Special Music: Emily Austin, Tim Austin, Tom Wilson, Emmanuel Choir

Accompanist: Clea Arbogast

Usher: Jack Ream

Greeting Cards: Ann Downie

Altar Guild: Marcia Terrill, Kathlyn Wright

In Our Prayers:

Lucille Dunphey

Holly Blair Cascio

Jeff Birch

Cynthia Barnes

Lucio Aldana

Andrea Glynn

Todd Anderson

Karen Johnson

Roylee Wood

Jim Burcham

A Message from the Food Pantry:

The Rockford Post Office is resuming their food drive this year on the 14th of May, after two years off due to Covid. Notices should be going out to all the Rockford postal customers in the next couple weeks. We will need volunteers to help us unpack all the food we receive early this week. We don't know the definite date yet. But, it's actually a pretty amazing experience.

If you are interested in helping out, please sign up on the sheet on the table outside the Celebration Room with your contact information, so we can let you know when to come. Lunch will be provided! Also, our plastic bags are overflowing! Please hold on to your plastic bags until we let you know we need some more. Thank you for all your support.

Joie de Vivre: Joy of Living Art Show: Please come and see the amazing art Exhibit which will continue through Sunday, July 3, 2022 in the Celebration room.

Spiritual Journeys: Please join us on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. via ZOOM, as we read together and discuss the book: The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World, by the Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu, and Douglas Carlton Abrams. The book is available on Amazon in hardcover and Kindle, and elsewhere, new and used. If you would like to join but find its price out of reach, please contact Karen Van Howe karenvanhowe@gmail.com. Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88225771321>

Emmanuel hosts NPR's "ON BEING" on Zoom every Sunday at 9:00 am.

We listen together, read along with transcript, and pause to share our thoughts.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88058004528>

Bible Studies: Emmanuel: Wednesdays at noon. Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89356888344pwd=dEw2NHVsS0JzYWdxUWdGVVk3OE5XZz09>

Celebrating the Pipe Organ in Rockford

Three Organ Concerts in ONE Week - Six Exceptional Organists

Admission is FREE, freewill offering instead.

Sunday, June 5, 7:30pm Isabelle Demers

Holy Family Church, 4401 Highcrest Road - Buzard Organ

Tuesday, June 7, 7:00pm Peter Yardley-Jones and Tyler A. Canonico

Trinity Lutheran Church, 200 N. 2nd Street -Casavant Organ

Thursday, June 9, 7:00pm Dr. Clair Rozier, John E. Wigal, Dr. Naomi Rowley

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 412 N. Church St. -Austin Organ



The "Soul Pod" Experience

Soul Pod creates a safe space for meditation through song leading, free dance, vibrational healing, and inspirational art. No experience necessary!

Come join us and nurture your soul.

May 27 6:30-8:00 PM at Emmanuel Lutheran

Facilitated by Kristin Urban

Accompanied by Kiran Vedula, Mica Cascarano-Berg, Dave Blessum,
Nick Sweet, Donna Lewis, and Imeeka Dias.