

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Prescott Valley, AZ
“to serve God and share the good news of Jesus Christ”
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 2020 Traditional Worship Service

Prelude

“Like a River Glorious”
(Mountain/Cook)

Cathy Namock, piano

Welcome

P: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

GATHERING

Opening Litany

Psalm 23

L: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

C: The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

L: You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

C: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

L: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

C: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Confession & Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

L: Gracious God,

C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn

“O Day of Rest and Gladness” (vs. 1 & 2)

Hymn #521

O day of rest and gladness,
O day of joy and light,
O balm for care and sadness,
most beautiful, most bright:
on you the high and lowly,
through ages joined in tune,
sing, “Holy, holy, holy,”
to the great God triune.

On you, at earth’s creation,
the light first had its birth;
on you, for our salvation,
Christ rose from depths of earth;
on you, our Lord victorious
the Spirit sent from heav’n;
and thus on you, most glorious,
a three-fold light was giv’n.

Prayer of the Day

L: Lord of the feast,

C: You have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children’s Message

Special Music

“Grace Alone” (by Scott Brown & Jeff Nelson)
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Cheryl Hartz

WORD

A Scripture Reading

Philippians 4:1-9

Reading Introduction

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God’s peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about^[f] these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:1-14

22 Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

“An Invitation to A Party”

Pastor Tricia Lowe

Hymn of the Day

“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life” (vs. 1 & 6)

Hymn #719

Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife,
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.

Till all the world shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heav’n above
shall come the city of our God.

Apostle’s Creed

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

L: With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

L: Gracious host, fill your church with a spirit of joyous hospitality. We pray for bishops, teachers, church leaders, and all children of God as they invite others to your table of boundless grace. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Gracious host, as creation waits with eager longing for redemption, protect your creatures that are mistreated. Restore valleys, mountains, pastures, and still and running waters and especially places devastated by wildfires and hurricanes. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Gracious host, as you set a table in the presence of enemies, so bless the efforts of diplomats, international peace workers, and world leaders. May they proceed with dialogue and understanding, so that justice and peace prevails for all your children. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Gracious host, let your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill. Strengthen doctors, medical care workers, and caretakers who see to their needs, especially those affected by the global pandemic. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Gracious host, when we are quick to judge outward appearance, remind us how you clothe all in your mercy. We pray for ministries that provide needed clothing and other personal care assistance in this community. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Please take this time to offer any other intercessions, either aloud or in your heart.

L: Gracious host, as we remember Judy Nielsen and those who have died and are gathered at the heavenly banquet, comfort us with your presence. Assure us of your peace at all times. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

P: Gathered together as God's people, we share the words Jesus taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Offering:

P: At this time I would like to offer thanks for the offerings that we have received both in the mail, online and in person. These gifts make it possible for us to continue to be the church in the world even when we can't meet face to face. If you are worshiping with us today and would like to make a donation, please go to our website homepage and click the online giving link.

Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts; ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, to show the world your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

The Benediction

**P: May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.
May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
C: Amen.**

Closing Hymn

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing" (vs. 1)

Hymn # 547

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended	the fruits of this service in all who believe. The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all.	Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom and answer your call.
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DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: Thanks be to God.



As a congregation, we pray for God's guidance on our journey of service to our membership, our community and our world. Pray for Pastor Tricia, the Church Council, and the Ministry Leadership. The church office reviews this list monthly. Please call if your prayer concern is removed earlier than you wish.

Please keep the following in your prayers during this week:

Members

<i>Alis Seim</i>	<i>Geri Cottrell</i>	<i>Linda Walkoff</i>
<i>Arlene Meder</i>	<i>Gwen Savage</i>	<i>Marilyn & Leo Murphy</i>
<i>Barbara Stockbridge</i>	<i>Helen Morton</i>	<i>Marty Watkins</i>
<i>Ben Stricker</i>	<i>Jeanne Currie Tomlinson</i>	<i>Mary Austin</i>
<i>Bonnie Kain</i>	<i>John Clark</i>	<i>Nancy Nimocks</i>
<i>Carol Hotten</i>	<i>Karen Roush</i>	<i>Pam MacCleary</i>
<i>Chuck Lynch</i>	<i>Kat Harley-Mays</i>	<i>Ramona Walker</i>
<i>Cris Spahr</i>	<i>Kyle Smith</i>	<i>Ron Kovara</i>
<i>David Ramirez</i>	<i>Leigh Quinn</i>	<i>Ruth Martindale</i>
<i>Deanna McDaniel</i>	<i>Len Warne</i>	<i>Wayne Theobald</i>

Our Family Members in Military and Deployed

Meg Northrup *Jim VanScoy* *Kenneth Lindsay deployed Kuwait – friend of Carl Schulze*

Family Members and Friends

<i>Adam & Liz Crowley – daughter & son-in-law of Barbie Harlib</i>	<i>Julie Ward – daughter of Keith & Cathy Namock</i>
<i>Anita Vasser – daughter of Mida Jordan</i>	<i>Kelly Smith – daughter of Bobbe Serena Wayman</i>
<i>Baby Aurora & Baby Dale – Worthington's foster children</i>	<i>Kris Franklin- friend of Wendy Woolley</i>
<i>Becky Bodnarczuk – niece of Nancy Clark</i>	<i>Leroy Goats – father-in-law of Kimberly Goats</i>
<i>Bill Deffenbaugh – stepfather of Kimberly Goats</i>	<i>Linda Vallner – sister of Ron Kovara</i>
<i>Bob Hermann – cousin of Willie & Betty Hermann</i>	<i>Marie – Clara Farmer's son's mother-in-law</i>
<i>Buel McCoy – father of Wendy Woolley</i>	<i>Marilyn Bostin – cousin of Tom Smith</i>
<i>Cheryl Midel – aunt of Wendy Woolley</i>	<i>Mark Kovara – son of Ron Kovara</i>
<i>Chris Vettore – daughter of Ron Kovara</i>	<i>Merle MacCleary – father of Pam MacCleary</i>
<i>Connie Miller & son Trevor – friends of Carl Schulze</i>	<i>Miranda & Brad Rebholz – granddaughter and grandson of Jim & Carole Rebholz</i>
<i>Cris & Susie – brother & sister of Clara Farmer</i>	<i>Rev. Paul Meier – former pastor of Larry & Sonya Mahler</i>
<i>Dan Lowe – brother-in-law of Pastor Tricia</i>	<i>Rich, Carol, daughter Rachel & grand daughter Audrey, friends of Larry & Sonya Mahler</i>
<i>Debra Jones – mother-in-law of Kimberly Goats</i>	<i>Rosemary – neighbor of Mary Wakimoto</i>
<i>Don Jones – friend of Jim & Carole Rebholz</i>	<i>Sam Crifasi – friend of Larry Mahler</i>
<i>Doug Bayle – nephew of Phyllis Pohlman</i>	<i>Sarah Mulligan – daughter of Carol Wade</i>
<i>Edie Hales – mother of Cheryl Miller</i>	<i>Shelly Damschroder – friend of Kathy Austin and Daughter-in-law of Margaret Damschroder</i>
<i>Edward Kelly – friend of Mark & Mary Austin</i>	<i>Star Campbell – friend of Bob Saul</i>
<i>Grant – grandson of Dan & Carol Cwach</i>	<i>Stefanie O'Donnell – daughter of Shelby & Carol Tate</i>
<i>Jack Gregory – friend of Ellen Rosfeld</i>	<i>Trisha Galindo – daughter of Gary & Jean Kiser</i>
<i>Janice Zimbelman – friend of Emmanuel</i>	<i>Wayne Wallingford – brother of Sheila Smilgis</i>
<i>Joann Harlib – mother of Scott Harlib</i>	
<i>Joshua Diebel – stepbrother of Tawnya Worthington</i>	

Our prayers and sympathies to Bobbe Serena Wayman and family on the passing of her husband, Donald Wayman, on Thursday, October 1, 2020. A celebration of life will be held on October 22, 2:00 pm at the Orchard Ranch Pavilion.

Our prayers and sympathies to Jan Howell and family on the passing of her sister, Marilyn Ballreich, on Friday, October 2, 2020.

Our prayers and sympathies to Milo Nielsen and family on the passing of his wife Judy Nielsen, on Sunday, October 4, 2020.

Someone is in the church office weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., but the church doors will be locked. Please knock upon arriving or call first. Please note that we are now **requesting that everyone wear masks** when they enter the church building. Don't be surprised when Mary and Pastor Tricia put theirs on when you come in! With the rise in cases of the virus in our community, we want to make sure we use all safety precautions to protect the most vulnerable among us.

MISSION OUTREACH for the month of October is Liberty Traditional School. We are accepting monetary donations, and at the end of the month we will contact the school to see what their needs are and then purchase the items.

We are updating the photo directory! Because we are not meeting in the church building yet, we are asking you to submit your own pictures. You can take a selfie with your phone or have someone else take it for you. Please include your smiling faces and upper torso in front of a **solid-colored background**. Please email them to the church office, at Emmanuelca@gmail.com, or text them to Pr. Tricia on her cellphone, at 301-890-9785, by November 1. (Please include your names!)

Interfaith Meal: Did you know that our church feeds about 120 community members each month during our Interfaith Meal? Even if you aren't available on a Thursday (during prep) or Friday (during the meal), check with Outreach to see how you can help! With meals discontinued at Trinity and postponed at St. Germaine's during this social distancing time, Emmanuel is hosting a second meal each month. Our next **take-out only meal** is **Friday, October 23, at 11:00 a.m.**

Offerings - Even though we are not meeting in the sanctuary, our church keeps the lights on! We are paying our staff, our bills and our benevolence commitment to the synod, and serving the twice monthly interfaith meals. This is only possible if our members continue to give. There are several ways to give your offering: mail it in, drop it off in the secure locking mailbox next to the front door, drop it off in person during office hours, use Vanco auto-withdraw system or Bill Pay with your bank, which is great because there are no fees to you or the church for this service. We are so blessed to have such a generous and faithful congregation!

Food Pantry – At this time, the food pantry prefers monetary donations so they can purchase the needed items. Donations can be mailed to the church and we will make sure the Food Pantry receives them in a timely manner. We will have a food bag drive, with a drop off at church, later.

A new book study will start on Wednesday, October 14 at 1:00pm, to continue the work of understanding racism. We will be reading Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s book, *Letter from the Birmingham Jail*. The group will meet via Zoom for one hour each week; the book is only 60 pages long, so we anticipate a three to four week commitment to finish the book. Pr. Tricia has ordered four books; it is available on Amazon for just \$5.00. The Zoom invite will appear in Monday and Tuesday's daily email.

Job Opening on Church Staff – Audio Visual Technician – as Emmanuel looks to begin livestreaming our worship services, we have created a position for someone to run the audio, video and lighting during the worship service. If you know of someone who has these skills and might be interested, direct them to the church website for a job description. Applications are available in the church office.

Aluminum Cans – Emmanuel is still collecting cans. Please bring them to the church in bags and deposit in the container in the dumpster area.

Emmanuel has volunteered to be a pick-up and drop off location for the Arizona Masks for Medical Workers project. The LDS church is providing the materials for our area. If you are able to sew any masks in the next two weeks, visit www.justserve.org to sign up and get directions. These are special masks that can be autoclaved for reuse by medical professionals. This ecumenical effort will benefit our local hospitals.