

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – AUGUST 23, 2026

INVOCATION

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

HYMN ELW 654
LLC 479

Worship Booklet
"The Church's One Foundation"
"Un Solo fundamento"

KYRIE

HYMN OF PRAISE

PRAYER OF THE DAY- O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON - see Celebrate

ISAIAH 51:1-6

PSALM 138 see Celebrate

SECOND LESSON - see Celebrate

ROMANS 12:1-8

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Halle, Halle, Halle

Worship booklet

THE GOSPEL - see Celebrate insert

MATTHEW 16:13-20

SERMON

HYMN ELW #798

"Will You come and Follow Me"

Insert

"El Llamado"

APOSTLES CREED

Worship Booklet

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - see Celebrate

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERTORY / OFFERING PRAYER

Worship booklet

HOLY COMMUNION WITH LORD'S PRAYER

Worship Booklet

Thanksgiving and Sanctus

Eucharistic Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Distribution / Lamb of God

Blessing

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

HYMN ELW #652

"Built on a Rock"

Insert

"Edifacdo Sobre Una Roca "

BENEDICTION / ANNOUNCEMENTS / DISMISSAL

THIS WEEK AT EMMANUEL

SUNDAY	10:00 A.M.	Worship
MONDAY	10:00 A.M.	Parish Life
TUESDAY	1:00 P.M.	Women's Bible Study at Zion

The flowers on the altar were given by Rosa and Ken Ofslager in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

Let us pray for...

Melissa Stoller, **Bishop, Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod**

Peter Asplin and Erin Jones, **Assistants to the Bishop**

Rev. Yehiel Curry, **Presiding Bishop, ELCA**

Bishop Henrik Stubkjær, **President, Lutheran World Federation**

President Modeste, **Tulear Synod, Malagasy Lutheran Church**

HEALING & SPECIAL NEEDS: Refugees & asylum seekers, Rachel F., Rose & Chip, Judy H., Roni, Karin, Tommy C., Darlene & Al, Lana, Dayton, Nan, Sandra, Yuri, Pr. Tony, Mitzi, Fernando, Lynn F. & Zach & Lynn's brother, Noah, Debbie B., Myschel, Janet, Bob, Andrew W., Wael's family, Mark, Sydney B., Pr. Ken, Eric, Debbie K., Leilani, Carol G., Debbie, Marion Q., Karen M., Marlene T., Kandy Sue, Robin, Louie, Kat, Hunter, Laura, Pam, Julie H., Jeff C, Pat P, Courtney, Mindy, Tony, Joann, Luis S., Carole & Len, Judy M, Brian P & work colleagues, Lisa V, Debbie C, Barb G., Analisa B, Debbie, Pr Jin, Terry, Yinke, Jordan, Jim, Amy S., Nancy S., Darlene & Al and all with undiagnosed illnesses.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY: Bishop Patricia Davenport, Judy's cousin, Terry Koch. Curtis Jones

HOMEBOUND: Fran Walsh, Carole Hill

NURSING HOME & ASSISTED LIVING: Mary Jane Freund (Concordia Ridgewood-Plum); Shirley & Jack Pickens (William Penn Center); Roni Mayhood (Merakey); Esther Schwab (Seneca Manor); June Minnear (Beatty Point Village); Peggy Ebert (Kane-McKeesport)

CAREGIVERS: Judy M., Chris, Chip, Darlene, Alexis, John, Barbara, Dawn, Daniel, Len

EMPLOYMENT: Spirit Airlines employees, Doug M., Justin K.

COUNTRY OF THE MONTH: Palestine, Israel and Lebanon

MISSION PARTNER: Holy Trinity - East Pittsburgh

CHURCH OF THE MONTH: Trinity -Verona

LUTHERAN AGENCY: Thiel College

SCHOOL OF THE MONTH: Trinity Christian School, Forest Hills

CELEBRATE –13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, AUGUST 23, 2026

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

¹Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Psalm: Psalm 138

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever. (Ps. 138:8)

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.
²I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.
³When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.
⁴All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.
⁶The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.
⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.
⁸You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship.
²Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.
³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation (*local areas of ecological concern may be named*). Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster (*especially...*). Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day (*especially*).

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**