



## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

1229 Jefferson Heights Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

[eastmontelc@hotmail.com](mailto:eastmontelc@hotmail.com)

[www.emmanuel Lutheran eastmont.org](http://www.emmanuel Lutheran eastmont.org)

412-824-4525 (office); 412-401-5742 (Pastor's cell)

Office Hours: Wednesday 10-3, Thursday 9-1

May 21, 2025

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ASCENSION DAY IS NEXT THURSDAY, MAY 29. JESUS DIRECTS US TO CONTINUE HIS WORK IN EVERY CORNER OF OUR LIVES AND IN ALL THE PLACES THAT EXIST.

**C: Jesus stayed with us for forty days after he died and rose to life.**

L: He proved to us that he truly lives and taught us about the kingdom of God.

**C: We gathered together on the mountain, "Lord," we asked, "is this the time? Will you restore the kingdom of Israel?"**

L: he told us, "It is not for you to know the times which the Father has set, but by his authority you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to you. You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to all the ends of the earth.

**C: He blessed us and we watched as he rose up and out of sight into a cloud. We stood and stared.**

L: Two men suddenly stood by us dressed in white robes like angels. They said:

**C: Why do you stand looking up?**

**This Jesus which you saw taken from you into heaven will return in the same way that you saw him go.**

**All: So we returned and waited together to receive the Holy Spirit.**

THIS DIALOG IS BASED ON ACTS 1.

WE WILL INCLUDE IT AS THE CLOSING FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, MAY 25.

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**Graduates – We will honor and pray for graduates on June 8. Please help us include your relatives and friends in the prayers that day. Give their names to Pastor Linda.**

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### Bread for the World Offering of Letters June 1

During worship on June 1, we will learn more about the issues in this year's offering of letters. On June 8 we will dedicate our letters. Any letters brought to Emmanuel will be sent with Joyce Rothermel to Washington, DC. She will present them in person to our senators and representatives. You may also send your letter in the mail. This week's mailing includes a sample letter.



Bread for the World is a Christian advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger. Their mission is to educate and equip people to advocate for policies and programs that can help end hunger in the U.S. and around the world. Emmanuel and many other congregations collect an offering of letters once a year as one of many ways that follow Jesus' instruction to feed the hungry.

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## Stewardship Reflection by Dennis Orsen

Gudina Tumsa from Ethiopia was a classmate of mine at seminary. He went back to his homeland to serve our Lord in the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus during a time of persecution under a communist regime.

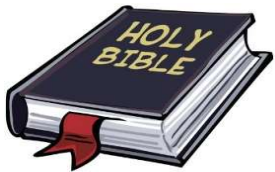


Tumsa was elected General Secretary of the denomination. While he was offered a way to escape, he chose to stay and serve the church that had called him. He disappeared in 1978. For many years, people prayed for his release while suspecting that he was assassinated. No one in the church knew where he was buried, until the regime fell thirteen years later in May 1991. Tumsa died a martyr for the Christian faith.

I share one of his quotes in a pastoral letter he wrote to the church. I believe the quote is universally truthful regardless of the context that we Christians find ourselves:

*It is the duty of Christians, as individuals and in congregations, to pray and work for peace and reconciliation. As the body of Christ in the world, the church is made up of many people and various classes. In claiming the name of Christ, we must overcome differences of opinion by dialogue, suspicion by trust, and hatred by love. Such dialogue, trust, and love must be extended to those outside our particular fellowship to Christians of different confessions and to people of other faiths and ideologies.*

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### BIBLE BOOK OF THE MONTH ENDS WITH PSALMS IN JUNE

We conclude the Bible Book of the Month next month with Psalms 73-106.

We began the Bible Book of the Month in January of 2021. Usually, the featured book was included in the Sunday worship for the month.

The introductions to all the Bible Books of the Month are available on the home page of our website, [www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org](http://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org)

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**Sunday, June 8** – Pentecost

**Monday, June 9, 10 am** – WIHP meeting

**Saturday, June 14, 12:30 pm** – Synod Assembly at LaRoche

**Tuesday, June 17, 1 pm** – Church council meeting

**Sunday, July 13, 10 am** – Bishop Kusserow visits Emmanuel



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## Worship and pray

Come in person at 10 am every Sunday

**By phone:** Call 312-626-6799. When prompted, enter the meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

**By computer or smartphone:** Go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us). Enter Meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

**At home without technology:** Read the bulletin. Read the Scripture. Pray. Meditate.

### Sunday evening Lutheran worship in Spanish (The Welcoming Table)

In person only at 6:00 p.m.

Held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 1516 Beechview Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216.

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## GIFTS TO WIHP

Thank you to the Ladies Gathering Group at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in New Stanton for a gift of \$283.00.

Thank you to Rev. Paul Dordal and Rhythms of Resistance for a gift of \$430.00.

Emmanuel has a fair-trade sales table with Coffee, Tea and Chocolate. Pastor Linda and Helen will provide fair trade for the synod's annual women's convention on May 30-31.



## Last week for CHOCOLATE SALES SPECIAL

**\$1.00 Lemon Ginger**

**\$2.00 for all other chocolate bars** – milk chocolate, caramel crunch, mint and dark, very dark, and extremely dark chocolate bars. Currently the regular wholesale price is \$2.75. Next year the price will be higher!!



**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Call Pastor Theophilus for yourself or others to be included in prayer. Contact Marsha Kennedy also; she sends cards to let people know that we are praying for them. You can reach Marsha at 412-824-4966 or [Marsha\\_Kennedy@verizon.net](mailto:Marsha_Kennedy@verizon.net) or 415 Kingston Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

**To order altar flowers** for our weekly worship services, contact Judy Mayhood (412-760-0986), call the church office, or sign up on the Flower Chart in the entry way. The cost is \$50, or \$25 per vase. You can pay for flowers online or by check.

**PENTECOST** is Sunday, June 8. If you'd like to order red geraniums to decorate the sanctuary for Pentecost, call the church office or use the sign-up sheet in the entryway. The cost for each geranium is \$5.00, and the **last day to order is this Sunday, May 25, 2025.**



**Red Geraniums  
for Pentecost**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIVING. You may give in person, send a contribution in the mail or donate online.**

Go to <https://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org/> and you'll see the link.

Or use the QR code for easy connection on your smart phone.

**Thursday, June 12 @ 6 PM - Saturday, June 14 @ 12:30 PM**

In-Person Only at La Roche University



**Last Saturday, the Assembly met to nominate candidates for the Bishop's election.**

On May 23, the synod website will announce the nominees who will stand for election. All nominees are given a chance to withdraw.

**This is a sample letter which you can use to create your own letter to Senators Fetterman and McCormick and to your Representative (probably Summer Lee or Chris Deluzio); or on Sunday, June 1, there will be letters ready to sign at Emmanuel. Today we are providing this for your information. If you cannot come in person on June 1, you may use this sample to create your own personal handwritten letter and mail it yourself.**

[Date]

Rep.  
U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515  
Sen.  
U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator, / Dear Representative,

I urge you to protect and strengthen nutrition programs that help children reach their full potential.

Specifically, I ask you to:

- Protect, restore, and secure robust funding for global nutrition programs, so that we can reach millions of children with lifesaving assistance.
- Fully fund and strengthen the domestic Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) so that more eligible families in the U.S. are able to enroll and stay enrolled.

For just a small percentage of the federal budget (well under 1 percent), lifesaving aid has an outsized global impact. These strategic investments not only save and improve the lives of tens of millions of children every year, they secure America's standing as a global leader and trusted partner, open new markets to American goods, and reduce national security threats like terrorism and infectious disease.

In 2023 in the U.S. (the last year for which there is data), the WIC program served nearly 7 million participants per month. Participation in WIC is associated with reduced risk of premature birth, low birthweight, and infant mortality.

Genesis 1:27 reminds us that every person is created in God's image, and we honor God when we love our neighbors, especially the most vulnerable among us. In the Gospels, Jesus opens his arms and welcomes children, saying "the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14).

Again, I urge you to protect, restore, and secure robust funding for global child nutrition programs and to fully fund and strengthen WIC in the U.S.

Whether from a fiscal, moral, or faith-based standpoint, the investment in children is more than worth it.

[Add a sentence or two about why you care.]

Sincerely,

[Your name] [Your address]