

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1229 Jefferson Heights Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

412-824-4525

E-Mail: EastmontELC@Hotmail.com

www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org

Rev. Linda Orsen Theophilus, Pastor

420 Nike Drive - 412- 824-5945/412-401-5742 cell

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – JULY 5, 2026

INVOCATION

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Worship Booklet

KYRIE

Worship Booklet

HYMN OF PRAISE

Worship Booklet

PRAYER OF THE DAY- You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

PSALM 145:8-14

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8)

⁸ The Lord is gracious and full ^l of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in ^l steadfast love.

⁹ **Lord, you are ^l good to all,
and your compassion is over ^l all your works. R**

¹⁰ All your works shall praise ^l you, O Lord,
and your faithful ^l ones shall bless you.

**¹¹ They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom
and speak | of your power,**

¹² that all people may know | of your power
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

**¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- | out
all ages. You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works.**

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down. **R**

SECOND LESSON -

ROMANS 7: 15-25

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Halle, Halle, Halle

Worship booklet

THE GOSPEL -

MATTHEW 11: 16-19, 25-30

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶ "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷ 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

¹⁸ "For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

There is no pastor's sermon today. We speak with our actions. Everyone is encouraged to go directly to the Interfaith Service activity at the Monroeville Community Park, Treetops Amphitheater. This is similar to God's Work, Our Hands, but interfaith with the theme of Caring for Our Neighbors.

HYMN # 887
insert
APOSTLES CREED

"This is my Song"
"Este es mi canto"
Worship Booklet

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION -

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God our unity, your church flourishes in different languages, cultures, and movements. Grant us wisdom to discern when our yokes are too heavy, that we may live and serve in the freedom of your rest. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our life-giver, we grieve the pains placed upon our common home through war and neglect. What you have lovingly crafted, guide us to lovingly tend. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our freedom, you are no tyrant but bring peace. As this nation marks its declaration of independence, teach us our part in announcing peace for future generations. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our comfort, liberate all in our community who are captive to fear, who have become isolated or ill, or who are in any need (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our guide, we do not always have the strength to do the good we wish to do. Free us from the cycles of violence that bind us, that all know your liberation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God our home, you model freedom through the love shared across communities of trust and goodwill. As we remember those now gone to eternal rest (*especially*), we thank you for the gifts of life together. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERTORY / OFFERING PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION WITH LORD'S PRAYER

Thanksgiving and Sanctus

Eucharistic Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Distribution / Lamb of God

Blessing

Worship booklet

Worship Booklet

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING SONG #839 ELW

583 LLC

"Now Thank We All Our God"

"De Corazon y Corazon"

BENEDICTION / ANNOUNCEMENTS / DISMISSAL

THIS WEEK AT EMMANUEL

SUNDAY

10:00 a.m.

Worship

10:30 am Interfaith Service Event at Treetop Amphitheater, Monroeville Community Park
4 pm Interfaith Picnic w/ Christian Associates

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

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, Mindy, 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, Joann, Luis S., Carole & Len, Judy M, Brian P & work colleagues, Lisa V, Debbie C, Barb G., Analisa B, Debbie, Pr Jin, Terry and all with undiagnosed illnesses.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY: Grace Miller, Felix Alcorta-Rodriguez

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), Carole Hill (Concordia Monroeville).

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

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

COUNTRY OF THE MONTH: Venezuela and the United States

MISSION PARTNER: Holy Trinity - East Pittsburgh

CHURCH OF THE MONTH: Hope - Turtle Creek

LUTHERAN AGENCY: Thiel College

SCHOOL OF THE MONTH: Beechwood Elementary in Beechview