

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Prescott Valley, AZ
“to serve God and share the good news of Jesus Christ”
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2020 Contemporary Worship Service

Prelude

Cathy Namock, organist

GATHERING

Gathering Song

“Lord I Lift Your Name on High”

Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

You came from heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

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Lord I love to sing Your praises
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Lord I lift Your name on high

Welcome

P: This is the day that the Lord has made,

C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it! Amen.**

Invocation

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

C: **Amen.**

Opening Litany and Confession

L: The sinners, the saints; the broken, the whole.

C: **We all come seeking the One who offers grace and hope.**

L: The doubters, the devout; the wonderers, the wanderers.

C: **We all seek to follow the One who works for justice and hope for all of God's people.**

L: The hesitant, the heroic; the grandparents, the children.

C: **We all listen for the songs of joy creation sings to the One who gives life and peace.**

L: Lord, as we gather together, we acknowledge we are a forgiven people.

C: **May we, like you, be generous in offering forgiveness to others.**

L: You forgive us each and every day for the many ways we fall short of your mercy.

C: **Teach us to embody your grace, your love, your mercy and your forgiveness to all those we encounter this day.**

Absolution

P: Hear this good news. Our God knows our past and knows where we are headed, knows our weaknesses and our doubts; yet loves us beyond all imagining, all the way to the cross. Because of Christ we are free to love and be loved.

C: **Amen.**

Opening Song

“I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river in my soul
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river in my soul

I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean in my soul
I've got love like an ocean

I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean in my soul

I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

L: Righteous God,

C: **Our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Children’s Message

Special Music

Gene Fougner and Tim Lowe Melodica and Guitar
“Softly and Tenderly” (Thompson)
Public Domain

WORD

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Reading Introduction

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

5 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

¹⁴"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent

from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Pastor Tricia Lowe

“A Generous God”

Discipleship Song

“Remedy”

Here we are
Here we are
The broken and used
Mistreated, abused
Here we are

Well here You are
Here You are
The beautiful One
Who came like a Son
Here You are

So we lift up our voices
And open our hands
To cling to the love
That we can't comprehend
Oh lift up your voices
And lift up your heads
To sing of the love
That has freed us from sin

He is the One who has saved us
He is the One who embraced us
He is the One who has come
And is coming again
He's the remedy

Here we are
Here we are

Bandaged and bruised
Awaiting a cure
Here we are

And here You are
Here You are
Our beautiful King
Bringing relief
Here You are with us

So we lift up our voices
And open our hands
To cling to the love
That we can't comprehend
Oh lift up your voices
And lift up your heads
To sing of the love
That has freed us from sin

He is the One who has saved us
He is the One who forgave us
He is the One who has come
And is coming again
He's the remedy
He's the remedy
He's the remedy
He's the remedy

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God, who has created all things and continues to create new life within us.

I believe in Jesus, son of God, son of man, the Savior of the world.

By His life, His death and resurrection, I can know the true depth of human possibility, and experience the true joy of an abundant life.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is present, now and always, calling us to faith, giving us gifts and empowering us for service.

I believe that the community of believers called the church can experience the fullness of life through the Word, the sacraments, and all that we do, even when we can't meet face to face, for our God makes all things possible.

Bidding Prayers

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. [*pause*]

L: For the church of Christ in all places, its ministry, and the mission of the gospel. For the well-being of creation. [*pause*]

L: For peace and justice in the world, the nations, and those in authority, and our community, especially in this unsettled time. [*pause*]

L: For the poor, oppressed, sick, bereaved, and lonely, and all affected by the viral pandemic. [*pause*]

L: For all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit and for whatever things we name now either silently or aloud. [*pause*]

C: Amen.

Joining together as God's people, we share the words that 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: We give thanks for the offerings that we have received 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 in our sanctuary. 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.

Sending Song

"All Who Are Thirsty"

All who are thirsty
All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep

We sing come, Lord Jesus come
Come, Lord Jesus come
Come, Lord Jesus come
Come, Lord Jesus come

All who are thirsty
All who are weak

Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep

We sing come, Lord Jesus come
Come, Lord Jesus come
Come, Lord Jesus come
Come, Lord Jesus come

Holy Spirit come
Holy Spirit come
Holy Spirit come
Holy Spirit come

DISMISSAL

P: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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>Marty Watkins</i>
<i>Arlene Meder</i>	<i>Gwen Savage</i>	<i>Mary Austin</i>
<i>Ben Stricker</i>	<i>Helen Morton</i>	<i>Nancy Nimocks</i>
<i>Bonnie Kain</i>	<i>Karen Roush</i>	<i>Pam MacCleary</i>
<i>Carol Hotten</i>	<i>Kyle Smith</i>	<i>Ramona Walker</i>
<i>Chuck Lynch</i>	<i>Len Warne</i>	<i>Ron Kovara</i>
<i>Cris Spahr</i>	<i>Linda Walkoff</i>	<i>Ruth Martindale</i>
<i>Deanna McDaniel</i>	<i>Marilyn Murphy</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

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

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 November is PASS (PAWS—Prescott Area Women's Shelter). We are a people who take hope seriously and believe in the innate worth of every human being; it is our job to take people where they are and help get them where they want to go. The Shelter provides basic resources to homeless/transitional women and children of Yavapai County. Our facility is an outreach program by connecting guests to current outside resources. PAWS is currently the only shelter in Prescott that provides emergency services for women and children. PAWS has now secured a permanent location so their doors can be open year-round.

We are updating the photo directory! If you haven't sent in your picture yet, please send it in as soon as possible, or get ready for a visit, as we might be stopping by to take your picture from a safe distance! You can take a selfie with your phone or have someone else take it for you. We ask that you try to have a **solid colored background** and that the picture is of your upper torso. You can email them to the church office at Emmanuelelca@gmail.com, or text them to Pr Tricia on her cell phone at 301-890-9785. (make sure you include your names)

Exciting news! We are planning to start live streaming our worship services on Sunday, November 29th. We will be doing training on Monday, Tuesday and or Thursday, Nov 16, 17 and 19 from 5:00 to 6:30 pm next week and a practice run on Saturday, November 21st from 9:00 to 11:00 am. This is great opportunity to join the Multimedia Team.

We now have 4 areas of media technology: presentation (what you see on the screens), audio, live streaming and camera. If one of these areas or all of them interest you, contact Gary Kiser at 925-777-8961 or gjkiser@cableone.net.

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!

Blood Drive – Thursday, December 3, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 2000 Shepherds Lane, Prescott. Call Charlotte Willman at 928-778-4499 or visit BloodHero.com (Sponsor Code: St. Luke's EC).

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.

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

Thrivent Members: Thank you, Thrivent Members, for directing Choice Dollars® to Emmanuel Lutheran Church. In 2018, Emmanuel received \$5,730 through the Thrivent Choice® program; just over \$4,000 in 2019. Through your membership, the causes, congregations, and communities you care about are strengthened. We are stronger together!

This year, though, as our participation in community and church has been limited, Choice Dollar directives to Emmanuel as of September 30, are \$1,693—well below the rate of previous years. Our Thrivent Reps tell us that a substantial amount of Choice Dollars is not directed. You may check your account on line to verify and direct funds, or contact Thrivent (1-800-847-4836) and say “Choice Dollars” when prompted.

Navajo Mission - Due to circumstances with COVID-19 this year, our outreach to the Navajo Lutheran Mission has changed. **In place of Christmas Gifts for the Children** they have given us three options how we can assist them. They are requesting dollars from us this year to help with:

1. Thanksgiving meal box for the staff that would include a turkey or ham and all the fixings.
2. This year the community Thanksgiving meal will be offered through Hozho cafe as a takeout meal. They will be offering turkey, mashed potatoes/gravy, fruit salad, yams, cranberries, dressing and pumpkin pie.
3. The annual Children's Christmas Program and Quilt Giveaway will be a drive-through event this year with a live Nativity, cider, hot chocolate and cookies, and lots of quilts.

We are asking that you consider a donation to help them out. Please make your check out to the Navajo Lutheran Mission and get it to the church by November 18, 2020.

Once again we thank you for your help in assisting the mission to take care of their people.

EMAIL CORRECTION – Jim White’s email is jwhitev@mhtrains.com

TOOLS & TUXEDO – HABITAT FOR HUMANITY GALA

“NO SHOW GALA”

T & T VIRTUAL EVENT 11/14/2020 CANCELLED

To our Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity friends and family:

As we enter into the Thanksgiving holiday, we want to let you know how grateful we are for you, our loyal and dedicated supporters.

This has been a year of firsts, tough for many but especially our low-income families. We have and will continue to support them in any way we can.

PAHH also suffered the loss of monies that we would have ordinarily received through our fundraisers...amounts to almost two houses. The ReStore, which pays almost all of our administrative costs was closed for weeks also resulting in a tremendous loss of revenue.

NOW, on to our “**No Show Gala**” and just as little bit of levity.

Since you didn't have to—

- Buy a Ticket
- Buy a table
- Buy a new dress
- Rent a tuxedo
- Hire a baby sitter
- Buy raffle tickets
- Suffer through a rubber chicken dinner (we don't really do chicken, just threw that in)
- Dredge in heels through a possible snowstorm OR
- Leave your cozy home

—a tax deductible donation would be appreciated and a receipt awaits you for any or all of the great reasons above. Any amount would be appreciated and will really help us to continue serving our families. Your generosity has always been remarkable. More importantly, remember what you have done...**YOU CHANGED THE LIVES OF PARENTS AND CHILDREN IN SO MANY WAYS!**

Look for details of a new and exciting event that we are researching. We hope it come together and that we can look forward to seeing you in person. Until then, many blessings and **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.**

Please address any questions to Alyce Ayers at aayers@prescotthabitat.org