

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Prescott Valley, AZ
“to serve God and share the good news of Jesus Christ”
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2020 Contemporary Worship Service

Prelude

Gene Fougner, piano; Cathy Namock, organ

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”
Showalter/McKecknie

GATHERING

Gathering Song

“Made New”

You're calling me over
You're pulling me close
With love You surround me
You give me hope

Yeah yeah yeah

You're taking me deeper
You're making me whole
With grace You redeem me yeah
You restore my soul

Now I'm made new
Because of You yeah

You hold my head up
You remind me who I am
You hold my head up
I'm alive in You again
I'm made new I'm made new

You're making me stronger
You're healing my heart
With Your hands You hold me in
You set me apart

You are my salvation I will not fear no
You're the strength of my life
I won't fear whoa (no)

You hold my head up (2X)

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

“Your Grace is Enough”

Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

(So) remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Yeah Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me for me

Greeting

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: O Lord God, merciful judge,

C: You are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

Special Music

Gene Fougner, Pastor Tricia, Cheryl Hartz

“Behold What Manner of Love” “Father I Adore You”

Coelho/VanTine Maranatha String Accomp.

Word

A Scripture Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

First Reading Introduction

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

A Scripture Reading

Romans 14:1-12

Second Reading Introduction

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.

² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Pastor Tricia Lowe

“Choosing to Forgive”

Discipleship Song

You are merciful to me
You are merciful to me
You are merciful to me my Lord

“You Are Merciful to Me”
Ev'ry day my disobedience
Grieves Your loving heart
But then redeeming love breaks through
And causes me to worship You

Redeemer (Redeemer)
Savior (Savior)
Healer (Healer)
And Friend (and Friend)

Every day (every day)
Renew my ways (renew my ways)
Fill me with love (fill me with love)
That never ends (that never ends)

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. [*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: 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.

Sending Song

"Flawless"

There's got to be more
Than going back and forth
From doing right to doing wrong
'Cause we were taught that's who we are
Come on get in line right behind me
You along with everybody
Thinking there's worth in what you do

Could it possibly be
That we simply can't believe
That this unconditional
Kind of love would be enough
To take a filthy wretch like this
And wrap him up in righteousness
But that's exactly what He did

Then like a hero who takes the stage when
We're on the edge of our seats
Saying it's too late
Let me introduce you to amazing grace

Take a breath smile and say
Right here right now I'm ok because
The cross was enough

No matter the bumps no matter the bruises
No matter the scars still the truth is
The cross has made
The cross has made you flawless
No matter the hurt or how deep the wound is
No matter the pain still the truth is
The cross has made
The cross has made you flawless

Then like a hero who takes the stage when
We're on the edge of our seats
Saying it's too late
Well let me introduce you
To grace grace God's grace

No matter what they say
Or what you think you are
The day you called His name
He made you flawless
He made you flawless

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>Gwen Savage</i>	<i>Linda Walkoff</i>
<i>Arlene Meder</i>	<i>Helen Morton</i>	<i>Marilyn & Leo Murphy</i>
<i>Barbara Stockbridge</i>	<i>Jeanne Currie Tomlinson</i>	<i>Marty Watkins</i>
<i>Ben Stricker</i>	<i>John Clark</i>	<i>Mary Austin</i>
<i>Carol Hotten</i>	<i>Judy Nielsen</i>	<i>Nancy Nimocks</i>
<i>Chuck Lynch</i>	<i>Karen Roush</i>	<i>Ramona Walker</i>
<i>Cris Spahr</i>	<i>Kat Harley Mays</i>	<i>Ron Kovara</i>
<i>David Ramirez</i>	<i>Kyle Smith</i>	<i>Ruth Martindale</i>
<i>Deanna McDaniel</i>	<i>Leigh Quinn</i>	<i>Wayne Theobald</i>
<i>Geri Cottrell</i>	<i>Len Warne</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>Mary Schifferli – sister of Thomas Schifferli</i>
<i>Becky Bodnarczuk – niece of Nancy Clark</i>	<i>Kris Franklin- friend of Wendy Woolley</i>
<i>Bill Deffenbaugh – stepfather of Kimberly Goats</i>	<i>Leroy Goats – father-in-law of Kimberly Goats</i>
<i>Bob Hermann – cousin of Willie & Betty Hermann</i>	<i>Linda Vallner – sister of Ron Kovara</i>
<i>Buel McCoy – father of Wendy Woolley</i>	<i>Marie – Clara Farmer's son's mother-in-law</i>
<i>Cheryl Midel – aunt of Wendy Woolley</i>	<i>Marilyn Bostin – cousin of Tom Smith</i>
<i>Chris Vettore – daughter of Ron Kovara</i>	<i>Mark Kovara – son of Ron Kovara</i>
<i>Connie Miller & son Trevor – friends of Carl Schulze</i>	<i>Merle MacCleary – father of Pam MacCleary</i>
<i>Cris & Susie – brother & sister of Clara Farmer</i>	<i>Miranda & Brad Rebholz – granddaughter and grandson of Jim & Carole Rebholz</i>
<i>Dan Lowe – brother-in-law of Pastor Tricia</i>	<i>Rev. Paul Meier – former pastor of Larry & Sonya Mahler</i>
<i>Debra Jones – mother-in-law of Kimberly Goats</i>	<i>Rich, Carol, daughter Rachel & grand daughter Audrey, friends of Larry & Sonya Mahler</i>
<i>Don Jones – friend of Jim & Carole Rebholz</i>	<i>Rosemary – neighbor of Mary Wakimoto</i>
<i>Donald Wayman – husband of Bobbe Serena Wayman</i>	<i>Sam Crifasi – friend of Larry Mahler</i>
<i>Doug Bayle – nephew of Phyllis Pohlman</i>	<i>Sara Mantooth – sister-in-law of Adam Bissell</i>
<i>Edie Hales – mother of Cheryl Miller</i>	<i>Sarah Mulligan – daughter of Carol Wade</i>
<i>Edward Kelly – friend of Mark & Mary Austin</i>	<i>Shelly Damschroder – friend of Kathy Austin and Daughter-in-law of Margaret Damschroder</i>
<i>Grant – grandson of Dan & Carol Cwach</i>	<i>Star Campbell – friend of Bob Saul</i>
<i>Jack Gregory – friend of Ellen Rosfeld</i>	<i>Stefanie O'Donnell – daughter of Shelby & Carol Tate</i>
<i>Joann Harlib – mother of Scott Harlib</i>	<i>Trisha Galindo – daughter of Gary & Jean Kiser</i>
<i>Joshua Diebel – stepbrother of Tawny Worthington</i>	<i>Wayne Wallingford – brother of Sheila Smilgis</i>

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 September is the **HUSD Hungry Kids Program**. This program is for the elementary children in our school district. Bags filled with food items are distributed each Friday during the school year to the children who otherwise would not have anything to eat over the weekend. Currently the program hands out over 120 bags each week. Food items such as a loaf of bread, peanut butter, jelly, fruit snack cups, ramen noodles, individual cereal packs, a can of tuna, ravioli, or spaghetti O's, along with an apple, orange or raisins are included in the bags. Bags are filled on Friday morning and then taken to the schools.

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.

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, September 25, at 11:00 a.m.** Community members who have attended in the past will be notified.

Offerings - Even though we are not meeting face to face, 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!

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.