***Fourth Sunday of Easter***

****

***April 25, 2021 9:15am***

**Pastor J. J. Lynn**

**Judith Erlen, Organist**

Dear Emmanuel

It is Monday April 19, 2021 as I write this. I always hesitate to write things early because the question lingers in the back of my mind, what if the world catches fire in the meantime? Hopefully it is obvious that this is primarily a metaphor. But in the interest of preparing for Sunday, and taking a little bit of time away, I write early. Let’s hope the world has not caught fire in the meantime.

It occurs to me that there is always angst in the world though. This week ahead I have concerns for us as people of God throughout the world, and again in our nation. I try to balance my intake of current events, but honestly would rather at times just focus on faith and church and ignore the world. If I did that however I’m not sure I would be being true to my calling as a child of God and a follower of Jesus to go and serve God’s peoples. One of our scripture readings for this Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Easter is from First John 3:16-24. Verses 16-18 read, “We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us –and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.”

One of the reasons I am tempted to ignore the world sometimes is because I tend to get overly interested and kind of do like a strange kind of news binge. This is as unhealthy as it is for me to ignore the world. So perhaps the question to wrestle with is this, as we see the events play out; those that bring us hope, those that bring us angst, those that bring us sadness, and those that bring us anger, how is it that God would desire us to respond to those events, knowing as we do, that they are events that are occurring to God’s children, our siblings.

I pray that you are well. I pray that we are well. I pray that we continue to seek God’s goodness, trusting in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Peace

Pastor JJ

Sunday Morning Worship Zoom

https://zoom.us/j/95838445006?pwd=Y0JhQzE3Zjl1em5pbW82bjJDZG9Qdz09

Meeting ID 958 3844 5006
Passcode 1517

**Prelude** Triptych on the Shepherd Psalm      Irvine/Martin

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

who forgives all our sin,

whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.*

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*One of the following or another confession is prayed.*

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister announces God’s forgiveness with these or similar words.*

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

*The service continues with gathering song.*

**Gathering Song ELW 385**

****

**Greeting**

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Kyrie *ELW Setting Four Kyrie***

******

**Hymn of Praise *Worship & Praise (*W&P) 125**

****

**Prayer of the Day**

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Word**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**First Reading: Acts 4:5-12**

A reading from Acts.

5The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, 6with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. 7When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” 8Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, 9if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, 10let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. 11This Jesus is
 ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
  it has become the cornerstone.’
12There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm:  Psalm 23 READ IN UNISON**

 1**The Lord is my shepherd;
  I shall not be in want.** 2**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures**
  **and leads me beside still waters.**
 3**You restore my soul, O Lord,
  and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.** 4**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;**
  **for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.** R
 5**You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
  you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.** 6**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,**
  **and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.** R

**Interlude** Morning Prayer      Martin

**Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24**

A reading from 1 John.

16We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. 17How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?
  18Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. 19And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him 20whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. 21Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; 22and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.
  23And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. 24All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation *ELW Setting Four Alleluia***

******

**Gospel: John 10:11-18**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] 11“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 16I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 18No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

*The assembly is seated.*

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**Hymn of the DayELW 502**

****

**Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

Loving Shepherd, you know your own and your own know you. Your voice calls us to your loving embrace. Strengthen your church throughout the world that we bear witness to your expansive love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Gracious Shepherd, you are generous with the gifts of goodness and mercy. Restore your creation to wholeness so that cities and towns, countryside and wilderness, may abound with life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Hope-giving Shepherd, the nations and peoples are your heritage. Place into the hearts of all leaders and rulers the passion to serve. Crucify any desire to overpower others and give leaders joy in lifting up the lowly. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Abiding Shepherd, your love flows as we reach out to those around us. Move us with your Spirit, so that we lay down our lives for those in need (especially). Help us love one another in truth and action. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Saving Shepherd, you restore us to wholeness. Help our community in our life together and give us vigor as a people of faith. In the midst of challenges and opportunities (specific concerns may be named), fill us anew with you Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal Shepherd, you hold us securely in your loving hands. In the assurance of resurrection hope, we remember our loved ones who have died in you (especially the evangelist Mark). Bring us, with them, to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace, and may say, “Peace be with you,” or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

**Offering**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

*During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward.*

**Offertory** The King of Love My Shepherd Is      Johnson

**Sung Offertory ELW 884**

****

**Dialogue**

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### Thanksgiving for the Word: Easter

Risen Christ, Living Word, you are the bread of life that nourishes and sustains us. By the power of your Word, dwell in our hearts and reveal to us again that we are the body of Christ: in our vulnerable flesh, though our baptism into your death and resurrection, and in service to the world you love. Be for us manna in the wilderness. Open us to recognize you in every meal and in all who hunger for bread, for human touch, and for healing and hope. We pray in your name, our healer and companion.

**Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**Emmanuel's Purpose Statement**

Together we pray our Purpose Statement

**As disciples of Christ at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, we come together to worship, study God's word to grow, pray to strengthen, invite all to share, minister in love, live for Christ!**

**Blessing**

*The presiding minister proclaims God’s blessing.*

The God of steadfastness and encouragement

grant you to live in harmony with one another,

in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,

so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending SongELW 789**

**Announcements**

*Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly’s participation in God’s mission in the world.*

**Dismissal**

*The assisting minister may send the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** Trumpet Voluntary on "Rejoice, the Lord is King"       Darwell/Barr

From sundaysandseasons.com

Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. License # SB145099

Onelicense: License#731001-A

CCLI License number 20704521

Thanksgiving for the Word: Copyright © 2020 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This document may be reproduced for use in your congregation as long as the copyright notice appears on each copy. Permission is granted to reproduce this material for local, non-sale use only.

© 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

**PASTORAL CARE NEEDS** When you, members of your family or friends in thecongregation are to be hospitalized or are sick, please call the church office or Pastor J.J. at 412-600-6232.

**Emmanuel’s Women of the ELCA** will continue to collect for ***Blessed Bundles*** through2021. Items needed are: baby and toddler items such as wipes, diapers, blankets, undershirts and gently used clothing items. Also, could use bounders, swings, playpaks, etc. Toys are **not** needed at this time. You can bring the items to church and leave them in the social hall during the lunch program. Thank you all for your donations.

**Men’s Shelter Winter Clothing Drive and Boot Drive** We are still collecting gently worn clothes and boots. Thank You to all who have donated. Any questions can be directed

to Jim or Kathy Suhadolnik.

**OUR CONCERN LIST**

Andre Henderson (1 month old–grandchild of friends of Chris and Marvin Meyer), Patricia Carr, Vera Harencame and for her brothers, Dave Kobert, Bob Anderson, Earl Zinsser, Don Zimmerman, Lynn Kania, Pat Stumpf, Dean Ingold, Doug Krachala, Dave Krenn, Nancy Klinefelter, Sophia Archer, Eric Murray, Shirley Simon, Donna French, Fred Prefling, Greg Bauers, Bill Coates, Rachel Coates, Joe Seserko, Betty Miller, Dorothy Fischetti, Bertha Trdina, Joan Fleishner; Daymien Worthy, Pat Powers (friend of Rachel’s niece), John Haley (friend of Tom & Linny Kleeb), Sean (friend of lunch program participant), Christine Arthur (friend of Vera and family), Neil, Margie, Michele (baby born recently; pregnant with twins ), Brandy (Donna Killmeyer’s niece), Levi and Lainey, Ed Kestner (Dorothy and Edna’s brother), Gary Jurges, Ruth, Justin Powers, Gabe Reeves, Tom & Susan Huffman, Fran, Ed Levan, Brandon Combs, David Clark, David Fischetti, Bill, Jerry Lynn (Pastor’s father), All Covid-19 patients; All First Responders, including: doctors and nurses, medical researchers and scientists, and governmental officials; Elaine Enzminger (Pastor’s aunt), Donna Lewis, Bob Simon, Rev. Paul L. Lubold. **Those serving in the military:** Larry Baumiller, III, Clayton Moore, Dalton Bailey, Pat Sharkey, Rob Umbaugh, Jake Labbas, Zach Labbas, William Schmitt, Ryan Porter, Zach Hunkele, Evan Stitch and Dave Uebing. ***[Please note*:** ***We ask the families and friends who have*** ***requested prayers to please give us a call when your loved one may be removed from our list.]***

**Bulletin Prayer Requests**

If you have a prayer request for the prayer chain, please contact Edna Zimmerman (412-487-354) or Rachel Coates (412-486-0830). You can also add names to the bulletin prayer list with fewer personal details during this time of pandemic by calling the office or sending an email to our secretary, Linda. Thank you for your prayerful concern and care about our neighbors and friends!



***Emmanuel’s Financial Status through March 2021***

***Budget*** ***$43,636***

***Spending*** ***$40,672***

***Offering Collected $35,022***

***OPTIONS FOR GIVING***

***Introducing a new option for giving of Offering!***

***GIVE ONLINE WITH TITHE.LY***

*More info:* [*https://help.tithe.ly/en/articles/1466110-giving-to-my-church*](https://help.tithe.ly/en/articles/1466110-giving-to-my-church)



Along with the pandemic comes paradigm shifts. One of those shifts may be having your goods and supplies shipped to your home via an online retailer, rather than shopping in person. If you have switched to an online retailer and it happens to be **Amazon**, please consider Emmanuel for your ***Amazon Smile* *Contributions***. This is another way you can help support ourministries at Emmanuel in Working to Care for ALL God’s People.

How to support Emmanuel through Amazon Smile

* Begin your Amazon shopping at this unique link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1267230>
* ***Pat yourself on the back for so simply supporting Emmanuel***

**Find Emmanuel on the Web at:**

****

**elcetna.org**

****

**Find Emmanuel on Facebook at:**

****

**Facebook.com/elcetna.org**

***New Procedures for Lunch Program***

Starting Monday May 3, 2021: Children will receive 2 meals Monday, 2 meals Wednesday 3 meals Friday. There will be no lunch distribution for adults or children on Tuesdays or Thursdays. **Adults will receive lunches Monday, Wednesday, and Friday**. Hours are still 11:00 to 12:00.

**Grocery bags** Thanks to all who have donated grocery bags for the lunch program. At this time we have an adequate supply.

***Bread of Life Food Pantry Etna Food Drive***

***Donate for Covid-19 Relief***

**Drop off non-perishable food:**

**Monday 2-4 pm**

**Wednesday 6-8 pm**

**Friday 10-12 pm**

**All Saints Activities Building**

**Church Alley between Dewey & Wilson**

**(monetary donations will also be accepted)**

**Partners:**

**All Saints Catholic Church**

**Borough of Etna**

**Bread of Life Food Pantry**

**Etna Community Organization**

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

**Lutherlyn’s Tentative 2021 Summer Camp Schedule**

***Contact for More Information:***

[www.lutherlyn.com/Summer](http://www.lutherlyn.com/Summer)

724-865-2161

**Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry**

**Summer Tutoring Program**

**7 weeks / June 21 – August 6**

**Kindergarten – 12th Grade / One-On-One Instruction**

**Registration Open Now. Limited Space Available.**

**Please contact Sandy Niekum, Tutoring Program Manager at**

**412-366-1300 X123 or tutors@anchorpointcounselingministry.org**





**Grant & Highland Avenues, Pittsburgh, PA 15223**

**Church Phone: (412)781-2764**

**pastor@elcetna.org**

secretary@elcetna.org

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

Welcome to Emmanuel Lutheran Church! We are glad that you are worshiping with us. If you have no church home in this community, why not make Emmanuel your own? If you are interested in becoming a member of the congregation, please talk with Pastor JJ. JJ can be reached by phone at 412-600-6232, or via email at pastor@elcetna.org.

The church office has these regular office hours **through appointment only**: Monday-9 to

3 pm; Tuesday-no office hours; Wednesday-9 to 4 pm; Thursday-no office hours; Friday-10-5 pm. Our secretary is also available by email (secretary.elcetna@gmail.com), or leave a voice mail on the telephone.