



**Emmanuel
Lutheran**
CHURCH & SCHOOL
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

churchoffice@elcsmail.org • (828) 252-1795
www.emmanuelutheran.info

Board of Directors: Peter Renner (Chair), David Meyer (V-Chair), Marilynne Stinson (Sec), Dirk Wilmoth, Brooke Jud, Stephen Taylor, Neil Pursley, Eugene Edwards, & Ed Lopez



**Emmanuel
Lutheran**
CHURCH & SCHOOL
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

December 17, 2023
8:30am & 11:00am Services
3rd Sunday in Advent

www.emmanuelutheran.info

Our Vision:

*Fully Engaged, Biblically Passionate,
Driven to Serve*

CALENDAR

Monday, December 18
School Closed for Christmas Break; Resumes January 3rd.
10:00am VRQ Lunch

Tuesday, December 19
9:30am Linus Blankets
2:00pm Hardesty Bible Study Group (Hardesty Home)

Wednesday, December 20
> **12pm Midweek Advent Church Service**
12:35pm Advent Fellowship Luncheon
1:30pm Women's Bible Study (conference room)
> **7pm Midweek Advent Church Service**

Thursday, December 21
Heather M. — out of town through 12/29
6:30pm Elders Meeting

Friday, December 22
No Pickleball in December; Resumes January

Saturday, December 23

Sunday, December 24—Christmas Eve!
> **10:00am Traditional Service (sanctuary)**
> **3pm Children's "Stickerbook" Service (up to 2nd grade!)**
> **7:00pm Blended Service (sanctuary)**
> **10:00pm Candlelight Service (sanctuary)**
Food Pantry **CLOSED**

Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day!
> **10:00 am Traditional Service (sanctuary)**

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Skopak
Director of Christian Education: Alexi Lundquist
Principal: Mark Edmiston
Early Childhood Director: Christine Smith
Church Choir & Handbell Director: A.L. Brown
Praise/Worship Music/Band Director: Heather Meulenberg
Organist: Lula Meulenberg

Today's Server:

SERVERS	8:30am	11:00am
Acolytes:	Eli Allen	Ivana Lopez
Lectors:	Kevin Lorenz	Joel Helms
Ushers:	Neil P. & Bill H.	Dirk & Kathryn W.
Communion:	Mike Rush & Stephanie H.	Rich & Lisa Baldwin
Elders:	Kevin Lorenz	Joel Helms

December Altar Guild

8:30am Dana Novak
1:00am Kelly Kanelos

December Offering Counters

The Meyer's

Tech /Sound Crew

8:30am - Heather Meulenberg & Peter Linton
11:00am- David Mehrling, Bryce Gleason & Heather Meulenberg



ISAIAH 61: 1-4, 8-11

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels." Isaiah 61:10

Upcoming Member Celebrations!

BIRTHDAYS: 12/17: Ogden, Wyatt; 12/18: Clark, Jim; Kitchen, Jo; 12/20: Carpenter, Tracey; Clark, Joshua & Peterson, Barbara; 12/21: Charlson, Daniel; Jacobsen, Vicky; & *Kostenbauder, Marqueen; 12/22: Kearley, Julia; Mehrling, Anne; & Meyer, David
**This Month's Nonagenarian!* 12/21: Kostenbauder, Marqueen
ANNIVERSARIES: 12/15: Carpenter, James & Tracey; & Lorenz, Kevin & Christi; 12/19: Stinson, Vaughn & Marilynne

Last Service Attendance & Stats

Last Week's On-Campus Attendance
Last Sunday: 8:30am— 73 persons; 11:00am—70 persons
Last Wednesday: 12pm & 7pm— 27 persons
Last Sunday's Website & FaceBook Hits*
Website 8:30am— 31 11am— 12
Facebook: 8:30am— 103 11am— 85

Food Pantry, VRQ, & Costello House served:

12/4 – Sunday 12/10: 372 homes; 677 individuals
Total NOV/DEC 2023: 1,017 homes; 2,523 people

Last Week's Offerings

General Weekly Offering needed: \$ 12,817.31
Last week General Offering received: \$ 7,643.95
Building Funds Received: \$ 800.00

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 17, 2023

3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT

11:00 am

AS WE GATHER

Advent is the season of waiting! As we wait, we have a special job to do. We joyfully get ready for Jesus' arrival by remembering the ministry of John the Baptist, who came as a witness to Christ, the light of the world. John himself was not the light, nor was he the centerpiece of God's plan to save the world; no, John's life was dedicated to preparing the way before the Lord and to get people ready for Jesus coming to the rescue of His people. In many ways, we are invited to be like John. Through our personal witness to Christ in our interpersonal relationships with others, God is working through us so that others will come to know His Son. Our goal is not only to trust in Jesus for ourselves but also to let the world know that He is coming to save them too. And His soon-to-come arrival will be well worth the wait!

CALL TO WORSHIP O Come Divine Messiah (Everything Will Change) Emmanuel Praise Band

CCLI Song # 5814781 | Abbot Simon-Joseph Pellegrin | Jennie Lee Riddle | Robbie Seay | © 2010 Birdwing Music; Covenantal Way | Publishing; Integrity's Praise! Music | For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 36114

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG Prepare the Royal Highway (He's Coming)

VERSE 1:

Prepare the royal highway, the King of kings is near;
Let every hill and valley a level road appear.
Then greet the king of glory foretold in sacred story:
Hosanna to the Lord, for He fulfills God's word!

CHORUS

**He's Coming, He's Coming, make way for the Lord
With saints and with angels, we praise and adore
From manger to highway, to earth again one day,
Our king is coming, prepare the Way!**

VERSE 2:

God's people, see him coming: your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him; spread garments; shout and sing.
God's promise will not fail you; no more shall doubt assail you:
Hosanna to the Lord, for He fulfills God's word!

(Sing Chorus)

VERSE 3

His is no earthly kingdom;
It comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom,
And justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
for kindness so abounding:
Hosanna to the Lord, for He fulfills God's word!

(Sing Chorus)

BRIDGE

From robes of white to stable low
We look for Him, our King and Lord
He took our pain, rules from His throne,
All praise is His, and His alone!

(Sing Chorus)

based on LSB 343 Tune and Additional Lyrics by Heather Meulenberg

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 40:1–3*

Pastor: I waited patiently for the LORD;

People: **He inclined to me and heard my cry.**

Pastor: He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog,

People: **and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.**

Pastor: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

People: **Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 Thessalonians 5:23–24*

Pastor: That we may rejoice in the great things our forgiving God does for us, let us together confess our sins before Him.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we do and by what we fail to do. Instead of looking to Jesus and following Him in faith, we have gone astray by disobeying Your Word. Instead of giving bold witness to You, we have kept silent and withheld Your grace from others. For the sake of our Savior and King, have mercy on us. Forgive us and restore us. Guide us and renew us. Help us to walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.” Our faithful God hears our prayers and answers them, removing our sins from us and declaring us blameless in His sight through faith in Jesus Christ. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE *Breath of Heaven* arr. Courtney Angela Howard, solo

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers.

People: **Enable our hearts to believe and our mouths to confess Your saving name;**

Pastor: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11*

¹The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³ to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified
⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

⁸I hate robbery and wrong;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹ Their offspring shall be known among the nations,
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge them,
that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed.

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Thessalonians 5:16–24*

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²² Abstain from every form of evil. ²³ Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:6–8, 19–28*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

¹⁹ And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰ He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹ And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²² So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³ He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

²⁴ (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵ They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶ John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷ even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” ²⁸ These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON SONG Unto Us

Verse 1

Crown Him the Son of Righteousness
Crown Him the King above all kings
Let the nations declare He is Lord
Sing Emmanuel the Savior with us.

Chorus

He shall be called

Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting One

He shall be called

Jesus the Savior. Peace to earth will come

We worship and adore Him, The Lord

Verse 2

Jesus the Son of God He reigns
Forever His kingdom will not fail
God Almighty in justice He comes
Sing Emmanuel great is His love

(Sing Chorus)

Bridge

Unto us His love will come
Unto us Christ the Lord
Now to Him be the glory and all the praise

(REPEAT Bridge)

Ending

Now to Him be the glory and all the praise, Now to Him be the glory and all the praise

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SERMON “Waiting for Joy”

CREED *Nicene Creed*

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all words, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG What Child Is This *LSB 370*

Verse 1

What Child is this who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping

Chorus

This this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe the Son of Mary

Verse 3

So bring Him incense gold and myrrh, come peasant king to own Him
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him

Chorus

**Raise, raise the song on high
The Virgin sings her lullaby
Joy, joy for Christ is born
The Babe the Son of Mary**

Chorus

**Nails spear shall pierce Him through, the cross He bore for me for you
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe the Son of Mary**

Chorus

**This this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe the Son of Mary
The babe, the Son of Mary.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and have given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Pastor: In Your boundless mercy You sent Your witness, John the Baptist, to point us toward Christ and His coming kingdom.

Pastor: With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

**People: 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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 349 Hark the Glad Sound

- 1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51 Text: Public domain

LSB 346 When All the World Was Cursed

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 When all the world was cursed
By Moses' condemnation,
Saint John the Baptist came
With words of consolation.
With true forerunner's zeal
The greater One he named,
And Him, as yet unknown,
As Savior he proclaimed.2 Before he yet was born,
He leaped in joyful meeting,
Confessing Him as Lord
Whose mother he was greeting.
By Jordan's rolling stream,
A new Elijah bold,
He testified of Him
Of whom the prophets told: | <ol style="list-style-type: none">3 Behold the Lamb of God
That bears the world's transgression,
Whose sacrifice removes
The devil's dread oppression.
Behold the Lamb of God,
Who takes away our sin,
Who for our peace and joy
Will full atonement win.4 O grant, dear Lord of love,
That we receive, rejoicing,
The word proclaimed by John,
Our true repentance voicing,
That gladly we may walk
Upon our Savior's way
Until we live with Him
In His eternal day. |
|--|--|

Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004210

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG He Shall Reign Forevermore

Verse 1

In the bleak mid-winter, all creation groans
For a world in darkness, frozen like a stone
Light is breaking, in a stable for a throne

Chorus

**And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
Unto us a Child is born, the King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore**

Verse 2

If I were a wise man, I would travel far
If I were a shepherd, I would do my part
But poor as I am, I will give to Him my heart

(Sing Chorus)

Bridge

Here within a manger lies, the One who made the starry skies
This baby born for sacrifice; Christ the Messiah
Into our hopes into our fears, the Savior of the world appears
The promise of eternal years; Christ the Messiah

Chorus

**He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore!
He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
Unto us a Child is born, the King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore**

CCLI Song # 7050416

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December 17, 2023

Sunday School/Bible Study Schedule!

Classes at 9:45am:

Children's Sunday School, PreK-5th Grade —room# 017 (K. Thorp)
Confirmation Class — conference room (Alexi L.)



Grab-n-Go Food Pantry is OPEN today



3rd week in Advent

8:30AM Worship Outline (DS5)

Call to Worship:
Breath of Heaven arr. Courtney
Angela Howard, solo

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn:
"On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry" LSB 344

Invocation: page 213

Confession and Absolution: page 213

Salutation and Collect: Page 214

Old Testament Reading: (Responses page 215)

Epistle: (Responses page 215)

The Holy Gospel: (Responses page 215)

Children's Message

The Sermon Hymn: "Hark a Thrilling Voice is
Sounding" LSB 345

The Sermon

The Credal Hymn: 953

Prayers of the Church

Offering

Preface: Page 216

Lord's Prayer: Page 217

Words of our Lord: Page 217

Pax Domini: 217

Distribution

Communion Hymns:
"Hark the Glad Sound" LSB 349
"When All the World was Cursed" LSB 346

Post-Communion Hymn: 643

Post-Communion Collect: Page 218

Benedicamus and Benediction: Page 218

Closing Hymn:
"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" LSB 338

> **More Sunday Server Volunteers needed!**— Please contact the Church Office if interested. <

> **New Altar Flower Sign Up sheet**— (Jan-April) posted in the Narthex now! <

> **Wednesday 12/20**—Last Advent Midweek Services & Luncheon

GIFTS DUE TODAY—SUNDAY 12/17



**Christmas Services at
Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

Sunday, Christmas-Eve:

10am Worship
3pm Children's (toddler to 2nd Grade)
7pm Worship
10pm Candlelight Service

Monday, Christmas Day:

10am Worship



ELCS Virtual Prayer Service >>>>>>
Sunday, Dec. 17th · 6 – 7pm

Or dial: (US) +1 530-421-8709

PIN: 792 947 235#

Time zone: America/New York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link:

<https://meet.google.com/ztx-cujq-gkv>

Virtual Prayer Service
Prayer is ESSENTIAL to Worship Life
Join us Virtually on the **3rd Sunday**
of every month, at **6pm (EST)**

**4th GRADE
WANTS
YOUR
USED
BOOKS!**
NOW UNTIL JANUARY 5TH

Big Lutheran School Basketball Tournament at ELS
JAN. 12-14, 2024!

Volunteers needed for Concessions & Admissions!



Emmanuel Lutheran Prayer List The Week of December 17, 2023

HEALTH, HEALING AND OTHER NEEDS

These are people in need of prayers this week. Take them home. "Lord Jesus we commend into Your hands the needs of people that go through challenges of many kinds. You know the joys, troubles, illnesses, and fears. We now commend them to You."

(New or updated prayers are in **BOLD**)

- ◇ **Cynthia Cline** **Undergoing treatments for cancer. At home recovering from treatment for an infection. Prayers are or healing and comfort.**
- ◇ **Dee Tilley** **Recovering from hysterectomy on 12/13. Prayers for comfort & healing.**
- ◇ **Diana Hempel** **As of 12/11, being hospitalized. Prayers for peace, answers, & a return to good health.**
- ◇ Mary Hufnagle Recovering from Covid, Prayers for God's swift healing and a vibrant recovery!
- ◇ Carol Bruckner Had Spinal Surgery on 12/7. Prayers for swift healing and surgery success!
- ◇ Rick Herman Had surgery on 12/5,. Prayers for recovery.
- ◇ Patti Reece Had spinal surgery on 11/21. Prayers for full recovery!
- ◇ Tommy Ridgeway Staph infection in knee after surgery. Prayers for healing, patience, & comfort for he & Kathy.
- Betty Ude (S.Ude's Mother) Broker her hip& now in rehab. Prayers lifted high for an outpouring of love & spiritual strength over Betty.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WITH CANCER OR LONG-TERM ILLNESSES/CONDITIONS:

- ◇ Doug Greene Richard Brinkley (S.Pruett's friend)
- ◇ Marilyn Saylor Drew Butterfield (J/H Hodge's friend)
- ◇ Emily Nieting Ralph Ector, Snr (S.Edward's father)
- ◇ Cynthia Cline Sam Leder (V.Stinson's cousin)
- ◇ Helen Cline Muriel Williams (S.Edward's friend)
- ◇ Marjorie Locke Don Young (P/CJ Reece)
- ◇ Ken Treadway Hubert Hicks (C.Cline's friend)
- ◇ Mike Walker Ann Melious (P/H McCarthy family)
- ◇ Julia Kearley Jenny Buckner (C.Cline's neighbor)
- ◇ C.J. Reece Carol Harris (S.Ude's friend)
- ◇ Dale Wooten Robin Worley (J.Kearley's friend)
- Jan Williams (C.Waites Mother) Min Soo Lee (E.Bailey's friend)
- Lynn Case-Scott (S.Buckner's friend) Janice (L.Giese's friend)

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WITH CANCER OR LONG-TERM ILLNESSES/CONDITIONS (cont'd.):

- Becky Presley (S.Brock's friend) Bob Jones (M.Stinson's uncle)
- Garret Reiser (R/Dee Gordon's family) Muriel Williams (S.Edward's friend)
- Chris Alstrin (L.Schulhof's friend) Kristen Kirby (S.Pruett's cousin)
- Ralph Ector, Snr (S.Edward's father) Antonia Simpson (L.Meulenberg's friend)
- Virginia Lopez (E.Lopez's mother) Melinda Bob Frey (D.Wooten's friend)
- Condrey (Hufnagle's friend) Keith Haynes (R.Rush's friend)

PRAYERS FOR OUR SEMINARIAN

- ◇ Adam Nieting & his wife Emily (Concordia Theological Seminary)

PRAYERS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBER BROTHERS & SISTERS

- * Dot Fastenau * Jean Metcalf * Marilyn Saylor
- * Teenie Smathers * Marjorie Yelton * Diana & Isabelle Hempel
- * Bertha Mertens * Helen Cline * Ray & Glenda Bailey
- * Marjorie Locke * Tommy & Kathy Ridgeway

Prayer Scriptures for this week:

It is evidenced through both Old Testament and New Testament Scripture that God does have the power to heal our physical bodies. Miraculous healings still happen today! Use these Bible verses to talk to God about your pain and to fill your heart with hope.

"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise." ~ Jeremiah 17:14

"Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven." ~ James 5:14-15

Compiled by The "BibleStudyTools" Staff on 09/06/2023 (www.biblestudytools.com)

Sharing God's Answers to Our Prayers!

Many thanks for the calls and cards received and prayers concerning my recent surgery, as well as recovery. I truly am grateful to be a member of the Emmanuel family! You all are the best and I look forward to seeing you soon.

God's blessings to all, Patti Reece

◇ = Emmanuel Lutheran Church Member

Emmanuel is a praying community. We believe the promise of God regarding His Word. If you would like to put someone on the prayer list, we need the following information:

- Your name
- Name of person to be added, and their relation to you (friend, relative, etc.)
- Nature of prayer concern (healing, grief, birth, thanks, etc.)

Please be sure to secure the person's permission before submitting their name— and to update us on their progress.

Waiting For Joy
Isaiah 64:1-4, 8-11

*Although you may not have the world's most spectacular Christmas _____,
Isaiah tells us that _____ yourself are a sight to behold*

- I. Life is _____ (And We Make it _____)
- A. Isaiah lived at a time when foreign _____ were making life difficult for Israel
1. Isaiah _____
 2. "We all growl like _____"
 - a. Can you feel the raw _____
 - b. It is easy to see this in Israel _____!
- B. But don't discount how we too can bring upon ourselves God's _____
1. Isaiah _____
 2. Stop giving God the _____ - _____

- II. So What's the _____ ???
- A. Try _____? Be _____ to others?
1. Isaiah _____
 2. Did you catch that? The _____ will come!
- B. God, in His _____, too matters into His own hands
1. The Messiah? _____, born in Bethlehem
 2. Roughly thirty years later in His hometown _____ He made clear His mission
 3. And what words would Jesus choose? Isaiah _____
 - a. Isaiah foretold that Jesus came to proclaim Good News, bind up the _____ for their sins, and proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
 - b. The "Year of the Lord's Favor" was a means to have the Israelites think of the Year of _____
 - c. It happened every _____ years - forgiving one another's debts
 - d. There is no evidence that Israel _____ through with this divinely instituted plan

III. A _____ (Filled with Joy)

- A. The purpose of the _____ Year was to point ahead to the joyous news the Messiah would bring
1. The Messiah would pay for everyone's _____ they owed for their sins
 2. They would no longer have to fear _____ or eternal punishment
 3. Isaiah rightly responds with _____
 - a. Isaiah _____
 - b. God sees us through the lenses of _____
- B. We are more valuable than an \$11 Million Dollar Christmas _____
1. Christmas trees get thrown out or put back in a _____
 2. But not us! WE are on _____ for all time
 3. Like a glittering Christmas Tree, we are to let our _____ shine and point p

*Today the prophet Isaiah reminds us not to keep the _____
all to ourselves - share it with friends and family. Be the priceless tree
that points others to the face of salvation, Jesus Christ!*

