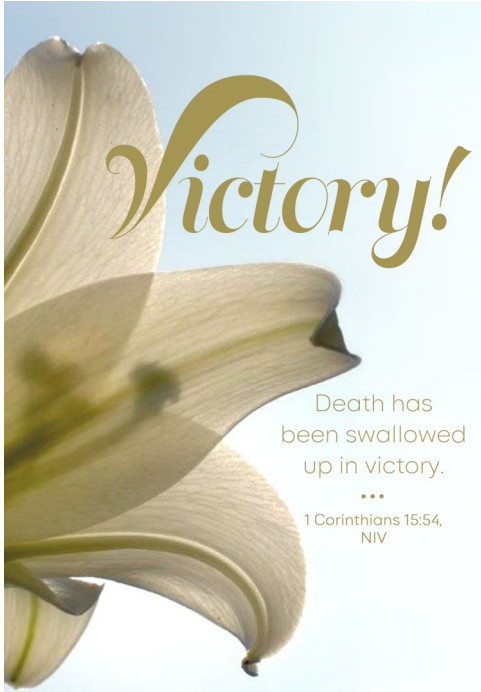


# The Good News

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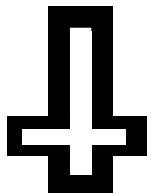
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**DATED MATERIAL**  
Please Deliver by 2nd or  
3rd of the month.

Traditional Worship Service  
Praise Service  
Children's Sunday School:  
PASTOR:  
VICAR:  
PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:  
9:00 a.m.  
10:45 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.  
Catherine E. Luehr  
Matt Polsdof  
Jonine Soders  
Spanish Worship is offered at 2:30 pm by House of Faith.  
E-mail: churchinfo@elclh.org  
Website: www.elclh.org



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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Preschool: (562) 694-5316

# Post It Notes from Pastor Luehr



John 13:35  
By this shall all  
men know that ye  
are my disciples, if  
ye have love one to  
another.

During the season of Lent, I was blessed to be able to collaborate with several of my colleagues in ministry as we worked to create an online Lenten series called “Created for Community.” Emanuel and seven other churches worked to put together weekly worship services, each focusing on how we are in community. We looked at being in Community with creation, with the saints, with our neighbors, with those on the margins, and with Christ. I enjoyed this joint project and it was nice to work with some pastors and churches I have not worked with before. During the past month, I have thought a lot about what this theme means in the time when we have passed one year of the pandemic and as we move towards a more “normal life.”

For many of us during this past year, our communities have looked very different. For some of us those communities have gotten smaller (or at least felt smaller). For some of us those communities have moved mostly online. And for some our communities have expanded to include neighbors we may otherwise not have stopped to talk to if we were continuing on with our very busy lives. Additionally, our worshipping community has changed. Since last March, all of our worship services have been online. This has allowed for people all over the world to hear the word of God, sing songs of praise and be lifted up in prayer—and our community has grown. However, for those who are used to sitting with their brothers and sisters in Christ, for those who are refreshed and recharged by seeing each other in person, this has been a time when our community seems to have shrunken.

One of our members recently commented on how we know that God is with us wherever we are but when we are together we are bolstered for wherever God may be calling us next. I have seen that and felt that during our in-person worship these past few weeks. I know that some of you are not yet comfortable being in a large group and some of you are not comfortable sitting outside, and that is just fine. We will continue to provide online worship into the future. But when we were gathered together, even with staggered seating, wearing masks, sitting outdoors, we were *still* community and we were there to lift each other up.

I pray in the coming months that the community of Emanuel Lutheran will continue to find strength in one another and strength in the Lord for whatever God may be calling us to next.

Pastor Cate Luehr

# Matt's *Motivational* Minute



***“Do you want to start reading the Bible? Wondering where to start? Try a Psalm!”***

I am in my last semester of seminary which is both crazy and exciting! That quote came from my Psalms class as we talked about how the Psalms are a great way to enter into reading the Bible, especially if you haven't read the Bible for a while or feel you are a beginner. It can be hard to prescribe what Scriptures to read because what speaks to me may not resonate with you. However, the Psalms are great because you can start at Psalm 1 and read until you find something that resonates with you. The Psalms offer a wide range of emotions and life events going on. They range from being upset and wondering where God is to being thankful for God's steadfast love and everywhere in between. They range in genre from lamentations, prayers for help, hymns, songs of thanksgiving and songs of trust. The Psalms are also great because generally they are not too many verses and can be read a few times through without having to commit hours to reading. Wondering where to start to read your Bible? Start with a Psalm!

God's peace,

Vicar Matt Polsdofer



## HEART AND HANDS OUTREACH SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!

*“Feed My Sheep” – John 21*

### **SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!**

In 2020, we were unable to continue many of the ministries with whom we have faithfully partnered over the last few years. Through all of this we have continued to support the La Habra Community Resource Care Center with needed food for distribution. You are encouraged to continue these food gifts.

We look forward to resuming support of some of our prior ministries and perhaps some we have not done previously. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE HAHO TO CONSIDER.

If you can't share food, money, or time with others because you are “staying in,” how about the things you CAN do?

- Since February 2013, we have been praying for friends, family, our leaders, and the world. The number of miracles experienced is awesome. If you would like to pray with others, we are on Zoom at 8:30 AM each Saturday. Email me at [parr3@roadrunner.com](mailto:parr3@roadrunner.com) to get the link. Don't have internet access? You can call in.
- Send a short note in the mail, email someone, or make a phone call and leave a message. Let others know they are being cared about. If you would like the name of someone who could especially use a greeting, contact Pr. Cate and she can provide you with a name.
- Think about ways to share Emanuel and your faith with others and what you will continue to do when we meet again in person.

God bless all of you for your generous Hearts and Hands reaching out to others.

Jeanette Parr  
Facilitator

# FROM THE BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION



## Greetings to all Emanuel Youth and Parents!

Thank you for having your kids join us for our online Sunday School lessons each week. This past month we have learned so much about God and faith.

1. In our March lesson “Where Does All the Money Go?” we learned that our offerings we give to our church, Emanuel, work in many different ways to tell people about Jesus. We are giving God back a small part of what He has given us. God can do great things with our offerings.
2. In the lesson “The Tower of Babel” we discovered the people of Babylonia wanted to build a tower that reached heaven. They thought everyone would come to see their tower and they would be famous. The people were thinking only about how great they were and they would all stay together in this land. They were not thinking of God at all. So, God made the people speak different languages and therefore they could not understand each other or work together to build the tower. The Tower of Babel was never finished!
3. Jesus told the parable about “Faith like a Mustard Seed.” He said that sometimes our faith is as small as a mustard seed. This little mustard seed grows to be a great big plant. Faith is like that. It may seem very small at the beginning, but just wait. It will grow very, very big as we learn all about Jesus. If we let God help our faith grow, we can accomplish great things for God’s Kingdom!
4. In “Why Are You Hiding,” Adam and Eve tried to hide from God after they had eaten the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that God said they were not to eat. God doesn’t want us to hide when we’re afraid. We can tell God anything because God already knows our every action and thought. God will always love us and forgive us even when we disobey. There’s no hiding from God.

We look forward to the time when we will once again meet together at church. Don’t forget to search to find out what your name means as Pastor Cate mentioned in one of her Children’s sermons. It will be fun to hear what you find out.

A special thank you goes to Ricki Fehr as she is editing our weekly Sunday School lessons and getting them ready for online viewing.

Thank you for encouraging your child on our virtual journey together.

Please pray for our youth and parents as the schools are beginning to open up for in-person learning.

Prayers are lifted for the spiritual growth of our youth and adults.

Blessings from all your Sunday School Teachers.



# *Holy Week*

## **PALM SUNDAY ~ MARCH 28**

Along with our online service, we will also be holding a parking lot worship service at 10:00 AM and will conclude the service with the procession of palms! Since we will be outdoors, if you would like to bring a large palm branch from your home for worship, please feel free to do so. We will also be passing out palm crosses that morning.

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY ~ APRIL 1**

We will be celebrating this day with an online worship service which will include a stripping of the altar. It will be available on Facebook, YouTube and on our church website.

## **GOOD FRIDAY ~ APRIL 2**

We will have two worship opportunities on Good Friday. Our online service will be available on our regular platforms all day and will feature the Passion of St. John with scripture readings and musical selections.

We will also have an in-person outdoor worship service Friday evening at 7:00 PM in the upper parking lot. This service will feature the Biblical Stations of the Cross as reinterpreted by Nicholas Markell (© 2013 Eyekons). We will start at the steps to Hope Center and then walk through the story leading up to Jesus' death with images located around the upper parking lot. This service cannot be experienced from your car and while we will have some chairs at each station, individuals will need to move themselves from station to station though the worship service. We will begin and end the service with song.



## **EASTER SUNDAY ~ APRIL 4**

We will be celebrating the Risen Lord with an outdoor service in our upper parking lot at 10:00 AM. This service will be live-streamed on all of our digital platforms. Along with a children's message, special music and shouts of "Christ is Risen!" we will also be celebrating communion at the service. We pray that you will be able to participate in-person or online.

## FLOWERS NEEDED



We will be decorating the outside cross on Saturday, April 3, in preparation for Easter. If you have garden flowers (especially lilies) to share with Emanuel, we welcome them and ask that you bring them to Emanuel by 8:30 AM that Saturday morning and they will be incorporated into the beauty of our cross.

## SCHOPPA SCHOLARSHIPS



The Elroy Schoppa Scholarship Fund is provided by Emanuel Lutheran Church for members of Emanuel who are, or will be, attending an accredited college or vocational school in the next academic year. Students must attend 50% of Sunday Worship services and scheduled Youth meetings for at least 2 years within 4 years of applying. They must also maintain a 2.5 minimum GPA. Current recipients are Jessica Mora (fourth year) and Amanda Zambrano (second year). Contact Warren Parr, Wolfgang Hessel or Dwight Carey for more information.



## IN-PERSON OUTDOOR WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY

The church council has determined it to be reasonably safe for Emanuel to resume outdoor parking lot worship on Sundays at 10:00 AM. We will follow the previous format with people seated outdoors in chairs for a short in-person service of prayer, music, scripture, and homily. We will be practicing the usual safety protocols and are asking attendees to park in the lower lot by the classrooms and then walk to the registration table on the patio to check in. Then please continue to the upper parking lot where an usher will direct you and assist with a chair if needed. You are encouraged to bring your own chair or you may use one of the folding chairs from the church. If you would like to attend but wish to stay in your car, drive into the upper lot and an usher will direct you to a space designated for cars. Also, if you would like to sit in a chair but walking from the lower lot is a challenge, there will be limited parking in the upper lot available.

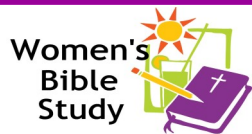
While we know this is still not “back to normal” we hope having a short time of worshipping together again will strengthen you for the days ahead.



## DIGITAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us each week as we post a new children’s Sunday School class lead by Mary Ann Carlson. We will continue through the stories of Jesus and hear them retold in our SPARK Bible. Look for the Sunday School Class on all the platforms you find worship (elclh.org, Facebook, and YouTube).





## JOY CIRCLE ON ZOOM TUESDAY, APRIL 20 AT 9:30 AM

The Joy Circle is a women's group that meets monthly for a time of discussion and fellowship. We will continue our VIRTUAL JOY CIRCLE via Zoom on Tuesday, April 20 at 9:30 AM. Our studies come out of the *Gather Magazine*, a magazine from the Women of the ELCA. If you do not have a subscription to this magazine, we can email you a digital copy of the lesson.

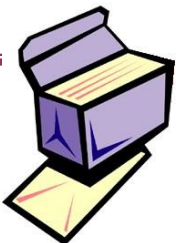
Angels are not a major focus of holy Scripture, nor are they ever mentioned in our Christian creeds. Yet they show up with frequency and at pivotal moments in both Old and New Testaments. Church reformer Martin Luther is quoted as saying, "If you picture the Bible to be a mighty tree and every word a little branch, I have shaken every one of these branches because I wanted to know what it was and what it meant." This month Rev. Christa von Zychlin will continue our four-part study "Journeys with Angels" where we have shaken those biblical branches, watched for angels and listen for God's call to action.

If you have not previously participated in the Joy Circle but would like to give it a try, please email Pastor Cate at [pastorcate@elclh.org](mailto:pastorcate@elclh.org) by Sunday, March 14 and she will get the lesson and Zoom link to you.

## INDIVIDUAL COMMUNION



We know that many of you are missing many parts of meeting in person, especially communion. If you would like communion, please let the office know and Pr. Cate or Vicar Matt will make it available to you. We can come to your home and celebrate communion on your front steps, or you can schedule a time to come to the church office and we can celebrate communion at a safe distance like Jill Drummond and Char Ponzio chose to do recently.



## OFFERING ENVELOPES

Thank you all for your continued financial support of Emanuel Lutheran Church. A number of you regularly mail in your offering using your provided offering envelopes. We have the 2021 envelopes at Emanuel and would like to provide them to those of you who would like to use them. You can come to the church to pick them up, or we are happy to drop them off at your home with contactless delivery. Additionally, if you are someone who gives your regular offering online, the boxes contain additional envelopes to use for Second Mile giving and special offerings. If you do not use your envelopes, please let the office know and we can update our list for next year.



## CHRIST IN OUR HOME

*Christ in Our Home* is a quarterly devotional resource that encourages us to live out our faith daily. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a daily scripture reference and prayer for the day that follows the Revised Common Lectionary.



We have received our supply of *Christ in Our Home* devotional booklets for **April-May-June 2021**. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please email us at [churchinfo@elclh.org](mailto:churchinfo@elclh.org).



## COVID-19 VACCINE HELP

Need help registering for a COVID-19 vaccine? We know that many of our members who are 65 or older have been getting their COVID-19 vaccine and we are very thankful to God for the science community who used their gifts to create a vaccine that will help us along.

If you are someone who needs help navigating the online or phone appointments, please contact the church and we will link you up with someone who can help you get an appointment with the right place.

## FREE SHRED EVENT / FOOD DRIVE SATURDAY, APRIL 17 FROM 8-11:30 AM



Please join Rob Burns and Matthew Burns of Thrivent for a FREE Shred Day on Saturday, April 17 from 8:00am-11:30am at Christ Lutheran Church & School parking lot (820 W Imperial Hwy, Brea). They are asking for non-perishable food donations that will be donated to local non-profits in the immediate area. There is a 10 box maximum for shredding.



Due to COVID-19, please remain in your car and place all shred documents and food donations in the trunk of your car to be removed by shred staff.

If you have questions, please call Katie Anderson of Thrivent at 714-525-4360. Also, for those who have occasion to go to Thrivent's office, they have recently moved to 203 N. Brea Blvd. #201, Brea CA 92821.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer is one part of our ministry that we continue to do strongly. If you have any prayer requests you would like included in Sunday Worship, please contact the church office by Wednesday and we will be able to include them in our filming.



# Kid's Korner



## SUNRISE SURPRISE

The hidden surprise in these sweet rolls hints at the reason behind Easter's joy.

### What you need:

- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 10 uncooked frozen rolls, thawed
- 10 large marshmallows
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- Adult help

### What you do:

1. Grease a round baking dish. Sprinkle pecans on the bottom.
2. Flatten each roll. Place a marshmallow in the center, wrap dough around it and pinch edges together.
3. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Dip each roll into melted butter and coat with cinnamon-sugar. Place in pan, seam side down.
4. Sprinkle brown sugar and remaining butter over rolls. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise 30 minutes.
5. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown, about 30 minutes. Cool in pan.
6. As you bite into a roll, you'll see the marshmallow has melted, leaving an empty center – just like Jesus' empty tomb!

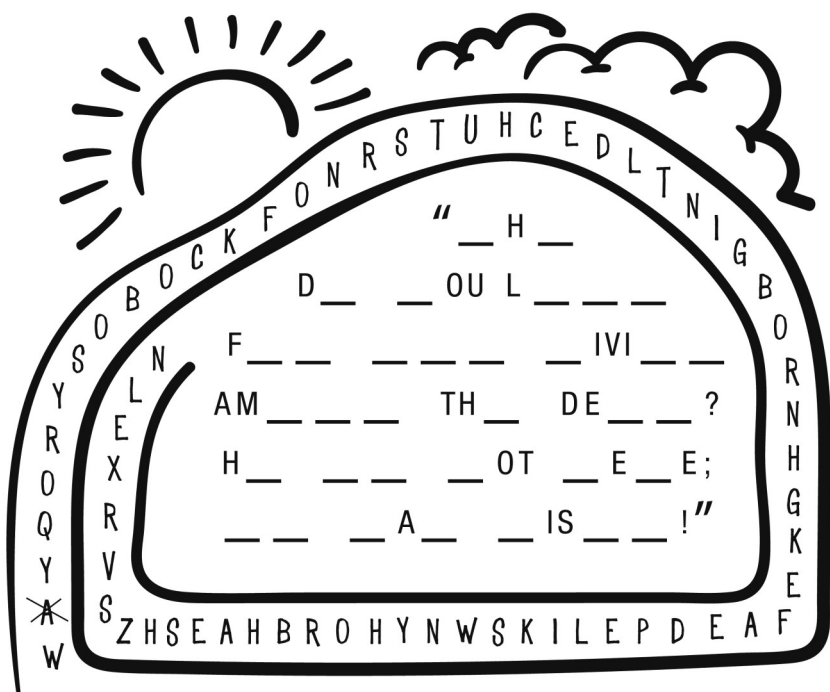


## PUZZLE

## EASTER MORNING message

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

*Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.*



LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV

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