



## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

1229 Jefferson Heights Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

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[www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org](http://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org)

412-824-4525 (office); 412-401-5742 (Pastor's cell)

Office Hours: Wednesday 10-3, Thursday 9-1

January 22, 2025

Soon after Jesus' baptism and testing in the wilderness, he visited his home town of Nazareth. At the synagogue, he was asked to read from the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

*<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." <sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." Luke 4: 18-21.*

Everyone was happy until Jesus made it clear that he intended to include other people: non-Jews, Greek speakers, even Roman occupiers.

Mercy and justice, freedom and release from poverty are easy to receive for oneself and one's family, but what if God intends us to include strangers and others of different races and languages and nationalities, even include enemies?

We know the answer. And we have chosen to be part of God's answer to welcome, feed, and include refugees and immigrants, those who need food, and those who need safe spaces and welcome.



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**THE ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING IS THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 26**

**IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP**

**To join the meeting via Zoom, use the link for Sunday worship. However, you must be present in person to vote.**

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**Spanish Language Worship has begun!!**

Sunday evening Lutheran worship in Spanish began last week!!!

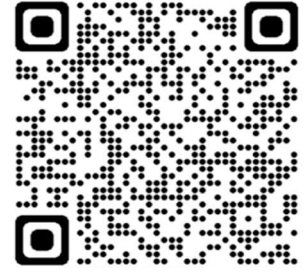
It was a joyful time and a great turnout in the midst of cold, snowy weather.

Worship services are being held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 1516 Beechview Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216. Worship is at 6 pm. **Volunteers are needed to teach English for adults and Bible for children at 7 p.m.**

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIVING. You may give in person, send a contribution in the mail or donate online.**

Go to <https://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org/> and you'll see the link. Or use the QR code for easy connection on your smart phone.



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**To order altar flowers** for our weekly worship services, contact Judy Mayhood (412-760-0986), call the church office, or sign up on the Flower Chart in the entry way. The cost is \$50, or \$25 per vase. You can pay for flowers online or by check.

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## **Worship and pray**

Come in person at 10 am every Sunday

**By phone:** Call 312-626-6799. When prompted, enter the meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

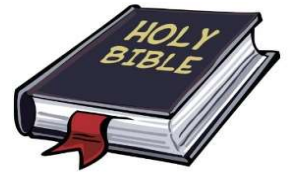
**By computer or smartphone:** Go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us). Enter Meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

**At home without technology:** Read the bulletin. Read the Scripture. Pray. Meditate.

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## **BIBLE BOOK OF THE MONTH: II Samuel**

We are entering the last phase of the Bible Book of the Month. Usually, the chosen book is one that we read during worship in that month. In the final six months of this project, that will not be the case. The Bible Book of the Month for January is II Samuel. In February we will read I Chronicles. The introduction to II Samuel was included in a prior mailing. As a reminder, introductions to all the Bible Books of the Month can also be found on the home page of our website, [www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org](http://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org).



**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Call Pastor Theophilus for yourself or others to be included in prayer. Contact Marsha Kennedy also; she sends cards to let people know that we are praying for them. You can reach Marsha at 412-824-4966 or [Marsha\\_Kennedy@verizon.net](mailto:Marsha_Kennedy@verizon.net) or 415 Kingston Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

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## **THE ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING IS THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP.**

**Sun., Jan. 26, 11:15 am** – Annual Meeting (snow date Sun., Feb. 2)

**Sun., Feb. 2, 11:15 am** – Black History Month discussion

**Fri., Feb. 7, 10:30 am** – Parish Life Committee Meeting

**Sun., Feb. 9, 11:15 am** – Black History Month discussion

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On **Sunday, February 9 at 7:30 p.m.**, St. Olaf Lutheran College Choir will perform at East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh. Composed of 75 mixed voices, the St. Olaf Choir is hailed as one of the nation's premier a cappella ensembles, renowned for its artistry and beauty of sound. Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$10 for all students, and are available at [stolaf.edu/tickets/choir](http://stolaf.edu/tickets/choir) or 800-363-5487.

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## FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Do you know the song "Old Man River"? Maybe you have seen the movie "Show Boat"? If so, you have already encountered Paul Robeson, the singer and actor.

This year we will focus on **Paul Robeson's** life's journey during four sessions in February - a very interesting journey combining his artistic gifts and his commitment to social justice.

The four sessions are scheduled for Sundays in February, beginning February 2 immediately after worship. Let us know if you would like us to order a copy of his book *Here I Stand*. The cost for a personal copy is \$10. One will be ordered for Emmanuel's library.

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### **Taize Prayer Service for Bishop Election Sunday, February 2, 2PM The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 4503 Old William Penn Hwy, Monroeville, PA 15146**

You have heard that Bishop Kusserow is retiring. There will be a synod election at the next synod assembly. The Bishop Election Team is planning a contemplative prayer service to support our synod in discernment. All are invited to attend in person or online.

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### **Hope in a Divided World - LAMPa/ULS Event**

Registration is open for [Hope in a Divided World: A Faithful Response to Christian Nationalism](#) on **March 7-8** at ULS Gettysburg. Speakers are Dr. Lori Brandt Hale, president of [The](#)



[International Bonhoeffer Society - English Language Section](#) and Amanda Tyler of [BJC - Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty](#)

and Christians Against Christian Nationalism. Discover how people of faith can authentically

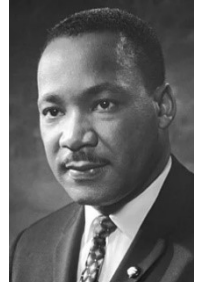
and humbly act at the intersection of civic life and faith, in contrast and response to the forces of Christian Nationalism, using the legacy and theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer as a guide.

For more information and to register, visit [www.lutheranadvocacy.org/event/bonhoefferlecture](http://www.lutheranadvocacy.org/event/bonhoefferlecture).

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## Save the date!

The fourth annual "**Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**" event will be held in the afternoon/evening of **Sunday, April 6, 2025**, at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Shadyside. The Rev. Dale B. Snyder of Bethel AME will be the guest preacher.



### LUTHERAN DAY IN THE CAPITOL, May 13

Join advocates from across Pennsylvania on Tuesday, May 13, for Lutheran Day in the Capitol.

This is a day to visit PA House Representatives and Senators and to learning about the issues that Lutherans promote in Pennsylvania.

LAMPa's ministry is based on ELCA Social Statements and social policy resolutions and the ELCA Constitution: "This church shall advocate dignity and justice for all people, working for peace and reconciliation among nations, and standing with the poor and powerless and committing itself to their need ... This church shall study social issues and trends, work to discover the causes of oppression and injustice, and develop programs of ministry and advocacy to further human dignity, freedom, justice, and peace in the world." 4.02 and 4.031.

In partnership with [ELCA World Hunger](#), and based on the deep experience and commitment of our more than 1,000 congregations across the Commonwealth, LAMPa leads non-partisan advocacy to Pennsylvania public officials on a range of interconnected issues, but particularly in addressing hunger and its root causes, striving to create a just world where all are fed. We equip disciples of Jesus Christ for civic engagement rooted in their baptism and led where God is calling them into the world.

### Monthly Grief Gatherings at Monroeville Public Library

Every fourth Wednesday from 7-8:30 pm, come to share and explore our experiences with grief. All are welcome. For more information, contact Cory Little at 412-373-0500 ext. 122 or [littlec2@einetwork.net](mailto:littlec2@einetwork.net).

