

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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

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

October 30, 2024



### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – November 3

O God, Alpha and Omega, we give thanks for all those who have died and now rest in you. Give us your aid, so we may see in death the gate to eternal life, that we may continue our course on earth in confidence until, by your call, we are joined in celebration with those who have gone before us and will come after us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

On this All Saints Sunday we remember Sanford Harvey, Diane McMaster Peindl, Evelyn Lowry, Sylvia Radvan, and Leatha Mae Miller who were commended in to God's care through the ministry of this congregation. We remember other saints also: friends and family who have died in this past year and before. We will light one candle for each person who died in this last year. You are invited to add additional candles for more people.

*<sup>13</sup> But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words. I Thessalonians 4:13-18.*

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Don't forget – **it's time to "fall back."** The official time change is Sunday, November 3, at 2 am. You either change your clocks before you go to bed Saturday night and get an extra hour of sleep. OR you wake up one hour early, arrive at church one hour early and wonder where everyone is.



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### Love Anyway Feast at Emmanuel – Sunday evening, November 3 – 6-8 pm

**You are invited!!** Pastor Linda received (won) a grant from Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in PA to host a Love Anyway Feast. **Come and join people of different faiths, cultures, philosophical or political persuasions.** Celebrate what we share in common, and gain understanding and respect for our differences. **Beverages and welcoming food are provided. Bring an ethnic dish to share.**

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## Thankoffering Sunday, November 17

Thankofferings are gratitude in action. A daily response to God's grace and love. An offering above and beyond regular offerings.

Everyone is encouraged to give thanks daily. When you set aside coins (or more) as an expression of your gratitude to God, that is a thankoffering. On Sunday, November 17, we will collect our thankofferings at Emmanuel.

You are also invited to the Women of the ELCA Thankoffering service on Sunday, November 10, on zoom at 7:30 pm (Eastern time). The worship service will be led by the Rev. Betsy Hoium and the students of Gustavus Adolphus College Campus Ministry. This in-person Thankoffering service will take place at Christ Chapel on the campus of Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. Women of the ELCA interim executive director, Jennifer Hockenbery, will also attend.



**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.

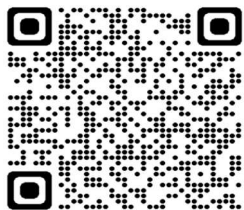
**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Call Pastor Theophilus for yourself or others to be included in prayer. Contact Marsha Kennedy also; she sends cards to let people know that we are praying for them. You can reach Marsha at 412-824-4966 or [Marsha\\_Kennedy@verizon.net](mailto:Marsha_Kennedy@verizon.net) or 415 Kingston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

### **Worship and pray in person in the sanctuary OR**

**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.



**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.

**Sat., Nov. 2** – Change clocks

**Sun., Nov. 3** – All Saints Sunday

**Sun., Nov. 3, - 6:00-7:30 pm** – Love Anyway Feast

**Fri., Nov. 22, 11 am** – Parish Life Meeting

**Sun., Dec. 1** – Advent begins

**Tues., Dec. 3, 1 pm** – Church Council Meeting

**Wed., Dec. 4, 11, 18 – 12:30-1:15 pm** – Advent Midweek Holy Communion

**Tues., Dec. 24 – 3 pm** – Christmas Eve Worship

**SAVE THE DATE**

## WHAT DOES THE ELCA TEACH ABOUT ????

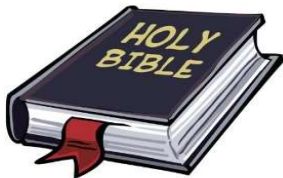
This fall, we are studying six of the social statements using a series prepared by United Lutheran Seminary (Gettysburg and Philadelphia). **You can participate on Sunday after worship on selected Sundays. You can also watch the recorded presentation at home on YouTube.**

### The topics are

ELCA Earth's Climate Crisis Study Guide -  
Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture -

### The dates at Emmanuel are

November 3  
November 10



### BIBLE BOOK OF THE MONTH: Leviticus

The Bible Book of the Month for November is Leviticus. The introduction to Leviticus is attached. 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).

Our synod has a Domestic Violence taskforce. They have compiled a list of all the emergency numbers and shelters for the counties in our synod. It is posted on the bulletin boards at Emmanuel and on our website: <https://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org/docs/resources-for-victims-and-survivors-of-domestic-violence/>

### 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).



### Chocolate, Coffee, and Tea available

Fair Trade means that the workers and growers are paid a living wage. Equal Exchange is a non-profit that works with farmer cooperatives around the world and in the United States. You get the wholesale price for high quality and usually organic chocolate, tea, coffee, and nuts. Pick up your favorites at Emmanuel or contact Pastor Linda to arrange a purchase.

You are invited to join pastors and laypeople from around the Pittsburgh area on **Wednesday, November 20, at 6:30pm in the John Knox Room at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary** for the next program in the series: "Reckoning with Antisemitism: Listening to Jewish

Voices." You'll hear from a panel of Jewish leaders to share how antisemitism has affected their lives and community and what they hope their Christian neighbors will come to understand about the Jewish experience. For more information about the panelists and to register before the deadline of November 19, click here:

[https://www.casp.org/reckoning?mc\\_cid=8ba5e4a5d9&mc\\_eid=cf57a417fd#listening](https://www.casp.org/reckoning?mc_cid=8ba5e4a5d9&mc_eid=cf57a417fd#listening)

HOLOCAUST  
CENTER OF  
PITTSBURGH

RECKONING WITH  
ANTISEMITISM  
AS CHRISTIANS



# LEVITICUS

**“For I am the Lord who brought you up from the land of Egypt.  
You shall be holy, because I am Holy.” Leviticus 11:45**

The message of Leviticus is

**I am your God  
I am holy  
You shall be holy**

These themes include:

1. Honoring God as God: I am the Lord.
2. How do sinful people live with a holy God?
3. A path to forgiveness and fellowship with God.
4. Setting the stage for Jesus.
5. God’s grace and protection.

You will get the most value from your reading if you look for themes and patterns. Ask yourself how each chapter and each section demonstrate these themes. Pray “*Lord, what do you want to teach me?*”

Leviticus has sections. Most people find one section very significant and another boring or very strange. For example, the verses about skin diseases may seem useless to you, but a doctor was so impressed with the healthiness of the laws that he became a Christian.

Here are the sections organized by chapter:

- 1-7 Instructions for sacrifices
- 8-10 Ordination of Aaron as high priest and fiery death of Abihu and Nadab
- 11-15 Clean and Unclean: Food, Birth, Skin
- 16 The Day of Atonement
- 17-20 Holiness code: Food, Sex, Economics, Death
- 21-27 Sabbath, Festivals, Jubilees, Vows, Offerings

Leviticus begins with instructions for sacrifices. “*The Lord summoned Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting saying ‘When any of you bring an offering of livestock to the Lord...’*” The writer assumes the hearer/reader knows the context. The previous book, Exodus, concludes with the construction of the tent of meeting which was the worship space for God’s people during the wandering years between Egypt and the Promised Land. Naturally, the next instructions should be about what you do there. In addition, Leviticus was written for farming people at a time when everybody had produce and animals but money was used less.

As Christians, we read about the sacrifices with the awareness that Jesus is the perfect, eternal sacrifice offered by the perfect, eternal priest. Instead of reading

Leviticus as a “how-to” manual for worship, we need to read Leviticus as a witness to the goodness of God who deserves our very best. In the New Testament book of Hebrews, previous rituals (especially those for atonement) are described as a shadow of the eternal, preparing us to receive what is better and lasting: Jesus. (See Hebrews 7:20-10:18.)

The introduction to Leviticus in The New Student Bible (Zondervan @1996) says: “*Its painstaking ritual is, however, strikingly similar to the procedures surrounding nuclear technology. The specialized clothing, the concern for purification, the precise handling of critical materials – both nuclear workers and Old Testament priests share these ... Its dangerous material, however, is more powerful than the atom. ... The creator of the universe has entered the life of a small and insignificant tribe. The Israelites could not merely fit this God into their lives. They needed to restructure their lives – food, sex, economics – to fit with His Life.*”

The question of which laws to follow and how to apply them arises for both Jews and Christians. With the decision of the council of Jerusalem in Acts 15, the church recognized that following the laws is not a requirement for salvation. *We [Jews] will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they [non-Jews] will.* Four “do-nots” were requested: 1) no food sacrificed to idols, 2) no blood, 3) no strangled food, and 4) no fornication. In Galatians 2:10, Paul names a further request: “Remember the poor.” Christian freedom allows us to use the laws to learn and do God’s will without requiring that we follow all or follow literally. Instead, always ask:

**Am I honoring God as God?  
How should my life change because I live in the  
presence of the holy God?  
Am I relating to other people in a holy way?**

Reading Leviticus reminds me of the saying “I can’t see the forest for the trees.” It contains a lot of details and instructions about what to do and how to do it. You may find some fascinating or boring and maybe even both. (I am personally intrigued that the Lord says grasshoppers are a “clean” food, which may be eaten, but wasps and beetles are “unclean.”) When you recognize the underlying themes, you will see the beauty of God’s love for God’s people.