



## WELCOME

HYMN: “Crown Him with Many Crowns” (LSB #525)

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark how the heav’nly anthem drowns All music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o’er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav’n, Enthroned in worlds above.  
Crown Him the king to whom is giv’n The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;  
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.

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## INVOCATION

### REFLECTION ON GOD’S WORD:

*(From Deuteronomy 11 & Ephesians 6)*

Pastor: The Lord directs us, “Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

**People: Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.**

Pastor: Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates,

**People: So that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the LORD swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.**

Pastor: Fathers, do not exasperate your children;

**People: Instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.**

### CONFESSION OF SIN: *(Adapted from a prayer of Martin Luther)*

Heavenly Father, You have called all of us as Christian parents and as Your church to teach Your holy Word to our children, and all others who are under our care. Forgive us for the times and many ways we have neglected that all important task. Grant us forgiveness in Jesus name. May Your good Spirit give us wisdom and strength, and renew a heart in us that seeks to obey Your will, so that our homes and lives might not be overrun by sin. Amen.

**SONG: “Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty” (Bob Fitts)**

**Father in heaven, how we love You;  
We lift Your name in all the earth.  
May Your kingdom be established in our praises,  
as Your people declare Your mighty works.**

**Blessed be the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was and is and is to come;  
Blessed be the Lord God Almighty,  
Who reigns forevermore.**

**Father of mercy, be exalted;  
May Jesus’ name be lifted high,  
for the sacrifice of love has won my pardon,  
and his resurrection power gives me life.**

**Blessed be the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was and is and is to come;  
Blessed be the Lord God Almighty,  
Who reigns forevermore.**

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**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 35:4-7**

<sup>4</sup> ...say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.” <sup>5</sup> Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. <sup>6</sup> Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. <sup>7</sup> The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

**EPISTLE READING: James 1:16-27**

<sup>16</sup> Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers. <sup>17</sup> Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created. <sup>19</sup> My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, <sup>20</sup> for man’s anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. <sup>21</sup> Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. <sup>22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup> But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does. <sup>26</sup> If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

## **ECC CHILDREN SING**

### **CHILDREN'S LESSON**

#### **GOSPEL READING: Mark 7:31-37**

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup> There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged him to place his hand on the man. <sup>33</sup> After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. <sup>34</sup> He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "*Ephphatha!*" (which means, "Be opened!"). <sup>35</sup> At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly. <sup>36</sup> Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. <sup>37</sup> People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH: (*The Apostle's Creed*)**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### **HYMN: "Earth and All Stars" (*LSB #817*)**

**Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Oh, victory! Loud shouting army!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
He has done marvelous things.  
I too will praise Him with a new song!**

**Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
He has done marvelous things.  
I too will praise Him with a new song!**

**Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Daughter and son! Loud praying members!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
He has done marvelous things.  
I too will praise Him with a new song!**

**Children of God, Dying and rising,  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Heaven and earth, Hosts everlasting,  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
He has done marvelous things.  
I too will praise Him with a new song!**

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**SERMON: James 1:16-21 “Is God Really Good?”**

**OFFERING**

**PRAYERS**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

**BLESSING: *(From 1 Timothy 1)***

**Pastor: Fed and nourished by His words of life,**

**People: Forgiven and renewed by His love and grace,**

**Pastor: We leave this house of worship with our heart and voices  
declaring:**

**People: Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God! Be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen!**

**SONG: “Let It Be Said of Us” (Steve Fry)**

**Let it be said of us that the Lord was our passion,  
That with gladness we bore ev’ry cross we were given;  
That we fought the good fight, that we finished the course  
Knowing within us the pow’r of the risen Lord.**

**Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song,  
By mercy made holy, by the Spirit made strong.  
Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song  
‘Til the likeness of Jesus be through us made known.  
Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song.**

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'Til the likeness of Jesus be through us made known.  
Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song.  
(C. 1994 Maranatha Praise. Used by permission CCLI #522460)

### **BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**



## **Class for All Ages**

**On Rally Sunday, September 12th**, we will celebrate the beginning of yet another year to share the good news about Jesus with our children. This year however, things will be different than before. Instead of separating children from their parents in a Sunday School, parents and children will stay together, and I will be there with them as the pastor. We'll be calling this our "Family Faith Fellowship."

Each Sunday, from 10:45 am - 11:30 am, we will begin by looking at Bible passages, Bible stories, or discussing various topics in light of God's word. Families will then take part in an activity that ties into the lesson, and we'll end with a time of sharing with one another what we've learned or done that day. So, as pastor and people, we will be using the gifts the Holy Spirit has blessed each of us with, and working together to help one another grow in our Christian faith and life.

Whether you are a family that's currently a member at Holy Emmanuel, or a family that attends our Open Arms Early Childhood Center, you are all invited and welcome to come and be part of the fun!

Your brother and servant in Christ,  
Pastor Paul Krentz



# Harvest

**Save the Date! Holy Emmanuel and Open Arms Harvest Festival 2021 is Saturday, October 2nd!**

# Festival



Dear Holy Emmanuel and Open Arms Family:

It has been a few years (3 I think?) since we have had a bike event. In light of this, we would like to invite all to take part in a family bike ride next month. We hope this will be a great time to get together for some fresh air, exercise, food, and best of all, time in fellowship. Here are some details, and hope to see you there!

***When? 10AM, Saturday, September 25***

***Where? Meet at Black Dog trail parking lot, south side of MN River, just east of 35W off of Black Dog Rd.***

***Who? All HE and Open Arms family, and whoever else!***

***What? We will ride the paved bike trail east to the Old Cedar Bridge, and then back. Following this ride we will meet back at church for a simple grill/chips/etc. lunch, with games etc.***

Some may want to even drop their bikes at church and ride to the Black Dog lot from church, which is now possible with the new bridge. Others with smaller kids may opt to just start and finish at the lot. Either way, drive or bike, meet at the lot at 10am. Also, the Hwy 77 bridge is passable but there is an incline, so some families with smaller kiddos may want to skip that part and return to the lot, and head back to church. Lunch will begin around 1130am approximately.

Please RSVP to the church office or Open Arms office by Saturday, Sept 18 so proper food and beverage arrangements can be made.

Hope to see you there!

Brad N. Affeldt



As we think about how to start spiritual conversations with one another and with people just beginning to explore the faith, it's good for us to pause and think about how we might tell our own faith stories.

- *What are moments in your life that had a significant impact on your faith?*
- *How has God been at work in you?*

Being ready to tell your story helps us to be prepared to share the hope that we have in Jesus, and share that hope whenever someone asks. Plus, hearing one another's stories help all of us to be encouraged, strengthened, and rejoice in Gods Gospel power,

Our goal is to collect stories from disciples at Holy Emmanuel and Open Arms. At some point, with your permission we'll share your story in a summary collection. As Jesus reminded us when He said, ***“Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you”***

Holy Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
Open Arms Early Childhood Center

If you would like to share your story please send along your thoughts in a paragraph or two to:  
Chuck Squires  
squir008@msn.com  
612-799-5315

Or, please forward your written story addressed to Chuck Squires in a personal and confidential envelope at the church office.

