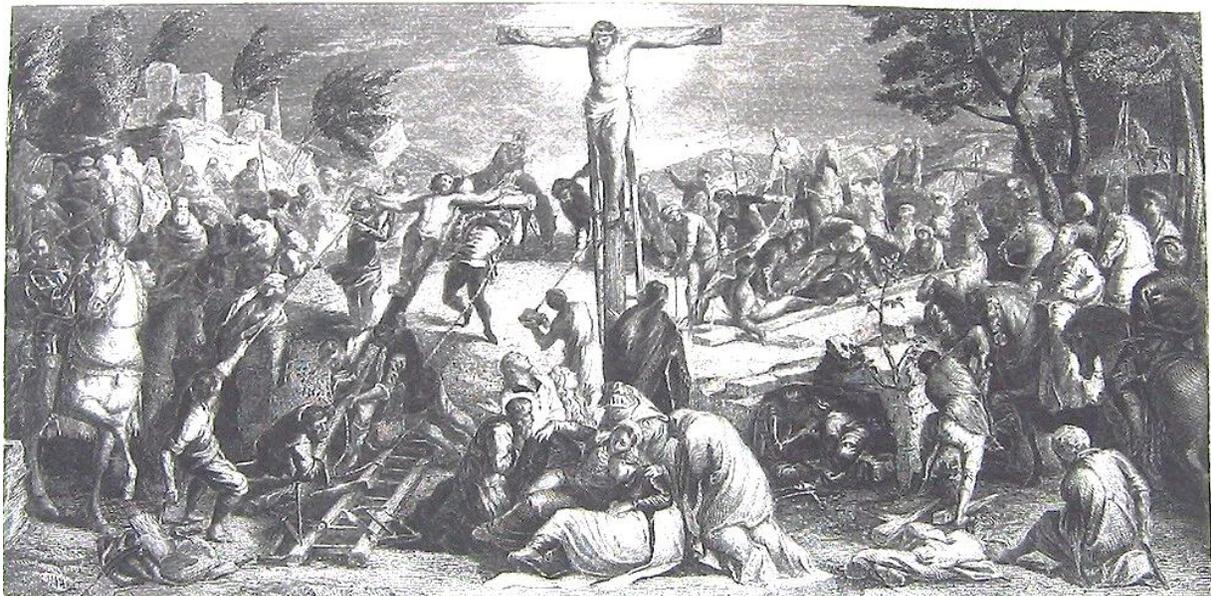


# Emmanuel Church

The Episcopal Church on Mercer Island



**THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY**

**MARCH 29, 2026**

**8:00 AM**

## Welcome Guests & Visitors

**+ Welcome to the Episcopal Church.** The mission of the Episcopal Church, as stated in our Book of Common Prayer, is “*to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.*” We seek to follow Jesus in loving and life-giving relationships with God, with one another, with all people, and with all God’s creation. Our worship, beliefs and practices are diverse and reflect influences from Roman Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox traditions as well as ongoing reflection and prayer about what it means to believe in and follow Jesus Christ in a rapidly changing world. We Episcopalians are also known as Anglicans, part of the worldwide Anglican Communion with origins and ongoing ties to the Church of England.

**+ Welcome to Emmanuel Episcopal Church.** We trace our history on Mercer Island to a first worship service in 1909 and to a prior church building, built in 1914, in an area of the island once known as East Seattle. We have met, worshiped, served at and gone forth in faith from the present church since 1959.

**+ Welcome to Our Worship Today.** The order for worship that we call the Holy Eucharist is printed on the following pages. It begins with the Liturgy of the Word: Bible readings, a sermon, an affirmation of faith, prayers, and greeting one another at the Peace. All this prepares us for the Eucharist itself — the word is derived from the biblical Greek word for thanksgiving. Here and elsewhere it may also be called Holy Communion, the Lord’s Supper or the Mass.

**+ Welcome to Communion.** The Real Presence of Christ in the blessed bread and wine is a primary belief in our Anglican tradition. Here at Emmanuel, any and all who are drawn to do so may receive Communion. Additional notes may be found at the appropriate place in today’s printed order of worship.

**+ Welcome to Getting Around Here.**

◆ **Our nursery and ministries with young children** are offered in various ways at various times. Please inquire with an usher, the clergy or other parents, or look for information on our website.

◆ **An accessible restroom** may be found across from the stairway outside the west doors of the narthex (the gathering area just beyond the doors of the church proper). Other restrooms may be found up the ramp and stairs at the east side of the narthex.

◆ **Hearing assistance devices**, with related instructions, may be found in and borrowed from a basket on a narthex table.

*Please let us know how we may better welcome you.*

## Worship and Pastoral Notes

### The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

OUR WORSHIP TODAY here at Emmanuel is unusual and provocative. This is not our usual Sunday routine. The distinctive features of the Palm Sunday Liturgy alert us to the fact that, along with other Christians around the world, we are entering Holy Week. Our worship services beginning today and through the coming week are intended to be experienced as a whole, so that we may fully share in remembering and taking part in the events of Christ’s Passion, death and resurrection.

Today’s liturgy includes an abrupt and disturbing change of tone and substance that merits an explanation. In the Liturgy of the Palms, we share in what is traditionally called the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The appointed gospel text reminds us of the throngs that greeted Jesus with joy and with the hope that he would become a liberating new king for Israel.

The mood abruptly turns, however. From the time that we pray the Collect of the Day, we anticipate and soon share in hearing of Christ’s Passion – his betrayal, mock trial, torture and death by crucifixion. The lengthy Gospel is dramatic, tragic, sorrowful. Together we shout Crucify!

*Please note that the reading of the Passion Gospel this year invites your active participation, by way of the parts in bold indicated for the People.*

If by the end of this worship we are left feeling dismayed, implicated, or even without hope, this liturgy will have done its intended spiritual work. We have been given a preview that will be expanded upon in the upcoming liturgies for Maundy Thursday (at 7:00 p.m.) and Good Friday (at Noon and at 7:00 p.m.).

All of the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter are traditionally considered to be a forward-moving relay of sorts, with each service preparing and moving toward the next

Please enrich your faith and our common life by taking part as you are able throughout the coming week. The worship schedule may be found on page 18 of this bulletin.



The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Interim Rector  
patrick@emmanuelmi.org

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST – RITE TWO –8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

## THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

*Celebrant* Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

*People* Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 21:1-11

*All standing, the Priest says to the People*

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus and his disciples had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

"Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

*After the Gospel the Reader says*

The Gospel of our Savior.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

*The Celebrant says the following blessing*

*Celebrant* God be with you.

*People* And also with you.

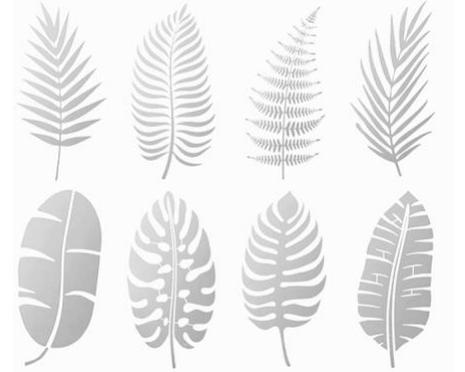
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant continues,*

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**Amen.**



*\*\*\* The Palms are now distributed \*\*\**

*Celebrant* Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

*People* **Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in peace.

*People* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us Pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LESSONS

### A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT – Isaiah 50:4-9a

*Lector* A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens – wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### THE PSALM – 31:9-16

*Read Responsively*

9. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; \*  
my eye is consumed with sorrow,  
and also my throat and my belly.
10. For my life is wasted with grief,  
and my years with sighing; \*  
my strength fails me because of affliction,  
and my bones are consumed.
11. I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,  
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \*  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.
12. I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \*  
I am as useless as a broken pot.
13. For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;  
fear is all around; \*  
they put their heads together against me;  
they plot to take my life.
14. But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. \*  
I have said, "You are my God.
15. My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.
16. Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me."

## A READING FROM THE EPISTLES – Philippians 2:5-11

*Lector* A reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians

Let the same mind be in you that was in  
Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself and became  
obedient to the point of death--  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under  
the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST – Matthew 27:11-54

Jesus stood before the Pilate, the governor, who asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said,

***People:* “Barabbas.”**

Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said,

***People:* “Let him be crucified!”**

Then Pilate asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more,

***People:* “Let him be crucified!”**

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” Then the people as a whole answered,

***People:* “His blood be on us and on our children!”**

So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross.

*All Stand, as able.*

And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

**People: "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."**

In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

**People: "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'"**

The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

*All Kneel, as able; Silence is Kept*

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

**People: "Truly this man was God's Son!"**

**THE SERMON** – The Rev. Patrick Raymond

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated  
at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and  
apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Leader: For all those times that we have recognized your presence among us, O Christ, and shouted ‘Hosanna!’ in our hearts;

**People: We give thanks, and we pray for you to come among us again.**

Leader: For all those times we have denied our part in your betrayal and death; for those times when we have asked, “Is it I, Lord?” knowing of our own guilt; for those times we have been called to patience or understanding or compassion and instead shouted, “Crucify!”;

**People: We ask your forgiveness, Lord.**

Leader: For all who are suffering; for the sick and the dying; for all whose lives have been diminished by violence; for those who have lost faith, hope and love.

**People: May your saving presence and power be known to them through us.**

Leader: For all who are thankful now; for all your people, from every race and nation, who call upon you; and for all who have died and are now with you forever in paradise.

**People: We remember your Passion and death, and we await your resurrection.**

*Other intercessions or thanksgivings may be added. The Celebrant this Collect ‘Of the Holy Cross.’*

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

## THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.** *Please share the Peace of Christ with others.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

*Part of our spiritual practice as Christians is to support the mission of the church through financial donations. You may give in the plate or online using PayPal. To donate via PayPal, simply scan this QR code and follow the instructions.*



*Information on receiving Communion may be found on page 15.*

## OFFERTORY

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *Eucharistic Prayer A, The Book of Common Prayer (Expanded Language)*

*The People remain standing, as able.*

*Celebrant* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The People stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker and of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People* **Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

Our Father, who art in heaven,	as we forgive those who trespass against us.
hallowed be thy Name,	And lead us not into temptation,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,	but deliver us from evil.
on earth as it is in heaven.	For thine is the kingdom,
Give us this day our daily bread.	and the power, and the glory,
And forgive us our trespasses,	for ever and ever. Amenn

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

### AGNUS DEI

<i>Celebrant</i>	Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
<i>People</i>	<b>have mercy on us.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
<i>People</i>	<b>have mercy on us.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
<i>People</i>	<b>grant us your peace.</b>

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All are welcome to participate in communion at Emmanuel. Primarily our communion takes place at the altar rail. You can stand or kneel. If you want to abstain from the bread or wine, please cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available. If the steps to the altar rail present a challenge for you, you may stand at the bottom of the stairs, or ask an usher to have communion brought to you in your seat.*

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER.** *Please stand or kneel as you are able.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All* Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

### **BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND GENERAL THANKSGIVINGS**

*Those celebrating a birthday or anniversary are welcomed to come forward. Led by the Celebrant, all pray:*

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE & THE BLESSING**

*Celebrant* Let us humble ourselves before our God.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, abide within you, be known among you, and go forth with you into the world, now and always. **Amen.**

### **THE DISMISSAL**

*All respond:* **Thanks be to God.**



## **Covenant for Our Common Life and Witness**

*We, the members, staff, and clergy of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, aspire to personally and collectively demonstrate and advocate the following principles in all of our relationships.*

- 1. We Demonstrate Christ's Command to Love One Another**, treating all with generosity, kindness, and empathy. *"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."* John 15:12
- 2. We Respect the Dignity of Every Person**, listening to one another and honoring differences.  
Jesus said, *"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets."* Matthew 7:12
- 3. We Speak Truth in Love**, sharing our hopes, concerns, and perspectives in a spirit of collaboration.  
*"Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body."* Ephesians 4:25
- 4. We Promptly Address Conflicts and Pursue Reconciliation**, whenever and with whomever it is needed, seeking to heal and restore broken relationships.  
*"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."* Ephesians 4:32
- 5. We Promote Unity**, acknowledging that we share a love for this community and its future.  
*"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."* Ephesians 4:3
- 6. We Practice Humility**, recognizing the needs, concerns and interests of others alongside our own.  
*"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit."* Philippians 2:3a. *"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"* Micah 6:8
- 7. We Pray For Each Other, the Church, Our Community, and Our World.**  
*"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for all people."* 1 Timothy 2:1

*By way of this covenant, we seek to share in a parish community that reflects Christ's love and peace to all, where every person is valued and respected, and where we work together for the common good of the church, our community and our world.*

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**Clergy and Staff:** The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Interim Rector; The Rev. Brian Gregory, Associate Rector; Fred McIlroy, Director of Music; Julene Levin, Parish Administrator; John Pritchard, Bookkeeper

**2026 Emmanuel Vestry:** Michael Spencer, Senior Warden; Pat Angell, Janet Bell, Stacy Dimmich, Nathan Ihle, Sandy Maloof, Leslie Moore, Marcia Palk, Sue Stiles. [askvestry@emmanuelmi.org](mailto:askvestry@emmanuelmi.org)