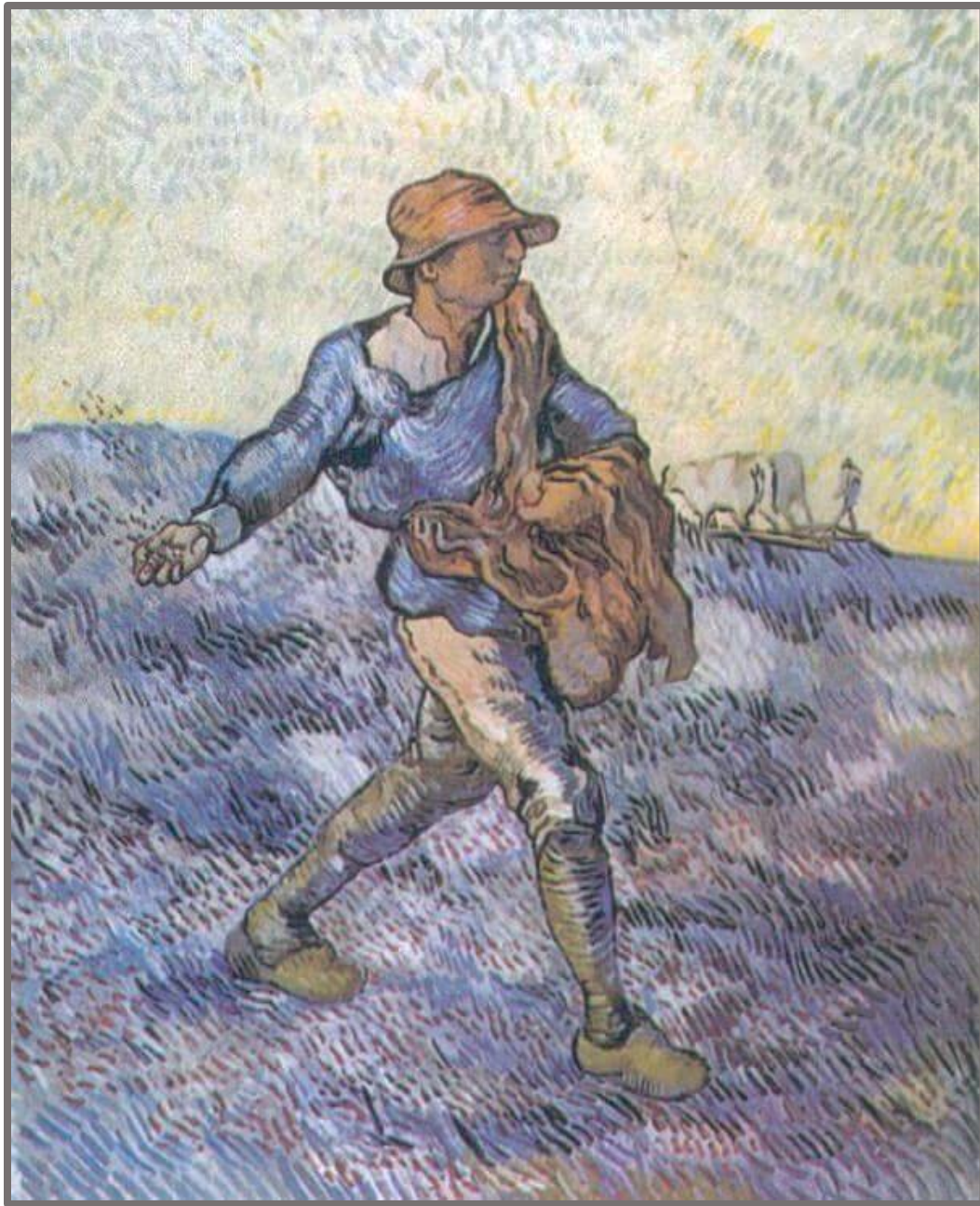




Emmanuel Church

The Episcopal Church on Mercer Island



Jesus said, "Listen! A sower went out to sow ..." Matthew 13:3
Image: *The Sower, after Millet*, by Vincent Van Gogh, 1889

THE HOLY EUCHARIST
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 12, 2026 + 9:00 A.M.

WELCOME GUESTS & VISITORS



We are grateful that you have joined us!

Some notes that may be of help in getting to know us may be found on the inside back cover of this worship leaflet. All that you will need to take part in worship may be found here in this worship leaflet and in the blue Hymnal 1982.

Please let us know how we may better welcome you.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

PRELUDE – “Steal Away” and “I Want To Be a Christian”

Gilbert Martin

At the church entry, the Celebrant bids the People to stand as able.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY *Said by all*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PROCESSION – Hymnal 1982, #48 – “O day of radiant gladness”

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us Pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



THE LESSONS

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT – Isaiah 55:10-13 *Sit.*

Lector A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 65:9-14

Read Responsively

You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.

May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

A READING FROM THE EPISTLES — Romans 8:1-11

Lector A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Continued ...

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GRADUAL – Hymnal 1982, #512 – “Come, Gracious Spirit, heavenly dove”

THE HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

All standing, the clergy appointed says to the People

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

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

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!”

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

After the Gospel the Reader says

The Gospel of our Savior.

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

THE SERMON Rev. Patrick Raymond

THE NICENE CREED *Enriching Our Worship*

All stand, as able, and say together

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

In peace, let us pray, saying, “God, hear our prayers.” *Pause.*

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray. **People: God, hear our prayers.**

For +Phil our bishop, for clergy and all who serve and lead in our parish and diocese, let us pray. **God, hear our prayers.**

For the leaders of all nations, and for all whose words, actions and decisions affect the lives of others, let us pray. **God, hear our prayers.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray. **God, hear our prayers.**

For those for whom our prayers have been asked [*including* _____], and for all who are aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, for those who are lonely, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray. **God, hear our prayers.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and refugees, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray. **God, hear our prayers.**

For those who celebrate birthdays or anniversaries today or in the coming week [*including _____*], and for grateful awareness of all our blessings. **God, hear our prayers.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, and for all who are grieving let us pray.

God, hear our prayers.

In communion with all the saints, let us commit ourselves, in all that we are and say and do, to Christ our God.

Other intercessions may be added, after which the Celebrant adds this or another prayer.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

After a brief silence, the Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Minister and People

God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,

and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us

through our Savior Jesus Christ,

that we may abide in your love

and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. 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

Our spiritual practice as Christians includes support of the church through financial giving. You may give in the offering plate or online using PayPal. To donate via PayPal ... ➡



Information on receiving Communion may be found on page 15.

OFFERTORY – Chorale Prelude on “Blessed Jesus, at thy word”

Paul Manz

OFFERTORY HYMN – Hymnal 1982, #440 – “Blessed Jesus, at thy word”

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer 2, Enriching Our Worship (1997)

The people remain standing, as able. The Celebrant begins

God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift our hearts to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Ho- ly, ho- ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heaven__ and earth__ are
full__ of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na in the high- est. Ho - san- na in the high- est.
Blessed__ is the one who comes in the name__ of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high- est. Ho - san - na in the high- est._____

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us + your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

<i>All</i> 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, for ever and ever. Amen.
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THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept after which the Celebrant says

We break this bread and share this cup to share in the Body and Blood of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body, for we share in one bread, one cup.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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.

COMMUNION MUSIC

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

The Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world in word and deed,
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND GENERAL THANKSGIVINGS

Whether recently, today or in days to come, whether members of this parish or guests: 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 BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the People, using the following or another form

May our merciful and gracious God ever strengthen you in faith, hope and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in ways of truth, justice and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, abide within you, be known among you, and go forth with you into the world, now and always. **Amen**

PROCESSION – Hymnal 1982, #530 – “Spread, O spread, thou mighty word”

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

VOLUNTARY - Prelude and Fugue in F Major

J.S. Bach

Good Ground

by Malcolm Guite

I love your simple story of the sower,
With all its close attention to the soil,
Its movement from the knowledge to the knower,
Its take on the tenacity of toil.

I feel the fall of seed a sower scatters,
So equally available to all,
Your story takes me straight to all that matters,
Yet understands the reasons why I fall.

Oh deepen me where I am thin and shallow,
Uproot in me the thistle and the thorn,
Keep far from me that swiftly snatching shadow,
That seizes on your seed to mock and scorn.

O break me open, Jesus, set me free,
Then find and keep your own good ground in me.



Garden of Thistles, Lori Biwar-Stewart



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.

Clergy and Staff: The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Interim Rector; The Rev. Marilyn Cornwell, Assisting Priest; Fred McIlroy, Director of Music; Julene Levin, Parish Administrator; John Pritchard, Bookkeeper

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