

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 14, 2021 10:30 a.m.



EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

412 N CHURCH ST
ROCKFORD IL 61103

Prelude:

“Voluntary in A minor”
Wayne Hatwich, Organist

John Stanley (1713-1786)

Opening Hymn:

“Come, thou fount of every blessing”

Hymn #686

v. 1, 2, 3

1. Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call
for songs of loudest praise. Teach me
some melodious sonnet, sung by
flaming tongues above. Praise the
mount! O fix me on it, mount of
God's unchanging love.
2. Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither by thy help, I've come; and I
hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to
arrive at home. Jesus sought me when
a stranger, wandering from the fold of
God; he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.
3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily
I'm constrained to be! Let thy
goodness, like a fetter, bind my
wandering heart to thee; prone to
wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave
the God I love; here's my heart, oh,
take and seal it, seal it for thy courts
above.

The people standing

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: *His mercy endures for ever.*

The Decalogue may be said, the people kneeling.

The Decalogue: Contemporary

Celebrant: Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

The Confession

Officiant: Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

The Priest alone stands and says

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

Lenten Verse:

“My Song is Love Unknown”
Vocalist: Tammy Schulz

Hymn #458
v. 3, 4

3. Sometimes they strew his way, and his strong praises sing, resounding all the day hosannas to their King. Then “Crucify!” is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.
4. Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and splite? He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight. Sweet injuries! Ye they at these themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

Old Testament

A Reading from the Book of Numbers

Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
*from the east and from the west,
 from the north and from the south.*
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.
- 21 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

New Testament

A Reading from Ephesians

Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn:

“O Love of God, how strong and true” (Dunedin)

Hymn #455

v. 1, 2

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. O love of God, how strong and true,
 eternal and yet ever new;
 uncomprehended and unbought,
 beyond all knowledge and all thought.</p> | <p>2. O wide-embracing, wondrous Love,
 we read thee in the sky above; we read
 thee in the earth below, in seas that
 swell and streams that flow.</p> |
|---|---|

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

John 3:14-21

Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Douglas Rogers, Deacon

The Nicene Creed

*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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.*

Deacon: God lifted up Christ in the wilderness of the world. As we prepare for the paschal feast, let us lift up our prayers to God for all peoples everywhere. For the holy catholic church throughout the world, sharing the death and resurrection of Christ.

After a period of silence, the leader concludes each bidding by saying

Deacon: Lord, hear us.

People: *Lord, graciously hear us.*

FOR this parish of Emmanuel, that we may be faithful to our mission and respond to the spiritual needs of those around us with compassion, joy, and truth.

FOR Paula our bishop elect, for presbyters and deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.

FOR all who are preparing for new birth in the waters of baptism.

FOR all the peoples of the earth and for their leaders.

FOR all who are sick, wandering, afflicted, or oppressed, especially Mary, Maryanne, Owen, Nick, Rich, Sam, Patrick, Sean, Trish, Dorothy, Fran, and Bob and family.

FOR those who rest in the peace of Christ, and for all the departed, especially Ingrid *Viesturs*.

FOR our families, friends, and companions, and for all those we love and those celebrating birthdays especially Susan *Rubendall* (03/16) and Theresa *Sinks* (03/20).

Celebrant: Blessed are you, God of Moses, for you sent the light into the world. Receive the prayers we offer this day for those in need in every place and anoint the head of all who come to your table. Glory to you for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory Hymn:

“And now, O Father, mindful of the love”

Hymn #337

v. 1, 2, 4

1. And now, O Father, mindful of the love that bought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree, and having with us him that pleads above, we here present, we here spread forth to thee that only offering perfect in thine eyes, the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.
2. Look Father, look on his anointed face, and only look on us as found in him; look not on our misusings of thy grace, our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim: for lo! between our sins and their reward we set the passion of thy Son our Lord.
4. And so we come: O draw us to thy feet, most patient Savior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so awesome and so sweet, deliver us from every touch of ill: in thine own service make us glad and free, and grant us never more to part from thee.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

(The people stand as the bread and wine are presented at the altar. Then they may be seated.)

Celebrant:

All things come of thee O Lord.

People:

And of thine own have we given thee.

(standing)

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord 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 God thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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.*

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father of all.

He 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 Lord 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 he 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.*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, 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:

Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast.
Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn:

“Now the silence, Now the peace”

Hymn #333

Now the silence,
Now the peace,
Now the empty hands uplifted;
Now the kneeling,
Now the plea,
Now the Father's arms in welcome;

Now the hearing,
Now the power,
Now the vessel brimmed for pouring;
Now the body,
Now the blood,
Now the joyful celebration;

Now the wedding,
Now the songs,
Now the heart forgiven leaping;
Now the Spirit's visitation,
Now the Son's epiphany,
Now the Father's blessing.
Now. Now. Now.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing (†)

Closing Hymn:

“Lift High the Cross”

Hymn #473

v. 1, 3, 4

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love
of Christ proclaim till all the
world adore his sacred Name.

1. Led on their way by this triumphant
sign, the hosts of God in conquering
ranks combine. **Refrain.**
3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious
tree, as thou hast promised, draw the
world to thee. **Refrain.**
4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory.
Refrain.

Postlude:

“Lift High the Cross”

Charles Callahan

Announcements

Currently at the church, 45 people are able to attend the 10:30 am service, in keeping with diocesan guidelines. Please call or email the church office at churchoffice@emmanuelrockford.org to reserve a spot.

Calendar of Upcoming Events!

Services are broadcast on Facebook, and you do not need an account to view them.

Book Club: The group meets on March 23rd at 7 pm via zoom. March’s book is “Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents” by Isabel Wilkerson.

Lenten Series: The program, “The Day the Revolution Began” led by N.T. Wright will meet on Zoom February 24th through March 31st at 7 pm.

If you would like to pick up blessed palms, please contact the office via email or by phone and we will set some aside for you to pick up Saturday, March 27th between 10 a.m. and 12 pm.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday 3/28

8 am Resurrection Garden

10:30 am Church

Monday-Thursday 3/29-4/1

12 pm Holy Eucharist Church

Maundy Thursday 4/1

7 pm Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday 4/2

12 pm

The Great Vigil of Easter 4/3

7 pm

The Resurrection of Our Lord 4/4

8 am Resurrection Garden

10:30 am Church

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

412 N. Church Street, Rockford IL 61103
Tel: 815/964-5514 Email: churchoffice@emmanuelrockford.org
Website: www.emmanuelrockford.org
Music License Information: OneLicense.net #A-709780

The Reverend Diane Tomlinson.....Rector
The Rev. Douglas RogersDeacon
Andrea Mawyer.....Parish Administrator
Dale ThomasTreasurer
Wayne Hatwich.....Director of Music
Trish Rooney.....Assistant Director of Music
Rachel Boge.....Director of Communications and Social Media
Courtney OakesDirector of Children & Family Ministries
Maria MendiaNursery Care Coordinator
Timothy BordenSexton
Vestry Members.....Jean Frana, Sr. Warden; Alan Gibby, Jr. Warden;
Jennifer Smith, Kathryn Torrence, Mary G. Johnson, Stacey
LaRosa, Susan Schmitz, Peter Gottlick, Mathew Oakes.

Assisting in the Liturgy

10:30 a.m. Crucifer: Dennis Horton
Reader 1: Stacey LaRosa
Reader 2: Susan Rubendall
Altar Guild: Gale Degner

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