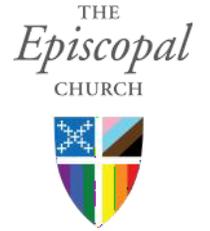




Emmanuel
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
STAUNTON VA



A SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER 1979

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 15, 2026

10:30am

bringing **People&God** together
SPIRITUAL • INCLUSIVE • ENGAGED • COMPASSIONATE

WELCOME - BIENVENIDO
to Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Whether you're new here, visiting us for the first time,
or the first time in a long time, **you are welcome here.**

**Please complete our Welcome Register
by scanning this QR code**



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We remember and honor
the Indigenous people of the world,
especially the Monacan,
whose land that we now occupy
in this region which was once their home,
and was taken from them.

We give thanks for them
and express our gratitude
for their witness to living
in honorable and humble ways.

We remember
that the Earth does not belong to us;
rather, we belong to the Earth,
and that we belong to one human family.

May we learn from our past mistakes
and be instruments of justice and peace
for all.

THIS WEEK AT EMMANUEL

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

9am Lectionary Discussion Group
10:30am Morning Prayer
11:45am Mission & Outreach Team Meeting
5:30pm Centering Prayer (online)

MON

8:45am Morning Prayer

TUES

8:45am Morning Prayer
5:30pm Lectio Divina
7pm AA Meeting

WED

8:45am Morning Prayer
10-12 VPAS Café

THU

8:45am Morning Prayer
5:30pm Centering Prayer
(in church)
6:15pm Compline (New Meeting Time!)

FRIDAY Office Closed (every Friday)

7pm AA Meeting

SAT

10am AI-Anon

Next SUNDAY (MARCH 22)

10:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II
5:30pm Centering Prayer (online)

LEADERSHIP

Vestry Members: Mitzi W, Skip B, Elijah D, Kethera M,
Ginny W, Robert W, Dan L, and Jim E
John K (Treasurer)

SERVING IN TODAY'S LITURGY

Officiant	Ginny Wemmerus
Preacher	Laura Yordy
Organist	Florence Jowers
Welcomers	
Intercessor	Laura Barnett
Lector	Matthew Poteat
Altar Guild	Debra Casado and Mary Jane Joyce
A/V & Livestream	Bev Coffman and Deborah Patton
Coffee 'n' Cookies	Larry and Barbara Damico

SERVING NEXT WEEK (MARCH 22)

Officiant	The Rev. Sarah Hess
Organist	Florence Jowers
Welcomers	Michel Harmon
Altar Server	Julian Poteat
LEMs	Mitzi White
Intercessor	Pearl Estrada
Lectors	
Altar Guild	Debra Casado and Mary Jane Joyce
A/V & Livestream	Liz Benbow and Bev Coffman
Coffee 'n' Cookies	

A Service of Morning Prayer

The Book of Common Prayer P. 75

PRELUDE

My Song is Love Unknown • Ralph Vaughan Williams

*The congregation is invited to respond with the words in **bold** type.*

THE WORD OF GOD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN We STAND

Blessed Jesus, at thy word • **Hymnal 440**

OPENING SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

Joel 2:13

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

The Officiant and People say together.

**We have sinned
in what we have thought and said,
in the wrong we have done
and in the good we have not done.
We have sinned in ignorance:
we have sinned in weakness:
We have sinned through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry.
We repent Merciful God, and turn to you.
Forgive us, for our Saviour Christ's sake,
and renew our lives to the glory of your name, Amen.**

- From the New Zealand Prayerbook p. 407

INVITATORY

All stand.

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will forever be. Amen.**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

1. Come, let us sing to the
 Lord;— let us shout for joy to the Rock of our sal -
 va - tion.— 2. Let us come be-fore his pres-ence with thanks - giv - ing—
 — and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.— 3. For the
 Lord is a great God,— and a great King a - bove all
 gods.— 4. In his hand are the cav-erns of the earth,—
 — and the heights of the hills are his al - so.— 5. The
 sea is his, for he made it,— and his hands have
 mold - ed the dry land.— 6. Come, let us bow down, and bend the
 knee,— and kneel be-fore the Lord our Ma - ker.— 7. For
 he is our God,— and we are the peo-ple of his
 pas - ture— and the sheep of his hand.—
 — Oh, that to - day you would hark-en to his voice!—

Music: Jack Noble White (b. 1938). Copyright © 1971 Walton Music Corporation. Used by permission.

FIRST LESSON *We SIT*

I Samuel 16:1-13

THE Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

For the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

A SONG OF PENITENCE *Spoken by all.*

CANTICLE 14

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, *
God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
and of all their righteous offspring:

You made the heavens and the earth, *
with all their vast array.

All things quake with fear at your presence; *
they tremble because of your power.

But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; *
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.

O Lord, you are full of compassion, *
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.

You hold back your hand; *
you do not punish as we deserve.

In your great goodness, Lord,
you have promised forgiveness to sinners,*
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.

And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, *
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.

**I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, *
and I know my wickedness only too well.**

**Therefore I make this prayer to you: *
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.**

**Do not let me perish in my sin, *
nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.**

**For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, *
and in me you will show forth your goodness.**

**Unworthy as I am, you will save me,
in accordance with your great mercy, *
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.**

**For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, *
and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.**

THE SECOND LESSON

John 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and

yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

Laura Yordy

THE APOSTLES CREED

Officiant and People together, all standing.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The People stand.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The People greet one another in the name of the Lord and then are seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Let the same Mind • Paul D. Weber

THE PRAYERS

The People stand or kneel.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OUR Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**

SUFFRAGES

S 52

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. We praise your Name for ever.

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. For we put our trust in you.

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. And we shall never hope in vain.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.**

A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS

O GOD, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR GUIDANCE

HEAVENLY Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During the prayers this response may be used.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with the following words:

Source of all life

And giver of all that is good, hear our prayers

And grant us all that is in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Officiant and People.

ALMIGHTY God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Christ, whose glory fills the skies • **Hymnal 7**

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccatà in G Minor • Johann Pachelbel

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FOR OUR PRAYERS:

Blount & Baird	Betty	Mary
Wayne & Wendy	Jeff	Linda
Jim & Janet	Ruth	Diane
Nancy	Fabian	Neal
Lee	Paula	Carter
Webster	Bill C	Trace
Libby	Jeff J	Joseph C
Charlie	Dan	

Departed: Jane Sigloh**ABOUT THESE PRAYERS**

The names included here are those for whom prayer has been requested by a church member or someone close to that person. In addition to this *Public Prayer List*, our prayer team prays on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month for those on the *Private Prayer List*. We invite you to add yourself or members of your immediate family/ friendship circle to either of the prayer lists by notifying the Church Office by email at office@emmanuelstaunton.org.

Please let the office know if you or a family member/ friend is hospitalized and/or in need of a pastoral call or visit. We have no other way of knowing of such pastoral needs. Please never assume we just, somehow, know!

Diocesan Cycle of Prayers:

For the people of St. Paul's, Salem and their rector, the Rev. Ned Morris.

Our companion Anglican / Episcopal Dioceses of:
 -Leeds (Church of England), and its Bishop, Toby+
 -The Diocese of Haiti

Celebrations**Birthdays:** Christianna Herrera**Anniversaries:** Webster and Joy Maughan**A PRAYER FOR OUR RECTOR SEARCH PROCESS**

Holy Spirit, you search us and know us more deeply than we know ourselves.
 All our thoughts, hopes, and fears lie open before you.

Quiet our hearts, and free us from opinions, preferences, and perceptions
 that bind, divide, or limit our vision.

Release us from nostalgia for what has been and from fear of what may yet be.

Turn our hearts toward your mission and toward the future you are
 calling our parish to embrace.

In our discernment, help us seek not simply a leader for ourselves, but the shepherd
 you have already chosen -- one who will proclaim your truth with humility,
 shepherd your people with love, and guide this parish
 in faith, hope, and unity.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Written by Rector Search Committee, January 2026



EASTER HUNT & FLOWERS

We will hold our traditional children's Easter Hunt immediately after our church service. Please contribute by bringing individually wrapped candy, filled eggs, and other treats such as pencils, flower seeds, etc. Place your goodies in the big basket under the table near the office by noon, Friday, April 3. Remind your children to bring their baskets to church on Easter morning.

Remember to bring your flowers for the cross. Emmanuel always creates an inspiring cross with our abundance of beautiful blooms.



It's time to order

Easter Lilies

Easter lilies to adorn the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 5 may be purchased for \$15 each. These may be given in honor or in memory of someone. Orders must be received no later than Monday, March 30. Please fill out the form located at the back of the church and return it to an usher or the church office with your enclosed payment.



Spring Mission Trip to Grace House

We would like to invite you to come with us to Grace House on the Mountain. As you may know Grace House on the Mountain is a mission of the Episcopal Church. You've probably heard us talk about building wheelchair ramps on previous trips. However, Grace House offers much more than that, so we would like to expand the number of people making a trip.



We have reserved the facilities at Grace House from Tuesday, **April 7 through Sunday, April 12** to accommodate as many schedules as possible. Stay for the week, the weekend, a few days, or just overnight. You're welcome to come for any length of time that works for you.

Mission and Outreach Team Meeting

Mission & Outreach will meet Sunday, March 15 in the room across from the kitchen right after church. If you have an interest in church outreach, we welcome you to join us.

Baking Bread

BREAKING BREAD

Bake and Pray Workshop

March 28, 9 am - noon



Lent at Trinity and Emmanuel Churches

PALM SUNDAY

March 29

Gather at Trinity to parade at **10 am**
Passion Sunday Eucharist will begin
at Emmanuel around **10:45 am**