

# Emmanuel Lutheran Church



January 7, 2018  
Baptism of our Lord

Service of the Word and Sacrament  
*Christian Worship* p. 26

Roger Vomhof, Vacancy Pastor • Linda Noack, Organist

## ***To Our Visitors***

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- The restrooms are in the fellowship hall. Turn to your left when exiting the church.
- We are happy to have children in our worship. Cloth bags with age appropriate books and activities are available. Please ask an usher.

## ***Calendar for This Week: January 7-13***

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### **Today**

10:30 am Bible Class, Sunday School, & Ignite Youth Group

11:30 am Take down Christmas decorations

### **Monday**

5:45 pm Board of Elders

### **Tuesday**

9:00 am Women of Emmanuel at Hudson Bagel

## **Wednesday**

10:30 am Bible Class

3:15 pm Confirmation Class A

4:45 pm Confirmation Class B

## **Saturday**

Newsletter and calendar, annual report submission deadline

**HYMN:** *Angels from the Realms of Glory* CW 80

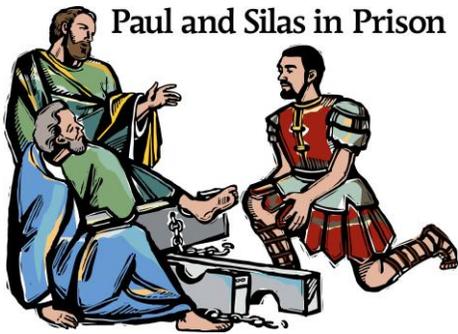
**FIRST LESSON:** Isaiah 49:1-6

Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the Lord called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name. <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor." <sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the Lord's hand, and my reward is with my God."

<sup>5</sup> And now the Lord says—he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord and my God has been my strength— <sup>6</sup> he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

## PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 2, CW page 65

### SECOND LESSON: Acts 16:25-34



Paul and Silas in Prison

<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. <sup>27</sup> The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

<sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

<sup>31</sup> They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." <sup>32</sup> Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.

<sup>33</sup> At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. <sup>34</sup> The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

## **GOSPEL:** Mark 1:1 & 4-11



The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,

<sup>4</sup> And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. <sup>6</sup> John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup> I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup> At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *To Jordan's River Came Our Lord*  
CW 89

## **SERMON**

Sermon Text: Mark 1:1 & 4-11

Theme: Jesus is acknowledged as the Christ, the Son of God

- I. by the Gospel writer Mark
- II. by John the Baptist
- III. by God the Father.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN:** *Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior*  
CW 313

**HYMN:** *O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee* CW 316

*Today's Bible readings are available as a separate sheet for those who would like to take a copy home. They are on the literature table across from the mailboxes.*

### ***Open Forum Next Sunday***

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Open Forum will be held next Sunday, January 14, in the Fellowship Hall in place of the Adult Bible class to discuss the items that will be on the agenda for the Annual Voters meeting to be held two weeks from today, January 21. All members are invited to attend the Open Forum meeting. One major item that will be discussed is to form a consensus as to what we are looking for in calling a new pastor for our congregation.

### ***Mission Restart Proposal***

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Our committee members who are working on the Mission Restart proposal will have a special meeting with Pastor Tim Bode, the chairman of the Minnesota District Mission Board, next Monday, January 15, at 6 p.m.

## ***Making the Call***

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In the coming weeks and months please start thinking of our future. Here is a tentative schedule and key thinking points.

**January 14<sup>th</sup> Open Forum** – A quick meeting to discuss what we are looking for in calling our new pastor.

### **What do we need for a pastor?**

Think about years of experience, background, full-time, part time, or retired, and strengths that are desired.

### **What can we afford?**

Total compensation will be roughly \$30,000 more than we had budgeted in past years. That could be a real stretch in increased giving.

### **What should we do?**

Keep in mind that roughly 30 new pastors will graduate from the Seminary. There are over 120 current vacancies. About 50 pastors are at retirement age each year. There is a real shortage of pastors. Would combining with another local small congregation be smarter?

**January 21<sup>st</sup> Voters Meeting** – Further discussion and budget approval.

**Early February (4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>)** – First Call Meeting.

## What must we do now?

Pray and ask the Lord what His will is for the future of our congregation.

Attend the Open Forum meeting on **January 14<sup>th</sup>** to discuss this matter and to form a consensus as to how we should move forward in bringing the Word of God to our families and to the Hudson community.

### ***Wednesday Bible Class***

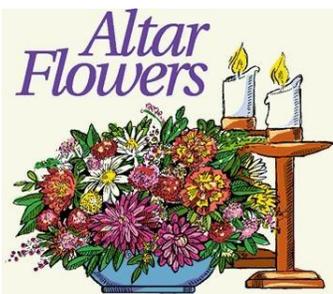
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Pastor Vomhof teaches the Wednesday morning Bible class at 10:30 am. We are studying the book of Psalms, which is often referred to as the Christian's prayer book and hymn book. Come and join us to learn how the Psalms apply to us.

### ***Altar Flower Donation Calendar***

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The 2018 Flower Donation Calendar is on fellowship hall bulletin board. Members may sign-up to donate a floral arrangement for the chancel area. This is a wonderful way to help beautify our church as well as commemorate wedding anniversaries, birthdays, memorials, and other personal milestones or to express gratitude for blessings received.

## ***Church and School Cleaning Team for January***

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Scott Denning, leader  
John Beck  
Chuck Doty family  
Kevin Rust family

## ***International Ministry at Home***

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St. Croix Lutheran International Friends weekends are Feb 2-4 and 16-18. Give a new international student a taste of an American home. Hosts receive a \$50 stipend per guest. Contact Sue at [SGaller@StCroixLutheran.org](mailto:SGaller@StCroixLutheran.org) or visit [www.StCroixLutheran.org/IF](http://www.StCroixLutheran.org/IF) for more information.

## ***Basketball and Wrestling Kids Nights***

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Perfect for families with grade schoolers! Games, prizes, and special performances Tue, Jan 16 and Thu, Jan 18. Watch for a postcard in the mail or call St. Croix Lutheran at [651-455-1521](tel:651-455-1521) to get free admission! More info at [StCroixLutheran.org](http://StCroixLutheran.org).

## ***Other Items of Interest***

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Attendance last Sunday: 35  
New Year's Eve evening: 14

Fellowship refreshments next Sunday: Wegner

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