



**EMMANUEL**

*Lutheran Church*

Blessed  
is he  
who comes  
in the name of the  
Lord!

Hosanna  
in the  
Highest!

Matthew 21:9

**Palm Sunday**  
**March 29, 2026**

# Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 3

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*All are welcome...and we do mean ALL. No matter who you are, what you look like, where you are from, or who you love. We are all children of God and loved by God. And just as God loves all of us, we are called to love one another as well.*

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## Call to Worship (Chimes)

**Welcome & Announcements** – Visitors are asked to fill out a Welcome card from the pew racks and give it to the Assisting Minister during the prelude.

**Prayers** – You may add to the prayers today by filling out an ivory prayer card found in the pew racks. Prayer cards are collected during the prelude.

**Prelude**                                      *My Jesus, I Love Thee*                                      - arr. Gordon

### **\*PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**

*The congregation responds by reading the words in **bold print**.*

#### **\*Acclamation**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna in the highest.**

#### **\*Processional Gospel – Matthew 21:1-11**

A reading from the gospel according to St. Matthew

<sup>1</sup> When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

<sup>5</sup> “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.”

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup> they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> 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!”

<sup>10</sup> When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup> The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

**\*Blessing of the Palms**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in peace,  
**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn:**     *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

**ELW 344**

**\*Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

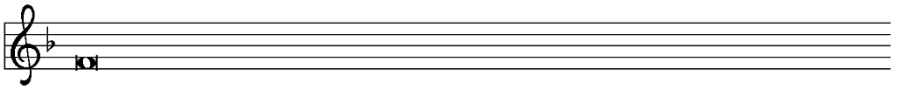
**And also with you.**

**\*Kyrie**

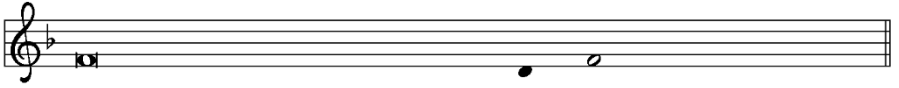
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.     **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord,     have mer - cy.**



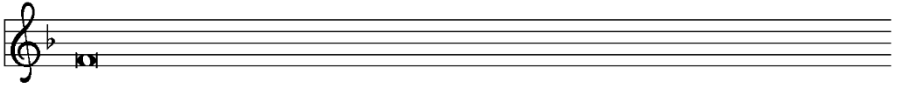
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



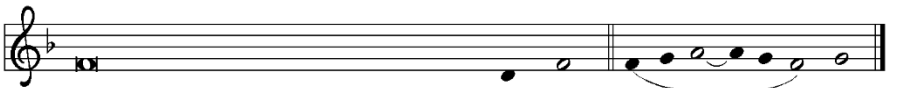
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

### \*Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Sovereign God, **you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### Musical Offering

*His Eye is on the Sparrow*

Wayne York

- arr. Gabriel

### First Lesson – Zechariah 9:9-12

The First Lesson is from the 9th chapter of Zechariah.

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup> He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup> As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,  
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup> Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm – Psalm 118:19-29**

### **Responsive Reading**

<sup>19</sup> Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

<sup>20</sup> **“This is the gate of the LORD;  
here the righteous may enter.”**

<sup>21</sup> I give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation.

<sup>22</sup> **The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.**

<sup>23</sup> By the LORD has this been done;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.

<sup>24</sup> **This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

<sup>25</sup> Hosanna! O LORD, save us!  
We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!

<sup>26</sup> **Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD;  
we bless you from the house of the LORD.**

<sup>27</sup> The LORD is God and has given us light.  
Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.

<sup>28</sup> **You are my God, and I will thank you;  
you are my God, and I will exalt you.**

<sup>29</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God’s mercy endures forever.

## Second Lesson – Philippians 2:5-11

The Second Lesson is from the 2nd chapter of Philippians.

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be grasped,

<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him even more highly  
and gave him the name  
that is above every other name,

<sup>10</sup> so that at the name given to Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### \*Gospel Acclamation

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**\*Gospel – Matthew 21:12-17**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup> Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. <sup>13</sup> He said to them, “It is written,

‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’  
but you are making it a den of robbers.”

<sup>14</sup> The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. <sup>15</sup> But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did and heard the children crying out in the temple and saying, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they became angry <sup>16</sup> and said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read,

‘Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies  
you have prepared praise for yourself?’”

<sup>17</sup> He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Sermon**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Rob Eller**

**\*Hymn of the Day:** *Prepare the Royal Highway*

**ELW 264**

**\*Apostles’ Creed**

With the whole church let us confess our faith:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

**Prayers of the People (please sit)**

After each prayer, please offer the words:

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Thank you for placing your offering in the **Offering Box** before the service began. Your continued financial support of this congregation helps us to do God's work in the community and the world.*

**Offering Song**

***Create in Me a Clean Heart***

**ELW 186**

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

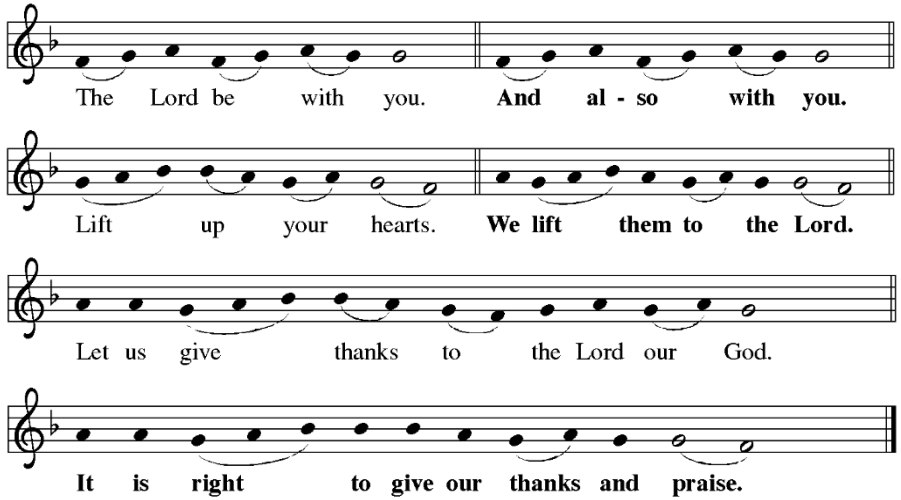
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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**Offertory Prayer (please sit)**

Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

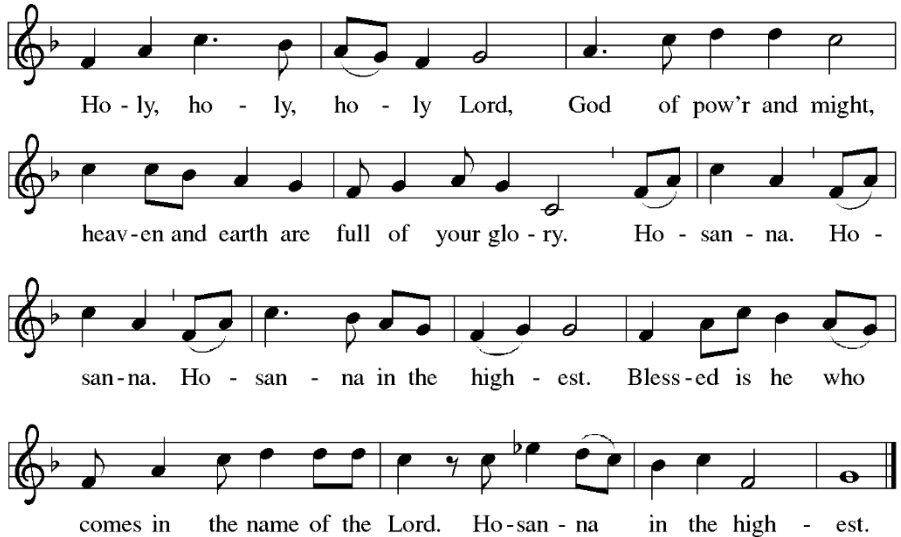
**\*Great Thanksgiving (Please Stand)**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise . . .  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*Sanctus (Please Stand)**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

**\*Eucharistic prayer (Please Stand)**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

...Grace our table with your presence  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

...Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

...we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.  
**Amen**

**\*Lord's Prayer (Please Stand)**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

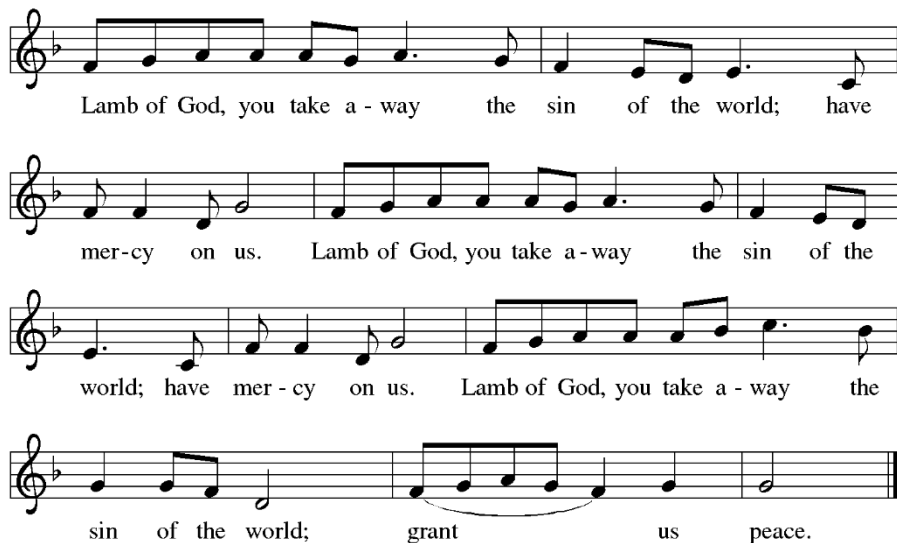
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*Invitation to Communion (Please Stand)**

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## Communion Song



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

### Communion Distribution *(Your choice of WHITE wine or PURPLE grape juice)*

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

### \*Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

### \*Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### \*Benediction

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

\*Sending Hymn: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

ELW 338

**\*Dismissal**

While our worship here has ended, let us continue through our service to others. So go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

**- arr. Teschner**

**Today’s Worship Leaders and Assistants – March 29, 2026**

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Robert M. Eller | Assisting Minister: Barb Rupe

Greeters: Chuck Moore

Lector: Wayne York | Usher: Tom Yanders

Communion Assistants: Karen and Rob Sterling

Worship Coordinator: Ruth Patrick | Organist: John Foust

MEVO: Wayne York

**Next Sunday’s Worship Leaders and Assistants – April 5, 2026**

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Robert M. Eller | Assisting Minister: Wayne York

Greeters: Neil Rupe and Chris Smith

Lector: Marcia Lile | Usher: Kenny Lab

Communion Assistants: Heidi Torch and Ward Holdsworth

Worship Coordinator: Ruth Patrick | Organist: John Foust

MEVO: Zach Baer

**Attendance 3/22: 42**

**March Benevolence:**

**Greater Dover**

**New Philadelphia**

**Food Pantry**

**Readings for Next**

**Sunday**

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Colossians 3:1-4

Matthew 28:1-10

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

Neil Rupe – President

Ken Lab – Treasurer

Tricia Self

Ward Holdsworth – VP

Wayne York – Secretary

Heidi Torch

# WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Communion**: Please fill out a communion card and hand it to the usher during communion. If you are unable to come forward, Pastor Rob will bring it back to your seat. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.

**Lenten Disciplines**: Come walk the Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00am-12:00pm. Pastor Rob is offering private confession on Wednesdays during Mid-day Prayer Break.

**Mid-Day Prayer Break**: Do you have a lot on your mind? Come see Pastor Rob for the Mid-Day Prayer Break every Wednesday from 11:30am - 12:30pm (New hours for winter). Pastor Rob is outside in front of the church for conversation, prayer, healing, and Holy Communion.

**Easter Candy Needed**: The Service Committee is asking the congregation for donations of Easter Candy for the Goodie Bags to be delivered to our Assisted Living and Homebound members. Please put the donations in the wood Collection Bin located near the parking lot doors. **Deadline is Sunday, March 29** (Palm Sunday).

**Easter Flowers**: Please bring flowers next Sunday to put in our Easter cross that will be outside after worship.

**VBS 2026**: We have started planning Vacation Bible School for Summer 2026! This year's theme is Road Trip: On the Go with God and we will host in the evenings June 15-19. If you are interested in helping with planning and volunteering, please see Tricia Self and Pastor Rob. There will be a planning meeting Sunday April 12 after worship.

**GriefShare**: GriefShare support group will start back up today, March 29 at 3:00pm. Please see Wayne York with any questions.

**Sunday School**: Adults and children are invited to attend Sunday School every Sunday at 8:30am! Kidz Bible School is open to kids age 3 and up. See Heidi Torch and Judy Swinehart with questions. The Adult Class is currently studying the book of Matthew. See Don Brandt with questions.

**Choir Rehearsal**: Bell choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings at 6:00pm. All are welcome to join!

**Pastoral Visits**: If you or anyone you know would like a visit from Pastor Rob, please call the church office or Pastor Rob to make arrangements.

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

### Monday March 30

\* AA Meeting – 12:00pm

### Tuesday March 31

\* Stations of the Cross –  
10:00am-12:00pm

\* Pastor's Group – 11:00am

\* Bell Choir – 6:00pm

### Wednesday April 1

\* Mid-day Prayer Break and  
Private Confession–

11:30am-12:30pm

\* Stamp Club – 6:00pm

### Thursday April 2

\* Stations of the Cross –  
10:00am-12:00pm

\* Food Pantry – 4:30pm

\* Maundy Thursday Worship  
– 7:00pm

### Friday April 3

\* Good Friday Worship –  
7:00pm

### Saturday April 4

### Sunday April 5

\* Kids and Adult Sunday  
School – 8:30am

\* Easter Sunday worship –  
9:30am

\* GriefShare – 3:00pm

## HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

April 2: Maundy Thursday

April 3: Good Friday

Both services at 7:00pm

In person and livestreamed on YouTube





# *Church Family and Friends in Need of Prayer...*

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## *Assisted Living/Nursing Home:*

Kay Frantz, Larry Humbert, Peggy Immel, Jean Ridgway, Shirley Yoder

## *Other Members:*

Sam Bates, Kathy Beatty, Shirley Brug, Sally Dorn, **Ed Fishel**,  
Dean Fisher, John Frank, Dave Frantz, Dorthy Glass, Diana Gray,  
Dick Hugh, Dorothy Kaufman, Shari Kohler, Breanne Mathias,  
Susan Miller, Marsha Mills, Chuck Moore, Ruth Patrick, **Naomi Potts**,  
Chris Smith, Cindy Smith, Marilyn Swaldo, Judy Swinehart,  
**Rachel Yanders**, Sandi Hannenkrat-Wemple, Virginia Wyer

## *Friends and Family:*

**Wilma Daniel, John Elkhardt, Mike Muzechuk, Mel Pollock**

Names in **BOLD** listed above were prayed for at the altar last Sunday



# EMMANUEL

## *Lutheran Church*

◀ FAITH IN ACTION ▶

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