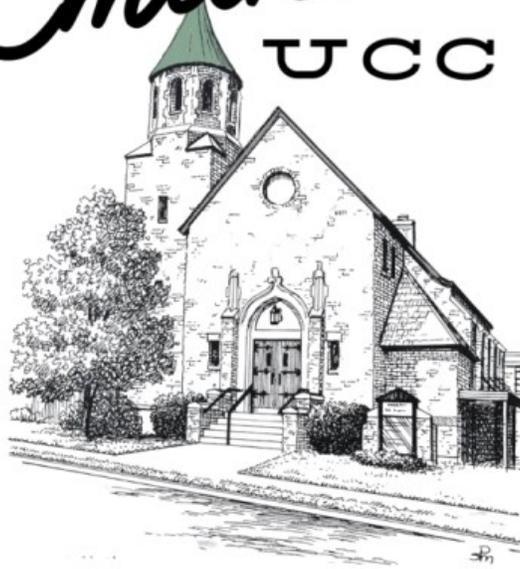


Emanuel
UCC



Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 25, 2026

Pastor Joshua W. Rau

A warm welcome to all today!

May this time of worship strengthen your faith and desire to serve the Creator who loves us with everlasting love in Christ Jesus.

Children are welcome in this worship service, and encouraged to participate in any way they are able to. Teach the children sitting around you how to use their bulletins, and sing & speak loudly!

We value the noise made by our children! We have a nursery available in our education building with a video feed of our service.

Visitors, we are glad you are here! Please sign our Guest Register and feel free to fill out a “welcome slip” in the pews.

Please come again!!

† **SERVING IN WORSHIP** †

Organist: *Christy Shinn*

Choir Director: *Kelly Cranford*

Thanks to *Church Council Members* for leading worship today.



Greeting You Today

Heather & Layton Beggs



Altar Flowers

Given By:

Cathy Sievers

We Keep in Prayer

Please keep in your prayers those who are in need of healing and our shut-ins and home-bound members. May God's grace surround them with comfort and care.

Mary Lou Abernathy, Pat Abernathy, LaDonia Beggs, June Borgfield, Larry Brockmire, Jeffrey Kies, Alice Koepfel, Robert Loos, Junior Peetz, Marvin Peetz, Helen Poston, Alice Quigley, Cindy Smith

Pastor: Cell: 715-294-0157 ~ **Email:** pastorjoshuarau@gmail.com

Office: 573-243-3323 ~ **Email:** office@euccjackson.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-3pm

Website: www.euccjackson.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/euccjackson ~ **Instagram:** @euccjackson

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

***Indicates congregation please stand if able**
Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD** type

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

RINGING OF THE BELL ~ WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***TRINITY CHIMES** *(at the sound of the chimes, please stand)*

***INTROIT** *“You Are My All in All”*

You are My Strength when I am weak, You are the treasure that I seek; You are my all in all.
Seeking you as a precious jewel, Lord to give up, I'd be a fool; You are my all in all.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name!
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name!

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame, Rising again I bless Your name; You are my all in all.
When I fall down You pick me up; When I am dry, You fill my cup; You are my all in all.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name!
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name!

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jesus calls ordinary people to follow him.

He invites us into lives of purpose and hope.

From wherever we are, Christ calls us forward.

We come to follow and worship him.

***GATHERING HYMN** *“How Firm a Foundation”*

#407

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray,

Lord God, your loving kindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ and forgives your sin in Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***GLORIA PATRI**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Marcie Brown

MESSAGE IN MUSIC “*The People Who Walk in Darkness*”

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

¹Nevertheless the gloom will not be upon her who is distressed, As when at first He lightly esteemed The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, And afterward more heavily oppressed her, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, In Galilee of the Gentiles.

²The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation And increased its joy; They rejoice before You According to the joy of harvest, As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For You have broken the yoke of his burden And the staff of his shoulder, The rod of his oppressor, As in the day of Midian.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

¹⁰ Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. ¹¹ For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. ¹² Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." ¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. ¹⁶ Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. ¹³ And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

¹⁵ "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles:

¹⁶ The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned."

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

¹⁸ And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰ They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

²¹ Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

²³ And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON *"From Darkness to Calling"*

***SERMON HYMN** *"The Summons"*

1 Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2 Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
3 Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
4 Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5 Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

New Creed

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER *(Debts/Debtors)*

THANKSGIVING

God's gifts move us to respond with grateful words and actions.

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

#780

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***SENDING HYMN** "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

#493

***BLESSING**

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION** "Blessed Be the Tie"

#393

***POSTLUDE**

THIS WEEK

Wed., January 28

Meditations from Emanuel on Facebook and YouTube

Sat., January 31

5:30 pm—Ignite Worship

Sun., February 1

9:00 am—Faith and Fellowship

10:10 am—Traditional Worship

Please be advised that our services are livestreamed to YouTube and Facebook. Your participation in the service serves as your consent to the broadcast of your image and voice and to the broadcast of the image and voice of your participating minor children.

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FOOD PANTRY

For the month of January, the food pantry is in need of:

- PEANUT BUTTER
- JELLY
- CRACKERS
- JELLO



DONATIONS NEEDED!



Visitor Info



Via Venmo
(no statement available)



Via Website
(giving statement available)

Ways to Give