

Emanuel Lutheran Church

107 South Prairie Street
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920-346-2202

Website: elbrandon-church.com

Pastor Wendy Ruetten

Pianist: Roberta Ryskoski

Sunday, August 30, 2026



THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST:

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

Please feel free to sit anytime during the service if the need arises.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please stand for the Confession and Forgiveness)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

(Remain Standing)

OPENING HYMN: "O Jesus, I Have Promised" LBW 503

APOSTOLIC GREETING:

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

C: And also with you.

(Please Sit)

PRAYER OF THE DAY: (Located on the Today's Readings Insert)

GOD'S WORD

PSALM 26:1-8:

Please join me in the responsive reading.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Jeremiah's delight in the word of the LORD is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."

Reader says: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation respond: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

Reader says: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation respond: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation)

Sing: "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew Chapter 16.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 16:21-28

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please Sit)

SERMON

Pastor Wendy Ruetten

SERMON HYMN: **“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”** **LBW 487**

(Please stand for the Apostles Creed and The Sharing of the Peace)

APOSTLES' CREED: *Green LBW page 85*

THE PEACE:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Let us share signs of peace with one another.

(Please sit for The Prayers of the People)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

P: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

(Please stand and join hands)

THE LORD'S PRAYER **Green LBW page 91**

The OFFERING is RECEIVED AND WE STAND and SING
“Create in Me” Green, LBW Page 96

OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION:

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✠ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

LBW 370

DISMISSAL:

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Roberta Ryskoski

OUR GUEST PASTOR THIS MORNING is Wendy Ruetten. Thank you for leading our Worship, Pastor Ruetten.

Our Guest Pastor for next Sunday, September 6th is Pastor Jan LaVake.

Attendance: Last Sunday: 27 Last Sunday Facebook Lives: 2

Facebook Plays:

Sunday, August 16th: 113

Today, Service Schedule, August 30th, 9:30 A.M.

Reader: Wayne Heitmann

Usher: Annette Raube

Next Week's Schedule, September 6th, 9:30 A.M.

Reader: Charlotte Rebelein

Usher: Verlyn Rebelein

August 2026 Altar Schedule

Marlene Connell

August 2026 Communion Schedule

Wayne Heitmann

September 2026 Altar Schedule

Mary Fairbank and Pat Grams

September 2026 Communion Schedule

Annette Raube

THIS WEEK AT EMANUEL:

There will be coffee this morning following the worship.

We are a small but strong group who care about each other. Anyone wishing to have pastoral care or have a concern please call the church and leave a message 920-346-2202.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

THERE WILL BE A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING on September 13, 2026, right after service. Subject is maintenance on the parsonage.

GOOD NEWS! Pastor Karen will be conducting a 4-week Bible Study beginning Wednesday, September 23rd at noon. Bring your lunch, beverage, and Bible. All Welcome.