

# Emanuel Lutheran Church

107 South Prairie Street  
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**Website:** [elbrandon-church.com](http://elbrandon-church.com)

**Pastor Wendy Ruetten**

**Pianist: Roberta Ryskoski**

**Sunday, February 8, 2026**

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY after EPIPHANY:**

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

*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, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*



P: Mighty God, lover of justice,

**C: 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.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

(Remain Standing)

**OPENING HYMN:           “Rise, Shine, You People!”           LBW 393**

**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**

Please join me in the responsive reading.

**PSALM 112:1-9 [10]**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]**

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

**Reader says: The Word of the Lord.**

**Congregation respond: Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]**

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

**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 gospel reading is from Matthew Chapter 5 verses 13-20.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:13-20**

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please Sit)

**SERMON**

**Pastor Wendy Ruetten**

(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: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**THE BENEDICTION:**

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise + bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

**SENDING HYMN: “Lord, Speak to Us, that We May Speak” LBW 403**

**DISMISSAL:**

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

**Postlude: Roberta Ryskoski**

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

**Attendance: Last Sunday: 25**

**Last Sunday Facebook Lives: 5**

**Facebook Plays:**

Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>: 295

**Today, Service Schedule, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 A.M.**

**Reader:** Charlotte Rebelein

**Usher:** Wayne Heitmann

**Next Week’s Schedule, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 A.M.**

**Reader:** Verlyn Rebelein

**Usher:** Darrell Rahn

**February 2026 Altar Schedule**

Toby and Pastor Bob Rosenberg

**February 2026 Communion Schedule** (February 1<sup>st</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>)

Wayne Heitmann

**THIS WEEK AT EMANUEL:**

**THERE WILL BE COFFEE AND GOODIES THIS MORNING FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP** provided by Marlene Connell.

**The Following People Will Be Installed As Council Members Today:**

Tammy Briskie, Mary Fairbank, Annette Raube, Verlyn Rebelein and Tom Rivers.

**COUNCIL MEETING** is tomorrow, Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 P.M.

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**St. Stephen's Lutheran Church Pancake Supper** next Monday, February 16, 2026, from 4:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. N5680 Towne Rd., Rosendale, WI. All You Can Eat! Free Will Donation. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex of the church.

**Pancake Breakfast** Sunday, February 22, 2026, at St. Catherine of Siena Ripon, Christian Women and Knights of Columbus, serving from 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM, Parish Hall located at 218 E Blossom St., Ripon, WI. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex of the church.

**Spaghetti Dinner** Sunday, February 22, 2026, from 11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M., at Bethel Church, 305 W. Main St., Brandon, WI. Free Will Offering. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex of the church.