



## PLUM Worship

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

June 13, 2021

3:00 p.m.

#### PRELUDE GOD OF ALL MY DAYS

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/ROCPCGQCDE0](https://youtu.be/ROCPCGQCDE0)

#### WELCOME and PRAYER REQUESTS

#### GATHERING

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

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving!

**Enter God's courts with praise.**

Even when we cry, "How long, O Lord?"

**We also "sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully" with us!**

#### HYMN WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER

[https://youtu.be/MUec\\_9OkF6M](https://youtu.be/MUec_9OkF6M)

*When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, you have taught me to say,  
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

#### Refrain

*It is well  
with my soul,  
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*Though Satan should buffet,  
though trials should come,  
let this blest assurance control,  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
and has shed his own blood for my soul. Refrain*

*My sin--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;  
my sin, not in part, but the whole,  
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain*

*And Lord haste the day when my faith shall be sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;  
even so it is well with my soul. Refrain*

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

God of joy and sorrow,

**We come into your house with the noise and cares of the world bearing down on us. We expect you to fix it or to make it go away. Instead, you offer space for us to repent, refresh, and restore. Forgive us our short-sightedness. Forgive us our selfishness. Forgive us our impatience. Show us how to enter your house with gratitude and praise.**

Our God receives our pleas with open ears and a forgiving heart. Receive now the entire forgiveness of all your sins, and be washed with the cleansing sound of God's grace. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

#### 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.**

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. We don't always enter your house with joy. Sometimes we cry, "How long?" Answer us as only you can, with grace and love. **Amen.**

#### WORD

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

#### FIRST READING

**Psalm 13**

Readers: Reader 1, Reader 2

**Reader 1:** How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

**Reader 2:** How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all day long? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

**Reader 1:** Consider and answer me, O Lord my God! Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death, and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed"; my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.

**Reader 2:** But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

**Reader 1:** I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

<https://youtu.be/0k67nFHgvII>

*Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

John 6:35-40

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. <sup>36</sup>But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. <sup>37</sup>Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; <sup>38</sup>for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup>And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. <sup>40</sup>This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

PASTOR JOHN GROPP

## HYMN HOW LONG, O GOD

[https://youtu.be/\\_cpEIuiKOz0](https://youtu.be/_cpEIuiKOz0)

- 1 *"How long, O God?" the psalmist cries,  
a cry we make our own,  
for we are lost, alone, afraid,  
and far away from home.*
- 2 *The evil lurks within, without,  
it threatens to destroy  
the fragile cords that make us one,  
that bind our hearts in joy.*
- 3 *Your grace, O God, seems far away;  
will healing ever come?  
Our broken lives lie broken still;  
will night give way to dawn?*
- 4 *How can we hope? How can we sing?  
O God, set free our voice  
to name the sorrows, name the pain,  
that we might yet rejoice.*
- 5 *"How long, O God?" the psalmist cries,  
a cry we make our own.  
Though we are lost, alone, afraid,  
our God will lead us home.*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**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 INTERCESSION

We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, we can see how faith and the ending of suffering are intertwined, feeding off each other, and growing together. Give us eyes to see the miracles of healing all around us. Merciful Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Your world is vast, O Lord, and sometimes we are overwhelmed by helplessness in the face of all there is to address. Uphold us by your spirit and empower us to dwell in your promises, not in our despair. Merciful Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

You are a model for all earthly parents, O God, the One whom we trust when we cannot turn to any other. Forgive us our shortcomings and be a shining light of steadfast love in a world which desperately needs it. Merciful Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

We cannot choose our circumstances, O Lord, but we can choose whether or not to suffer with them. When at last we have reached the end of our laments, we can trust you to complete your healing work in us, assuring us that you have been present all along. We pray especially for... Merciful Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

God, our truth, through the ages you have spoken through prophets. Stir up in your church a passion for your word revealed in Jesus, that following the witness of the Emanuel Nine, your church studies the scriptures, shows hospitality, prays without ceasing, and embodies prophetic justice in community. Embolden church leaders and all the baptized to remember the lives of the Nine, repent of racism and white supremacy, and renew our commitment to your word revealed most fully in Jesus, our way, truth, and life. Merciful Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord, be with us during this discernment process of calling a new pastor. Open our eyes and our ears, Lord. You know what is best for the ministry of PLUM. Walk with us during this journey of discernment, so that we clearly hear and do what is your will. Merciful Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Grant confidence and zeal to members of our PLUM congregations that we may faithfully carry out your work which you have entrusted to us. Merciful Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

We are not the first to question your presence or be tempted to lose hope. Equip us as you did the saints of old with your gifts of insight, rest, and the promise of eternal salvation. Merciful Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

*Here other petitions may be offered.*

You are the beginning and the end, O God, and everything in between. Hold us as you hold these prayers, and deliver us into your loving embrace. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

## PEACE

*The minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

*At this time, we offer ourselves to God—our physical resources and our whole life—recognizing that all we are and all we have are God's given to us and for which we are stewards. If you have a monetary offering for your congregation, please send it or deliver it to the church.*

Let us pray. You are generous and offer abundant blessings. We have comparatively little to offer. But what we do have, we bring to you. Receive these gifts that we humbly offer, and use them to do good. **Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might;  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying; Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in 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 in remembrance of me.

### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as the Lord taught us.

**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.**

### COMMUNION HYMN

<https://youtu.be/1UJR4XLdYfE>

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, grant us peace.

### INVITATION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Take and eat the body of Christ given for you.  
Take and drink the blood of Christ shed for you.  
**Amen.**

### COMMUNION BLESSING

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

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.**

## SENDING

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

### BLESSING

The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
✝ be upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### HYMN O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

<https://youtu.be/64oo7z7tjsw>

*Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!*

*Jesus the name that charms our fears  
That makes our sorrows cease,  
Tis music in the sinner's ears,  
Tis life and health and peace.*

*He breaks the power of canceled sin,  
He sets the prisoner free  
His blood can make the foulest clean  
His blood availed for me.*

*Hear Him, ye deaf, His praise, ye dumb  
Your loosened tongues employ  
Ye blind, behold your Savior come  
And leap, ye lame, for joy*

*My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honors of thy name.*

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

**STANDING ON THE PROMISES OF GOD**

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/5DGPDT4F7VI](https://youtu.be/5DGPDT4F7VI)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS and GOD SIGHTINGS

#### COFFEE HOUR

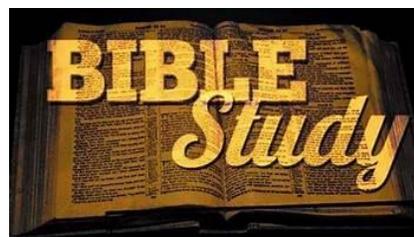
#### TODAY – Welcome!

Today we commemorate the Emanuel Nine, martyrs

On June 17, 2015, Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Lee Simmons, Sharonda

Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson were murdered by a self-professed white supremacist while they were gathered for Bible study and prayer at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (often referred to as Mother Emanuel) in Charleston, South Carolina. Pastors Pinckney and Simmons were both graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. The shooter was a member of an ELCA congregation. A resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance for the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine was adopted by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on August 8, 2019. Congregations of the ELCA are encouraged to reaffirm their commitment to repenting of the sins of racism and white supremacy which continue to plague this church, to venerate the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, and to mark this day of penitence with study and prayer.

Please see page 5 for additional information and learning and worship opportunities related to the Commemoration of the Emanuel 9 (June 17) and Juneteenth (June 19), a holiday celebrating the emancipation of those who had been enslaved in the United States.



### Join Pastor Paul on Thursday mornings

on ZOOM from 10AM to 11AM  
as we dive deeper into the scripture  
readings for upcoming Sundays!

Bring your Bible!

ALL are welcome!

The call-in line for PLUM Worship Services and Bible Studies:

Zoom online: <https://zoom.us/j/401596541>

Zoom by phone: (646) 876 9923 Meeting ID: 401 596 541

#### PLUM Pastoral Team:

The Reverend John Gropp	412-680-7867
The Reverend Brenda Henry	412-390-8005
The Reverend Susan Devine	412-496-4889
The Reverend Paul Koch	773-848-1470
Minister Mandy Gilberti	814-241-8150

If you are not already connected to one of our congregations and would like to support our ministry, please send donations to: **Pittsburgh Lutheran United Ministries, 405 Kennedy Avenue, Duquesne, PA 15110**

## Emanuel Nine Commemoration - June 17th

- **The Authentic Diversity and Justice Working Group of the SWPA synod of the ELCA**

Watch the Emanuel Nine documentary (available for rental on Amazon Prime and YouTube). Then join us in conversation and reflection about this documentary, the event we commemorate on June 17 and the ways we are working to combat racism in our lives, our communities and our church.

The Authentic Diversity and Justice working group of the SWPA synod will host discussions the eve of the commemoration, Wednesday June 16th at 7pm and the day of June 17<sup>th</sup> at 1pm via zoom.

**Join by Video:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83973713751>

**Join by Phone:**

**301-715-8592 (Meeting ID: 839 7371 3751)**

Please share with friends and family.

- **The Synod Ecumenical (and Interfaith) Affairs Committee**

Saturday, June 19 at noon Bethel AME (African Methodist Episcopal) Church will host an ecumenical fellowship and worship event in the parking lot of the Penguins PPG Arena (the former location of the Civic Arena). Members of SWPA will join in solidarity building on the ELCA's commitment to honor the Emanuel 9 and strengthen our relationship with AME. Bishop Kusserow will be a part of the service. The service starts at noon.



Come Worship God as We Honor our Ancestral Land  
Service starts at Noon, June 19th, 2021  
Location: Parking lot Across from PPG Paints Arena  
(on the Centre Avenue side)  
All are Welcome!!!

FACEBOOK.COM/BETHEL.AME.PITTSBURGH

412-683-2160

## Ecumenical Juneteenth Commemoration

On **Saturday, June 19, 3:00 PM** the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh invites the community to an ecumenical prayer witness of lament and repentance at The Fence (across from Target) in East Liberty, in commemoration of Juneteenth and the third anniversary of the death of Antwon Rose. The theme will be "A Station of the Cross: Pray Their Names!"

## Western Pennsylvania Juneteenth Events

**Pittsburgh-Allegheny County Freedom Days Fest** Juneteenth Celebration involves African American Cultural Education, Live Music, Vendors, Speakers and more at Point State Park.

Date of Events: June 18-20

Time: 11am – 9pm

**Description:** Juneteenth is the celebration of the end of chattel slavery and was first started in Texas in 1865 when the last enslaved people learned that the Civil War was over and the Union had won the war.

Juneteenth is celebrated in 50 states across America and is the Country's second Independence Day. The Pittsburgh festival started in 2013. This year marks the first time this day is recognized as a legal holiday in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. On June 19, 2019, Governor Wolf signed legislation which designates June 19 as "Juneteenth National Freedom Day" in Pennsylvania.

**Go to website for schedule of activities:**

<https://www.wpajuneteenth.com/>