

# Lenten Cross



A Lenten cross draped with a purple cloth has appeared in Emanuel's courtyard thanks to Jack & Lisa Gibbs.

The Liturgical color for Lent is purple signifying the suffering of Jesus (think blood and bruises) and also Jesus' reign in glory. Purple was the color of the Roman Emperor's toga.

The Lenten season this year began on March 5<sup>th</sup> — with Ash Wednesday — and will continue until Easter on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Lent lasts for 40 days (Sundays in between are not counted toward the forty days, because each Sunday is considered a mini-Easter).

The forty days of Lent recall Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness. It is a time of simplicity, repentance and preparation for the day when we will meet the Lord.

# **Easter Egg Hunt at Emanuel**



**Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup> at 2PM**

**Rain or Shine – the Easter Egg Hunt will be held in doors**

**Friends are welcome!**

**Emanuel Lutheran Church  
20 Leaf Street,  
West Warwick, RI 02893**

# Easter Flower Orders



## Remember someone this Easter

Tulips, Hyacinths, Lilies & Daffodils: \$15 per plant

Order forms are at church. Fill one out and place it in the offering plate. Or you can phone in or email your order.

Please include:

- how many of each type of flower
- your name
- who you are giving the flowers in memory of

Payments can be put in the offering plate, mailed to the church, or made online by clicking here: [Donate](#)

(401) 821-8888    churchoffice@emanuelww.org

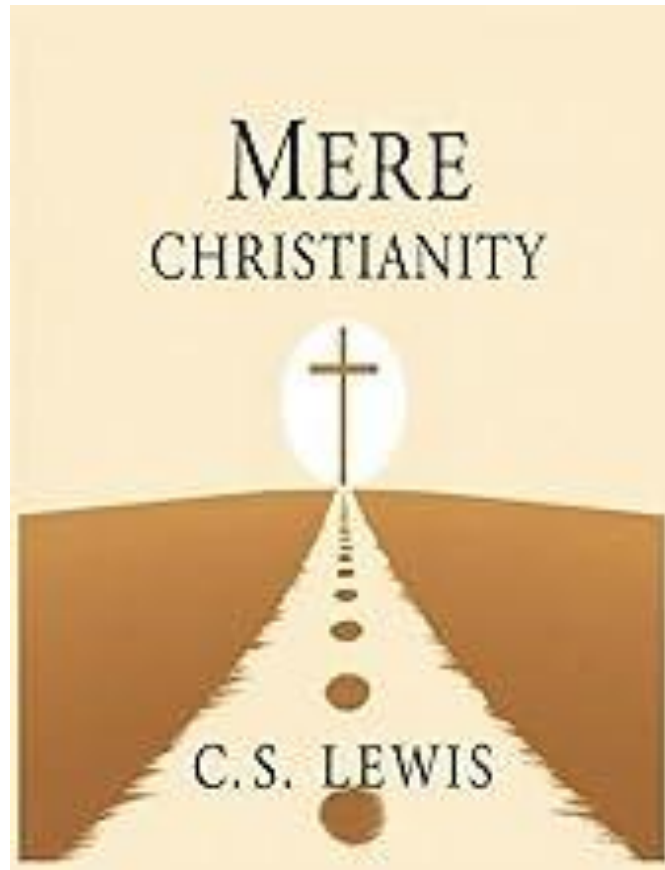
**Please submit orders & payments by Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup>**

# Did You Know?



In March Emanuel's Food Pantry distributed 14,684 pounds of food to 356 people in need.

# Readers of Emanuel



## Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis

This month the Readers of Emanuel book club is reading  
“Mere Christianity” by C.S. Lewis.

C.S. Lewis said: “I am not asking anyone to accept Christianity if his best reasoning tells him that the weight of evidence is against it.” In *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis presents a reasoned defense of Christianity, arguing that the existence of a universal moral law points to a supernatural Lawgiver. Lewis believed that Christianity offered the most comprehensive and satisfying explanation for the world, not just through reason, but also through the human experience of desire and imagination. “I believe in Christianity as I believe that the Sun has risen not only because I see it but because by it I see everything else.”

We will meet **this Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup>** at **12PM** in Jacobs Hall to enjoy fellowship, food and discuss the book. Everyone is welcome to come – even if you are not familiar with the book!

## Potluck Coffee Hour – next Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup>



**First Sunday of the Month after the 10:30am service.**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month you are invited to bring a favorite dish or dessert to share. If you don't care to cook or need a week off, please come anyway. There will be plenty for all!

## Thrivent Choice Dollars - DEADLINE



**THRIVENT**  
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*Connecting faith & finances for good.®*

### HOW TO DIRECT **THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®**

**You have until March 31, 2025 to direct your Thrivent Choice dollars, else they will be lost.**

If you have a Thrivent Financial relationship, you may have Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Thrivent Choice Dollars can be given to many organizations including Emanuel. Last year Emanuel received over \$2,000 in Thrivent Choice Dollars. These funds helped Emanuel's ministries. Thank you!

**To see if you have Thrivent Choice dollars and to direct them, go to:**

- Online at [www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice).
- Phone: [800-847-4836](tel:800-847-4836) and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt. The Member Connection Center is open until 6 p.m. Central time, Monday – Friday.

# Wednesday Bible Study of Genesis



**Next session Wednesday  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7PM**

We meet in person in Jacobs Hall at Emanuel.

On March 26<sup>th</sup> we will be reading the story of Joseph interpreting Pharoah's dreams.

No previous knowledge of the Bible necessary.

# Ways to Support Ascentria Care Alliance

## formerly Lutheran Social Services of New England



Ascentria recently received a “stop-work order” from the Federal government and a spending freeze stopped payment for Ascentria's work with 61 families involving 234 people. Ascentria, formerly Lutheran Social Services of New England, provides adoption services, care for the elder and people with disabilities and mental health challenges, refugee settlement, help for poor families with children, and runs the Good News Garage program.

For more information about Ascentria go to their website:  
[www.ascentria.org](http://www.ascentria.org)

If you would like to support them financially, there is a DONATE button on their website. Checks may also be sent directly to Ascentria Care Alliance, 11 Shattuck St, Worcester, MA 01605. Attention: Advancement. Thank you.

# Do You Like Coffee?



If so, consider hosting coffee hour one Sunday. If it's your first time (or 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>), people will help you and show you where everything is.

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the entry way. Thank you.

# What's Your Story?



## Sharing Our Stories of God

We are inviting people to share stories of how God has shown up in their lives.

If you would be willing to share a story from your life, please let Pastor Todd know. Thank you.ss

# **Bible Readings for Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup>**

## **First Reading**

## **Psalm 41:1-3**

- <sup>1</sup> Blessed are those who have regard for the weak;  
the LORD delivers them in times of trouble.
- <sup>2</sup> The LORD protects and preserves them—  
they are counted among the blessed in the land—  
he does not give them over to the desire of their foes.
- <sup>3</sup> The LORD sustains them on their sickbed  
and restores them from their bed of illness.

## **Second Reading**

## **Luke 16:19-31**

*Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is "lifted up" and the rich one is "sent away empty." Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.*

- <sup>19</sup> 'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores.
- <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup>In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup>He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames."
- <sup>25</sup>But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup>Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us."
- <sup>27</sup>He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— <sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." <sup>29</sup>Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." <sup>30</sup>He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." <sup>31</sup>He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." '

**How do the Bible readings speak to you?**

# Choir at Emanuel



**Sundays at 9AM  
in the sanctuary.**

**All who like to make music  
are welcome.**

# On-line Worship at Emanuel Sundays at 10:30AM



## What to Do - if You would Like to Come to On-line Worship

Just click on the Zoom link below on Sunday at 10:30AM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/93690864460?pwd=CHZ5RVNsdnFYcDhhNVdMKzA2VEN1QT09>

You can also join us by phone by calling (929) 205-6099 and entering  
Meeting ID: 936 9086 4460 and Password: 933328

A video of the service will be posted on Emanuel's website and  
Facebook group page later in the day.

## MAKING A FAST

LOVING GOD LET ME MAKE A FAST,  
from all those things  
that have filled my belly  
for so long.

Bloated from excesses,  
slowed and dulled and  
numbed in spirit.  
let me make a fast  
from those POISONS I have called  
nourishment,  
from the POVERTY I have called  
wealth,  
from that SHALLOWNESS I have called  
depth,  
from any MEAGERNESS I may have called  
abundance.

I am ready to go out with You  
to be emptied  
in whatever desert will be mine.

LOVING GOD LET ME MAKE A FAST.

May I fast from SPEED.  
May I drive more slowly.  
May I remove these shoes that help me walk  
quickly,  
and with great purpose—  
and may my feet contact your  
earth,  
slowly  
and  
with great care,  
with gentleness  
and  
with much respect.

May I walk as your calm presence in this world.  
May my voice be lower, slower.

May it be a voice more understood  
by those whose ears are failing;  
a safer voice that does not make the  
listener ask again,  
a voice that comforts in its tones.

May I be your slow and soothing, still, small  
voice.

May there be breeze where I have passed,  
not cyclone,  
not chaos,  
not whirlwind sense of things of great  
import,

but only the echoing whisper of  
where you have walked.  
may I fast from SPEED.

May I fast from BUSYNESS.

May I learn to bless my simple be-ing,  
and may I come to know that be-ing  
as the fertile soil that roots and grounds  
my do-ing.

May my days be less full, less likely to implode,  
collapsing in on themselves, a black hole  
dense with all those tasks, commitments,  
things

I simply cannot cease to do,  
for fear the world—indeed, the universe—  
will

cease along with them.

Instead, may there be holes and gaps,  
may there be light,  
great periods of wicked, wasteful idleness,  
that devil's workshop  
transformed as, slowly, I come to trust  
that You are there

in the quiet,  
in the calm,  
in the vacuum

of nothing planned to do  
but be alive,  
that being quite enough,

Loving God, may I fast from BUSYNESS.

May I fast from FEAR.

May I come out from my hiding.

May I know sun and snow,  
wind and rain,  
feel heat and cold  
as armor drops  
to only such protection as I need,  
no less, but most assuredly  
no more.

May I befriend the shadow.

May I coax it out of hiding,  
remove its ban of  
excommunication,  
bring it back from exile.

May I embrace that darker side  
that I have banished for so long,  
beaten down, denied,  
and may I own it fully.

May I give shadow energy a voice,  
and come to know that healing lies in unity,  
polarities in tension,  
but  
never in denial.

Loving God, may I fast from FEAR.

May fasting time be sacrament,  
outward sign, inward grace;  
empty belly, an open space wherein You  
might dwell

replacing illusion of fullness.

LOVING GOD LET ME MAKE A FAST.

# Offerings to Emanuel



## Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who has been mailing in their offering or giving through Simply Giving and Givelify.

Offerings can be mailed to:

Emanuel Lutheran Church  
20 Leaf Street  
West Warwick, RI 02893

OR you can use either the Simply Giving program, which allows you to automate the giving of an offering from a checking account, or Givelify, which is online app that allows giving through a debit or credit card.

If you would like to find out more about either of these, please let Emanuel's Treasurer, Carol Johnson, or Pastor Todd know. Thank you.

**You can give to Emanuel through Givelify by clicking on the DONATE button on Emanuel's website OR by clicking here: [Donate](#)**

[www.emanuelww.org](http://www.emanuelww.org)

# Sermon Topics



*Narrative Lectionary September 8 – June 8*

3/30 The Rich Man & Lazarus

4/6 Zaccheus was a Wee Little Man

4/13 Palm Sunday

4/20 Easter, the Resurrection of Our Lord

4/27 Holy Humor Sunday

5/4 Stephen's Witness

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# Holy Week at Emanuel



**Palm Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup> – 8am & 10:30am**

Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem

**Maundy Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup> – 7:00pm**

Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples

**Good Friday April 18<sup>th</sup> - 7:00pm**

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

**Holy Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> - 7:00pm**

Easter Vigil

**Easter Sunday April 20<sup>th</sup> – 8am & 10:30am**

Celebration of Life's Triumph over death

## Please keep these children of God in your prayers this week:

**For Healing & Comfort:** Kathy Anderson, Myron Gadoury, Birgit Neumann,  
Rose Swanson

s

### Worship Assistants

	<i>March 30</i>	<i>April 6</i>
<b>Counter:</b>	<b>Kathy Marco</b>	<b>Glenn Johnson</b>
	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>
<b>Lector:</b>	<b>Kathy Garriott</b>	<b>Kathy Marco</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Tim Hart</b>	<b>Tim Hart</b>
	<b>10:30AM</b>	<b>10:30AM</b>
<b>Lay Minister:</b>	<b>Langdon Clough</b>	<b>Sue Wieboldt</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Mary Schabek &amp; Brandee Muncey</b>	<b>Ken Wieboldt * Pauline LaVallee</b>
<b>Lector:</b>	<b>Elaine Marsh</b>	<b>Diane Gadoury</b>
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	<b>Grenier, Hart &amp; Principe families</b>	<b>Potluck</b>

## March's Memorial Candle



The Memorial Candle for March is given in celebration  
of **Ken & Sue Wieboldt's anniversary.**

### **This Week at Emanuel**

<b>Monday, March 24</b> <b>17<sup>th</sup> Day of Lent</b>	<b>10:00am</b> <b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)</b> <b>Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)</b>
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<b>Tuesday, March 25</b> <b>18<sup>th</sup> Day of Lent</b>	<b>9:00am</b> <b>10:00am</b>	<b>Tuesday Morning Bible Study (JH)</b> <b>Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM</b> <b>Pastor Office Hours 10AM to 2PM</b>
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<b>Wednesday, March 26</b> <b>19<sup>th</sup> Day of Lent</b>	<b>10:00am</b> <b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Ellie's Circle (JH)</b> <b>Genesis Bible Study (JH)</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Thursday, March 27</b> <b>20<sup>th</sup> Day of Lent</b>	<b>12:30pm</b>	<b>Live, Laugh &amp; Learn Lunch at Smokey Bones BBQ</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Friday, March 28</b> <b>21<sup>st</sup> Day of Lent</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Sue's Office Hours (9AM – 1PM)</b>
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<b>Saturday, March 29 - 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of Lent</b>		
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<b>Sunday, March 30</b> <b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b>	<b>8:00am</b> <b>9:00am</b> <b>9:15am</b> <b>10:30am</b> <b>11:30am</b> <b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Worship in Person</b> <b>Choir</b> <b>Sunday School (FH)</b> <b>Worship in Person &amp; Online</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b> <b>Readers of Emanuel (JH)</b>

### **Next Week at Emanuel**

<b>Monday, March 31</b> <b>23<sup>rd</sup> Day of Lent</b>	<b>10:00am</b> <b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)</b> <b>Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)</b>
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<b>Tuesday, April 1</b> <b>24<sup>th</sup> Day of Lent</b>	<b>9:00am</b> <b>10:00am</b>  <b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Tuesday Morning Bible Study (JH)</b> <b>Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM,</b> <b>Pastor Office Hours 10AM to 2PM</b> <b>Worship &amp; Music Committee ONLINE</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Wednesday, April 22</b> <b>25<sup>th</sup> Day of Lent</b>	<b>10:00am</b> <b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Ellie's Circle (JH)</b> <b>Genesis Bible Study (JH)</b>
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<b>Thursday, April 3</b> <b>26<sup>th</sup> Day of Lent</b>	<b>4:00pm</b> <b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Christian Education Committee ONLINE</b> <b>Finance Committee ONLINE</b>
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<b>Friday, April 4</b> <b>27<sup>th</sup> Day of Lent</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Sue's Office Hours (9AM – 1PM)</b>
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<b>Saturday, April 5 - 28<sup>th</sup> Day of Lent</b>		
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<b>Sunday, April 6</b> <b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b>	<b>8:00am</b> <b>9:00am</b> <b>9:15am</b> <b>10:30am</b> <b>11:30am</b>	<b>Worship in Person</b> <b>Choir</b> <b>Sunday School (FH) &amp; Confirmation (JH)</b> <b>Worship in Person &amp; Online</b> <b>Potluck Coffee Hour</b>

## **Upcoming Commemorations**

**Hans Nielsen Hauge, renewer of the church, died 1824**

**Saturday, March 29, 2025**

Hauge was a layperson who wished to revitalize the church in Norway. As a result of a mystical experience, he felt called to preach. Many professionals in the church feared his motives and influence, and he was imprisoned for leading unauthorized gatherings.

**John Donne, poet, died 1631**

**Monday, March 31, 2025**

After finishing his education at Oxford University, Donne seemed headed for a career in the English public service. But a series of circumstances led him into the ordained ministry. He is well known as a writer of both secular and sacred poetry.

**Benedict the African, confessor, died 1589**

**Friday, April 4, 2025**

Born into slavery on the island of Sicily, Benedict lived as a hermit until the pope ordered all hermits to attach themselves to a monastery, at which time Benedict joined the Franciscans. Though illiterate, he was highly respected as a confessor and later superior of his community.

Double click on link below to see Emanuel's online calendar:

**[Emanuel's Online Calendar](#)**

The calendar is on Emanuel's web site.