

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Wakefield, Massachusetts
The Fourth Sunday in Lent



March 15, 2026
10:00 AM

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Welcome to Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Wakefield, MA
Belong, Be Loved, Flourish!

We are thrilled that you are here to worship with us today! Indeed, we welcome every person without exception in the name of Jesus Christ. You ***belong*** here and are an essential part of our family. We celebrate that you are ***beloved*** by God. We strive to “love God and love our neighbor,” affirming that God created us for a relationship that leads to all creation ***flourishing***. We pray you are drawn to healing and joy by being here today.

If this is your first time with us or your first time back in a while, please fill out the visitors’ card in the pew or the Narthex (the entrance hall). We are a friendly family, so please introduce yourself to everyone, especially our rector, Reverend Brett.

A Note about Communion

The most important thing to know is that *you are welcome*. God invites you to be fed. All are welcome at the altar rail. Please let an usher know if you cannot come forward, and we will come to you.

The options for receiving wine include the chalice or intinction (dipping cup, a separate cup). In our tradition, we believe that taking communion in one kind – taking the bread – bestows the full benefit of the sacrament. Therefore, you may choose not to take the wine. If you would not like to receive, we encourage you to come forward, cross your arms across your chest, and allow the clergy to bless you. Our Altar Bread is Gluten Free. We also offer a non-alcohol alternative to the wine; simply let the clergy know. Remember: this is God’s table and you are welcome to meet God here!

A Note about Children

We *love* all our children. Most Sundays, we have childcare for the littlest ones alongside our Kids’ Club in their special place off the Parish Hall. We encourage your children to gather with their peers there, guided by our team of leaders. Once a month, usually the first Sunday, our children join us in the sanctuary to lead us as ushers and readers and assist Rev. Brett at the altar during Communion.

All children are welcome in the sanctuary! We ask that their big people help to teach them that this is a sacred space for quiet play and quiet voices. This helps ensure we honor those who need to worship in quiet.

As we prepare our hearts for worship, we kindly ask that you please silence your cell phones. Thank you.

PRELUDE *O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden* Adolph Friedrich Hesse
(1809-1863)

*The congregation is invited to rise at the sound of the bell
for a silent procession.*

SILENT PROCESSION

INTROIT *Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake*
Richard Farrant (1530-80)

*Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake,
Lay not our sins to our charge,
but forgive that is past,
and give us grace to amend our sinful lives.
To decline from sin and incline to virtue,
That we may walk in a perfect heart before thee,
Now and evermore.
Amen*

PENITENTIAL ORDER page 351

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People: **His mercy endures for ever.**

THE DECALOGUE: page 350

Please kneel if you are able

Hear the commandments of God to his people:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.
You shall have no other gods but me.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything *that belongs to your neighbor.*
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

CONFESSION

from *Enriching Our Worship*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,

and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

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Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

TRISAGION #S102 *Holy God* (sung 3x)

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: Ver. *Hymnal* 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought

him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

The Psalm will be sung by the choir.

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; * for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble
me; * you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my
life, * and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SECOND LESSON: EPHESIANS 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take

no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN #692 vss. 1&3 *I heard the voice of Jesus say*

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “I am this dark world’s light;

and in your wea - ri - ness lay down your head up - on my breast.”
the liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, stoop down and drink, and live.”
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my Star, my Sun;

I found in him a rest-ing place, and he has made me glad.
 my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 and in that light of life I'll walk till pil - grim days are done.

**The bracketed notes are to be treated as triplet groups.*

Words: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889), alt. Music: *The Third Tune*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585?); ed. John Wilson (1905-1992).
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GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 9:1-41

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to John.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it

been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

THE REV. BRETT R. JOHNSON

NICENE CREED

The Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney

We believe in one God,
Mother and Father, Sovereign and Almighty,
maker of the heavens and the earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Redeemer, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Mother,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.

Through whom all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Sovereign.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his dominion will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.
With the Father and the Son She is worshiped and glorified.
She has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - FORM VI

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*At the Parish Prayer List of names, the congregation is invited
to repeat each name after the Litanist holding in sacred trust those
who have asked us for prayer.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are
alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world. O God of our salvation, our hearts cry out to you, for all those in the path of political violence, both here and across the globe. Intercede, we pray, and show us a path toward peace for all people.

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation. We also ask for ourselves that you strengthen our resolve to counter the sins of racism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, and misogyny, as well as thoughts and actions against members of immigrant and LGBTQ+ communities, eliminate the proliferation of assault weapons, and provide healing and support for those experiencing loneliness and mental health challenges in our nation.

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Julia our Bishop; Mary and Ian our Assisting Bishops and for all bishops and other ministers. Merciful God, in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the following churches of the Cape & Islands Deanery: St. Barnabas' Church, Falmouth; Christ Church, Harwich Port; Grace Church, Vineyard Haven; and For all churches in the Diocese closed or merged.

For all who serve God in God's Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list: **John Aalto, Donna Boudreau, Debbie Bourne, Evelyn Bourne, Peter Brown, Lydia Cedrone, Wallie Cook, Jacob DeCarlen-Bumiller, John and Richard DeNatale, Peggy Downs, Matthew Dyer, David Fieldhouse, Michael Flynn, Connor Gallagher, Mary Gasson, Kristen Goddard, Louise Haldeman, Heidi, Karen Dodd Howard, JD, CJ, Jack Jephson, Ted**

Jobe, Ginny Johnson, Tim Kelsey, Kevin, Larry, Ken Leach, Linda, Kevin MacKenzie, Keith Manville, Mark Martino, Don McCarter, Sara Murphy, Neil, Gayle Gammon Nelson, Steve Newman, Judith Oder, Jim O'Reilly, Joe, Jane Pennacchia, Muriel Peters, Dustin Pollard, JP Quinn, Rebecca, Linda Russo, Trudy, Vanessa, Amy Walsh, Bill & Jan, Vicky Wegweiser, Kelly, and Alan Wright.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them and love one another as he loves us. We celebrate the birthday of Alyssa Toppi in whose honor the altar flowers are given today and we also pray for Ruth's Way for Women, our coffee hour recipient this month.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. We especially remember Susan Quinn, beloved friend of Alison Shaw and Laurel Martino who passed away on Wednesday and Joseph Veto Ventura in whose loving memory the altar flowers are given this week.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Grant, O God, that all may recognize women as equal partners in creation and prophesy. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, empower women at home, at work, in government, and in the hierarchies of churches, temples, mosques, synagogues, and all other places of worship. Provide safety and protection, O gracious Divinity, and inspire just laws against all forms of violence against women. We ask this through Christ our Savior, **Amen.**

Celebrant: Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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Celebrant: Christ is already here making peace among us.
The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The community shares a sign of peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace*

S. S. Wesley (1810-1876)

*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee.
The darkness is no darkness with Thee, but the night is as clear as the day.*

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS: *Missa Deus Genitor Alme*





The people stand or kneel.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; Lord God of our Mothers: Sarah, Rachel, and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not

for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.



Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Amen.

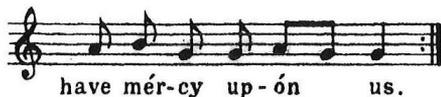
The Holy Eucharist, Conclusion of Eucharistic Prayer and Amen, #142 from The Hymnal 1982, Service Music – Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

AGNUS Missa Deus Genitor Alme



The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION

All are invited to come forward to receive communion or a blessing.

Our altar bread is gluten free.

Prayers for healing are also offered.

Choir members will receive communion first.

*Please stay seated until you are invited forward by the usher,
beginning from the back of the church.*

COMMUNION HYMN #671 *Amazing grace! how sweet the sound*

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 *5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broadbuss and Andrew Broadbuss. Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony* 1831; adapt. at. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919). Harmonization Copyright © 1974 by Abingdon Press.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our

Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

LENTEN PRAYER *Book of Occasional Services* (2022)

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Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Seminarian: Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN #547 *Awake, O sleeper, rise from death*



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall
 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and
 3 There is one Bo - dy and one hope, one Spi - rit
 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that
 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died and con - quered



1 give you light, so learn his love— its length and
 2 fear re - lease, to give the Spi - rit's u - ni -
 3 and one call, one Lord, one Faith, and one Bap -
 4 he might save; with kind and gen - tle hearts for -
 5 in the strife. A - wake, a - rise, go forth in



The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in joyful celebration for the birthday of her daughter, Alyssa Toppi, by Michelle Toppi and in loving memory of his father, Joseph Veto Ventura, by Joe & Lisa Ventura.

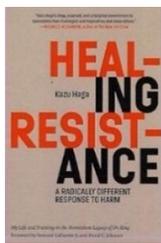
JOIN US TODAY after the 10 AM Service or on Zoom!



Maundy Thursday. Good Friday. Easter Vigil. Three days. One story. Come dig into the sacred heart of Holy Week with Rev. Brett and Karen in this informal, welcoming Bible study. No preparation required – just show up!

HEALING PRAYER OFFERED TODAY

The Prayer Team is available as a healing prayer resource at a prayer station to the left of the main altar during communion and after the service.



Out Lenten Book Study lead by Karen Aalto continues Monday night at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. All are welcome to join even if you missed the prior meetings or haven't done the reading.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22ND

Next Sunday we welcome back The Rev. Bob Davidson who will lead us in worship at both services. Rev. Brett will be in Pennsylvania celebrating Mom's 96th birthday from Saturday, March 21st until Tuesday, March 24th. If you have a pastoral care need during that time, please contact Lisa Ventura (781-526-9777) or lventura@emmanuelwakefield.org who will put you in contact with the appropriate clergy to help.



Kids Korner

Important Dates:

Sunday April 4th: Easter Sunday Service

Sunday April 19th: No Kids Club- Spring Vacation week

Announcements:

We are so excited to support our local community by hosting a hat, mitten/glove, coat drive! Living in New England, we know how important warm clothing is. Please consider donating by bringing items and leaving them in the marked box in the Narthex.

We are looking forward to planning a few community events including a visit to Brightview Senior Center, and a possible visit to the Wakefield Food Pantry. Please let us know if you would be willing to come and support our visits!

WARM CLOTHING DRIVE

Love in Action this Lent!

Kids Club is sharing God's love by collecting hats, mittens, and coats for our neighbors.

Look for the donation box in the Narthex—every gift helps warm our community.

SUNDAYS MARCH 8, 15, 22

KIDS' CLUB
BE THE LIGHT

www.emmanuelwakefield.org

During this Lenten season, the Kids Club is focusing on becoming closer to God through acts of service in the community. Please join us as we collect hats, mittens, coats, and gloves for those in need. There is a box for donations in the Narthex and donations will be sent to various sites to support as many as we can in the local community.

Emmanuel
Episcopal
Church

You're Invited to

B I N G O

CASSEROLE NIGHT



03.20.2026

7 - 9 pm

\$20 pp
Kids Free

- Homemade Comfort Food
- Friendly Competition
- Great Prizes

fundraising@emmanuelwakefield.org



If you plan to attend, please send an email to fundraising@emmanuelwakefield.org to reserve your spot. There is no need to pay in advance. Thank you.

I am grateful for the Immigration Compassion Ministry—our Immigration Action team (led by Lizzy Barr and Michael Claya) and Family Preparedness Program (led by Denise Mallen)—who have spent the past year discerning how Emmanuel can respond to the needs around us. As you'll see in the Epistle, specific events are now available for your participation. If you're looking for one training that offers a comprehensive overview, I recommend this offering from Episcopal City Mission (ECM) and LUCE (The Immigration Justice Network).

ECM/LUCE TRAINING

Join us for a special training offered by Episcopal City Mission and LUCE Immigrant Justice Network on March 21, 9am-11 am at Parish of the Epiphany to teach us how to move from well-intentioned neighbors to skilled allies. This training will provide essential training on de-escalation, rights-based advocacy, and the 'how-to' of protecting our immigrant neighbors in real-time so we can become a more resilient and courageous community where the dignity of every person is actively upheld. This training is not just for Epiphany, but as a resource to our deanery and diocese! If your parish is interested, let Rev. Janelle know at jhiroshige@3crowns.org and she will send you the registration link.

- ✓ **LUCE VERIFICATION TRAINING**
 - ✓ **ECM SAFETY TEAM TRAINING**
 - ✓ **GENERAL SKILLS TO PREPARE YOUR PARISH TO ACT IN COURAGE**
-



We are looking for someone to host the coffee hour on **March 29th (Palm Sunday)** after the 10:00 AM service.

If you can help, please let Colleen Moran or Lisa in the office know. Thank you.



WAKEFIELD FOOD PANTRY

The Wakefield Food Pantry most needed item for the month of March is jarred pasta sauce.

Cover picture by Brian Jekel and can be found at: <https://christian.art/daily-gospel-reading/john-9-16-913-1734-38-2020/>

PARISH SCHEDULE WEEK OF MARCH 15, 2026

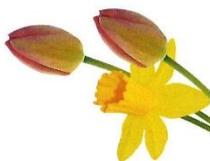
Sunday, March 15	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
	9:00 AM	Coffee Hour
	9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 AM	Kids' Club
	9:45 AM	Nursery Care
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
	11:00 AM	Coffee Hour
	11:45 AM	Pop-Up Bible Study – <i>Three Days that Changed Everything</i>
Monday, March 16	7:00 PM	Lent Book Study on Zoom <i>The 6 Principles of Nonviolence</i>
Tuesday, March 17	4:45 PM	Horizon House
	6:30 PM	Adult Formation Team
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, March 18	10:00 AM	Brightview Service
	6:00 PM	Evening Prayer
	7:00 PM	Finance Committee
Thursday, March 19	9:00 AM	Clergy Development Day
Friday, March 20	7:00 PM	BINGO!
Saturday, March 21	1:00 PM	Rainbow Recovery
Sunday, March 22	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
	9:00 AM	Coffee Hour
	9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 AM	Kids' Club
	9:45 AM	Nursery Care
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
	11:00 AM	Coffee Hour

*If you would like to give to the ministries
of Emmanuel Episcopal Church,
please use this QR code.*



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

March–April 2026



PALM SUNDAY *March 29*

Blessing of Palms and
Reading of The Passion

In person 8:00 a.m.

In person and via YouTube 10:00 a.m.

HOLY WEDNESDAY *April 1*

Evening Prayer via Zoom 6:00 p.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY *April 2*

Agape Supper 6:00 p.m.

Worship in person and via YouTube 7:00 p.m.

*Stripping of the Altar, Garden of Repose,
and Foot-Washing*

Nikki Nash MacIsaac, *Guest Preacher*

GOOD FRIDAY *April 3*

Trinity Episcopal Church/Melrose 12:00 Noon

St. Paul's Church/Lynnfield 12:00 Noon

Emmanuel Episcopal Church 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Liturgy in person and via YouTube

Karen Aalto, *Guest Preacher*

Quiet, informal, private prayer at Emmanuel
12:00 Noon–4:00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY *April 4*

Great Vigil of Easter 7:00 p.m.

In person and via YouTube

EASTER DAY *April 5*

Rite I Worship with Hymns 8:00 a.m.

Rite II Festive Choral Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

In person and via YouTube

Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Festive

Brunch following the 10:00 a.m. Service

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

5 Bryant Street
Wakefield, Mass.

The Rev. Brett R. Johnson
Rector

Luca Cantone
*Organist and
Music Director*

Karen Aalto
Seminarian



WOW! LOOK AT THAT!

"If we believe that our unity comes from looking together into a mystery and occasionally nudging one another and saying, "[Wow!] Look at that!" it can help us to feel how the unity we enjoy (Brett: with radical diversity!) is not primarily about institutional uniformity... the unity is found in the common direction we are looking."

Rowan Williams,
Where God Happens: Discovering Christ in One Another

What does that word he keeps saying mean?

BASILEIA

/ba-si-LEI-a/ • βασιλεία

”

The **establishment of complete salvific communion** between humanity and God, among human beings, within human persons, and between humanity and the rest of creation.

"Full communion, full flourishing!"



Humanity
& God



Among
People



Within
Ourselves



With
Creation

Jesus' Mission:

"I must proclaim the good news of the **kingdom of God**" (Luke 4:43)

This *Basileia* is something Jesus longs for us to strive for **now**, even as it will not be ultimately fulfilled until the end of the age.



OUR MISSION:

Emmanuel Episcopal Church is a diverse, inclusive, and welcoming community dedicated to spiritual growth through worship and education for adults and children.



OUR VISION:

Emmanuel embodies Christ's light in service to all. Here, through God's love and grace, all are accepted, purpose is found, and together we flourish.



Bishop Diocesan: The Rt. Rev. Julia Whitworth (she/her)
 Rector: The Rev. Brett R. Johnson (he/him) 978-206-1788
 Seminarian Intern: Karen Aalto (she/her) kpaalto00@gmail.com
 Organist and Music Director: Luca Cantone 332-209-8432
 Co-Warden: Kim Collins (she/her) 339-224-8455
 Co-Warden: Beth Martin (she/her) 781-308-3474

Please be advised that our services are live streamed on our YouTube channel. 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.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that Emmanuel sits on the traditional land of the Algonquian-speaking Pawtucket tribe. We are grateful to these caretakers of the land and waters: the elders who lived before, the Indigenous people today, and the generations to come. We are guests on this land and have used it and its people for our betterment, often at their expense. We commit to doing our part to become better stewards of this land, understanding the impact of present and past exploitation, and working toward a more just and equitable future.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
5 Bryant Street Wakefield MA 01880
www.EmmanuelWakefield.org