

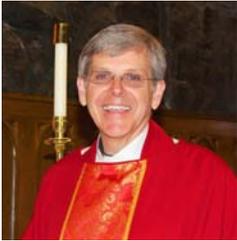


# Emmanuel

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

— BRISTOL, VIRGINIA —

# Emmanuel Responds to COVID 19



## From the Rector

We will move into the fall and winter with the reality of a pandemic that, as I write this, has taken the lives of 154,000 Americans. For most of us the statistics now include names and faces of people in our community or

family. At Emmanuel we have implemented safety precautions that will minimize the risk to those who enter the building **if everyone adheres to these guidelines** which include wearing a mask when inside, keeping distance from each other, washing or sanitizing hands frequently, avoiding touching surfaces unnecessarily, and staying home if you have symptoms that may be the virus, have been around someone who has the virus, or are at elevated risk.

The good news is that our initial response to the pandemic was to begin streaming the principal weekly Eucharist every Sunday at ten-thirty and to establish a YouTube channel where those videos can be viewed at other times. We are deeply indebted to Heather Eisenhart and Jeremy McLaughlin for their many hours of work and research to make these videos available as well as to the musicians and other ministers who have faithfully participated in these services, and the vestry for approving the funds to purchase the necessary equipment. The response has been wonderful. The number of people we know are participating in the common prayers and proclamation of the gospel is more than have attended in recent years.

However effective we have been, the one remaining challenge is the provision of the sacraments. Holy Communion was restored as a vital part of the weekly celebration of the resurrection on the Lord's Day forty years ago with the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. Our sacramental fast during the past few months may well help us to appreciate the place of Eucharist and all the sacraments in our lives.

With that in mind, I offer **two ways for you to again receive Communion.**

First, we will again have *congregational worship at Emmanuel*. The number of people who may participate is dependent on how many can keep social distance in the pews so please consider attending on Saturdays or Sundays at eight o'clock so that we won't have to turn anyone away at ten-thirty. **Please monitor the weekly PEW for possible cancellations based on local health department or state recommendations.**

Second, the Book of Common Prayer provides for *Communion Under Special Circumstances* "when persons are unable to be present for extended periods" (see page 396 through 399 of the prayer book). With these prayers I am happy to coordinate times and places for you to receive Communion. It will only take a few minutes. I will wear my mask continually and sanitize my hands, and I suggest whenever possible we do this outside, perhaps on your porch or patio, or on the labyrinth at Emmanuel. And you do not need to entertain me. These short pastoral visits will complete the experience of viewing services on line. To schedule a Communion visit, call or email me.

## A Virtual Music Opportunity for all Adults and Children!

Through the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), we have been offered an opportunity at a much discounted rate, to utilize a program called "My Choral Coach!" Anyone in the congregation who enjoys singing is invited to sign up free of charge for this new program which will start in September.

"My Choral Coach" has a wonderful variety of repertoire already loaded in addition to anything I may like to load from our Emmanuel library. I

think this will be a fun way to keep us together, motivated, and moving forward. Please contact me at [stephanie@emmanuelbristol.org](mailto:stephanie@emmanuelbristol.org) if you are interested in joining!

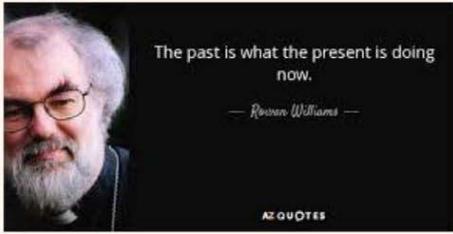
This program will be categorized into different groups: **Hymn Singing** for Adults (including high school); **Choral Repertoire** for Adults (including high school); **Choral Education** for Ages 8-14

\*Please copy and paste this link in your browser to watch a short video about "My Choral Coach": <https://youtu.be/bJnD9hrwiho>



**My Choral Coach**

# Adult Faith Formation



BEING  
CHRISTIAN  
BAPTISM, BIBLE, EUCHARIST, PRAYER

## Approaching God Through Prayer

The Book of Common Prayer says of confirmation that, "In the course of their Christian development, those baptized at an early age are expected, when they are ready and have been duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop. Those baptized as adults . . . are also expected to make a public affirmation of their faith" (BCP 412).

Preparing for Confirmation in the Episcopal Church is a time of intentional preparation, it gives us an opportunity to reflect on the most basic tenants of our faith and gives you a safe environment to ask questions and grapple with the divine Truth and mysteries. Confirmation helps us to investigate depths of the faith and reflect on the mysteries, a process referred to as mystagogy, a practice we are all called to do. Catechesis will be offered to adults and youth who wish to make a public affirmation of faith either by being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church and for those who wish to reaffirm their baptismal vows.

If you are seeking confirmation or reaffirmation, you are invited to participate in this group. Being Christian offers an eight (8) week journey beginning Thursday, Sept 10, 7pm via Zoom. If you would like more information, please contact Father Joe or Adriel Slaughter (423-956-1905/adriel@emmanuelbristol.org).



# Letter from Family Ministries

Formation has looked very different since March and will continue to look different as we go into fall. Both Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and Emmanuel Youth met via Zoom. We shared the celebration of Pentecost and the youth undertook a study of the book of Matthew. We plan to continue to meet via Zoom this fall. It's not the same but with your prayers, we will forge this blessed community in the love and fellowship of Jesus and one another.



Walk in light,  
Adriel

*The Good Shepherd and the Child:  
A Joyful Journey*

"TO BE A MOTHER OR FATHER IS TO PARTICIPATE IN GOD'S OWN PLAN. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO ACTUALIZE YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIALITIES, AND THIS BEGINS IN THE WOMB."

SILVANA MONTANARO,  
"THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND THE CHILD: A JOYFUL JOURNEY" PG. 15

The Good Shepherd & the Child Podcast



*My dearest brothers and sisters in Christ, let us be steadfast in our faith even in trying times.*



**AUGUST 2020**

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Return Service Requested

## New Colby Organ



As of Monday, August 3 we have raised \$187,530 of the \$350,000 needed for our new organ.

For more detailed information about the new Colby Organ visit

<http://www.emmanuelbristol.org/our-church/music>

## *Book of Common Prayer*

If you do not have a Book of Common Prayer, please contact the parish office. We have several copies available that can be engraved. Suggested donation of \$20.

