

15941 Virginia Ave.
Paramount, CA

EMMANUEL

C H U R C H

Feb 11, 2024
(562) 531-6820

connecting people to Jesus, people, and God's mission

Lent ANOINTING SERVICE

WEDNESDAY | FEBRUARY 14 | 6 PM

Worship, Prayer Teams, Anointing with oil
Join us as we prepare for this Lent Season



Why did Jesus have to come in on a donkey? Why is Good Friday good? This year we'll unpack the distinct parts of the Easter story, focusing on the theology of the Easter season. Sign up to receive the video devotionals right to your inbox at www.erc.la.

Death, imprisonment, violence, isolation, oppression, and eviction from home are the day-to-day reality of many of our Christian brothers and sisters around the world. The persecution faced by Christians is global, spreading from the Middle East, through Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Due to the growing number of deaths and Christian refugees, many experts now consider this an act of genocide. While strong in their faith, our brothers and sisters have lost their homes, churches, livelihoods, and many have lost their lives. Will you prayerfully consider partnering with the Church as we seek to support our brothers and sisters overseas?

opendoorsuk.org - barnabasfund.org
samaritanspurse.org - worldhelp.net

Wishing a Happy Birthday to our 90+ year old Emmanuelites this month.

Birthday cards are welcome!!
Gordon Weisenburger Sr, 91 on 2/23

Additional Giving Opportunities
Stock, Real Estate, and other assets
IRA

Donor-Advised Fund
Estate Planning

If you are interested, please contact Ruth Zymkowitz at ruth.zymkowitz@erc.la

Our Christian sympathy to Ron and Eileen Davis and family on the passing of Ron's mother, Eva Foster, on Tuesday, February 6th, at the age of 95.

English: 9am 10:30am 12pm 6pm | Spanish: 10:30am 12pm | Nepalese: 9:30am
(sanctuary) (activity center) (brick building)

Scan to access
ERC's Hub!



Additional Giving Opportunities

Vision Fund offering Feb 18

Weekly Offering

YTD Total: \$381,477.06
YTD Budget: \$315,977.00

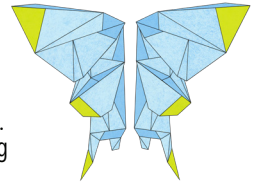
Last Week's Offering: \$50,694.14
2024 Weekly Budget: \$63,195.50

Scan to
GIVE



IG: @erclosangeles | FB: @ERCPARAMOUNT | YT: @ERCVIDEO LA

THE POWER OF "BUT NOW"



- Who are you becoming? "I used to _____ "BUT NOW" I _____". Remember that for the Christian, the journey and process of changing and growth begins with God!

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. - Romans 3:23

- When we recognize we've sinned we can convince ourselves if we just try harder then we'll be better. This often makes us more like the Pharisees than it does Jesus! God is not opposed to effort but he is opposed to earning. Yet without realizing it we often feel entitled to certain things because our efforts "earned" it.
- For the believer, our growth and change must begin by celebrating and remembering what God first did!

*Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. **BUT NOW** God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law ... - Romans 3:20-21*

- The **BUT NOW** hinges not on what we do but on what Jesus has **DONE**

This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile. - Romans 3:22

- When the Bible uses the word "righteousness" it's a legal term. It means the christian can stand before the Holy, sinless God, the creator of the universe ... and be legally safe. When God judges the righteousness, or the resume and report card of Jesus, of Jesus is applied to the believer (Romans 3:24-26)
- While the Bible teaches this beautiful truth, see Romans 3:24-26, we are continually tempted to justify our existence through our performance, status or our relationship with others:

*"And now in one hour's time, I will be out there again. I will raise my eyes and look down that corridor; 4 feet wide, with 10 lonely seconds **to justify my existence**. But will I?"
- Harold Abrahams in *The Chariots of Fire**

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. - 2 Corinthians 5:21

Christianity is the **ONLY** religion of grace. Everything else is by works.

- Christianity is **BUT NOW BECAUSE GOD** ... while everything else is **BUT I** ...
 - Islam → **BUT I** kept the 5 pillars
 - Judaism → **BUT I** am part of the nation and follow the law
 - Hinduism → **BUT I** have bettered myself and merged with Brahma
 - New Agers → **BUT I AM** best version of yourself and bring that good energy

- We hold no bragging rights when it comes to our performance! We are freed up to brag about who Jesus is and what Jesus has done! (Romans 3:27, 2 Corinthians 12:9)

Time of Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on the sermon. What is the Holy Spirit bringing to your attention?

Other "BUT NOW" passages that begin with God

- Romans 6:21-22; 7:5-6. - Ephesians 2:11-13; 5:8.
 - Colossians 1:21-22; 3:7-8. - 1 Peter 2:10, 25
-