



Emmanuel United Church of Christ

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

We Welcome You on this

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Service of the Word - November 15, 2020

9:30 AM

The Gathering

Ringling of the Bell
Our Life Together
The Solemn Declaration
Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: This is the Lord's Day, the day of wonder and grace.

All: This is the day to worship the One who calls us here.

Leader: This is the Lord's Day, the day we are given joy and peace.

All: This is the day promised to us, the day of healing and renewal.

Leader: This is the Lord's Day, and it has come just in time!

All: This is the day we gather with hope, with faith, with love!

Prayer of Invocation

The Refreshment of Forgiveness

The Unison Prayer of Confession

Again we must confess, Master of the Universe, our struggles to be faithful disciples. Entrusted with all your gifts, we become fearful once again of misusing them, missing the chance to be a blessing to others. Invited to dance in the light of your love, we stand against the wall once again, keeping company with our old friend sin. Called to be emptied for those who struggle in life, we fill ourselves once again, with scorn for the poor choices they make.

Have mercy, Journeying God, have mercy on us. Once again, open our eyes to your kingdom in our midst, so we might discover that your day of hope and grace has already come in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

(Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: This is the good news: God intends for us to find life, to embrace hope, to receive forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Servant.

All: The end of our journey is not rejection and emptiness, but the fullness of grace and hope in our God. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

*An Affirmation of Our Faith

It is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did great signs in our midst. It is the Lord our God who has protected us and loved us through all the years. It is the Lord our God whose own Son, Jesus Christ, died and rose again, conquering death. It is the Lord our God whom we worship today. Amen!

The Gift of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson: Judges 4: 1-7

New Testament Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25: 14-30

Sermon

"How is Your Circulation"

Pastor Cope

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Call to Offering

Offertory

*Offertory Response

"Doxology"

#778 (NCH)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Now, in these moments of gratitude, we would offer you a portion of all which you have given to us, Gracious God. We do so, trusting that you will take them, multiplying them in your kingdom, so all might be blessed by your love, your peace, and your hope. Amen.

The Ministry of Prayer

Lifting up our joys and concerns and those in need of prayer.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

The Gathered Go Forth to Serve

***Charge**

Leader: Let us go forth to be God's faithful servants.

All: We will not hide our gifts but share them with everyone we meet.

Leader: Let us go forth to be the followers of Jesus.

All: We will not hold back our compassion, but will offer it to all.

Leader: Let us go forth to be the Spirit's hope and peace.

All: We will be the grace, the joy, the wonder others need in their lives.

***Benediction**

***Three-fold Amen**

#812 (NCH)

*Postlude

*Indicates that all who are able, please stand. **Bold** print indicates unison reading.

Notice Someone Missing? *If so give them a call and let them know they are missed.*

