



# Emmanuel United Church of Christ

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

We Welcome You on this  
8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Service of Word – July 18, 2021  
9:30 AM

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The Gathering

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**Ringing of the Bell**  
**Our Life Together**  
**The Solemn Declaration**

**Prelude**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: As God is our shepherd, we need nothing else.

**All: We rest in green pastures and walk by still waters, which renews and refreshes our spirits.**

Leader: God guides us along paths of righteousness.

**All: And walks with us through shadowed valleys so we are not afraid. The shepherd's staff comforts us.**

Leader: God set the banquet table for us in the presence of our enemies. There, we're anointed with oil and our cup overflows.

**All: Goodness and mercy shall never depart from us as long as we dwell in the house of God.**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Hymn "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" #252 (NCH)**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

**I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Call to Confession**

**The Unison Prayer for Forgiveness**

**O God, we live in a diverse community. There are people of different colors and abilities. There are people with different sexual orientations. There are people on the left and the right, young and old, rich and poor. Yet, our church doesn't reflect this diversity. We would love others as you do, but we can't. We've erected walls built upon our biases, fears, and insecurities that keep us apart. Forgive us that we cannot love as unconditionally as you. Help us take down those walls so we may welcome the stranger and truly be one community together.**

*(Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

**We know we fall short in our discipleship. We've confessed our sins before God. We look to God to repent of our sins and transgressions. By God's overflowing steadfast love and mercy, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen**

**\*Choral Response**

**"Gloria Patri"**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

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The Gift of the Word

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**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading**

Jeremiah 23:1-6

**New Testament Reading**

Ephesians 2:11-22

**The Gospel Reading**

Mark 6:30-34

**Sermon**

"Unconditional Compassion"

Pastor Jan

**Special Music**

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Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

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**Call to Offering**

**Offertory**

**\*Offertory Response**

**"Take My Gifts"**

**#562 (NCH)**

**Take whatever I can offer, gifts that I have yet to find, Skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind, things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be: take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.**

