

**Emmanuel United Church of Christ**  
**Welcomes You on this Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**We are warmed by your presence among us this day**  
*Service Liturgy - August 15, 2021 9:30 AM*

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Gathering around the Word

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Our Life Together

The Solemn Declaration

Prelude "I Would Be True" Everson

**\*Hymn "Rejoice, You Pure in Heart" #55(NCH)**

Call to Worship

Leader: As we gather in this sacred moment for a sacred purpose, let us make the most of our time together.

**All: We have come to worship the Lord our God.**

Leader: As we sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, let us make the most of our time together.

**All: We have come to worship the Lord our God.**

Leader: As we respond to the melody in our hearts, let us make the most of our time together.

**All: We have come to worship the Lord our God.**

**Introit "Blessed Be the Tie That Binds" #393(NCH)**

**Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; The sharing of a common life is like to that above.**

**Before our God we come and pour our ardent prayers; Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.**

**Prayer of Invocation**

Call to Confession

**Prayer of Confession (Responsively)**

Leader: Lord, we have lived as unwise people.

**All: God, forgive us for wasting time.**

Leader: We have been foolish.

**All: Jesus, forgive us for not understanding your will.**

Leader: We have filled ourselves with the wine of worldliness.

**All: Holy Spirit, forgive us for not being filled with you.**

Leader: We have forsaken your spiritual food.

**All: Great Triune God of grace, forgive us for not drawing our strength from your bread of heaven.**

Leader: Almighty God, please add to your mighty deeds by forgiving our transgressions.

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

**Choral Response "Break Now the Bread of Life" #321(NCH)**  
**Bless now the truth, dear Christ, to me, to me, as you once blessed the bread by Galilee; Then shall all bondage cease, all shackles fall, and I shall find my peace, my all in all.**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The Lord is gracious to us and gentle. The Lord heals our souls with love. The Lord is merciful, providing spiritual food for the hungry.

**All: We are healed in our hearts and fed in our souls by the forgiveness found in Jesus Christ our Lord. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*Choral Response (sung) "Gloria Patri" #759 (NCH)**  
**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.**

**\*Affirmation of Faith "A Responsive Reading Based on Ephesians 4"**

Leader: There is one hope, one calling, to which we are called.

**All: The hope in our lives is Jesus.**

Leader: There is one hope, one calling, to which we are called.

**All: The call we must answer is God's.**

Leader: There is one faith, one hope, one Lord of us all.

**All: The Lord of our lives is Jesus.**

Leader: There is one baptism, One Father, one Mother of all.

**All: The creator who calls us is God.**

Leader: We are one body, one family, one church

**All: woven by the Spirit with bonds of peace.**

Leader: With Christ's children throughout all of this earth,

**All: we are one body in unity and love.**

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Listening for the Word

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A Time with the Children

Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Readings

Old Testament 1 Kings 2: 10-12; 3: 3-14 New Testament Ephesians 5: 15-20

The Gospel Lesson John 6: 51-58

Sermon

"Moment by Moment"

James Cope

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Responding to the Word

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Call to Prayer

Leader: We are people of all ages who enter this space bringing our joys and concerns...

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

Leader: As one heart is lifted...

**All: May we share its celebration**

Leader: As one heart is burdened...

**All: May we share the pain it knows. In all our joys and in all our concerns, may we be ever mindful of the presentness of God among us and to see the new possibilities of now.**

**Prayer Hymn "Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts" #329(NCH)**

Prayers of the People and **The Lord's Prayer (unison, debts and debtors)**

Call to Offering

Offertory "Close to You" Ritter

**\*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.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**By your grace, Holy God, our gifts become the bread which feeds the hungry, become the water which drought ravaged lands need, become a community for the lonely, become medical missions for those battling disease and worries. By your grace, Holy God, may we offer more and more as you feed us with the Bread of Life. Amen.**

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Bearing the Word into the World

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**\*Hymn of Mission "I Love to Tell the Story" #522(NCH)**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

Leader: Grant us, O Lord, understanding minds that we might know how to live.

**All: Grant us discerning hearts, that we might know the difference between good and evil, and how we might live to please you.**

Leader: Grant us, O Lord, peace and prosperity all our days, to the glory of your name.

**\*Three-fold Amen #812(NCH)**

\*Postlude "Christ, Our Strength and Consolation" Broughton

\*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.*