



Emmanuel United Church of Christ

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

We Welcome You on this

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Service of the Word - September 26, 2021

9:30 AM

The Gathering

Ringling of the Church Tower Bell
Our Life Together
The Solemn Declaration
Prelude

Choral Introit "How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place"
How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord, my God!
How lovely is your dwelling place, is your dwelling place, O God!
(Piano will play once, Soloist will sing once, Congregation will sing once)

Call to Worship

Leader: We will walk this day with you, O God, and you will walk with us,
All: gathering us into a community to pray for one another in all things.

Leader: We will walk this day with you, O Christ, and you will walk with us,
All: calling us to follow you, helping us to set aside all which holds us back.

Leader: We will walk this day with you, O Spirit, and you will walk with us,
All: sending us out, side by side, to serve those cast aside by the world.

***Hymn** "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" #400 (NCH)

*Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, Our Heavenly Creator;
We confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior;
We depend on the guidance of the Holy Spirit;
We seek to live in God's presence according to all God has made known and will make known to us.
We covenant to worship, work, and witness together in the fellowship of Emmanuel United Church of Christ,
For the building up of the Body of Christ and the manifesting of the Kingdom of God on Earth.

***Choral Response** "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.

The Refreshment of Forgiveness

Call to Confession

The Responsive Prayer for Forgiveness

Leader: Creator of us all, we sometimes forget:
All: We forget that we are not alone, we forget that you made us, we forget that we have had help along the way, we forget to ask for what we need.

Leader: Embodied God, remind us that we are surrounded.
All: We are surrounded by the people you have created, and by the many gifts you have given them to share. Remind us of our own gifts, and the ways we may use them in community.

Leader: Suffering Savior, we confess that in our own struggle to survive,
All: We have ignored other individuals and communities. We have forgotten that they too have the right to survive. Make us mindful. Make us compassionate. Help us to see you in one another. In your name we pray
(Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Scripture promises: "Anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven."
Friends, no matter how great our sins, or how far we have wandered from the path, the word of scripture is true...
All: In the name of Christ, in Christ's mercy and love, we are all forgiven and reconciled to God. Thanks be to God! Amen.

A Time with the Children

The Gift of the Word

Hymn of Preparation "Spirit of the Living God" #283(NCH)
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

The Holy Scripture

Psalm 124 James 5: 13-20 Mark 9: 38-50

Sermon

"God's Imprint" James Cope

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts
