



Emmanuel United Church of Christ

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

We Welcome You on this

Second Sunday of Advent

Service of the Word – December 5, 2021

9:30 AM

The Gathering

Ringing of the Church Tower Bell

Our Life Together

The Solemn Declaration

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

***Sung Response**

**Peace waits for us at Advent
Peace waits for us to rest.
Peace waits for our acceptance
of the truth that we are blessed.
In this time of preparation
for the work of co-creation,
for the birthing of a world
of gentleness and play.
Peace is born in us again!**

“Insert

***Lighting of the Candle of Peace**

***Sung Response**

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Peace waits for us to rest.
Peace waits for our acceptance
of the truth that we are blessed.
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for the work of co-creation,
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***The Peace**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

**(As we rise in body or spirit for our opening hymn, we invite you to pass a
“wave” of peace to the people around you!)**

***Opening Hymn**

“Gentle Joseph, Joseph Dear”

#105 (NCH)

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

O God, You have promised to make pathways straight so your people may walk in joyful safety. But in our arrogance, we create dangerous roads, secret ways based on privilege which suit human standards, not yours. Forgive us. You promise a way of justice and equity so that all may dwell in peace. But the valley between rich and poor has become an impassible chasm; We punish the poor. We make them sicker. We make them hungrier. Forgive us we pray.

(Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear this gracious promise: I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God, who sees our flaws and loves us into doing better.

***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.

Listening for the Word

A Time with the Children

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.

First Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

Second Reading

Psalm 85:7-13

Sermon

“What’s For Dinner?”

Pastor Jan

Responding to the Word

Prayers of the People “Make of My Heart a Stable”

(The refrain is played through once, then the people sing. Please join in the response when indicated by the pastor praying.)

Choral Response

#Insert

**Make of my heart a stable,
A house for the holy,
A warm and sturdy place
For hope to live and grow.**

The Prayer of Jesus (debts and debtors)

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.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Lord God, thank you for the blessings you have given us year after year. Help us to wisely use the time, talents, and treasures that you have freely given to us. Lead us, while we remain here on earth, to serve you through all the people around us who are in need. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn of Mission “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” #131 (NCH)**
(Additional verse)

**“But with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song, which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife
And hear the angels sing!”**

***Benediction**

***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.*