

# Emmanuel United Church of Christ

Welcomes YOU on this First Sunday after Epiphany  
We are warmed by your presence among us this day  
*Service Liturgy - January 16, 2022 9:30 AM*



Gathering around the Word

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## Ringing of the Church Tower Bell

Our Life Together

The Solemn Declaration

Prelude

Choral Introit

“Sanctuary”

Insert

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

(It will be played once, Soloist will sing once, Congregation will sing once)

## \*Call to Worship

Leader: No matter how far we wander from you, O God,

**All: your steadfast love finds us.**

Leader: No matter how unjust the world seems to us, O God,

**All: your steadfast righteousness sustains us.**

Leader: No matter how vulnerable our lives seem to us, O God,

**All: your steadfast presence gives us hope.**

Leader: No matter how unloved and uncared for we feel, O God,

**All: you hear our cries and answer our prayers.**

## \*Hymn

“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

#459 (NCH)

## Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

O God, we long to co-create with you the Beloved Community which looks to the common good; privileges all equally, and creates societal systems which celebrate the humanity and the gifts of all. And yet we focus on our differences, envy each other's gifts. Perhaps our sin is a slow wait for justice: We allow the voices of brothers and sisters who do not look like us, love like us, or worship like us to be silenced. We have told them to wait for freedom, justice and equality. We have kept silent in the face of others struggles for full human life. The work for peace and justice overwhelms us at times. To build with God the Beloved Community seems impossible, and we grow weary. We cry Peace, peace,” but there is no peace with us or around us. We find ourselves on the path of hatred and oppression, silence and war. Lord, have mercy.

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

## Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Sisters and brothers, God is at work in us and with us! God has promised: “I will not keep silent and I will not rest until the vindication of my beloved people shines out like the dawn and their salvation like a burning torch. My people shall no more be termed ‘forsaken’ and their land shall no more be termed ‘desolate.’” We remember that you have given your Beloved people a new name: “My delight is in them.”

**All: Thank you, God for delighting in us even now, for forgiving us our slow action, our silence, and our weariness for empowering our work and inviting us once again to create with you the Beloved Community you long for.**

## \*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.

## \*Affirmation of Faith

“The Apostle's Creed”

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.**

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Listening for the Word

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## A Time with the Children

### Choral Response

“Breathe On Me, Breath of God”

#292 (NCH)

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a-new that I may love the way you love and do what you would do.**

### The Scripture Reading

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 36:5-10

New Testament Lesson 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The Gospel Lesson John 2:1-11

**Sermon** "Transforming Love" Pastor Jan  
**Hymn of Faith** "In Christ There Is No East or West" #394 (NCH)

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Responding to the Word

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

**Installation of New Consistory members**

**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**

**O God, we commit to use all our gifts; wisdom, knowledge, faith, prophecy, discernment, hospitality, and finances in the service of acting as co-workers with you and each other for peace and justice to flow like a might stream.**

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Bearing the Word into the World

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**\*Hymn of Mission** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" #1 (NCH)

**\* 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.*