



Emmanuel United Church of Christ
A Congregation of the United Church of Christ
 We Welcome You on this
 Second Sunday of Lent
 Service of the Word - March 13, 2022
 9:30 AM

The Gathering

Ringing of the Church Tower Bell

Our Life Together

The Solemn Declaration

Prelude

Call to Worship

Sung Response

“Insert”

**What in our lives do we dream about for tomorrow, void of sorrow?
 Time spent regretting decisions of our yesterdays, mistakes we made?
 Sometimes we get what we get,
 life disappoints us and yet,
 God is still here and somehow; this faith is good enough. [repeat]**

Calling on God (In an Attitude of Prayer)

A Time with the Children

***Opening Hymn**

“Take Time To Be Holy”

“Insert”

Call to Confession

Leader: Even Jesus got dang frustrated when folks didn’t behave as he would have liked. We probably aren’t receiving death threats from Herod as Jesus was, but our wellbeing could be threatened by the idea that if we just try hard enough, are nice enough, say just the right thing, life will always go our way. We run around in so many directions, trying to herd the chicks into some imagined semblance of perfect formation (have you ever tried to herd chicks). What if we could let go of needing all things and all people to be “just so” and instead learn to dance with the unfolding of that which is not ours to control? Let us take a moment of silent reflection....

Silent Reflection

Leader: Hear this compassionate word from the Letter to the Psalmist: “I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!”

Know that already, God is offering us freedom from feeling alone in fixing what feels oh so wrong with this world, inviting us to let go of the need to be God, so that we might recognize that God is with us, offering courage in difficulty.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

***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

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

Psalm 27

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:31-35

Sermon

“I Hope You Dance”

Pastor Jan

Responding to the Word

Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Jesus (debts and debtors)

Choral Response

“Let the Words of My Mouth”

#770 (NCH)

Call to Offering

Offertory

***Offertory Response** **“Doxology”** **#780 (NCH)**
Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Jesus Christ, our burdens know,
Praise Spirit through whom our hearts grow,
Praise Three-in-One, from here below.

***Prayer of Dedication**
Generous God,
in light of your extravagant blessings—
no matter what the state of the world or our imperfect lives—
we offer our gifts and ourselves,
and know that you transform what we plant
into the produce of love.
Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn of Mission** **“Softly and Tenderly”** **449 (NCH)**

***A Blessing for a Joyfully Mediocre Journey (Unison)**

“Blessed are you who realize there is simply not enough—time, money,
resources.
Blessed are you who are tired of pretending that raw effort is the secret to
perfection.
It’s not. And you know that now.
Blessed are you who need a gentle reminder that even now, even today,
God is here, and somehow, that is good enough.”

***Benediction**

***Choral Response** **“And God Will Raise You Up”** **#775 (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.*