

*you are  
good enough*

## Emmanuel United Church of Christ

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

We Welcome You on this

First Sunday of Lent

Service of the Word - March 6, 2022

9:30 AM

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### The Gathering

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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**

**“Our Lord, You Were Sent”**

**Tune #407 (NCH)**

**Our Lord, you were sent to a place wild and vast**

**To ponder your mission, to pray and to fast;**

**Then hungry and weary, you faced night and day**

**The subtle temptations to turn from God's way.**

**How could it be wrong to want bread on the shelf?**

**To seek, in one's serving, to first serve one's self?**

**But by God's own word you remained ever sure:**

**It's only in God that our lives are secure.**

**How could it be wrong to step out and to dare,**

**To prove with great drama the depths of God's care?**

**But you knew God's word, true since all time began:**

**It's wrong to expect God to work by our plan.**

**How could it be wrong to just once bow the knee,**

**To shake hands with sin to achieve victory?**

**Yet you made it clear that no matter the cost:**

**Your path was obedience, your way was the cross.**

**Our Lord, in your struggle you chose to obey;  
God's word filled your heart and you trusted God's way.**

**Now risen, you save us from sins that destroy;**

**You give us your Spirit, your peace and your joy.**

Call to Confession

*Leader:* We find ourselves hungry for many things that we believe will bring us satisfaction. In today's Gospel, the devil lays a bet that Jesus will jump at the chance for glory, fame, and the quick fix. Who wouldn't? But Jesus keeps up the pithy one-liners long enough that the Tempster just has to slink away. What are the temptations that catch your ear, singing out promises that your life should be more special than it is? What if ordinary life is already holy—as is? Let us take a moment of silent reflection...

*Silent Reflection*

*Leader:* Hear this compassionate word from the Letter to the Romans: “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart... Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Know that already, God is offering us freedom from the temptations of the “not enough-ness” of our time, inviting us to love and revere the seeming ordinariness of the day-to-day so that we might recognize its true beauty.

And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now.

**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.**

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Listening for the Word

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**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

Romans 10: 8-13

Gospel Reading

Luke 4: 1-13

Sermon

“Ordinarily Ordinary”

Jim Cope

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Responding to the Word

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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.**

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Bearing the Word into the World

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**\*Hymn of Mission**            **“Open My Eyes, That I May See”**            **#Insert**

**\*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.*