



Emmanuel United Church of Christ

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

We Welcome You on this

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Service of the Word - May 15, 2022

9:30 AM

Gathering around the Word

Ringing of the Church Tower Bell

Our Life Together

The Solemn Declaration

Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus reminded the disciples

All: Love one another as I have loved you.

Leader: Jesus taught and witnessed to God's love

All: Love one another as I have loved you.

Leader: Jesus encourages us to love each other with tenderness, compassion, and hope.

All: Let us love one another as Christ loved us. Amen

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn

"Come Now, Almighty God"

#275 (NCH)

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Patient God, sometimes we are just too busy for our own good. We pledge ourselves to hectic schedules, demands on time, energy, and resources that erode all too quickly. We seem to be rushing through life. The cries of those in need often go unheeded in our blur of activities which sap our energy, our resources, our spirits. Slow us down a bit, Lord. Remind us again that we are responsible for the care of this world, for reaching out and offering your healing love. Help us to hear the words of patient love that you have for us. Remind us again of Jesus' words to his disciples when he told them that they should love one another as He loved them. May we take time to bear witness to that love in all that we do.

(Time for silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Wherever you are, Christ is with you. You are beloved of God and God's care will always surround you.

All: We will be at peace and rejoice! Amen.

*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.**

Listening for the Word

A Time for the Children of all ages

Choral Response

Tune #517 (NCH)

I need Thee every hour, Teach me thy will.

And thy rich promises in me fulfill.

I need Thee, O I need Thee;

Every hour I need Thee!

O bless me now, my Savior I come to Thee.

The Scripture Reading

Psalter Lesson

Psalms 148

New Testament Lesson

Acts 11:1-18

The Gospel Lesson

John 13:31-35

Sermon

"Take Me Home Country Road"

Pastor Jan

Hymn of Faith

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

#43 (NCH)

Responding to the Word

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (using 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**

Loving God, Holy Vessel of Kindness-

We glorify you by sharing our gifts of love with this community. We celebrate your presence by caring for your creation. May these offerings today nourish a world craving more love, peace, justice and hope. Amen

***Hymn of Mission “I Love to Tell the Story” #522 (NCH)**

***Benediction**

Leader: As the week begins again,

All: May we dance as we celebrate God’s presence.

Leader: May we sing as we proclaim Christ’s love.

All: May we create as we embrace the Spirit’s vision.

Leader: May we love boldly, care radically, and share courageously to glorify the Spirit of God in our midst. Amen!

***Closing Response “God Be With You” #81 (NCH)**

God be with you till we meet again;
By His counsel guide, uphold you,
With His shepherd’s care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.
 Till we meet, till we meet,
 Till we meet at Jesus’ feet;
 Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again...

***Postlude**

* Indicates that all who are able. Please stand. **Bold** print indicates unison reading.

Mission Statement:

The mission of Emmanuel United Church of Christ is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.