



*Emmanuel United Church of Christ*  
*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*  
 We Welcome You on this  
 Fourth Sunday of Easter  
 Service of the Word - May 8, 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: We gather once more as a great multitude from various peoples and places, we've come

**All: Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving honor and power be to our God.**

Leader: We gather once more to shout "Alleluia!" Salvation belongs to the Holy One.

**All: Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving honor and power be to our God.**

Leader: We gather to worship day and night the one who guides us to the springs of life.

**All: Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving honor and power be to our God.**

**Prayer of Invocation**

**\*Hymn "Now the Green Blade Rises" #238 (NCH)**

**Call to Confession**

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

God, we confess that we often let hopelessness have too much power over our lives.

In the face of crisis, our faith has frequently faltered.

In the midst of calamity, our fearlessness has faded.

In the presence of tribulation, our worry has weakened our ability to act justly.

Help our unbelief, O God!

Bring us back to you, Great Redeemer.

Remind us of the unfailing treasure that is in your love and care for all of creation—

For your grace is sufficient, from the valley of death to the tables you've prepared for us. Embolden us, again, and revive our spirits.

*(Time for silent reflection)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News: God believes in us even when our belief in God is challenged. God's grace and mercy abounds.

**All: In God and Christ we are forgiven! 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**

<i>Psalter Lesson</i>	<i>Psalms 23</i>
<i>New Testament Lesson</i>	<i>Acts 9:36-43</i>
<i>The Gospel Lesson</i>	<i>John 10:22-30</i>

**Sermon**

"Are You As Smart As a Sheep?"

Pastor Jan

**Hymn of Faith**

**"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"**

**#252 (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**

**We dedicate these gifts that have been shared for the fortification of the beloved community. Let these gifts do justice in the world. Let them be a sign of our belief in the God who saves, heals, and sets free. Let these gifts, and the works of our hands and feet, be a blessing to all in need. Amen**

**\*Hymn of Mission                    “Jesus Shall Reign”                    #300 (NCH)**

**\*Benediction**

Leader: Let us go forth knowing that we are led by God,

**All:            that we are sheltered by God,**

Leader: that God never leaves nor forsakes us even in the bleakest valley.

**All:            In God, may we hunger and thirst no more,**

Leader: and may a peace that surpasses all understanding abide with us, now and forever more. 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.*