

Emmanuel United Church of Christ

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

We Welcome you on this Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

February 5, 2023 - 9:30 AM

Dr. James Cope, Pastor

Janice Garinger, Pastor In Care



Matthew 5:13-16

The Gathering

Ringing of the Church Tower Bell

Our Life Together

Prelude

The Solemn Declaration

Choral Introit **“Surely the Presence of the Lord”**

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;

I can feel his mighty power and his grace.

I can hear the brush of angels’ wings, I see glory on each face;

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Prayer of Invocation

***Call to Worship**

Call to Worship

Leader: Called to be light,

All: we would carry God’s hope into the shadows of the world.

Leader: Called to be salt,

All: we would enhance the lives of those around us, with joy.

Leader: Called to live in God’s reality,

All: we would welcome everyone as sisters and brothers in faith.

***Opening Hymn**

“Praise to the Living God”

#8 (NCH)

The Refreshment of Forgiveness

Call to Confession

Our Prayer of Confession (unison)

It is true we break your commandments, God of our lives. Much worse, we break your heart when we point the finger at those who are different from us; when we gossip about our friends and neighbors; when we think everything is all about us. Forgive us, Loving God, we pray. We long to know your ways, so open our ears to hear those words we always ignore. We search for you each day, so open our eyes to your wonders so we may see them anew. We would believe in your promises, so fill our hearts with the presence of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

(Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God will show us the way to God’s realm. Gracious, merciful, and righteous is our God of salvation!

All: God rebuilds our lives, repairs our mistakes, and fills our emptiness with hope and joy. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven!

***Choral Response**

“Gloria Patri”

#759 (TNCH)

Glory be to the Savior our mighty God and Holy Comforter; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith**

I believe in an innovative God, who does not wait for us to find ourselves but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.

I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God’s crucial initiative, that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.

I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us, calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.

I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ’s people, called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations as we travel the road towards the “promised land” of God’s future.

Because Christ has called me in this I truly believe. Amen.

The Gift of the Word

A Time with the Children of all ages

Choral Preparation **“Breathe On Me Breath of God”** **#191(RED)**
Breathe on me, Breath of God, Until my heart is pure, Until with Thee I will
one will, To do and to endure.

The Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 58: 1-12

New Testament Lesson *1 Corinthians 2:1-16* Gospel Lesson *Matthew 5: 13-20*

Sermon “What Is Your Mantra” Pastor Cope

Hymn **“Immortal Love, Forever Full”** **#166 (NCH)**

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

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**

All good gifts around us come from you, O God of Light. You have given us life, and new life in Christ. As you have given us gifts, so we offer our gifts that we may be gifts to one another, even as Jesus so taught and lived. Amen.

The Ministry of Prayer

Prayers of the People followed by **The Lord’s Prayer (using debts and debtors)**

The Gathered Go Forth to Serve

***Hymn** **“O Grant Us Light”** **#469 (NCH)**

*Words of Benediction

***Closing Response** **“Lift High the Cross v.1”** **#198 (NCH)**

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim;

Let all adore and praise that sacred name.

Come Christians, follow where our Savior trod,

The Lamb victorious, Christ the Child of God.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim;

Let all adore and praise that sacred name.

*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.*