

# Emmanuel United Church of Christ

## A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

We Welcome You on this Third Sunday of Easter

April 23, 2023 - 9:30 AM

Dr. James Cope, Pastor     Janice Garinger, Pastor In Care



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### *The Gathering*

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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**

Leader: As you walk with us, as we journey together,

**All: Lord, your word fills our hearts!**

Leader: As you speak with us, as your love is revealed,

**All: Lord, your fire burns in our hearts!**

Leader: As we proclaim what we have seen and heard,

**All: may all people be drawn to you, the risen Lord!**

**\*Opening Hymn**

**“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”**

**#230 (NCH)**

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### *The Refreshment of Forgiveness*

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Call to Confession

#### **A Unison Prayer of Confession**

**Heavenly Stranger, our Companion on the Way, we yearn for your loves and grace. We seek your wisdom and guidance. We relish the joy which burns within our hearts when you are with us. Yet, sometimes we would cling to you, hoard the blessings of relationship with you, and not share your love with others. Forgive us, Dear One. Remind us that your love is to be carried throughout the world. Press us to share the hope and joy of your love, so that someone who hungers for spiritual food may be filled by our witness to your grace. Shine the light of your Spirit through us, so that we may show your Way to those who long for peace and help to revive those in whom hope has died. Amen.**

*(Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer)*

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God may come to us, unrecognized, as a stranger. The Risen Christ reaches out to us in unexpected ways as we travel our own Emmaus roads.

**All: May the word of our Still-speaking God continue to burn in our hearts, constantly reassuring us that indeed our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen!**

**\*Choral Response**

**“Gloria Patri”**

**#759 (NCH)**

**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.**

### *The Sacrament of Holy Baptism*

*Kennedi Rose Leitzel*

*Sebastian Wayne Leitzel*

**Hymn of Baptism**

**“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”**

**#325 (NCH)**

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### *The Gift of the Word*

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The Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19

Gospel Lesson Luke 24: 13-35

Sermon

“Glimmers of Hope”

Pastor Cope

Hymn

**“I Greet You, Sure Redeemer”**  
Verses 1, 3, and 5

#251 (NCH)

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*Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts*

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**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**

**Like the disciples of Emmaus, we offer what we have. They offered their company, their table, their bread. We invite you to be with us, Jesus, as we offer you our love, our devotion, these gifts. May our eyes be opened to your holy presence among us, now and always. Amen.**

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*The Ministry of Remembrance and Prayer*

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and **Our Lord’s Prayer (using debts and debtors)**

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*The Gathered Go Forth to Serve*

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**\*Hymn**                                      **“Yours is the Glory”**                                      **#253 (NCH)**

**\*Words of Benediction**

Leader: Go now as those who have met with Christ

**All: in the morning of this day.**

Leader: Go now as those whose hearts have burned within them,

**All: as the Scriptures were explained.**

Leader: Go now as those

**All: who have been touched by resurrection.**

Leader: And may the blessing of God be upon you, body, mind, and spirit, as you leave this place, Amen.

**\*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.