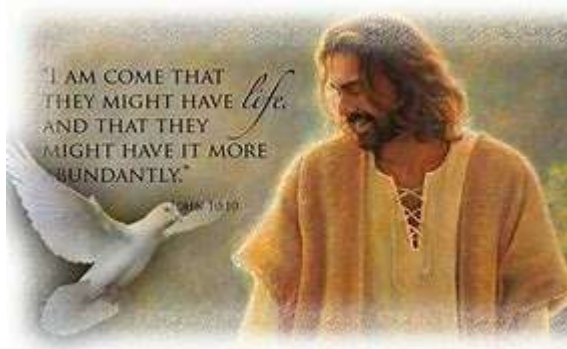


*Emmanuel United Church of Christ*  
*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

We Welcome you on this 4th Sunday of Easter  
April 30, 2023 - 9:30 AM  
Pastor Jim Cope and Pastor Jan Garinger



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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: Hear Jesus’s great truth: I am the gate for the sheep!  
**All: We recognize this voice. We’ve heard these words before.**  
Leader: Come in! You belong here! You are safe and cared for here!  
**All: We recognize the voice of our shepherd.**  
Leader: Follow and find green pastures and still waters!  
**All: We hear His voice.**  
Leader: I come to give life and give it abundantly.  
**All: Come one, come all!**

\*Opening Hymn      “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”      #252(NCH)

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*The Refreshment of Forgiveness*

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Call to Confession

Our Prayer of Confession

Loving Savior, Shepherd with the voice we know, be with us when we stray. For we often hear the voices of strangers and follow them to dry pastures and dark valleys. We forget Your voice of love and begin to feel small and lost. We fear that we will not have enough to go on, much less have a surplus to offer others. And yet You know us by heart and by name. Call us once again. Restore our souls. Walk ahead of us on the right paths, and we will follow You remembering Your voice.

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

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Jesus is our gate.  
**All: We will enter and be saved.**  
Leader: Jesus is our shepherd.  
**All: We will walk upon His paths.**  
Leader: Jesus restores our souls,  
**All: and makes us whole. Amen.**

\*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.

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*The Gift of the Word*

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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      *Psalm 23*  
New Testament Lesson      *1 Peter 2:19-25*  
Gospel Lesson      *John 10:1-10*

Sermon      “Help Wanted”      Pastor Jan

Hymn      “Such Perfect Love My Shepherd Shows”      #248(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**  
God of Abundant Life we devote ourselves and these gifts to Your vision of a community that meets the needs of any and all. We give our gifts of money and work, of prayer and praise, of presence and purpose to our friends and neighbors. Bless our offerings, that it may meet the needs, both small and large, of Your great and generous blessings. Amen

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### *The Ministry of Remembrance and Prayer*

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

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### *The Gathered Go Forth to Serve*

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**\*Hymn**                      **“Take My Life, God, Let It Be”**                      **#448 (NCH)**

**\*Words of Benediction**  
Leader: Everyone was struck with awe by the signs and wonders of the early church.  
**All: This week, let’s show signs and wonders of our church.**  
Leader: The resurrection power of Jesus Christ, Shepherd of the Church, is upon us.  
**All: Jesus came that all may have life and have it abundantly!**  
Leader: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives!  
**All: May goodness and mercy flow from us all the days of our lives!**  
**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.  
**Notice Someone Missing?** *If so give them a call and let them know they are missed.*