

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

We Welcome you on this 5th Sunday of Easter  
May 7, 2023 - 9:30 AM  
Pastor Jim Cope and Pastor Jan Garinger



*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**

Leader: God gives us one day at a time:  
**All: Long enough for laughter to follow any tears;**  
Leader: Deep enough for prayer and silence to dance together;  
**All: Time enough to help someone in need;**  
Leader: Plenty of time to notice beauty and praise the Maker;  
**All: Sufficient time to build a bridge of forgiveness or tear down a wall of resentment;**  
Leader: The right time to embrace friends, smile at strangers, play with children, sing praise to God.  
**All: We praise God for this day we are given!**

**\*Opening Hymn**

**“Be Still, May Soul”**

**#488 (NCH)**

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*The Refreshment of Forgiveness*

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**Call to Confession**

**Our Prayer of Confession**

We confess that we have not loved You as You command us to love. We have not relied on You as our refuge, choosing instead to seek comfort in busyness and distractions. We have not trusted that only when we put ourselves in Your hands can we find the peace we crave. We confess that we have not loved our neighbors as You command us to love. We ignore the pain of those around us. We refuse Your call to care for the poor and the marginalized. We confess that we do not answer Your call to be stewards of creation. We look upon the earth as something to consume instead of tend. We point fingers at others instead of doing what is ours to do. We choose comfort over responsibility. *(Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: When we call, God inclines an ear to us and comes quickly to help us. God’s love is steadfast to rescue us and redeem us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**All: Glory 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.**

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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 *Psalms 31:1-5 and 15-16*  
New Testament Lesson *Acts 7:55-60*  
Gospel Lesson *John 14:1-14*

**Sermon**

*“Do You Have The Time?”*

Pastor Jan

**Hymn**

**“Nearer, My God, to You”**

**#606 (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 overflowing abundance, You feed our spirits with spiritual milk and nourish our souls with heavenly food. You are our fortress and our rock when the snares of this world threatened to overwhelm us. In gratitude for Your mercy and Your many blessings, we offer You our gifts and our ministries, that a wounded world might know Your grace and love. 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**                      **“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”**                      **#439 (NCH)**

**\*Words of Benediction**

Leader: Let us know the Lord gives strength to all who trust

**All: and gives us courage even to be fearless.**

Leader: Let us know the Lord gives us faith even in our doubting

**All: and gives us peace at all times.**

Leader: Let us know the Lord is our stronghold today and always, and may we go forth in hope and with joy.

**All: May our Lord’s many blessings fill us now and always. 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.*