

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

We Welcome you on this 11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 13, 2023 - 9:30 AM

Pastor Jim Cope and Pastor Jan Garinger



*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: Here, in this place, God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:  
**All: here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.**  
Leader: Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:  
**All: here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us, always!**

Leader: Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into the unknown:  
**All: here, in this faith space, we will find the courage to cry out, 'God, save us!' in every situation.**

**\*Opening Hymn**                    **“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”**                    **#304 (NCH)**

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*The Refreshment of Forgiveness*

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**Call to Confession**

**Our Prayer of Confession**

It seems so easy to get into the boat and set sail on our journey, God of Promises. But when the winds of change begin to blow, we want to turn around and head back to the past's safe harbor. When sin's waves crash over the side, we try to wrap ourselves in the cloak of pride thinking we won't get wet. When Jesus calls to us to get out and follow in faith, we look around, hoping he is not speaking to us. Swamped by our fears, and sinking in doubt, we long for someone to help us - so save us, Holy One, save us! Stretch out your hand, so we might be lifted from our despair to hope, from our worries to trust, from our foolishness to faithful living. Then, we will dare to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, even if it means getting out of the sheltered lives, we have built for ourselves.

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

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: In confessing that Christ is Lord, we let go of the past, and turn to God's future. We step out of our fears, and walk into the light and life offered by our God.  
**All: In trusting Christ's resurrection, we trust all of God's promises, letting the Spirit work in and through us, healing and making us whole. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! 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 *Psalm 85:8-13*  
New Testament Lesson *Romans 10:5-15*  
Gospel Lesson *Matthew 14:22-33*

**Sermon** "I'm Afraid Of The Water" Pastor Jan

**Hymn** "Be Still My Soul" #488 (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**

**Lord of sea and storm, of sunshine and meadow, we present these offerings as tokens of our lives in grateful praise for your love for us. Use these gifts for the ministries of hope and justice in this, your broken world. We ask this in Jesus' name. 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** Pastor Jan

**\*Closing Response** "On Eagles Wings" #775 (NCH)

**And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of God's hand.**

#### **\*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.*