

# Emmanuel United Church of Christ

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

We Welcome You on this 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 5, 2023 - 9:30 AM

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



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Gathering around the Word

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Ringing of the Church Tower Bell

## Our Life Together

Prelude

The Solemn Declaration

The Procession of Light

**“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: See how God loves us!

**All: God loves us enough to swallow up death forever.**

Leader: See how Christ loves us!

**All: Christ loves us enough to share our loss and grief.**

Leader: See how the Spirit loves us!

**All: The Holy Spirit loves us enough to offer us words of hope we can trust.**

**\*Hymn “God, We Thank You for Our People” #376 (NCH)**

Call to Confession

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

**We come to you, Listener of our broken lives, with our hands soiled with the pain we have caused, with our ears stuffed with the words of those who speak falsely, with our hearts stained with those lusts and hungers we would be embarrassed for others to know. Forgive us and have mercy on us, Wiper of our tears. As we seek to journey from the baptismal waters towards the feast you prepare in glory, may we turn our faces toward you in every moment, listen to your words in the depths of our hearts, and follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, every step of the way.**

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

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Lift up your heads, saints of God! Your sin is gone, your hands once full of foolishness are now empty. God has clothed you with garments of joy to wear to the feast.

**All: Our former life has passed, our new life in Christ has begun. All things are new – including us! 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.**

**\*Affirmation of Faith “A New Creed”**

Leader: We are not alone. We live in God’s world.

**All: We believe in God: who has created and is creating. Who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God’s presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil. To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

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Listening for the Word

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A Time with the Children and Dismissal to Sunday School

