

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

We Welcome you on this Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024 - 9:30 AM

Pastor Jim Cope and Pastor in Care Jan Garinger



The Gathering

Ringing of the Church Tower Bell

Our Life Together

Prelude

The Solemn Declaration

Choral Introit

“Be Still”

(Solo then Congregation)

Be still and know that I am God; let peace embrace your heart.

Be still and know that I am God; Let fear and anguish now depart.

Prayer of Invocation

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Gather, people of God.

All: We gather here without fear, in the shadow of the empty tomb!

Leader: Look, children of faith.

All: We look without doubt at the wounds in his hands and his feet!

Leader: Worship, children of God.

All: We will worship with joy in the presence of the risen Christ!

***Opening Hymn**

“He Lives”

(Insert)

The Refreshment of Forgiveness

Call to Confession

Our Prayer of Confession

We use a lot of words, Gracious God, but do little to turn them into deeds. Instead of being of one heart and soul, we choose sides and form groups of folks just like us. Blessed with great grace, we have trouble sharing it with those who need it the most. Forgive us, God of love. Forgive us, as we step out of our shadows into your light. Restore us, as we reveal our brokenness. Hear us, as we proclaim Jesus Christ as our Lord and our God.

(Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: When we walk in the light of Christ,

All: we have fellowship with one another.

Leader: When we confess our sins,

All: the One who is faithful and just forgives our sins and cleanses us from all unrighteousness

Leader: For in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,

All: God has showered mercy upon the entire world. 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 Gift of the Word

A Time with the Children of all ages

Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 133

New Testament Lesson Acts 4:32-35

Gospel Lesson John 20:19-31

Sermon

“Can You Believe It?”

Pastor Jan

Hymn

“We Live by Faith and Not by Sight”

#256 (NCH)

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

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**
As we offer our gifts to you, Loving God, remove any doubts about how they might be used, as you offer food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, joy to the grieving, and peace to the broken. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

The Ministry of Remembrance and Prayer

Prayers of the People - The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

The Gathered Go Forth to Serve

***Hymn** **“Listen to Your Savior Call”** **#250 (NCH)**

***Words of Benediction**

Leader: Go now with the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Leader: Go and share your faith and your lives.

All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Leader: Go to proclaim the good news of Easter.

All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

***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.