

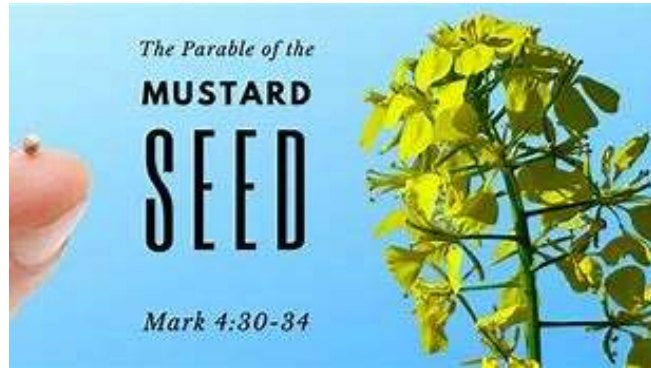
Emmanuel United Church of Christ
A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

We Welcome you on this Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Father's Day

June 16, 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 "How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place"
(Solo then Congregation)

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord, my God!
How lovely is your dwelling place, is your dwelling place, O God!

*Call to Worship

Leader: We believe in the coming of the kingdom of God.

All: **It is a kingdom that will have no end.**

Leader: It is a kingdom in which God's purposes will be fully realized.

All: **It is a kingdom that has already begun.**

Leader: It is marked by small acts of kindness, love and generosity.

All: **It is hidden, quiet and works in ways we often do not recognize.**

Leader: This kingdom will reunite what has been separated and restore what has been broken.

All: **We pray for this kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven.**

*Opening Hymn "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" #459 (NCH)

The Refreshment of Forgiveness

Call to Confession

Our Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you call us to live in mystery, to walk by faith. Yet we long for plans with goals and schedules. It's hard to live by faith. You call us to place our trust in you, to live according to your direction. Yet we want life to make sense from a human point of view. It's hard to live by faith. You call us to feel the mystery of life, to marvel at the power of your love. Yet it's not easy to accept your promise that everything old has passed away. It's hard to live by faith. Forgive us, holy maker of reality. Forgive us for playing god instead of accepting our humanity.

(Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Fear not, for our creator, the loving maker of all reality, forgives us, and redeems us from violence and oppression. God sows the good new in tiny seeds, inviting us to tend the soil of community, and marvel as they grow.

All: **We will nurture the seeds of forgiveness, love, and hope that God has planted within each one of us. 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 1 Samuel 15:34 - 16-13

New Testament Lesson 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

Gospel Lesson Mark 4:26-34

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Seeds Are Secretly Growing"

Pastor Jan

Hymn

"We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed"

#540 (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**
Holy God, magnificent, sustaining farmer of the future, receive these gifts, we pray. Through our offering, help us know in some surprising way that you are bringing into being something wonderful and new. Amen.

The Ministry of Holy Communion and Prayer

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastoral Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Choral Response **“Hear Our Prayer”** **#769 (NCH)**
Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God;
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

The Gathered Go Forth to Serve

***Hymn** **“For the Fruit of All Creation”** **#425 (NCH)**

***Words of Benediction** **Pastor Jan**

***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.*