



Emmanuel United Church of Christ

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

We Welcome You on this

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Service of Word – June 9, 2024

9:30 AM

Janice Garinger, Pastor in Care

James Cope, Pastor

The Gathering

Ringling 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: The Lord’s unfailing love and mercy still continue, fresh as the morning, as sure as the sunrise.

All: We come, trusting God will speak to us; we come, hoping God will surprise us.

Leader: On this day and in the days to come, we seek to follow Jesus.

All: We follow, believing Jesus will be with us; we follow, hoping Jesus will work through us.

Leader: On this day, we lift our souls to God’s Spirit.

All: We open our hearts, that the Spirit may fill us; we open our hands, that we might be a gift to others.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Lord, we are united in our determination to seek your will and to do it. We join together not only with those in this congregation, but with all your followers under whatever name they gather to worship you. In that spirit of unity, we gather this morning as part of your family. Show us your will, we pray, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

***Hymn “Help Us Accept Each Other” #388 (NCH)**

***Affirmation of Faith**

I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under

Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Choral Response “We Are Called to Be God’s People” #Insert
Verse One**

Call to Confession

The Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

From the basements of our lives, we lift our prayers to you, Parent of our hearts. We are convinced we know who our sisters and brothers are, and so ignore those you long for us to embrace. Someone told us once that we had faults, and so we try to live up to their expectations. We are so intent on watching for all that could go wrong, we miss your hope rising just over the horizon.

If you kept a spreadsheet of our foolishness, Creator of your family, we would be in big trouble. But you do not let our mistakes distract you from walking with us in every moment. And so, we hear you calling us by name, and welcoming us into your family of faith, as we seek to follow Jesus Christ, our Brother, into reaching out to all around us.

(Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer)

**Choral Response (please remain seated)
“We Are Called to Be God’s People” #Insert
Verse Two**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hope in God, dear friends. For the One who listens to our prayers is the God who loves us. The One who knows our foolish lives better than we do, is the God who forgives us.

All: This is indeed good news for us. No longer do we need to wait, but can rush into God’s embrace, knowing that God will walk with us even when we stumble. God will continue to affirm us, when everyone else around us tears us down. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

***Choral Response “We Are Called to Be God’s People” #Insert
Verse Three**

The Gift of the Word

A Time with the Children

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 8: 4-20, 11: 14-15

Psalter Reading Psalm 138

The Gospel Reading Mark 3: 20-35

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God. **ALL: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon "Radical Discipleship" James Cope
Hymn "For Everyone Born" #Insert

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**

May the gifts we offer be used, Loving God, to feed our sisters and brothers who hunger for companionship, as well as food; who look for a heart which will welcome them, as much as a place to sleep; who long for those who will accept them as they are, not see them as those who have no worth. Amen.

The Ministry of Prayer

Prayer of the Day

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

The Gathered Go Forth to Serve

***Hymn "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" #400 (NCH)**

*Benediction

***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.*