

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 25, 2020

Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

“Adagio et legato”
By Camille Saint-Seans

Joyce Harris

WELCOME

LET US PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP*

LEADER: O give thanks to the Lord!
The Lord hears the cries of the people.

PEOPLE: Give thanks to the Lord.

LEADER: The works of the Lord are great.
Remember what God has done.

PEOPLE: Give thanks to the Lord.

LEADER: God has done miracles,
and the Lord always remembers God’s covenant.

PEOPLE: Give thanks to the Lord.
Glory and praise is due to the Lord!

OPENING HYMN #4 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”

*Joyful, joyful we adore you, God of glory, God of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of doubt away,
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea.
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, teach us what our praise should be.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come:
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

HYMN #261UMH

“Lord of the Dance”

*I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.
At Bethlehem I had my birth.*

Refrain

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
And I'll lead you all where ever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

*I danced with the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me;
I danced for the fisherman, for James and John;
they came to me and the dance went on.*

Refrain

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 1: 1-5, 21-30

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted

you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

SERMON

“Living with Joy”

Rev. Merlyn Lawrence

HYMN #528CH

“Give Thanks”

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.*

*And now may the weak say “I am strong”
Let the poor say “I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us”,*

*And now may the weak say “I am strong”
Let the poor say “I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us”,
Give thanks...*

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory:

Prayer of Dedication

**Lord, giver of all good gifts,
thank you for the resources gathered here.
Use these gifts for the advancement of your kingdom;
in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

HYMN #27

“From All That Dwell below the Skies”

*From all that dwell below the skies
let the Creator's praise arise,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the redeemers name be sung,
through every land and every tongue
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Eternal are your mercies, God;

*Your truth stands ever high and broad
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore,
Till sun shall rise and set no more,
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Minuets No.s 1, 2 and 3”
from Anna Magdalena Notebook

Joyce Harris

Special Thanks to All the Participants in Today’s Service

Joyce Harris

Dr. Oliver Lawrence

Rev. Merlyn Lawrence

Organist/ Pianist

Videographer

Senior Pastor