

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 6, 2020

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

□ - indicates standing for those who are able to rise in body or spirit)

PRELUDE

“Envia Tu Espiritu (Send Out Your Spirit)

Joyce Harris

By Bob Hurd

WELCOME

LET US PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP*

LEADER: Choose Life.

This is a complete invitation:

PEOPLE: Choose Life

LEADER: This is a complete covenant:

PEOPLE: Choose Life

LEADER: This is a complete invitation:

PEOPLE: Choose Life

GATHERING PRAYER*

**Holy God, We pray that each moment of this day
be filled with the commitment to “Choose Life.”**

**Help us choose to be as fully alive as possible
and to encourage the same for others.**

**We “Choose Life” in the name of Jesus the Christ,
our brother and friend, our Teacher and savior. Amen**

OPENING HYMN#494 CH

“They’ll Know We Are Christians”

*We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:*

Refrain

*And they’ll know we are Christians
By our love, by our love,
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.*

*We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:*

Refrain

*And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

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#568 CH

"Tis the Gift to Be Simple "

*'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,
To turn, turn, will be our delight
Till by turning, turning we come out right.*

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 18: 15-20

SERMON

"Choose Life: Life Giving Ways"

Rev. Merlyn Lawrence

HYMN# 362

"When Love is Found"

Verses 2 and 5

*When love has flowered in trust and care,
Build both each day, that each may dare
To reach beyond home's warmth and light,
To serve and strive for truth and right.*

*Praise God for love, praise God for life,
In age or youth, in calm or strife .
Lift up your hearts! Let love be fed
Through death and life in broken bread.*

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Invitation to Generosity

Prayer of Dedication

**Almighty God, receive these gifts that we offer with grateful hearts
and use us for your ministry in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN#454 “Lord, I Want To Be a Christian”

*Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.*

Refrain

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.

*Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart.*

Refrain

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Piece”
By John Alcock

Joyce Harris

Note: * Our liturgy today is generously and lovingly offered for our use
by the Rev. Kathryn M. Schreiber (Living Liturgies)

Special Thanks to All the Participants in Today’s Online Service

Joyce Harris

Organist

Dr. Oliver Lawrence:

Videographer

Pastor Merlyn Lawrence:

Senior Pastor

