



*Our Father in heaven,
your name be honoured,
your kingdom come,
your will be done*

**Immanuel United Church of Christ
Ferguson, Missouri
July 24, 2022
Pastor Deon A. McKenzie**

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Altar Flowers for Glenn Fox given by the Glenn Fox family.
- Adult Sunday School will be on break for July & August. Will reassume after Rally Day September 11th.
- Coffee & Donuts will be served 9-9:30am and immediate after worship at 10:30am to 11:30am.
- Bon Appetit will be meeting today at 6:30pm at George & Paula Hildebrand's home.
- Quilting 9am on Wednesday.
- BCE Meeting will meet on July 26 at 7pm.
- UP Camp last day will be this Friday, July 29.
- Jean Vortmeier's memorial service will be July 30, 10am visitation and 11am service.
- It's Festival of Sharing time! We rejoice in the opportunity to reflect Jesus in our world through acts of love and humble service. As in past years, Immanuel will focus on collecting the Missouri kits listed below. Kits will be collected August 7 - September 25. All collected kits will be taken to the East Region (St. Louis) Sharefest on Saturday, October 1, 2022.

PRELUDE

Carolyn Rock

***RINGING OF THE BELL and CHIMES**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Nancy Remmert

We gather to rejoice in the Holy One.

Revive us, O God, make us alive in Christ!

We assemble as people called to community by and with the Redeemer.

Restore us, O God, make us alive in Christ!

We come open to the possibilities made new by the Creator.

Revive us, O God, make us alive in Christ!

***HYMN**

“We Gather Together”

#276

***INVOCATION**

Compassionate One, your love sustains us, molds us, and empowers us. May we dwell in that love as you dwell in us—faithfully, joyfully, and abundantly. Renew us as your people grounded in you and flourishing with you. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRIE**

*Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.*

READINGS OF PSALM 85

¹ Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. ² You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin. *Selah* ³ You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger. ⁴ Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us. ⁵ Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations? ⁶ Will you not revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you? ⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. ⁸ Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. ⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. ¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. ¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. ¹² The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. ¹³ Righteousness will go before him and will make a path for his steps.

SPECIAL MUSIC “On Eagles Wings/It Is Well With My Soul”
Phil Lum Violin Soloist

READINGS OF LUKE 11:1-13

11 He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”² So he said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, may your name be revered as holy. May your kingdom come.³ Give us each day our daily bread.⁴ And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.” Perseverance in Prayer⁵ And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’⁷ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.⁹ “So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish?¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion?¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

Just God, we sense your anger at the injustice that thrives in the world. We share your grief at the discord that rages among your children, the rejection of those who bear your image, and the oppression of those you know by name. We turn toward you for strength and guidance to turn away from the norms of this world, the lure of self-righteousness, and the appeal of comfort over justice.

Embolden us to believe that another world is possible and empower us to participate in its creation. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

The One who is holy and righteous makes us holy and righteous. We are participants, heirs, and co-creators of new life found in the redemptive love of Jesus Christ and in the realm of the Holy One which has no end. In this, grace abounds and liberates us to new mornings, new mercies, and new life.

HYMN *“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”* **#585**

SERMON *“Chosen The Better Part”* **Pastor Deon**

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord,
Incline thine ear to us, and grant us your peace. Amen.*

CALL TO OFFERING

Compassion stirs us to generous action and hopeful giving. We share the abundance of our resources and spread the gifts we have received for the good of the world and the work of the kingdom.

***DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God our Companion, receive these gifts as seeds to be nurtured and grown into new abundance, more possibilities, and magnifying gifts for your kindom on earth.

***HYMN**

"Seek Ye First"

#354

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**