



**Immanuel United Church of Christ
Ferguson, Missouri
April 23, 2023**

Order of Worship
Third Sunday of Easter
9:30 a.m.

All hymns are from the Chalice Hymnal
* Please stand if you are able

GATHERING MUSIC *"Surely the Presence"*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"It Is Well With My Soul"* arr. Whitsett

***RINGING OF THE BELL and CHIMES**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Karen Fox

Jesus is with you while you walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus,
Jesus is with us while we walk from Ferguson to Florissant.

We journey with Jesus on the road.

Jesus travels with us on North Florissant.

And yet we could not recognize Jesus

Until we broke bread together,

Until we shared some Sausage and Sauerkraut.

At once, our eyes are opened, and we say:

Oh! Our hearts were burning for that familiar voice!

We had a gut feeling when we are talking stories!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed, praise God, Alleluia!

***HYMN**

"Blessed Assurance"

#543

***INVOCATION (In Unison)**

Holy One, God of many names, be with us while we walk our Road to Emmaus. Be with us as we share a simple ordinary meal with You. Rejoice with us as we recognize You more clearly with each tasty mouthful of familiar food; that You are alive and real in our midst! May we open our hearts along with our eyes to the resurrected Jesus during this hour of worship and beyond, that we become Your Resurrected People of today. Embracing all colors, nations, and races. Amen!

***GLORIA PATRI**

*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.*

READING OF PSALM 116:1-4, 12-19

¹ I love the Lord because he hears my voice and my prayer for mercy.

² Because he bends down to listen, I will pray as long as I have breath!

³ Death wrapped its ropes around me; the terrors of the grave overtook me. I saw only trouble and sorrow. ⁴ Then I called on the name of

the Lord: "Please, Lord, save me!" ¹²What can I offer the Lord for all he has done for me? ¹³I will lift up the cup of salvation and praise the Lord's name for saving me. ¹⁴I will keep my promises to the Lord in the presence of all his people. ¹⁵The Lord cares deeply when his loved ones die. ¹⁶O Lord, I am your servant; yes, I am your servant, born into your household; you have freed me from my chains. ¹⁷I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord. ¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people—¹⁹in the house of the Lord in the heart of Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!

SPECIAL MUSIC

*"When In Our Music
God Is Glorified"*
Sanctuary Choir

arr. Raney

READING OF LUKE 24:13-19, 28-35

¹³That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴As they walked along, they were talking about everything that had happened. ¹⁵As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. ¹⁶But God kept them from recognizing him. ¹⁷He asked them, "What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?" They stopped short; sadness written across their faces. ¹⁸Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days." ¹⁹"What things?" Jesus asked. "The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth," they said. "He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. ²⁸By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus acted as if he were going on, ²⁹but they begged him, "Stay the night with us, since it is getting late." So, he went home with them. ³⁰As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. ³¹Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared! ³²They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?" ³³And within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven disciples and the others who had gathered with them, ³⁴who said, "The Lord has really risen! He appeared to Peter."

***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 (In Unison)**

God of Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, along with these offerings we bring our hope that You continue to open our eyes to Jesus just as You did for the travelers on the road to Emmaus. Help us to see all of creation – the world and all who live in it – through Your eyes. Help us to see and act, listen and pray, feel and respond to Your larger vision of what can be. Help us to grow in You. May our eyes recognize Jesus wherever we are, whoever we are, whoever we are with. Amen.

***HYMN**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

#2

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

*“The Lord Bless”
You and Keep You”*

Lutkin

***POSTLUDE**

“Praise Him With Pipes”

Logan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

· COFFEE & DONUTS will be served 9:00-9:30 a.m. and immediately after worship from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

- CAROLYN ROCK FAREWELL – Today is Carolyn’s last Sunday as our organist and Music Coordinator. Please join us after worship, in the Reception Room, to enjoy cake and wish her well. Thank you, Carolyn, for your ministry to Immanuel! We will miss you.
- YOUTH SUNDAY PLANNING MEETING – Today, 11:00am, Sanctuary, to discuss youth roles for upcoming Youth Sunday; need greeters, ushers, scripture readers.
- YOUTH SUNDAY – Next Sunday, April 30. All youth are invited to participate in our worship service!
- QUILTING – Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m.
- PRAYER AND SHARE – Wednesday, April 26, 10:00am, Library

- WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING - April 30, after worship, Sanctuary
- BON APPETIT - Invites you to join us for dinner and fellowship at 5:00pm on Saturday, May 6th at Sports Cafe, 3579 Pennridge, Bridgeton, MO. All are welcome. Please rsvp to Marian McCreary at mmccre8814@aol.com or 314-291-1867 by May 2nd.
- CAMP MOVAL – Camp registration is open. Immanuel will financially help support our campers. Please register online at www.campmoval.org.
- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Save the date, June 26-30, 9:30am-noon. Many volunteers will be needed.
- ATTENDANCE – Please sign and note your attendance in the black folder located in each pew, towards the center aisle.