

***Sunday, Apr 21, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter***



Immanuel United Church of Christ

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God Is Still Speaking

Welcome to Immanuel

*Who ever you are, where ever you are on life's journey,
You are welcome here.*

Spencer Jones

Music Coordinator

Those serving us this Sunday, Apr 21, 2024

Greeters: Don & Heather Hessler

Ushers: Don & Heather Hessler

Reader: Pastor

Those serving us this Sunday, Apr 28, 2024

Greeters: Bob & Jean Vande Hey

Ushers: Bob & Jean Vande Hey

Reader: Jean Vande Hey

Please pray for:

Beverly Wilfling

Larry Schroeder

Chuck Wolf

Welcome and Announcements

† *indicates congregation is invited to stand*
(Please sign the attendance sheet)

GOD

8

Praise to the Living God

Ps. 84:1-2

Curtis Beach, 1966; alt.

1 Praise to the liv - ing God, the God of love and light, Whose
2 Praise to the liv - ing God, from whom all things de - rive, Whose
3 Praise to the liv - ing God, who knows our joy and pain, Who
4 Praise to the liv - ing God, a - round, with - in, a - bove, Be -

word brought forth the myr - iad suns and set the worlds in flight;
Spir - it formed up - on this sphere the first faint seeds of life;
shares with us our com - mon life, the sa - cred and pro - fane.
yond the grasp of hu - man mind, but whom we know as love.

Whose in - fi - nite de - sign, which we but dim - ly see, Per -
Who caused them to e - volve, un - wit - ting, toward God's goal, Till
God toils wher - e'er we toil, in home and mart and mill; And
In these tu - mul - tuous days, so full of hope and strife, May

vades all na - ture, mak - ing all a cos - mic u - ni - ty.
hu - man - kind stood on the earth, as liv - ing, think - ing souls.
deep with - in the hu - man heart God leads us for - ward still.
we bear wit - ness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

Curtis Beach, born into a family of several generations of ministers, was educated at Harvard University, the Boston University School of Theology, and the University of Southern California. A minister in the United Church of Christ, Beach authored The Gospel of Mark: Its Making and Meaning.

Tune: DIADEMATA S.M.D.
George J. Elvey, 1865

Sunday, April 21, 2024—Fourth Sunday of Easter

Prelude and Ringing of the Bell

Welcome

Welcome and Announcements

Children's Story

Call to Worship (L=Leader; **P=People**)

L: We gather in response to the voice of God, who calls us in Jesus Christ into his flock.

P: We come from our wandering ways to find shelter in the fold of God.

L: Let us worship with glad hearts, praising God for all that we have been given.

Opening Hymn No. 8: "Praise to the Living God"

1. Praise to the living God,
The God of love and light,
Whose word brought forth the myriad suns
And set the worlds in flight;
Whose infinite design,
Which we but dimly see,
Pervades all nature,
Making all a cosmic unity.
2. Praise to the living God,
From whom all things derive,
Whose Spirit formed upon this sphere
The first faint seeds of life;
Who caused them to evolve,
Unwitting, toward God's goal,
Till human-kind stood on the earth,
As living, thinking souls.
3. Praise to the living God,
Who knows our joy and pain,
Who shares with us our common life,
The sacred and profane.
God toils where'er we toil,
In home and mart and mill;

And deep within the human heart
God leads us forward still.

4. Praise to the living God,
Around, within, above,
Beyond the grasp of human mind,
But whom we know as love.
In these tumultuous days,
So full of hope and strife,
May we bear witness to the Way,
O Source and Goal of life.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

We give you thanks, O God, for the shelter we find in your love. Renewed in spirit, we gather to worship you with joyful songs and prayers of thanksgiving. Join us in this time together. Pour out the gifts of the Spirit, that we may be empowered to carry on all that was begun in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen!

Responsive Scripture: Psalm 23 (W=Women, **M=Men**)

W: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

M: He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

W: He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

M: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

W: for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

M: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

W: you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

M: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;

W: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, all of the high priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power, or by what name did you do this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, it has become the cornerstone.’ There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

Epistle Reading:

1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit he has given us.

Gospel Reading:

John 10:11-18

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, I know my own and my own know me. Just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Here ends this reading of the Gospel.

Hymn No. 688: “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.
2. We are Thine, do Thou befriend us,
Be the Guardian of our way;
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Hear, O hear us when we pray;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Hear, O hear us when we pray.
3. Thou hast promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful tho' we be;

Thou hast mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse and pow'r to free:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to Thee;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to Thee.

4. Early let us seek Thy favor;
Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior,
With Thy love and beings fill:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

Prayers of the People and 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen!

Sermon: "Redeemed By Sacrificial Love"

Offering

Unison Prayer of Dedication

We give you thanks, O God, for the love that renews and redeems us, and for this ministry of redemption that you have entrusted to us. Grateful for our partnership with Christ, we bring our gifts and our lives to you. Bless our tithes and offerings, and us in your service, that together we may spread the good news of Jesus Christ throughout all the world. Amen!

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us 688

He calls His own sheep by name and leads them out. John 10:3

> 1. Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us, Much we need Thy ten-der care;
 > 2. We are Thine, do Thou be - friend us, Be the Guard-ian of our way;
 3. Thou hast prom-ised to re - ceive us, Poor and sin-ful tho' we be;
 > 4. Ear - ly let us seek Thy fa - vor; Ear - ly let us do Thy will;

In Thy pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, For our use Thy folds pre-pare:
 Keep Thy flock, from sin de - fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray:
 Thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, Grace to cleanse and pow'r to free:
 Bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, With Thy love our be-ings fill:

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear, O hear us when we pray;
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to Thee;
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still;

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear, O hear us when we pray.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to Thee.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.

Optional segue to "Lead Me, Lord." No transition is needed, but tempo will be faster. ♩ = ca. 120

TEXT: *Hymns for the Young*, 1836; attributed to Dorothy A. Thrupp
 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury

BRADBURY
 8.7.8.7.D.

Closing Hymn No. 495: "Called As Partners In Christ's Service"

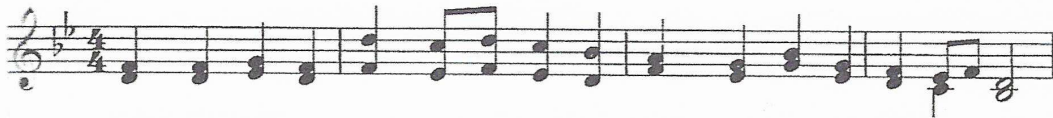
1. Called as partners in Christ's service,
Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring
To fulfill God's chosen end.
2. Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering,
Reconciling folks on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
All God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold.
3. Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens,
Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
Words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action,
Make us colleagues, free and fair.
4. So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace.

Benediction

Postludes

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

495

*Jane Parker Huber, 1981**John 15:12-17; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 2:14-22*

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life



We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 That sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



E-qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 Blend-ing hu-man skills to-gether gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.



One of Jane Parker Huber's most widely sung texts, this hymn was originally written for a women's breakfast at the 1981 Presbyterian General Assembly meeting to celebrate the partnership of women and men in service of the church.

Tune: BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.
 John Zundel, 1855
 For another key, see 43, 368

Office Hours this Week
Pastor's Hours: Tues, Thurs & Fri 10 - 2
Heather's Hours: Tue, Wed(home)Thurs 10-1

Looking Forward

We would like for everyone to please sign the Pew Pads again. This will allow us to know who is at services.

The Food Pantry is open from 12:30-2:30 on the first, second and third Wed of the month. If you or someone you know cannot meet these hours, please talk to Heather or Judy.

Community meal every 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

Apr 21 Council meeting after service

May 8 Community meal 5pm

May 10 Out to Lunch 1pm @ Third St. Diner

EMERGENCY PASTORAL CARE: If you need emergency Pastoral care, call Rev. Tom Fritz at (920-268-5757) Please leave a detailed message. Talk slowly and leave: 1) your name & phone number; 2. which hospital and who the person is and room #; 3. anything else necessary to help him understand the situation. If you need to talk to the secretary, you can reach Heather at 920-734-7843. Any other church concerns, please contact Bob Vande Hey at 920-740-6177.