

Sunday Service for September 8, 2019

LITURGIST: Beth Ciche

A SILENT TIME OF PREPARATION

PRELUDE “Menuetto” -E. Thiman

THE PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #294 “Here We Gather as Gods People”

• CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*) **LITURGIST: This is a day of new beginnings, of new adventures in learning and growing as followers of Jesus. If you are able, please stand with me as we enter a time of worship and growing together:**

One: The Lord is our shepherd, the Good Shepherd. What a breath-taking thought.

All: God makes us lie down in green pastures, God leads us beside still waters. God restores our soul, that we may have life, and have it abundantly.

One: Does anyone else give us so much, and ask for nothing in return except our love?

All: No one, except the Shepherd of our souls.

One: But all we like sheep have gone astray, in a world filled with distractions that will starve our souls to death.

All: But this Shepherd won't rest until every last one is found and brought home.

One: God calls each sheep by name, and we hear God's voice.

All: We've heard our Shepherd, who has found us, and we have come home this morning.

• GATHERING HYMN #90 “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

• PRAYER AT GATHERING (*In unison*) **LITURGIST: Join me in prayer, as we invite God into this gathering, and into our lives:**

Lord of the morning: We have awakened to the freshness of a new day. Your love has kept us through the night, and your Spirit has called to us from the deep places where sleep had taken us, to see and rejoice in the newness of the morning. Awaken our hearts to your presence, that we may leave this place energized and refreshed by your grace. May the brightness of the morning light bring joy to us, that we may be to those we meet a reflection of you, the Light of the world. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

• SILENCE

• THE GLORIA PATRI #35 (*Sung by all*)

**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.

- GREETING OUR FRIENDS IN CHRIST **We are beloved by God and called to share God’s love with all around us: friends, family, and those we meet along the way. So let us greet each other, with words like “peace,” or ‘welcome,” or whatever expresses a heart open to those around you.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #477 “Pass It On” (*Verse 1*)

**It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;
That’s how it is with God’s love, once you’ve experienced it:
You spread God’s love to everyone, you want to pass it on.**

CHILDREN’S TIME

INTERLUDE “Walk With Me” (*Sung by all*)

(Children ages 3 through 8th grade are welcome to join us downstairs for Sunday School.)

**Walk with me; I will walk with you,
And build the land that God has planned,
Where love shines through.**

(Ushers will collect prayer cards at this time.)

SCRIPTURE

First Reading:	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	<i>(page 186)</i>
	Luke 14:15-23	<i>(page 77)</i>
Second Reading:	Psalms 1	<i>(page 489)</i>
	Philemon 1:1-21	<i>(page 215)</i>

SERMON Rev. Dale Stohre

IN RESPONSE (*In unison*)

**This is what we are about: we plant the seeds that one day will grow.
We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development.
We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.
We cannot do everything, but we will do something, and, do it very well,
a beginning, a step along the way,
an opportunity for the grace of God to enter and do the rest.
We may never see the end results, but that is the difference
between the master builder and the worker.
We are workers, not master builders;
we are prophets of a future not our own.**

CHORAL ANTHEM “Sing a Song!” -H. Livingston, Jr.

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER (*In unison*)

**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.**

OFFERTORY INVITATION

**God has overwhelmed us with mercy and grace, for at the time of our greatest need,
God surprised us with love. We now respond with gratitude, as out of our
abundance, we offer resources to continue the ministry of Christ, within and beyond
Emanuel Church. For Christ's name and God's glory, we now present our gifts.**

OFFERTORY "O for a Closer Walk with God" -arr. G. Young

• OFFERTORY RESPONSE "Doxology" (*Sung by all*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

• DEDICATION OF GIFTS (*In unison*) (*A Prayer of St. Francis*)

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace;
Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

• SENDING HYMN #714 "For the Fruit of All Creation"

• COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

• MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE "Majestic March" -R. R. Peery

Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve

*Our time of worship concludes at the end of the Postlude. If you would like to remain in the sanctuary to listen to this music written and played to glorify God, please do so quietly. Otherwise, you may join others in the narthex for refreshments and fellowship. Emanuel now offers online giving with the **GIVE+** program. For more details, please contact the church office or log on to our webpage emanuel-ucc.org and click on the **GIVE+** icon at the bottom of the page.*

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.