

# Emmanuel United Church of Christ

Valley City, OH

January 10, 2021 - First Sunday after the Epiphany

Rev. Brian Burke, Interim Minister

Mike Moats, pianist

Pam Nolan, worship leader

- Online at [facebook.com/euccvalleycity](https://www.facebook.com/euccvalleycity) or join the Zoom meeting at 10:00 AM <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88036581713?pwd=djlpUjQvL2VHM29XM2hUSVhwYXZrUT09>
- Have a cup or small bowl of water prepared to participate in the Affirmation of Baptism this morning
- Text or email prayer requests to Pastor Brian at [euccpastor@gmail.com](mailto:euccpastor@gmail.com)
- Please remember to send in your offerings of church support.

## WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

### WORDS OF WELCOME

### WE GATHER IN SONG

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

From: *NEW CENTURY HYMNAL* #492, Copyright © 1995 by Pilgrim Press

*O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; remain forever near me, my Savior and my Friend. I shall not fear life's struggles if you are by my side, nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.*

*O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will. O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control. O speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul.*

*O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory, your servant shall be, too. And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; O give me grace to follow my Savior and my Friend.*

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Leader: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Leader: Baptized to begin lives of faith,

**People: we would witness to all God does in our communities, in our midst, in our world.**

Leader: Baptized to serve,

**People: we would speak up for the voiceless, we would bring justice to those who have none.**

Leader: Baptized to speak,

**People: we would heal, and not hurt; we would bless, and not curse.**

Leader: Baptized to do what is right,

**People: we would not play favorites, but treat each as God's Beloved.**

Leader: Baptized to be God's children,

**People: we gather in this moment to offer God our praise and worship.**

## **WE AFFIRM GOD'S PRESENCE**

*"Surely the Presence of the Lord Is In This Place"*

From: *SING JOYFULLY* #146 Copyright © 1989 by Tabernacle Publishing Co.

***Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his mighty power and his grace. I can hear the brush of angel's wings, I see glory on each face. Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.***

## **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

### **CENTERING PRAYER**

**Almighty God, parent of all who call upon your name, in the waters of baptism you have transformed us, marking us as your children, and recreating us through the work of your Son and the power of the Holy Spirit. Shower us once more with your grace that we might be renewed in your spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

### **THE WORD IN SCRIPTURE**

Acts 19:1-7    Mark 1:4-11

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

### **RESPONDING IN SONG**

*"Just As I Am"*

From: *NEW CENTURY HYMNAL* #207, Copyright © 1995 by Pilgrim Press

***Just as I am, without one plea but that your blood was shed for me. And that you called inviting me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.***

***Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings and fears within without. O Lamb of God, I come, I come.***

***Just as I am, you will receive – will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve. Because your promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.***

***Just as I am, your love unknown has broken every barrier down. Now to be yours, and yours alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.***

### **RESPONDING BY AFFIRMING OUR BAPTISMS**

#### **BLESSING THE WATER**

**By your Holy Spirit, gracious God, bless this water that by it we may be**

**reminded of our baptisms into Jesus Christ, and that we may be kept faithful until you receive us at last in your eternal home. Amen.**

#### **RECOMMITTING TO OUR BAPTISMS**

**We have been baptized into Christ. The life we once lived shared his death and was buried with him. When Christ was raised from death by the glorious power of God, we too were raised so that we might live a new life.**

**So now we pledge ourselves again to live out the fullness of our baptism.**

**With God's help, we will continue in the community of faith, in the apostle's teaching, and in the breaking of bread, and the prayers.**

**With God's help, we will continue to seek Christ in all people, and to love our neighbor as our self.**

**With God's help, we will do our part that this nation might be saved from the discord and hatred that led to the desecration of our Capitol building this week.**

**With God's help, we will be saved into God's unconditional love through the hope of the angelic chorus which sang out to the shepherds abiding in the field, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward all."**

**With God's help, we will continue to proclaim and live the good news, to work and pray for justice and peace, and to respect the dignity of all.**

**This is our pledge. For to this we were baptized and, in baptism, to this we were called and claimed by God. Amen.**

#### **RESPONDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **RESPONDING WITH OUR GIFTS**

**Gracious God, we come today with joy for Christ's baptism; we come with praise for your glory; we come with gratitude for your love. As we offer these gifts to you, send your Spirit upon us, that our hands and our hearts may do your work in the world. As we offer our lives to you anew, bless us with your strength, that we may join with you to work for the blessing of peace throughout the world. Amen.**

### **WE DEPART TO DO GOD'S WORK**

#### **WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD WITH GOD'S BLESSING**

#### **WE SING TO GOD**

**"God of Our Life"**

**From: *SING JOYFULLY* #409 Copyright © 1989 by Tabernacle Publishing Co.**

***God of our life, through all the circling years, we trust in you. In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, your hand we view. With each new day, when morning lifts the veil, we own your mercies, Lord, which never fail.***

***God of the past, our times are in your hand; with us abide. Lead us by faith to hope's true Promised Land; be now our guide. With you to bless, the darkness shines as light, and faith's fair vision changes into sight.***

***God of the coming years, through paths unknown we follow you. When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone – our faith renew. Be now for us in life our daily bread, our heart's true home when all our years have sped.***



### **Please Keep our Church Family in Prayer...**

Bette Benko, Grace Hammon, Bill Hunter, Bob Leibold, Betty Lewis, Ralph Lewis, Jennifer Luf, Jim Phillips, Wally Piovarchy, Linda Polansky, and Ken Spero

### ***...As well as friends and family***

Russ Wise, Pete Stroth, Penny Mason, Nancy Visintainer, and Christopher & Christina Phares and Family

### **Looking Ahead**

We have just come through Advent and Christmas, yet we are always forward looking. During the upcoming Lenten season which begins with Ash Wednesday on February 17, Pastor Brian will be preaching a sermon series based on "The Last Week", a study of Jesus' last week (what we call Holy Week) from the gospel of Mark authored by two distinguished New Testament scholars. If you would like to read the book for yourself, it is available on Amazon and Kindle, as well as other places.

