



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
110 Boone Street – Bromley, Kentucky 41016

Rev. Kay Young, Pastor

Connect • Grow • Serve

Order of Worship & Liturgy
Sunday – August 7, 2022 – 10:45 AM

PRELUDE: “Cornerstone”

(Performed by Lauren Arnold)

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

(Shirley Pierce & Mike Grimes)

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

(Pastor Kay)

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Laura Reis)

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Laura leads congregation)

Leader: Praise God for mothers and fathers, strangers and foreigners, the faithful of past generations

People: For their trust in God, now entrusted to us, we give God our thanks and praise.

Leader: Thank You, God, for things hoped for, for things not seen. Today You remind us of our covenant.

People: Remind us, O God, and show us Your ways. Help us learn to do good and seek justice always. Almighty Creator, God, we give You thanks and praise for the gift of faith. Amen.

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

*** HYMN: “Great is Your Faithfulness” (No. 139)**

(Laura introduces hymn)

*Great is Your faithfulness, O God, Creator,
There is no shadow of turning with You.
You change not; Your compassions, they fail not.
As You have been, You forever will be.*

*Great is Your faithfulness! Great is Your faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Your hand hath provided.
Great is Your faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

*Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.*

*Great is Your faithfulness! Great is Your faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Your hand hath provided.
Great is Your faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!*

*Great is Your faithfulness! Great is Your faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Your hand hath provided.
Great is Your faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

(Laura leads congregation)

*Gracious God, you have created a world of abundance and flourishing. Every resource, every gift, every product originates from the generosity of your creation and the creativity you have bestowed upon us. Forgive us for misuse and overuse of your gifts. Reveal our miserly attitudes toward the plentiful trove of resources you have entrusted to our care. Sow generosity in us, reveal abundance to us, and enable flourishing through us. **Amen.***

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(Pastor Kay)

Every good and perfect gift comes from above. Grace is such a gift; mercy is another. Transformation and new life descend freely from the Most High to all who would receive it. Receive the assurance of God's grace and compassion as precious treasure made available to all.

*** ACT OF PRAISE: "Gloria Patri"** (No. 812)

*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!*

PRAYER CONCERNS (brief Prayer List updates)

(Pastor Kay)

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Pastor Kay)

*** RESPONSE TO PRAYER: "Our Prayer"**

*Father, hear us as we pray; Guard and keep us day by day;
Help us feel Thy loving care, every day and everywhere.
Help us to be good and true, Jesus' work on earth to do;
All we have with others share, every day and everywhere. **Amen.***

YOUTH TIME & JINGLE OFFERING FOR THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FUND

SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION & READINGS

(Laura)

*Introduction to Scriptures: The author of **Hebrews** comes to us through our experience of faith in Jesus Christ. The once and forever nature of Jesus' sacrifice helps bolster our confidence in the realities of faith, hope and love and provokes us all to deeds of love. **Luke** speaks directly to the world of today where there is so much to fear if we allow fear a foothold: war, the economy, global warming, unemployment, hunger, poverty, homelessness, disease and death. These are realities Luke could not have known are timeless. Luke gives us what we need to sustain us and encourage us and give us strength and faith to deal with it all directly, knowing that God, though unseen, is with us at every turn.*

Hebrews 11:1-3 & 8-16 (NRSV)

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the men of old received divine approval. By faith we understand that the world was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was made out of things which do not appear.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place which he was to receive as an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was to go. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

These all died in faith, not having received what was promised, but having seen it and greeted it from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

Luke 12:32-40 (NRSV)

“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

“Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast, so that they may open to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes; truly, I say to you, he will gird himself and have them sit at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those servants! But know this, that if the householder had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

May God bless the reading, hearing and understanding of these – His holy words. **Amen!**

SERMON: “First Things First”

(Pastor Kay)

*** HYMN: “Take My Life & Let it Be”** (No. 597 verses 1, 5 & 6)

(Laura introduces hymn)

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days -
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my love - my Lord - I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself - and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.

*Take my will and make it Thine -
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart - it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

➤ *Invitation to the Table & Consecration of the Bread and the Cup*

STATEMENT OF FAITH

(Laura leads Congregation)

*We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father, and to his deeds we testify: He calls the worlds into being, creates man in his own image and sets before him the ways of life and death. He seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. He judges men and nations by his righteous will declared through prophets and apostles. In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, he has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to himself. He bestows upon us his Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races. He calls us into his church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be his servants in the service of men, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory. He promises to all who trust him forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, his presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in his kingdom which has no end. Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto him. **Amen.***

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Offering

(Laura)

Luke 12:34 informs us, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Let our hearts direct the use of our resources, our time and our talents. May our generosity meet God's abundance in attending to the needs and hopes of our community. Let us now gather our tithes and offerings.

Offertory Music: "Remnant (Rightful Place)"

(Performed by Lauren Arnold)

* **Doxology** (No. 815)

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, with love, all heavens above.
Praise God, who brings all life and love. **Amen.***

Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

(Laura leads congregation)

*Generous One, please receive the gifts we bring as we return a portion of your treasure to be used to share the gospel in our neighborhood and around the world. Please bless these gifts as you bless the givers, in the name of Jesus we pray. **Amen.***

* **HYMN: "Spirit Song"** (No.384)

(Laura introduces hymn)

*O let the Son of God unfold you
With His Spirit and His love;
Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let Him have the things that hold you,
And His Spirit, like a dove,
Will descend upon your life in Jesus' name.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill Your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill Your lambs.*

*O come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy;
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name.
O give Him all your tears and sadness;
Give Him all your years of pain,
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill Your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill Your lambs.*

BENEDICTION

(Pastor Kay)

POSTLUDE: "This is Amazing Grace"

(Performed by Lauren Arnold)