



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

Rev. Kay Young, Pastor

*Connect • Grow • Serve*

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## Order of Worship & Liturgy

Sunday – September 19, 2021

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**PRELUDE:** *“Here I Am to Worship”* by Tim Hughes; Arranged by Lloyd Larson (Rachel Kramer)

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES** (Mary Hagar & Amy Bensman)

**WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER** (Pastor Kay)

**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Jack Denham)

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP** (Jack leads Congregation)

Leader: Jesus calls us to servant ministry.

**People:** *We must be willing to help others, not counting the cost or rewards.*

Leader: Pretense, disharmony, greed have no place in discipleship.

**People:** *Serving God means receiving each person as though they were a beloved child.*

Leader: Lord, help us to truly become your disciples.

**All:** *Create in us hearts for ministries of compassion and kindness. Amen.*

## **RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS**

(Jack announces hymn)

**\* HYMN OF ADORATION:** *“We Have Come to Join in Worship”* No. 207 (vs 1-3)

*We have come to join in worship*

*And adore the Lord our God.*

*Let us come in prayer, expecting*

*God to speak His mighty Word.*

*All is vain unless the Spirit*

*Of the Holy One comes down.*

*Christians, pray and holy manna*

*Will be showered all around.*

*See them gather all around you,*

*Those He bought at such a cost;*

*See the weary, see the hurting,*

*See the lonely, see the lost.*

*Be His hand, and touch the needy;*

*Be His gospel, let it sound!*

*Be His body, and sweet manna*

*Will be showered all around.*

*Let us love our God supremely;*

*Let us love each other, too.*

*Let us care for all His people  
Till our God makes all things new.  
Christ will call us home to heaven;  
At His banquet we'll sit down;  
Christ Himself will rise and serve us  
Living manna all around.*

### **\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*(Jack leads Congregation)*

We confess that we come to you as imperfect people. We are sinners who need redeeming; we are lost without your love. Forgive us for insisting on our own way. Forgive us for holding you and others at arm's length. Forgive us for not welcoming others as we should. Relying on Jesus Christ as our advocate, we lean into your promised victory over evil, and pray for reconciliation with you. **Amen.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*(Pastor Kay)*

People of God, your sins are forgiven. Know the beauty of our risen Lord's love and faith in you. Let your life now be a witness to all that you have received through him. **Amen.**

### **\* 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** *(Prayer List updates)*

*(Pastor Kay)*

### **PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*(Pastor Kay)*

### **\* RESPONSE TO PRAYER**

*Gracious God of heaven, hear us as we pray.  
Grant us bold creative spirits, this and every day.*

### **YOUTH MESSAGE**

*(Pastor Kay)*

### **SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION & READINGS**

*(Jack)*

*Introduction to Scripture: The book of **Psalms** is poetry. Many are hymns and all are prayers – every word is instructive in character. There are prayers for help and thanksgiving; some are hymns of praise. Psalms is a collection of the wisdom God wishes us all to live. Again in **James**, our church today can hear and learn from the wisdom of the writer of the book to the people in the newly-formed church in Alexandria. The founder, especially in those times, may never get a chance to be with the new church again, so the letters are crucial as tools sent to the fledgling churches. The letters help guide and give them the courage to teach their people about the life of a believer and follower of God.*

### **Psalms 1 (NRSV) – The Two Ways**

*Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.*

*The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.*

### **James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a (NRSV)**

*Two Kinds of Wisdom: Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.*

*Friendship with the World: Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.*

*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.*

### **Mark 9: 30-37 (NRSV)**

*Jesus Again Foretells His Death and Resurrection: They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.*

*Who Is the Greatest? Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."*

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

### **SERMON: "Come, Follow Me"**

*(Pastor Kay)*

### **RITE OF HEALING & ANOINTING**

*(Jack announces hymn)*

**\* HYMN OF INVITATION: "Nearer, My God, to Thee" No. 553 (vs 1, 2 & 5)**

*Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!  
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,  
Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee.  
Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer to Thee!*

*Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,  
Darkness be over me, my rest a stone.*

*Yet in my dreams I'd be nearer, my God to Thee.  
Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer to Thee!*

*Or, if on joyful wing cleaving the sky,  
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I'll fly,  
Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee.  
Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer to Thee!*

## **TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Invitation to Offering *(Jack)*

*All that we have and all that we are comes from God. While we can never repay God's gifts, we can offer what we can to be the face of God's love in the world today, sharing our abundance with others through the work of this community of faith. Let us now gather our tithes and offerings.*

**Offertory Music:** **"God of Wonders"** by Marc Byrd & Steve Hindalong; Arranged by Alex Zsolt

### **\* Doxology**

*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) *(Jack leads Congregation)*

*Generous and loving God, we praise you for the blessings of love and care that we have received and for the opportunity to share them with others. We offer these gifts in joyous response to the blessings we have been given. Bless them in Jesus' name. **Amen.***

*(Jack announces hymn)*

**\* HYMN:** **"Ye Servants of God"** No. 38 (vs 1 & 4)

*Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,  
And publish abroad His wonderful name;  
The name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;  
His kingdom is glorious, He rules over all.*

*Then let us adore, and give Him His right;  
All glory and pow'r, all wisdom and might,  
All honor and blessing, with angels above,  
And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love.*

## **BENEDICTION**

*(Pastor Kay)*

**\* SONG OF GOING OUT:** **"Deep Peace"**

*Peace, peace, deep peace, my peace I give to you.  
Peace, peace, deep peace, my peace I give to you.  
Not as the world gives, I give to you,  
Not as the world gives, I give to you.  
Peace, peace, deep peace, my peace I give to you.*