

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

110 Boone Street – Bromley, Kentucky 41016

Pastor: Tom Daria Liturgist: Bill Doyle

Order of Worship & Liturgy Second Sunday after Pentecost June 22, 2025 – 10:45 AM

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" by Jno. R. Sweney

(Selected and performed by Suan Choi)

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

(Debbie Vater & Debbie Moore)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Bill Doyle)

<u>CALL TO WORSHIP</u> (Bill leads congregation)

Leader: Break down the barriers that divide us, O Lord.

All: Tear down the walls of hostility and fear.

Leader: Melt the barbed wire of anger and hatred. *All: Breathe new life into your people, O God.*

Leader: For we are called to newness in Christ Jesus. *All: We are all brothers and sisters through God's love.*

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who removes obstacles from our paths.`

All: Let us praise God who seeks to unite us in peace. AMEN.

HYMN: "He Touched Me" No.505

(Bill introduces hymn) (Suan)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Bill leads congregation)

Life is sometimes like a giant spider web. We seem to get caught and entangled in its threads, not knowing which way to turn or how to extricate ourselves from the dilemmas in which we are trapped. Lord, you know that so many of these dilemmas and burdens are of our own creation, coming out of our stubbornness and fear. We find it much easier to turn our back on people in need, or just write a check and hope that the problems go away. Forgive us when we decide not to become involved in the solution, when we would rather back off from helping and turn and run for cover. Give us an extra measure of courage and strength along with your forgiving love, that we may again place our whole trust in you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

ACT OF PRAISE: "Gloria Patri" No.812

(Suan)

PRAYER CONCERNS

(Pastor Tom)

PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Pastor Tom)

Lord, we hear the stories in the Bible of Christ's forgiving love. We look at them from a distance, believing that we could never be forgiven by God. We want to measure our sins on a grand scale, but in truth it is the little ways in which we disown you and run from your presence that form the foundation of our sins. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be open to the needs of others. We have so much that we can do, and sometimes, O Lord, we are overwhelmed by the needs. We become paralyzed and fearful. Ease our hearts and give us strength and courage to be active witnesses for you. Give us such faith that we may place our whole trust in you. This day we have brought before you the names of people near and dear to us to be lifted in prayer. Some of these needs are for healing, for comfort, for solace; others are prayers of celebration and joy. All of these things we offer to you. Help us to truly believe in your abiding love in answer to all prayers that we willingly place our

lives in your care. Heal and restore us; for we ask this in Jesus' name. AMEN. AMEN "Our Father, etc.,

RESPONSE TO PRAYER "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

(Suan)

<u>SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION</u>: Then the demons came out of the man <u>SCRIPTURE READING</u> *Psalm 42 and 43* Pages 447-448 in pew Bibles

(Bill) (Bill)

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?" These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help 6and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar. Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts; all your waves and your billows have gone over me. By day the Lord commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life. I say to God, my rock, "Why have you forgotten me? Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?" As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?" Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; from those who are deceitful and unjust deliver me! For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you cast me off? Why must I walk about mournfully because of the oppression of the enemy? O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

SCRIPTURE READING *Luke 8:26-39* Page 841 in pew Bibles

(Pastor Tom)

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"— for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

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

SERMON: "FROM OUTCAST TO APOSTLE: JESUS' TRANSFORMING POWER" (Pastor Tom)

HYMN: "I Love to Tell the Story" No.444

(Bill introduces hymn) (Suan)

TITHES & OFFERINGS:

Invitation to Offering (Bill)

As we gather today to celebrate and give thanks for God's blessings, we are also invited to share our gifts and resources. Your generosity helps support our church's mission to serve and bring hope to others. Let us offer our prayers and offerings with open hearts, knowing that we are part of a community that cares.

Offertory Music: "Softly and Tenderly" by Will L. Thompson arranged by Mack Wilberg
(Selected and performed by Suan Choi)

"<u>Doxology</u>" No.815 (Suan)

RESPONSE TO GIFTS (in unison)

(Bill leads congregation)

Providing, Generous, and Faithful Love, we demonstrate your goodness by offering these gifts. Receive them for the kingdom and increase our impact in this community and the world in your name. Amen.

HYMN: "Just as I Am" No. 488

(Bill introduces hymn) (Suan)

BENEDICTION (Pastor Tom)

God has poured blessing after blessing upon you. You are healed and sent forth to serve in God's world. Go in peace and may God's peace always be with you. AMEN.

SONG OF GOING OUT "Go Out as People of God" sing 2X

(Suan)