



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

Pastor: Tom Daria
Liturgist: Greg Pohlman

Order of Worship & Liturgy – August 31, 2025 – 10:45 AM

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE: *“In Christ Alone”* by Keith Getty arranged by Mark Hayes

(Selected and performed by Suan Choi)

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

(Kipton Pohlman & Jenny Reinhart)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Greg Pohlman)

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Greg leads congregation)

Leader: Jesus said, “Love one another, even as I have loved you.”

All: Love is more powerful than fear; it is mightier than hatred.

Leader: Let the love which God has lavished upon us be poured out to those in need.

All: Help us, O Lord, to witness to you by the ways in which we care for others.

Leader: Remind us, Lord, that we are called to be your disciples.

All: As we worship this morning, heal our hearts and spirits and prepare us for service. AMEN.

HYMN: *“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”* No. 33

(Greg introduces hymn)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Greg leads congregation)

We confess, O Lord, that we love attention. We are pleased when people single us out for something good that we have done, for some outstanding act or trait of kindness that we exhibit. We revel in the light; but the seductive light too often captures us and we seek its brightness and glory and turn our backs on others in need. We have been given many gifts, but have failed to use them to help others and to serve you. Forgive us our vanity and greed. Heal our wounded and aching souls. Place us again on the pathway of peace and hope that is your way to true life. For we ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ. AMEN.

ACT OF PRAISE: *“Gloria Patri”* No. 812)

(Suan)

PRAYER CONCERNS

(Pastor Tom)

PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

(Pastor Tom)

For some of us here today, Lord, we wish the summer would never end. We have enjoyed opportunities to travel, to relax, to break away from schedules and hectic calendars. For others, there is the thrill of entering the new season; looking forward to the challenges ahead. On this Labor Sunday we gather to receive your blessings once again, that we may recognize your presence in our lives and use the gifts that you have given to us in service to others. As we have offered names and situations to you in prayer for your compassionate healing love, we add our names as well. Heal our wounds, we pray. Enable us to be strong in our commitment to you by serving others in need. Keep us open always to your abiding love. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN and Amen. Our Father..

RESPONSE TO PRAYER: *“O Lord, Please Hear My Prayer”*

(Suan)

SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION

(Greg)

But when you give a banquet, invite the poor

SCRIPTURE READING **Jeremiah 2:4-13** Page 610 in pew Bibles

(Greg)

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? They did not say, “Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts

and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

SCRIPTURE READING **Luke 14:1, 7-14** pg.849 in Pew Bibles

(Pastor Tom)

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

SERMON: **"HUMILITY AND HOSPITALITY"**

(Pastor Tom)

HYMN: "Jesus Is Calling" No.482 *New*

(Greg introduces hymn) (Suan)

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Invitation to Offering

(eg)

We are invited to offer our resources, our time, our abilities, our compassion, on days when our lives are full and days when our lives feel empty. We are invited to offer what we have and accept what we need. Our practice [include the ways offering is received in the particular church] is a profound "yes" to the invitation of God.

Offertory Music: **"Here I Am, Lord" with "Have Thine Own Way"** by Daniel Schutte arranged by Mary Macdonald

(Selected and performed by Suan Choi)

"Doxology" (No. 815)

(Suan)

RESPONSE TO GIFTS (in unison)

(Greg leads congregation)

God, we bring these gifts, our response to your invitation. In this giving, we find ourselves not lessened, but newly joyful, truly honored, and deeply fed by your blessing. Amen.

HYMN: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" No.665

(Greg introduces hymn) (Suan)

BENEDICTION

(Pastor Tom)

Beloved of the Lord, go in peace, knowing that God's peace will be with you always. Go in service in God's world, helping those in need, sharing the gifts you have been given. Go in love, bring hope to all. AMEN.

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

(Suan)