

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Organist: Karen Cain
June 13, 2021

Pastor: Rev. Dana Schindler
Third Sunday after Pentecost

“Extending God’s love with the work of our hands and hearts...”

.....
GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

Welcome to worship today at Immanuel United Church of Christ in Hamel, IL. We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us today. No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here! Please leave a comment to let us know you are here. Also note any joys and concerns you may have and feel free to greet each other in Christian love.

Music used is covered under our CCLI livestreaming license # 4012842. Today for our service, you will need your worship guide, a candle to light and paper and a pen.

PRELUDE

Karen Cain

POINT TO PONDER

“You don’t have to hold a position in order to be a leader.” – Henry Ford

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We come this day to hear God’s call for our lives.

All: We are surprised to hear our call to be part of God’s new creation.

One: We pray for strength to answer God’s call.

All: We can do it with God’s help. Amen.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Holy One, we come this day in thanksgiving for your many blessings, given in love for us. We come in praise of your glorious works. We come in hope for renewal of our spirits and our lives. We come, asking what we should do to make changes that are needed in our lives, our community, and our church. We come to hear your call to discipleship. Help us to hear you clearly and follow willingly. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name

304 (NCH)

**All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!**

O seed of Israel's chosen race
 now ransomed from the fall,
 hail him who saves you by his grace,
 and crown him Lord of all.
 Hail him who saves you by his grace,
 and crown him Lord of all!

Let every tongue and every tribe
 responsive to his call,
 to him all majesty ascribe,
 and crown him Lord of all.
 To him all majesty ascribe,
 and crown him Lord of all!

Oh, that with all the sacred throng
 we at his feet may fall!
 We'll join the everlasting song
 and crown him Lord of all.
 We'll join the everlasting song
 and crown him Lord of all.

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART This Little Light of Mine

524 (NCH)

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!**

I grew up singing this song in church. This song tells us that we have a light, just like this candle. Our light in this song means our gift. What gift do you have? What are you really good at? You have at least one. Maybe your gift is that you are smart, or that you are good at drawing, or you play a musical instrument, or that you are kind. Perhaps you are a good dancer or singer. Maybe you are good at talking to people. Maybe you are a good friend. Whatever your gift is, God gave it to you so you could use it for other people to see.

Another verse of the song says "hide it under a bushel, NO, I'm gonna let it shine." This just means that you won't be afraid to let people see your gift. Just like this candle, let your light shine.

PRAYER: Thank you God, for all of your gifts. Help us to always let our light shine for you. Amen.

HYMN**Open my eyes that I may see****# 586 (Chalice)**

**Open my eyes that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!**

**Open my ears that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear,
and while the wave notes fall on my ear,
ev'rything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me,
Spirit divine!**

**Open my mouth and let me bear
gladly the warm truth ev'rywhere.
Open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my mouth, illumine me,
Spirit divine!**

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 15:34–16:13

Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come

with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.” But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

SERMON

“Who Me?”

Rev. Dana Schindler

In this week’s story of “How the Ruler is Chosen,” Samuel, the prophet/priest child who has replaced Eli, the former priest. Eli is the former priest because his children were doing evil things and Eli didn’t stop them, so God sent him on his way and put Samuel in his place. No God is dissatisfied with the King, Saul, who has made decisions that his army wants instead of leading as God has directed. Now God has told Samuel that he is to anoint the next king, who is one of Jesse’s sons.

Samuel is worried that King Saul will bring harm to him, but God has an end-run plan. He tells Samuel to go to Jesse and talk to his sons and God will tell him which one to anoint. So, despite his fear, Samuel does what God has directed him to do. I can only imagine the thoughts going through his head.

Samuel speaks to each son, beginning with the oldest. Each time, God says “no, not him.” Finally, after the seventh “no, not him,” Samuel asks if there are any more sons. Jesse says that there is one more, the youngest, who is tending to the sheep. Like Samuel, this son is very young.

Imagine the surprise of Jesse and Samuel when God says “this is the one! Anoint him!” And David, child of Jesse, tender of sheep, became one of the most famous kings.

He certainly did not hold a position of power, but became a great leader anyway.

Now truthfully, he had his problems. But no one ever considered that this child would be chosen to be king. And still, he became a great leader.

How about each of us? Who here, in the sound of my voice, has been chosen by God to be a leader in this place, at this time. We have each been given gifts by God and are expected to use them, not hide them under a bushel. What gifts do each of us have to use? We have a number of opportunities available to us—some we know and some we may not have thought about.

We need people to greet people.

We need people to help with work in the community.

We need people to work with our intergenerational education program.

We need people to pray.

We need people to invite others to church.

We need people to do planning for events.

What gifts do you have that you could use to help in these opportunities?

God has placed us in this time and in this place to do important work. God has given us everything we need to be successful in spreading God's love to a hurting world. We only have to see the opportunities and step up to use those gifts God gave us. I pray that each of us will use those gifts as God directs us. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Gracious God, thank you for all the gifts you give us. Help us to remember to use them for your glory in the world around us. Push us to use them when we stand back. Give us the confidence we need to step up when the opportunities come to use them.

We offer special prayers this day for those who are ill, in body, mind, or spirit, and ask that you will provide the healing they need. We pray for those who suffer from systems of injustice and from people who fail to love them as you have called each of us to do. Help us to make changes in our systems so that all people can find acceptance and validation in their lives. We pray for our leaders that they may lead while following your will. And we pray for our church, its pastor, leaders and people, that we may all follow where Christ leads us. All these things we pray in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying: **Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, the glory forever Amen.**

GIVING OUR GIFTS

In thanksgiving for the many gifts we have received, let us now consider what gifts we may bring in thanksgiving of God's abundant love. Offerings may be placed in the offering plates outside the sanctuary or mailed to Immanuel United Church of Christ at 5838 Staunton Road, Edwardsville, IL 62025.

HYMN OF THANKS**Take My Life, God, Let it Be**

448 (NCH)

**Take my life, God, let it be consecrated faithfully
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us Lord, when we hide our gifts. Remove our fear and unwillingness. We pray that you will open our eyes, ears and hearts to hear your call. Give us the strength to follow where Christ leads. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE**Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

472 (NCH)

**Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, help me stand,
I am weak, I am tired, I am worn; Thru the storm, thru the night,
Lead me on to the light, Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

CLOSING HYMN*Jesus Calls Us**

171 (NCH)

**Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,
saying "Christian, follow me."**

**In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."**

**Jesus calls us; by thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience,
serve and love thee best of all.**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

PRAYER GROUP will meet Wednesday morning at 10:00 am on Zoom. Invitations will go out to all on our mailing list Tuesday. We will be praying for the health of our church and our friends, family, and community.

PPRC will meet Thursday at 7 pm. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Ruth: officeiucc@gomadison.com
 Pastor Dana: pastoriucc@gomadison.com

CONCERNS

Maria S.	Harry S.	Lillie H.
Kathie R.	Hope S.	Carole G.
Tomiko J.	Wayne S.	Sherri R.
Rose O.	Roger W.	Kathleen L.
Michelle L.	Kristy K.	Dorothy D.
Jane B.	Mary Ann C.	Jake G.
Diane B.	Luella L.	Church Council
Rich	Huber Family	Our Church
Hitz Home workers and residents	Our country as we deal with pandemic	
Pastor Dana, as she leads		

THE BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY in Hamel is open on Mondays from 9:00am till 10:30am. All who need assistance are welcome.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Corn	Green Beans	Peas
Carrots	Chef Boyardee Ravioli	Pie Filling
Pasta sauce	BBQ Sauce	Chili
Mashed Potatoes	Baked Beans	Rice
Evaporated Milk	Coffee	Shampoo
Bars of soap	Dish Detergent	

The honor of your presence is requested for the
 Installation of
 Dana Schindler
 Sunday, June 13 at 3:00 pm CDT
 Immanuel United Church of Christ
 Hamel, Illinois

With restrictions beings lifted, any clergy that chooses to robe and attend the installation are welcome. Please wear red stoles and arrive by 2:30 pm.

Please RSVP to pastoriucc@gomadison.com

The service will also be livestreamed on Facebook @ Immanuel UCC-Hamel

BENEDICTION

And now, until we meet again, may each one be held safely in the palm of God's hand.

POSTLUDE