

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Organist Karen Cain

Pastor: Rev. Dana Schindler

July 3, 2022

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING MUSIC

BELLS RING

WELCOME

Welcome to worship at Immanuel United Church of Christ in Hamel, IL. Where our mission is "Extending God's love with the work of our hands and hearts..."

.....
 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! Those who are worshipping online today are asked to 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.

PRELUDE

Karen Cain

POINTS TO PONDER

"Being all equal and independent, no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty, or possessions."— John Locke, Second Treatise of Government

"May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right." Peter Marshall

CALL TO WORSHIP

"There's Something About That Name" #27 HFoG

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus; there's just something about that name
 Master, Savior, Jesus, like the fragrance after the rain;
 Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, let all Heaven and earth proclaim
 Kings and kingdoms will all pass away
 But there's something about that name

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN

This is My Father's World

6 HFoG

1 This is my Father's world,
 And to my listening ears
 All nature sings, and round me rings
 The music of the spheres.
 This is my Father's world:
 I rest me in the thought
 Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--
 His hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is my Father's world:
 The birds their carols raise,
 The morning light, the lily white,
 Declare their Maker's praise.
 This is my Father's world:
 He shines in all that's fair;
 In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
 He speaks to me everywhere.

3 This is my Father's world:
 O let me ne'er forget
 That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
 God is the Ruler yet.
 This is my Father's world:
 Why should my heart be sad?
 The Lord is King: let the heavens ring!
 God reigns; let earth be glad!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of Grace, we come this day, mindful of our desire for freedom and fairness, but admitting that we sometimes forget about the freedom and fairness desired by others. Help us to see the needs of others as well as our own. Make us more compassionate of others when we prefer to stick by rules that benefit us and not them. Remind us to work for justice for everyone. In Christ's name we pray.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SPECIAL MUSIC

Karen Cain

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

One of the first lessons we learn from grownups is to share what we have with others. What would you do if you had two friends and 6 pieces of candy? What would you do if you had one friend and one piece of cake?

Now suppose that there was a rule that you didn't have to share with girls. If you had 6 pieces of candy and one friend who is a boy and one who is a girl, what would you do?

Our Bible story today is about people who would be sharing land, but the rule was they only had to share with men. Then four women came to say that it wasn't fair that they would get nothing because their father died. What do you think God told these men to do?

Prayer: Loving God, remind us that everything we have is yours and you like it when we share with others. Amen.

HYMN

A Song of Peace (This is My Song)

682 HFoG/NCH 591

**1. This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

**2. My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on clover-leaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
Oh, hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.**

**3. This is my prayer O Lord of all earth's kingdoms,
Thy kingdom come on earth Thy will be done;
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve Him,
And hearts united learn to live as one;
O hear my prayer Thou God of all nations.
Myself I give Thee let Thy will be done.**

**4. This is my song, O God of all the nations.
A song of peace for men in every place;
And yet I pray for my beloved country
The reassurance of continued grace;
Lord, help us find our oneness in the Savior,
In spite of differences of age and race.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS Numbers 27:1-11

Then the daughters of Zelophehad came forward. Zelophehad was son of Hephher son of Gilead son of Machir son of Manasseh son of Joseph, a member of the Manassite clans. The names of his daughters were: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. They stood before Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders, and all the congregation, at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and they said, 'Our father died in the wilderness; he was not among the company of those who gathered themselves together against the LORD in the company of Korah, but died for his own sin; and he had no sons. Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan because he had no son? Give to us a possession among our father's brothers.'

Moses brought their case before the LORD. And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: The daughters of Zelophehad are right in what they are saying; you shall indeed let them possess an inheritance among their father's brothers and pass the inheritance of their father on to them. You shall also say to the Israelites, 'If a man dies, and has no son, then you shall pass his inheritance on to his daughter. If he has no daughter, then you shall give his inheritance to his brothers. If he has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to his father's brothers. And if his father has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to the nearest kinsman of his clan, and he shall possess it. It shall be for the Israelites a statute and ordinance, as the LORD commanded Moses.'

SERMON

Doing the Right Thing

Rev. Dana Schindler

We've talked a lot about the culture of biblical times in relation to how women were treated. Girls were typically promised in marriage around the time they were two or three. Marriage had nothing to do with love and everything to do with maintaining bloodlines and family property. Women were considered property. Unmarried females were not fully accepted by their communities because the primary function of a woman was to have children, especially male children. Their very survival depended on it.

Now the Israelites have finally made it to the promised land and are about to enter. The elders are deciding how the land will be divided up among the tribes.

Zelophehad had died in the desert on the journey. He had four daughters, but no sons. His daughters realized that since their father was dead and they had no brothers and were unmarried, they would not be given any land. They had made the journey just like everyone else. They had made all the same sacrifices and worked just like everyone else. It was not fair that after everything they had endured, they would reach the promised land and receive nothing. So they went to the meeting tent and made their case.

Moses knew the customs and tribal laws, but realized that they had a point. They needed a place to live and it wasn't their fault that they were in this position.

They were part of the tribe and they had been promised freedom too.

So Moses took it to God.

God agreed with Zelophehad's daughters and told Moses that from now on daughters could inherit from their fathers, just like sons.

Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah became the first women to own land, and made it possible for other women to do so as well. They asked for what was fair and did not settle for "the way it had always been done."

It took a long time for things to change as much as they have in modern times. I suspect every woman here has a story of rights we didn't automatically receive that men did.

I got my first credit card in 1974. It was a big deal because even though I had a full-time job and a part-time job, I was single. I applied for a Sears card and was denied. My mother worked at Sears and argued my case, so they let me have the card, but she had to co-sign in case I didn't pay.

I bought my first house in 1980, still single. Every paragraph of the sales contract began with "Dana Livingston, a single female..." It helped that I bought the house from the Lieutenant Governor of the state.

As we celebrate freedom this week, let's not forget that not everyone has the same level of freedom. In our own country, women had to fight for many of the freedoms men have always enjoyed because the systems in place were created by men, for men. The US constitution did not allow for women to own land, vote, or even have a voice in discussions that directly affected them.

Women had to fight for the right to own property, to vote, to work outside their homes. We still fight for equal pay for equal work, for the right to do certain jobs always reserved for men, and now the right to control our own reproductive health has taken a big hit, even though the majority of our citizens disagreed with this move. Our Points to Ponder address these ideas:

"Being all equal and independent, no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty, or possessions." Our independence depends on allowing others their independence regarding their lives, health, and liberty.

"May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right." In consideration of freedom as the opportunity to do what is right, we have to allow others the freedom to do what is right for them. We cannot know and do not need to know what is the right thing for others to do. We can only pray that God will guide them and that they will follow. As we celebrate freedom, let us not forget our freedom to do the right thing that we may all live in peace, with justice for all. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

God of Justice, remind us always that freedom carries with it not only rights, but responsibilities. We are responsible for helping those who need help: those who need resources, comfort, help, acceptance, and love. We live in a world filled with people who have less than we do. Remind us that everything we have is yours and we are called to share when we have more than others. Strengthen us as we work for justice in your name.

We give thanks for the blessings in our lives: for birthdays, anniversaries, healing, and the meeting of our needs. And we come with special prayers for those people and situations that occupy our thoughts. We also remember those who are dealing with health problems and pray for their healing and wholeness as they struggle. We pray that those who deal with loss may find peace and comfort. We pray for our country and its elected leaders, that your guidance may be heard and heeded, that all may live in

peace. And we pray for ourselves, that we may truly be your people, living in holy community. 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, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

**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.**

GIVING OUR GIFTS

We have the opportunity to our abundance with others who have needs. Let us joyfully give that ministries in our community may flourish as we seek to do God's will. Gifts may be placed in the offering plates in the Narthex, mailed into Immanuel United Church of Christ, 5838 Staunton Road, Edwardsville, IL 62025, or by going to our website at iucchamel.org, clicking on the GIVING tab and then clicking on the DONATE button.

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)**

Bless our gifts, O God, and use them to bless others that all may have enough. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN Let Us Break Bread Together # 564 HFoG

**1 Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.**

Refrain:

**When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.**

**2 Let us drink wine together on our knees.
Let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]**

**Refrain:
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.**

**3 Let us praise God together on our knees.
Let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]**

**Refrain:
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.**

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Leader: May God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the God we love.

People: We freely give God thanks and praise.

Leader: It is a right, a good, and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give our thanks to you, Ruler of the Universe, for you bring forth grain from the earth, and fruit from the vine. You make the rain to fall in its season, and the sun to shine, giving light and warmth to all your creatures. By your word, the trees give their fruit, the crops, and grasses flourish, and all your creatures grow in grace. And so, with your creatures on earth and all the heavenly chorus, we praise your name and join their unending hymn, saying:

People: Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in your holy name. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

For on the night of betrayal Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, and said: “Take, eat:

This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way also after supper, Jesus took the cup, and after giving you thanks, gave it to them and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you and many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Prayer of Consecration

Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, and bless us that as we receive them at this table, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things. In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.

Receiving the Elements**Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)**

Gracious God, we thank you for this meal and for all of the ways you nourish us. Grow in us that we may nourish others. Sustain us as we press toward the goal of your call in Christ Jesus. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“God Will Take Care of You”

56 HFoG

1 Be not dismayed whate'er betide,
 God will take care of you;
 Beneath his wings of love abide,
 God will take care of you.

Refrain:

God will take care of you,
through ev'ry day, o'er all the way;
He will take care of you,
God will take care of you.

2 Through days of toil when heart doth fail,
God will take care of you;
When dangers fierce your path assail,
God will take care of you. [Refrain]

Refrain:

God will take care of you,
through ev'ry day, o'er all the way;
He will take care of you,
God will take care of you.

3 No matter what may be the test,
God will take care of you;
Lean, weary one, upon his breast,
God will take care of you. [Refrain]

Refrain:

God will take care of you,
through ev'ry day, o'er all the way;
He will take care of you,
God will take care of you.

AS WE GO FORTH TO SERVE, please remember the opportunities we have.

LUNCH IN THE PARK will begin on Tuesday the 28th. Meet at the church at 11 am to prepare lunch and we will go to the park together.

CHURCH COUNCIL meets Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall.

PRAYER GROUP will meet this Wednesday at 10 am. Please take time during the week to pray for our church, our members/family/friends, our leaders, and our community.

BOOK STUDY will meet Wednesday at 7 pm on Zoom. All are welcome to attend.

SUPPER CLUB meets Saturday at 6 pm at The Other Place. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

WORSHIP TEAM Allen and Karen will be working with Dana to take our music to the next level. We will be introducing new hymns. We are encouraging anyone willing to sing (solos/duets, etc.) or play instrumental solos to let us know. Let your light shine!

VOLUNTEERS are needed for our AV team. Please talk to Mark, Frank, or Ruth to schedule training.

We also need volunteers for Faith Quest in the fall. Please check the sign up sheet on the table and choose a week or two when you can either read/tell a prepared story or supervise an activity.

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

ITEMS NEEDED:

Mayonnaise	Syrup	Pancake Mix
Ramen Noodle	Hamburger Helper	Jelly
Frosting	Mustard	Pasta Sauce
Coffee	Sugar	Flour
Shampoo	Dish Detergent	Toilet paper
Laundry detergent	Also need empty egg cartons and plastic bags	

CONCERNS

Maria S.	Harry S.	Lillie H.
Kathie R.	Martha K.	Carole G.
Tomiko J.	Jamie C.	Rose O.
Roger W.	Kathleen L.	Michelle L.
Kristy K.	Dorothy D.	Jane B.
Mary Ann C.	Jake G.	Rich R.
Dottie	Wayne S.	Roger W.
Stan B.	Sherri R.	Sid H.
Bill	Allen	Judy L.
Lori K.	Luella L	Helen F.
Linda	Rodney S.	Our Church
Our Church Council	People of Ukraine	People of Russia
Those living in violence	Our country as we deal with pandemic and violence	
Hitz Home workers and residents	Pastor Dana, as she leads	

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BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you are able*