



**WELCOME TO EMMANUEL
UNITED CHURCH
Order for Worship
10:00 am Sunday June 25, 2017**

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Reflection as we gather for worship:

"God is saving all of us, no exceptions. We are all saved in spite of ourselves, good and bad alike."

Richard Rohr, SJ

Gathering Music: *Spirit of Life*

VU #381

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

Move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Christ Candle symbolizes the presence of Christ's Spirit, alive in our midst, this day and every day.

Welcome

Welcome to this sacred place of belonging where we embrace the sacredness of life and recognize the dignity of each person, spirit-filled with the image of God, the Mystery in whom we live and move and have our being.

Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, have doubts. Welcome to visitors and to new and old friends.

Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, youth, couples and single people.

Welcome to people of all colours, cultures, abilities, gender identities and sexual orientations.

Welcome to old and young, to believers and questioners – and welcome to questioning believers.

This day, we are all invited to live into God's love, peace and justice.

Life and Work of the Church

Hymn: *I Feel the Winds of God

VU #625

**I feel the winds of God today;
today my sail I lift,
though heavy oft with drenching spray
and torn with many a rift;
if hope but light the water's crest,
and Christ my bark will use,
I'll seek the seas at his behest,
and brave another cruise.**

**It is the wind of God that dries
my vain regretful tears,
until with braver thoughts shall rise
the purer, brighter years;
if cast on shores of selfish ease
or pleasure I should be,
O let me feel your freshening breeze,
and I'll put back to sea.**

**If ever I forget your love
and how that love was shown,
lift high the blood-red flag above;
it bears your name alone.
Great pilot of my onward way,
you will not let me drift.
I feel the winds of God today;
today my sail I lift.**

Call to Worship:

One: On a hot summer day in the dust of a city street,

All: God is there.

One: In a warm summer rain while running for shelter,

All: God is there.

**One: On a beach by the shore where the water sparkles or the waves
roar,**

All: God is there.

One: In a wide-open sky filled with stars past counting,

All: God is there.

One: In a car, singing songs, when the journey's been long,

All: God is there.

One: Here in this place,

All: God is here. †

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

Living God,

we enter this time of worship for we feel you calling to us and urging us to be a part of your family.

We stand with all the people gathered here in hopeful community, choosing to be a place where your generosity and kindness dwell.

Amen.

We Listen For God's Word For Us

(Children come forward while the song is played)

Hymn: Circle Song

Come and join the circle,
come and take my hand.

Gather round and see
what the world can be.

Come and join the circle,
come and be my friend.

Come and join the circle,
come and share God's word with me.

The Young People's Story and Prayer

Hymn: *It Only Takes a Spark

VU #289

**It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing:
that's how it is with God's love,
once you've experienced it:
you spread God's love to everyone,
you want to pass it on.**

**What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees
are budding,
the birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;
that's how it is with God's love,
once you've experienced it: you want to sing, it's fresh like
spring,**

you want to pass it on.

**I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found -
on God you can depend, it matters not where
you're bound;
I'll shout it from the mountain top;
I want my world to know:
the Lord of love has come to me,
I want to pass it on.**

(Children 12 and under leave for summer program)

Prayer for new Beginnings

God, giver of life,
we come into this place as we are, and without pretense.
We take this time to look at ourselves as we truly are.

We come with our imperfections,
our failures, and limited by our fears.
We come grieving our losses
and struggling with our incapacities.
We come with our blind spots and our inflexibility,
our anger, selfishness and hidden agendas.
We come with our conflicts and sadness,
we come because we have been wrong
and have been wronged against.

We come wanting to be vital and authentic
and seeking wisdom.
We come longing for comfort and restoration
and to encounter your love and grace.

Abide with us as we seek strength in our weakness,
healing from our failings
and forgiveness for our wrongdoings.

Hold a moment of silence.

Amen

Words of Affirmation

One: Richard Rohr, said that "God is saving all of us, no exceptions.
We are all saved in spite of ourselves, good and bad alike."

There is no place and no circumstance that will exclude us from the love of God, of this we can be sure. Thanks be to God.

1st Scripture Lesson: Genesis 21:8-21
(from MEV - Modern English Version)

2nd Scripture Lesson: Matthew 10:24-31
(from MEV - Modern English Version)

Anthem: *Nothing Left to Say*

by Angerman/Martin

Sermon: *We are not alone*

Hymn: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

VU #651

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

***Dedication: *Spirit, Open My Heart (chorus)* MV #79**

**Spirit open my heart to the joy and pain of living;
as you love may I love, in receiving and in giving;
Spirit, open my heart.**

***Offertory Prayer**

Prayers of the People

(A clipboard for prayer concerns will be circulated, if you wish, add a line, printing clearly, then pass it on. Also available in the narthex before each service.)

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

**Our Father, Mother 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 trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:**

**for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*** Hymn: *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me***

VU #575

**I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

I'm gonna pray so God can use me

**anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

***Commissioning and Benediction**

***Choral Closing: *She Flies On* (chorus)**

VU #380

**She comes sailing on the wind,
her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun,
she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight,
her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light,
she flies on.**

Postlude

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† *Written by Maggie Watts-Hammond, Gilmore Park U.C., Richmond,
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Ecumenical Prayer Partner: Through every week of the year, our prayers affirm our solidarity with neighbours all over the world. This week we pray for Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay.