

Emanuel Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

241 S. Prospect Street, Marion, OH 43302

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Contemporary Worship *Sunday, May 15, 2022*

**“WHO WAS I
... THAT I COULD HINDER
GOD?”**

ACTS 11:17, NRSV

Rev. Michael L. Poole Jr.

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Mission Statement:

Emanuel: God with Us ~ Loving Christ, Loving Others

Praise Band

Teri Turner..... Director & Keyboard
Tom Schifer Drums/Percussion
Pat Thomas..... Bass/Guitar
Rick Lyon..... Guitar

Praise Chorus

Carolyn Bailey, Nancy Dunnigan, Roger Kerr, Mackenzie Pryor,
Cory Shay, Bethany Rice, Jean Yake

Audio Visual Team

Carolyn Fox, Kelli Hundley, Betty Jo Lill, Christy Penrod,
Matt Primmer, Ed Stofcheck

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2022 is The Year of Vision "See, I am making all things new" Revelation 21:5a

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Welcome and Opening Reading

Special Music

*"Love the Lord"*

Children's Choir

Gathering

*"All Because of Jesus"*

Giver of every breath I breathe, Author of all eternity,  
Giver of every perfect thing, To You be the glory.  
Maker of heaven and of earth, No one can comprehend Your worth.  
King over all the universe, To You be the glory.  
And I am alive because I'm alive in You.  
And it's all because of Jesus I'm alive.  
It's all because the blood of Jesus Christ,  
that covers me and raised this dead man's life.  
It's all because of Jesus I'm alive.

Giver of every breath I breathe, Author of all eternity,  
Giver of every perfect thing, To You be the glory.  
Maker of heaven and of earth No one can comprehend Your worth.  
King over all the universe, To You be the glory.  
And I am alive because I'm alive in You.  
And it's all because of Jesus I'm alive.  
And it's all because the blood of Jesus Christ,  
that covers me and raised this dead man's life.  
It's all because of Jesus.  
Every sunrise sings Your praise; The universe cries out Your praise.  
I'm Singing freedom all my days, Now that I'm alive.  
And it's all because of Jesus I'm alive;  
It's all because the blood of Jesus Christ,  
that covers me and raised this dead man's life.  
It's all because of Jesus. And it's all because of Jesus I'm alive.  
It's all because the blood of Jesus Christ,  
that covers me and raised this dead man's life.  
It's all because of Jesus. I'm alive.

\*Please stand in body or spirit

### Call to Worship

### Psalm 148

- L: Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.
- C: **Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**
- L: Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.
- C: **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**
- L: Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,

- C: who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.**
- L: Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;**
- C: fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**
- L: mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;**
- C: wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**
- L: sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;**
- C: young men and maidens, old and young together.**
- L: Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.**
- C: The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

Song

*"Hear Our Praises"*

May our homes be filled with dancing,

May our streets be filled with joy;

May injustice bow to Jesus as the people turn to pray.

From the mountain to the valley, hear our praises rise to You;

From the heavens to the nations, hear our singing fill the air.

May a light shine in the darkness, as we walk before the cross;

May Your glory fill the whole earth as the water o'er the seas.

From the mountain to the valley, hear our praises rise to You;

From the heavens to the nations, hear our singing fill the air.

From the mountain to the valley, hear our praises rise to You;

From the heavens to the nations, hear our singing fill the air.

## Thanksgiving for Baptism

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L: In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come. We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.

C: **You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

L: O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Song

*"Because of Your Love"*

Yeah, yeah. Yeah, yeah.

As we come into Your Presence, We remember every blessing

That You've poured out so freely from above.

Lifting gratitude and praises for compassion so amazing,

Lord, we've come to give You thanks for all You've done.

Because of Your love, we're forgiven.

Because of Your love, our hearts are clean.

We lift You up with songs of freedom.

Forever we're changed because of Your love.

As we come into Your Presence, We remember every blessing

That You've poured out so freely from above.

Lifting gratitude and praises for compassion so amazing,

Lord, we've come to give You thanks for all You've done.

Because of Your love, we're forgiven.

Because of Your love, our hearts are clean.

We lift You up with songs of freedom.

Forever we're changed because of Your love.

**Interlude**

Because of Your love, we're forgiven.

Because of Your love, our hearts are clean.

We lift You up with songs of freedom.

Forever we're changed because of Your love.

Yeah, yeah. Yeah, yeah.

\*Please be seated.

Offertory & Special Music

## First Reading

Acts 11:1-18

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup>saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup>Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup>"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup>As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup>But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup>But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup>This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup>At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup>The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup>He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup>And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup>If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup>When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

## Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-6

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Song of the Day    *"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"*

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.  
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.  
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,



Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.  
All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son,  
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

### Holy Gospel

John 13:31-35

<sup>31</sup>When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

\*Please be seated

### Sermon

*"Creating a New Tradition"*

Deacon Ann Thomas

Acts 11:1-18

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

### Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius**

Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayers of the Church

### The Lord's Prayer

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 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, forever and ever. Amen.

### Blessing

L: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, † bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

### Sending Song      *"Change My Heart, Oh God"*

Change my heart oh God, Make it ever true,  
Change my heart oh God, May I be like you.  
You are the potter, I am the clay

Mold me and make me, This is what I pray.  
Change my heart, oh God, Make it ever true  
Change my heart, oh God, May I be like you.  
You are the potter, I am the clay  
Mold me and make me, This is what I pray.  
Change my heart, oh God, Make it ever true  
Change my heart, oh God, May I be like you.

### Dismissal

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
L: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

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### **To The Parents of Our Young Children, may we suggest...**

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. **All are welcome!** Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on at the altar. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads. Quietly explain the parts of the liturgy and actions of the pastor, acolytes, choir, etc. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you. If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship. **To the Members of this Church** The presence of children is a gift to the Church and they remind us that our church is growing. Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

"Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7

### **We welcome you here**

No matter where you come from or what you've done, no matter what you're into or what you're looking for, we welcome you here.

Whether you're single or married, divorced or widowed, gay or straight, with children in tow or towed by your children, we welcome you here.

We treasure every color of skin in the rainbow of God's beautiful creation, and when we look at you, we see God's image. We value every cultural heritage as part of God's amazing family, and we know that everyone's body is different. Whatever the shape of yours, or whether it is inked or pierced, you are beautiful in God's sight. We welcome you here.

If you're in over your head, we'll help you breathe. If you're on cloud 9, we'll help you find your feet. If you're caught up in something beyond your control, we'll introduce you to a God who can set you free. We welcome you here.

We welcome Lions and Browns and Bengals, oh my! Whether you wear scarlet and gray or maize and blue, cut-off jeans or button-down shirts, there is room for you with us. We love taxi moms and coaching dads, starving artists and CEOs. Everybody needs Jesus. We welcome you here.

No matter your faith or your doubt, whether you're spiritual or skeptical, if you resist religion or couldn't imagine life without it, we've been there too. We're glad you walked in. We welcome you here.

We believe that every sound from the human heart, from the groaning of the broken heart to the squealing of delight, from the sigh of resignation to the sounds of children laughing, from the rumble of the blues to voices lifted in praise, is the sound of the kingdom here among us. Your voice matters to God and to us. We're glad you've joined us for prayer and praise and hope you will find the promise of your life with God with us.

And when you walk out the door today, let these words resound in your heart until it trembles with glory:

You are a blessed, beloved, beautiful child of God in whom Christ dwells and delights, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, you live safely and securely in a kingdom that has no end!