

**Presbytery of Lake Huron
Service of Word and Table
December 6, 2022**

We Gather

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 146:5-10)

One: Praise the Lord, O my soul!

All: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to God all my life long.

One: Do not put your trust in mortals, in whom there is no help.

All: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,

One: Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

All: The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

HYMN #82 "Come, Thou Long –Expected Jesus"

Prayer of Confession

Lord, you have called us to be your disciples here on earth and promised we would do greater things than even you when you walked this earth. Help us in your name to execute justice for the oppressed; to give food to the hungry; to help the blind to see, the lame to walk, and the mute to hear; and to embody such hospitality as to make strangers, orphans, and widows feel like family. Help us to even love the wicked as your Son taught and lived. Forgive when we do not trust your vision for our world, our church, our lives. Help us to trust you with the impossible – for all things are possible with you! Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

When Sarah laughed in disbelief that she was to bear a child in old age, she was asked, "Is anything too wonderful for God?" Sarah went on to bear a son. For nothing is impossible for God!

The Word

Prayer For Illumination

Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 35: 1-10

Message: "An Impossible Vision" The Rev. Glenn Grant, Presbytery Moderator

HYMN #503 "Lord, We Have Come at Your Invitation"

Offering

A Statement of Christian Faith *(based on "A Brief Statement of Faith")*

In life and in death we belong to God. We trust in the one triune God, whom alone we worship and serve. In a broken and fearful world, we are gifted with courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long left out, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

Invitation

Come, all who are waiting. Come, all who are watching. Come, all who need to know they are included in God's love. Come, all who need to feel God's presence in your life. Come, eat, drink, and accept God incarnate – Emmanuel.

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion/Lord's Prayer

The psalmist reminds us it is you, O God, who executes justice for the oppressed; gives food to the hungry; sets the prisoners free; opens the eyes of the blind; lifts up those who are bowed down; watches over the foreigner, the orphan, and the widow. God, we lift before you these same ones: the oppressed, the hungry, the homeless, those caught in the prison of their own addictions, those who are so depressed they cannot experience your love. We give you thanks that all are welcomed into your kingdom. God before us, God with us, God within us. As we lift our thanks and praise, help us remember that we are your presence in this world, showing the same love and grace to others that we have experienced in Christ, our Lord. And so we pray as he taught us to pray together

Our Father....

Sending Hymn #302 "When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace"

Charge and Blessing

Today's Musician: Wendy Tally