

WE GATHER
35TH ANNIVERSARY OF EMMANUEL
ON THE LAKESHORE!
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 2ND, 2021

Introduction *(Elizabeth Henderson)*

Territorial Acknowledgment *(Elizabeth Henderson)*

Introit: “This is the Day” MV#122

WE ENTER INTO GOD’S PRESENCE

Lighting of the Christ Candle: *(Rev. Roni)*

We are in the Easter season, this is the fifth week of Easter,
we celebrate seven weeks of Easter in total.

The Easter promise is grounded in the resurrection
of Jesus Christ, from death to life,

**we celebrate hope realized during this Easter season,
this hope is graciously extended to each of us by God.**

We light the Christ candle remembering that Christ is Risen Indeed!

We are a resurrection people!

Written by: Bill Perry, Havelock-Trent River P.C. Havelock, Ont., Gathering 2021

Call to Worship:

“Emmanuel United Church shall be a welcoming, caring faith
community, committed to practices of spiritual nurture and sharing
God’s love and grace as experienced in Jesus Christ.”

On this anniversary Sunday, root us and ground us in faith, may we
remain here for a while and abide in your holy presence, O Christ.

May your love be at the center of our welcome, our caring, our
spiritual nurture and our generosity to the neighbours you have given
us. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, may your love be made complete in
us! Come and pray in us Holy Spirit.

Opening Prayer:

Divine Vinegrower, the soil of your love
nurtures the roots of our faith
each and every day.

As we consecrate ourselves into your loving care,
plant us in the soil of your love,
that we may abide in Christ, our true vine,

and bear the fruit of your love and grace.

Give us rain in seasons of doubt and nourish our growth,
that the fruits of our love, one to another, may bless the world.

In your bountiful name, we pray. **Amen.**

Written by: B.J. Beu, the Abingdon Worship Annual 2021

Opening Hymn: “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” VU#333

Prayer of Yearning:

Source of love and life, your glory knows no bounds.

We yearn to set aside our fears,
but we are often afraid.

We long to love our sisters and brothers,
but we often feel alienated from them.

We desire to abide in you as you abide in us,
but we can’t seem to figure out how.

Show us once more how to love.

for only love can cast out fear.

Show us how to abide in your vine,

for only then can we bear fruit

that glorifies your name. **Amen.**

Written by: B.J. Beu, the Abingdon Worship Annual 2021

Words of Assurance: *(Rev. Roni)*

We are invited to slow the pace, to open our hearts, to be still and
remain a while. Jesus is here. Remain in love. Breathe in God who
calls each of us Beloved. Listen to the voice who says “I am well
pleased with you. “Breathe out God who sends us out to declare the
persons along our path as God’s beloved. God sees the best in each
person and declares “I am well pleased with you.” These words of love
are for each one of us. Love empowers us to be with each of God’s
children, building bridges and creating a caring village. **Amen.**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Preparation: *(Rev. Roni)*

Holy Spirit, help us to open our hearts,
to be fully present, so that we might hear what
you are saying to us this day. Bless us
with your presence on the journey. **Amen.**

Epistle Reading: 1 John 4: 7-21

God Is Love

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

One: Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the church.

ALL: Come and pray in us Holy Spirit.

Gospel Reading: John 15: 1-8

Jesus the True Vine

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit,

because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

One: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ!

All: Glory to you O Christ.

Piano Solo: "Abide with Me" VU#436 verses 1,3, and 5
Performed by John Henderson and the (virtual) choir.

Sermon: "Abiding in Christ's Love" (Rev. Roni)

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Announcements: (Rev. Roni)

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Blessing:

Bountiful God, you fill the poor with good things
and cause the hungry to be satisfied.

May these gifts be instruments of your grace
and may our very lives be the means
of spreading your blessings.

May these gifts be for the world
a sign of your boundless love
and your overflowing abundance. **Amen.**

Written by: B.J. Beu, the Abingdon Worship Annual 2021

The Lighting of the Memory Candle

Communion Hymn: "I Come with Joy" VU#477 select verses

The Eucharist Prayer

On this Anniversary Sunday,
the Spirit of God be with you,
and also with you.

Turn to God, the source of life.

We lift our hearts in prayer.

let us give thanks.

We offer joyful thanks to God.

It is the joy of our salvation, God of the universe
to give you thanks through Jesus Christ.
You said, "let there be light,"
and there was light.
Your light shines in our darkness.
For you the earth has brought forth
life in all its forms.

You have created us to hear your Word,
to do your will,
and to be fulfilled in your love.
It is right to thank you.
You sent your Son to be for us
the way we need to follow
and the truth we need to know.
You send your Holy Spirit to strengthen, to guide,
to warn and to revive your church.
Therefore, with all your witnesses
who surround us on every side
**we praise you for your creation
and proclaim with joyful hearts:
Blessed are you, Holy One in Three.**

On the night before Jesus died
Jesus took bread and gave you thanks.
Jesus broke it, gave it to his disciples, saying:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this often in remembrance of me."
After supper, Jesus took the cup and gave you thanks.
Jesus gave it to them saying:
"Drink this, this cup represents my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you, poured out for all, to forgive the sins of the world;
do this often in remembrance of me"

**Therefore, with this bread and wine
we recall your goodness to us.
God of the past and present,
we your people remember your son.
We thank you for his cross and rising again,
we take courage in Jesus's ascension;**

**we look toward his coming glory
and through faith in him we give ourselves to you.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
dying, you destroyed death;
rising, you restored life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Send your Holy Spirit,
that we who receive Christ's body
may indeed be the body of Christ
and we who share the cup
may draw strength from the one true vine.
Called to follow Christ,
help us to reconcile and unite.
Called to move toward our suffering world, give us hope in our
calling. We pray for the fulfillment of your purposes.

**For you, the Heavenly One,
make all things new;
you are the beginning and the end,
the last and the first,
praise, glory and love be yours, this and every day,
from us and all people,
here and everywhere.**

Friends in Christ, it is time
"Jesus Christ the Bread of Life"
"Jesus Christ the Cup of Blessing,
poured out for all"



**Post Communion Prayer:
God of infinite grace and compassion,
we thank you for feeding us at this table.
These outward signs of inward grace, are intended to be
shared with all whom you would have us encounter.
Help us to bear witness to the hope revealed in the Risen One.
We pray, in Jesus' name, Amen.**

SENT TO SHOW CHRIST'S LOVE

Hymn: "One More Step along the world." VU#639

Benediction: (Rev. Roni)

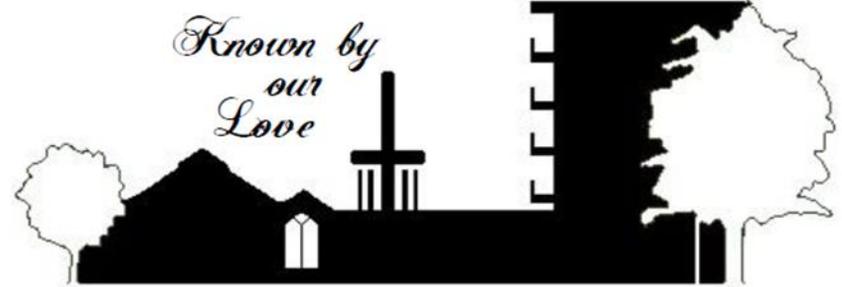
Beloved may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you this day and forevermore,
go and make Jesus's joy complete!
No one has ever seen God, when we love one another,
God's love is made complete.

Alleluia! Amen!

Go now in peace:

Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

Postlude



*Emmanuel United Church shall be a caring,
welcoming faith community, nurturing
spiritual life and sharing God's love
and grace as experienced in Jesus Christ.*

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Please note that Rev. Roni is off Monday & Tuesday.