

**Emmanuel (Baust)
United
Church of Christ**

Service of the Word

April 25, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter



1 The Good Shepherd

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Liturgist

***Greeting**

Liturgist

Leader: With grace flowing, the poet sings the opening lines of the famous prayer, "The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want."

People: We hear the Psalmist's contentment and wonder about our own.

Leader: Settled on the ground, with grass tickling their toes, the psalmist rests, "God makes me lie down in green pastures. God leads me beside still waters. God restores my soul."

People: We hear their deep need for rest and wonder about our own.

Leader: With a deep sigh, the psalmist declares, "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me. You prepare a table before me. You anoint me. My cup overflows."

People: We recognize their bold courage and wonder about our own.

Leader: Remembering God's faithfulness, the psalmist finds words to carry with them, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long."

People: We hear their faithful trust and wonder about our own.

Leader: Holy Spirit of Rest and Renewal, in this time of worship inspire us with words both ancient and new so that we may find the words that connect us to You.

People: Amen and amen.

***Hymn** All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

***Invocation** Pastor

***Prayer for Our Humanity** Pastor

ALL: Holy One, we hear the comforting ancient poetry of the psalmist but wonder, is it true? Will you really provide for what we need? Will you bring us to a place of rest? Will you protect us from enemies, even when they share our dinner table? We confess that rather than being only filled with holy wonder, we are also filled with skepticism at the ancient words. We can quickly tally up the times we didn't feel provided for or protected from danger. We count the times we could not catch a break when we desperately needed it. So

Holy One, shepherd our busy minds back to the here and now, help our spirits forgive the grudges we hold, and invite us to experience You as truly present. In these moments of quiet, offer us rest for a moment.

***Silence**

***Words of Assurance**

Pastor

New Testament Lesson

Acts 4:5-12

Liturgist

Epistle Lesson

1 John 3:16-24

Liturgist

***Gospel Lesson**

John 10:11-18

Pastor

Time with Our Children

Sermon Hymn

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

Thou hast promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to Thee;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to Thee.

Sermon

"The Good Shepherd"

Pastor Jeff

***Statement of Faith for Easter**

Liturgist

ALL: I believe in the God of Easter morning who awakes us from our darkest dreams and leads us into the light of a new day, who meets our pessimism with stunning hope of angelic proclamation. I believe in the God of Easter Day who beats us to the obstacles in our lives and empties the dark tomb for us; who appears in surprising ways when we least expect it; walking with us on our detours. I believe in the God of Easter evening who breaks into our closets and prisons, bringing peace and crushing our fear. I believe in the risen Lord who meets us with wounds on his hands and feet; who grants us his spirit, sending us out to bring Shalom to the world. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor

Our Lord's Prayer (Using debts)

The Offering of Our Gifts

Liturgist

Offertory

***Doxology**

NCH No. 27

Praise the Creator for each day,
thanks for our guide who leads the way;
Preparation. Meditation.
Bathe in discovery, Spirit led,
and live anew in days ahead.
In remembrance. Crucifixion.
Easter promise! Resurrection! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

Liturgist

ALL: Loving God, bless these gifts and all the ways in which we give. May each of our gifts be a part of co-creating and tending to the love, safety, belonging, and dignity You envision for the world. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus 'blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
but wholly lean on Jesus 'name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

Not earth, nor hell, my soul can move;
I rest upon unchanging love.
I trust his righteous character,
his counsel, promise, and his pow'r.

Refrain:

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

* For those who are able, please stand.

1. Duccio, di Buoninsegna, d. 1319. Christ Appears to the Disciples at the Table after the Resurrection, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=49184> [retrieved April 5, 2021]. Original source: www.yorckproject.de.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

Week of April 25, 2021

***Whoever you are and wherever you are
on life's journey, you are welcome here!"***

We extend a warm welcome to each one in worship, whether a member, friend or guest with us today. If you are not currently on our church mailing list to receive the church newsletter and would like to be included, please let us know. Our church website is: ebucc.com

If you use email and would like to receive updated prayer concerns, Church information and announcements please send an email to: office@ebucc.com noting that we may include you in our electronic mailings which include our church newsletter. You may also contact Helen Miller at (410) 848-0923 with information for the bulletin or newsletter.

If you have **prayer requests** that you would like the pastor to mention during the Prayers of the People please email them by Saturday to pastor@ebucc.com.

Altar Flowers are given to are given to the Glory of God by Bob & Helen Miller in celebration of their 51st Wedding Anniversary today.

Bible Study: Bible Study will be held on Thursday, April 29th, at 6:00pm, in the Parsonage. We are doing a four-session study on "Getting to Know Jesus." Session one explored what Jesus was like as an individual. In the second session we will examine what life was like when Jesus was alive. In the third session we will take a look at what the society was like when Jesus was preaching. In the final session, we will take a look at how the timeline from Abraham to the first century CE (AD) leads to the formation of the Christian Biblical narrative of the Christ. This should be both interesting and fun. We are open to comments and suggestions as we develop and explore how it is that the church has come to know Jesus.

Altar flowers 2021 - The remaining unreserved dates for altar flowers for this year are: August 15 and 22, September 5, December 5 and 26. If you would like one of these dates, please contact Susan Hardinger (443-789-0142, shardinger@aol.com).

Special Congregational Meeting: A congregational meeting will be held today after worship to vote on the Audio Video (AV) upgrade. It will be available in person or by Zoom.

The AV Upgrade is a sizable investment for our church. The total cost of the project is \$11,606. To date, we have received private donation commitments that will cover 50% of the projected cost. The company that submitted the bid, SystemSource, has agreed to honor the bid price.

Your Consistory and Pastor Jeff believe this will provide a long-term benefit both to those members of our congregation that are unable to attend Sunday Service in person and to our future membership growth. This is another step in planning for our church's future.

Mother's Day Bulletin: Honor your mother, grandmother, etc. by placing their name in the Mother's Day bulletin. Cost is \$1 for each name in honor of or in memory. They are due by May 2. Names can be given or called to Dotty Smith at (410) 756-2972 or Sandra Stonesifer at (410) 857-0416. They can also be emailed to whsowlalum64@yahoo.com. Checks should be made payable to Baust Aide Society and mailed to Sandy Stonesifer at 2016 Old Taneytown Rd, Westminster, Md 21158. If you are not able to attend church services and are unable to print one, contact Sandy Stonesifer and she will send you a copy.

Baust Literary Society: The group will meet to discuss, "*The Day the World Came to Town*," by Jim Defede on Tuesday, April 27th at 6 p.m. in the parsonage.

Baust Literary Society: The book selected for May is "*The Red Bandana*" by Tom Rinaldi. A Life A Choice A Legacy. He wasn't famous to the world but loved by his family. Little did they now how the events of 9/11 would change their lives. Read it, enjoy it, maybe be inspired.

Baust Literary Society: The book selected for June is "*Tuesday's Promise*" by Luis Carlos Montalvan. War affects warriors in a thousand different ways. As discovered so vividly, the battle back home can be the toughest one. With loyal

Tuesday by his side, Luis teaches his fellow warriors the true meaning of friendship, support, struggle and love. We all need special allies, human and canine. Take a moment to understand this plague called PTSD and hopefully for a moment, allow you to see these apparitions, these ghosts of war.

Contact Information: We have prepared an updated "Baust Church Family and Friends Contact Information Listing - March 2021 edition." We will have hard copies for distribution at worship services and in-person meetings. If you would like to receive your copy electronically, please send an email to Susan Hardinger (shardinger@aol.com). This listing contains address and phone contact information that Baust members and friends have chosen to share.

SOCK Sale: We are excited to host our Spring clothing sale next weekend, April 30th and May 1st. Our sale may look a little different this year, but you will still have the same great shopping experience!

Any Spring and Summer clothing will need to be at the Parish House by April 28th for final sorting and display.

Thank you, Susie Lawrence and Dotty Smith

Strengthen the Church: The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.

Offerings will be received throughout May and dedication to those offerings will be held on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. Look for the bulletin inserts each week in May for stories about how Strengthen the Church funds are being used throughout the UCC.

Thanks in advance for considering to give to one of our 5 for 5 UCC offerings!

Stewardship Committee

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Church Members

Shirley Ecker
Libby Hill
Betty Gross
Bernetta Arrington
Brent Grove
Nancy Edwards
Betty & Dan Heltibridle

Norma Smith
Hank & Anna Dalley
Joan Wantz
Linda Dennis
Gloria Oxley
Sharon & Skeeter Dull

Friends

Cindy Williams
Alice Alpaugh
Steve Ecker
Angela, Jim &
Bernice Ecker

IN GOD'S SERVICE

Pastor: Rev. Jeffry Dull
Cell Phone: (304) 886-1218
Office Phone: (410) 202-8655
Office email: pastor@ebucc.com
Office Secretary: Helen Miller
Home Phone: (410) 848-0923
Secretary's email: office@ebucc.com or
whsowlalum64@yahoo.com
Accompanist: Jen Garner
Consistory Pres: Sandy Stonesifer
Liturgist: Cathy Dull