

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

Service of the Word

May 2, 2021



1 True Vine

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Liturgist

***Greeting**

Liturgist

Leader: As we gather, may we open our hearts to receive newness of life.

People: We come with hope for renewal.

Leader: In our time of worship, may we be inspired by God's wisdom.

People: We come seeking to learn and to draw closer to God.

Leader: Come, let us worship, as the beloved children of God.

***Hymn** "Lord of the Dance"

Green 118

***Invocation**

Pastor

***Prayer for Our Humanity**

Pastor

Pastor: O God, giver of life, we confess the times when we fail to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. God, forgive us when we ignore or we fail to see our neighbors in need. Abiding God, also forgive us when we reject love from others, and shut down completely. We confess the times when we did not tend to our

own needs, and denied ourselves of your forgiveness and grace. In our failures, we have refused your invitation to grow closer to you.

People: In our confession, O God, we pray your abiding love be shown through the ways we love more fully. Amen.

***Silence**

***Words of Assurance**

Pastor

New Testament Lesson

Acts 8:26-40

Liturgist

Epistle Lesson

1 John 4:7-21

Liturgist

***Gospel Lesson**

John 15:1-8

Pastor

Time with Our Children

Sermon Hymn

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

I need Thee every hour,
Most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine
Can peace afford.

Refrain: I need Thee, oh, I need Thee;
Every hour I need Thee;
Oh, bless me now, my Savior!
I come to Thee.

I need Thee every hour,
Teach me Thy will;
And Thy rich promises
In me fulfill.

Refrain:

Sermon

"Feeding Off the Vine"

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 "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"**

Green 698

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

* For those who are able, please stand.

1. True Vine, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54148> [retrieved April 19, 2021]. Original source: Anthrovik, Flickr Creative Commons.

IN GOD'S SERVICE

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Accompanist: Jen Garner
Consistory Pres: Sandy Stonesifer
Liturgist: Bob Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

Week of May 2, 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 in loving memory of William Jacob Maus by daughter Joyce Maus Harrison and Family.

Bible Study: Bible Study will be held on Thursday, May 6th, at 6:00pm, in the Parsonage. We are doing a study on "Getting to Know Jesus." We are open to comments and suggestions as we develop and explore how it is that the church has come to know Jesus.

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 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.

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	Norma Smith
Libby Hill	Hank & Anna Dalley
Betty Gross	Joan Wantz
Bernetta Arrington	Linda Dennis
Brent Grove	Gloria Oxley
Nancy Edwards	Sharon & Skeeter Dull
Madison Barnes	Betty & Dan Heltibridle

Friends

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