

Immanuel United Church  
January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

Prelude (10 mins)

## **Welcome & Announcements**

### **Land and Affirming Acknowledgment**

Today we acknowledge the land  
That we are gathered on is Treaty 1 Territory  
The traditional lands of the Annishnaabe,  
Cree, Oji-cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples,  
As well as the homeland and heart  
Of the Metis nation,  
Who for thousands of years,  
Walked gently on this land  
With deeply rooted gifts of spirituality, culture  
And ways of knowing.

We respect the Treaties  
That were made on these territories,  
Acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past,  
And give thanks for the stewardship of this land –  
In times past and also in the present day.

Today we are called to seek a new relationship  
As indigenous and non indigenous people.  
Creating one based on friendship,  
Built on respect,  
And on that produces peace,  
Remembering that we are ALL treaty people.

As we enter this time of worship,  
The rainbow candle is lit  
To symbolize and remind us

Of the commitment that we have made  
To be an inclusive and affirming community  
And that all God's people belong here.

**Call To Worship:**

God has told you what is good and what God requires.

**What is good? What does God require of us?**

To do justice

**With God**

And to love kindness

**With God**

And to walk humbly

**With God.**

And with God, we worship.

**Centering Prayer:**

Pull on our hearts this day, O God.

Unbind our lives from the conventions of this world,

We pray. Amen.

**Hymn:** VU#381 Spirit of Life

**Prayer Seeking Wholeness:**

Gracious God,

We are called to do justice,

But we do not always respond.

We are called to love kindness,

But there are times when we manipulate

Those we say we love the most.

We are called to walk humbly,

But there are times when we spend

Our days contemplating that which

Sets us above the people who stand in the way

Of our purposes.

We benefit from the power of the powerful  
And the wisdom of the wise,  
And we do not choose to imagine lives changed.  
Forgive us.  
Free us from our dependence on the wisdom and power  
That the world grants.  
Shape us again to be your creatures.  
Welcome us back to the work of righteousness.  
Amen.

### **Words of Grace**

**Sung Response:** VU#701 What does the Lord Require of You

**Scripture:** Micah 6: 1-8  
Matthew 5: 1-12

**Choir Anthem      Be Still and Know**

**Reflection:**

**Hymn:** MV#12 Come Touch our Hearts

**Offering**

**Offertory:** VU#520 We Plough the Fields (V. 3 only)

**We thank you then, O Maker,  
For all things bright and good,  
The seed time and the harvest,  
Our life, our health, our food;  
Accept the gifts we offer for all your love imparts,  
And, what from us you long for,  
Our humble, thankful hearts.**

**All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;**

**We thank you God, O Holy God, for all your love.**

**Offering Prayer**

**Through our gifts, Loving One,  
May we humbly continue your work  
Of justice and love in this world.  
May these gifts be used to empower the meek  
And give hope to the oppressed.  
We ask that you bless us so that we,  
Encouraged by your presence,  
Continue to share your love with the world.  
Amen**

**Prayer of the Community & The Prayer of Jesus**

**Hymn: MV#171 Christ Has No Body But your Own**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

**Extroit: MV#220 Love Shines as the Solidary Star.**