



IMMANUEL CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

1 Hovey Street • Oxford, MI 48371

www.icucc.org • 248-628-1610

June 14, 2026 • 11:00 a.m.



Welcome to worship at Immanuel United Church of Christ!

God is Still Speaking,

Immanuel Open and Affirming Statement:

We welcome and affirm all people in celebrating diversity. We welcome to our faith family people of every race, age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, mental or physical ability and those who have doubts or questions.

Thank You for taking the time to turn off your cell phone during the worship service.

Prelude

*Bringing in the Light of Christ

(* denotes those who are able may stand.)

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome

Jeff Erno

Choir Anthem "Love Grows Here"

Immanuel Choir

Children Message

Pastor Liz Wilson

***Call to Worship**

Susanne Waldrep, Liturgist

One: The God of ages past and days to come is here.

Many: Inviting us to worship and praise.

One: The God of promises and challenges is with us.

Many: Calling us to faithful service.

One: The God of boundless love is with us.

Many: Making every one of God's promises possible.

Invocation

Jeff Erno

Faithful God, thank you for calling us to worship and for being present among us. Breathe upon us with your Holy Spirit, that we may have the courage and endurance to trust your promises and to answer your call with the same steadfast faithfulness and love that you show to us. Amen.

***Hymn: "Bringing in the Sheaves"**

Page 2

Words of Assurance

Jeff Erno

God listens closely to the deepest yearnings of our hearts. God is listening now. God has heard the cry of your heart, and will be steadfast in love and grace to answer our every need.

The Congregation Prays

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Janet Caporale, Liturgist

Congregational Response: "Lord hear our prayers." (Response after each Prayer request)

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

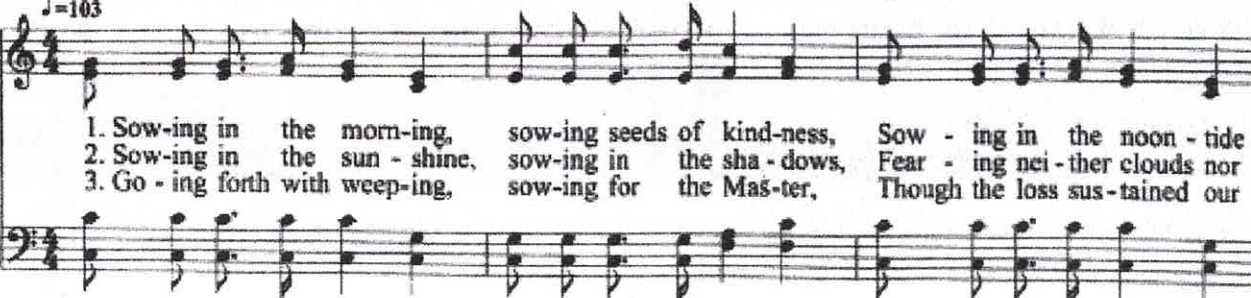
Jeff Erno

Bringing in the Sheaves

Knowles Shaw, 1874

George A. Minor, 1880

$\text{♩} = 103$



1. Sow-ing in the morn-ing, sow-ing seeds of kind-ness, Sow - ing in the noon - tide
2. Sow-ing in the sun - shine, sow-ing in the sha - dows, Fear - ing nei - ther clouds nor
3. Go - ing forth with weep-ing, sow-ing for the Mas - ter, Though the loss sus - tained our

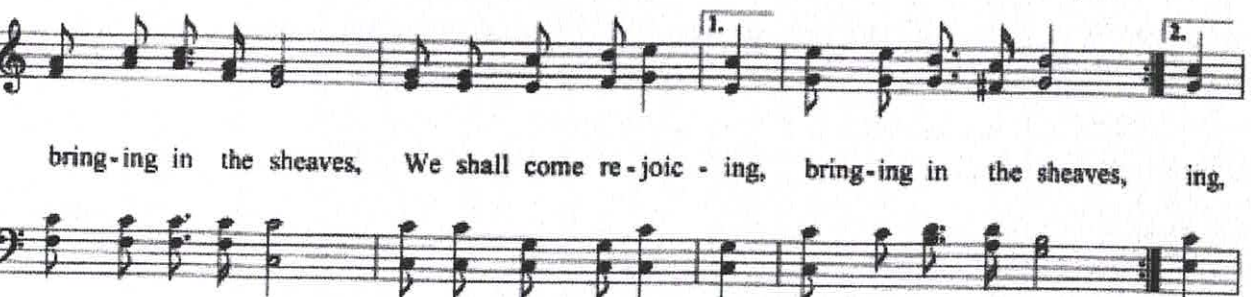


and the dew - y eve; Wait - ing for the har - vest, and the time of reap - ing,
win - ter's chill - ing breeze; By and by the har - vest, and the la - bor end - ed,
spir - it of - ten grieves; When our weep - ing's o - ver, He will bid us wel - come,

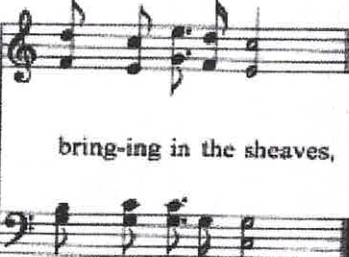
Refrain



We shall come re - joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves.
We shall come re - joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves. Bring - ing in the sheaves,
We shall come re - joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves.



bring - ing in the sheaves, We shall come re - joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves, ing,



bring - ing in the sheaves,

The Lord's Prayer: (use words most comfortable for you)

Susanne Waldrip, Liturgist

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Matthew 9:35-10:8
Luke 10:1-11
John 4:31-38

Susanne Waldrep, Liturgist
Pages 9 & 10 New Testament
Page 71 New Testament
Page 95 New Testament

Sermon: "The Harvest is Plentiful. The Laborers Few"

Jeff Erno

*Hymn: "Take My Life, God, Let It Be"

Page 4

back of red hymnal

STATEMENT FAITH

Stewardship Message

Announcements

(Be sure to read about up-coming events in the back of the bulletin.)

Offering:

Offertory "God Be With You/May the God Lord Bless and Keep You"

*Doxology: (The tune is found on page 356 of your red hymnal.)

**PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW...
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW...
PRAISE GOD, ABOVE, YOU HEAVENLY HOST...
CREATOR, CHRIST AND HOLY GHOST...AMEN.**

Jeff Erno

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

Faithful and loving God, bless these gifts with your faithfulness and love. Bless our lives to be faithful and loving. And bless our world with your promises of faith, hope, peace, and love, knowing always that the greatest of these is love. Amen.

*Hymn: "Jesus Calls us O'er the Tumult"

Page 5

*The Light of Christ goes into the world

*Benediction:

Jeff Erno

One: As children of God's promises.

Many: We go forth to fulfill God's promises to the world.

One: Having received peace through Christ Jesus.

Many: We go forth to bring peace to the world.

ALL: AMEN.

Please wait to exit unit after the recessional.

Grace for fellowship hour

Jeff Erno

*Postlude

*We scatter to serve******

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Take My Life, God, Let It Be


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Frances R. Havergal, 1874; alt.

Rom. 12:1



1 Take my life, God, let it be con - se - crat - ed faith - ful - ly.
2 Take my spir - it, let it move at the im - pulse of your love.
3 Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
4 Take my love and help it grow: let my lov - ing ov - er - flow,



Take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my in - tel - lect and use all its pow - ers as you choose.
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwell - ing place.
Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's com - mu - ni - ty.

Frances R. Havergal wrote her hymn following a visit to Areley House in Worcestershire, England. Among the ten persons at the house were "some unconverted . . . some converted but not rejoicing." Before she left, "everyone had got a blessing."

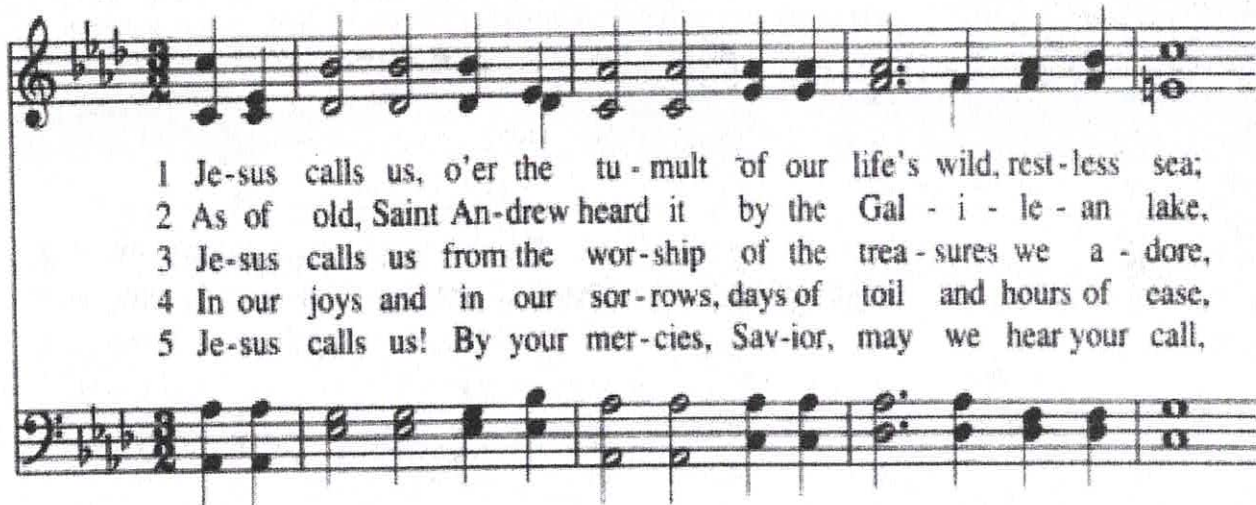
Tune: VIENNA 7.7.7.
Justin H. Knecht, 1797
Alternate tune: HENDON

Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

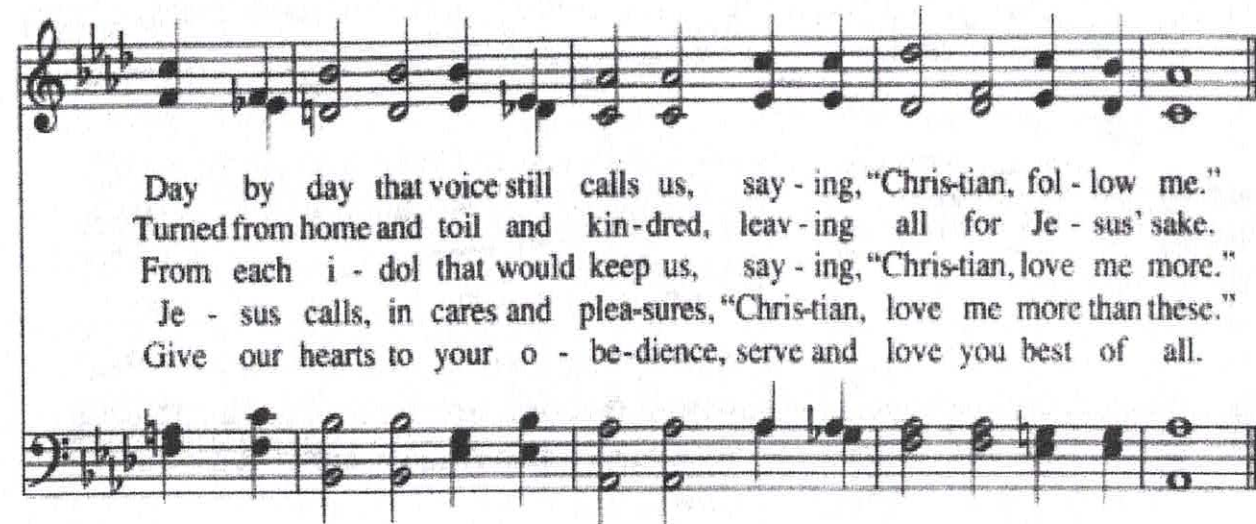
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Cecil F. Alexander, 1852; alt.

Matt. 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; John 21:15



1 Je-sus calls us, o'er the tu - mult 'of our life's wild, rest - less sea;
2 As of old, Saint An-drew heard it by the Gal - i - le - an lake,
3 Je-sus calls us from the wor-ship of the trea - sures we a - dore,
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of toil and hours of ease,
5 Je-sus calls us! By your mer - cies, Sav - ior, may we hear your call,



Day by day that voice still calls us, say - ing, "Chris-tian, fol - low me."
Turned from home and toil and kin-dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
From each i - dol that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris-tian, love me more."
Je - sus calls, in cares and plea-sures, "Chris-tian, love me more than these."
Give our hearts to your o - be-dience, serve and love you best of all.

Cecil Alexander, who in Ireland wrote sacred verse to teach children the meaning of the catechism and liturgy, designated this poem for St. Andrew's Day. Many years later Galilee was composed for this text by an English organist, William Jude.

Tune: GALILEE 8.7.8.7.
William H. Jude, 1887
Alternate setting: ST. ANDREW

Join together for refreshments in Fellowship

In Worship and Service Today

Sermon: Jeff Erno

Liturgist: Susanne Waldrep & Janet Caporale

Children's Message: Pastor Liz Wilson

Choir Director: Ken Martin

Accompanist: Ann McKinley

Our Tech team: Tammy & Ken Martin

Floral Arrangements: A gift created by Amy Wilson

Ministers: All the Immanuel Church faith community

Sunday School: Amy Wilson, Liz Wilson, Susanne Waldrep

Church Officers & Staff

Moderator: Ken Martin

Vice Moderator: TBA

Treasurer: Art Nagasaki

Council Secretary: Susanne Waldrep

Clerk: Susanne Waldrep

Church Secretary: Sue Molczyk

Building & Grounds Team Leader: TBA

Calendar at a Glance

Weekly Events

11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship & Fellowship

5:30 p.m. Community Meal every Tuesday

5:00 p.m. Wednesday Free Meals

7:00 p.m. Choir resumes in September

6:00 p.m. Thursday Prayer Meeting

4:00 p.m. Mondays "True Colorz" LGBTQ+ Support Group

Sunday, June 14

Last Sunday for Choir until September

Sunday, June 21

Father's Day

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the month of June:

Birthdays

June 5: Nick Caporale

June 15: Margi Seller

June 22: Nicky Morelli-Maurer

June 22: Jackson Willcock

June 23: Chris Plummer

Anniversaries

June 6: Rosemary & Brian Plummer

June 20: David & Willie Ollie-Ray

- Please be sure to visit Immanuel's website at www.icucc.org
- Please join us for Sunday Service via Virtual Worship. Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/oxfordimmanuelucc> You do not have to join facebook, it will ask if you want to join. If not click no and it will still get you to the service.
- **Treasurer's Note:** Our offerings for May 31 was \$928 & June 7 TBA. We need to collect \$1,675 each week to fund our approved budget. **Remember to honor your pledge commitments and tithes, especially when you miss any Sundays!** Art Nagasaki, Treasurer
- REMINDER to bring in flexible plastic Kroger packaging for recycling. Call Peggy with questions. The sock program has been discontinued.
- Please continue to collect and donate your pop can tabs. There's a container in Fellowship Hall. Pop can tabs help support the Ronald McDonald Houses where parents can stay when their child is hospitalized. Tammy will be sending our donation later in May to the Ronald McDonald House in Ann Arbor.
- Knitters, crocheters and crafters: If you need yarn for projects, we have a wide variety of colors and types in our craft room downstairs. Just let Tammy or Ken know

June 14, 2026

Gen 18:1-15, (21:1-7)

Sarah Laughed

In a sea of youthful faces, Sarah's wrinkled skin stood out in the lecture hall. The 75-year-old was there to earn her Master of Divinity degree. Her classmates wondered why. Did she think she would serve a church late in life?

Many succeeded in suppressing their laughter. Others did not. Sarah didn't mind. She laughed, too, when the dream of being a minister emerged. Even her denomination didn't support her she confided to me one day before class.

"They laughed, too," she said with a smile that soon melted from her face when she continued. "It's sad that all who laugh are the ones who claim they know God. What God are they learning about here in these hallowed halls?"

There was once another Sarah who laughed at God's startling, unbelievable plans — Abraham's wife. She overheard angels talking to her elderly husband that she, who was barren, would conceive a child. Their son, Isaac, would come into the world when Sarah was 90 and Abraham 100.

When she heard the news, she couldn't help but laugh. Perhaps it was an incredulous laugh. After all, prayers for a child have gone unanswered for years. And let's not forget, the old couple was kept waiting another 25 years after God first made the promise to Abraham that he would be the father of a great nation.

When God asked why she laughed, Sarah tried to deny it. God wasn't mad with her. I think God was probably suppressing a chuckle, getting a kick out of how once again those who follow God still get so surprised at the impossible becoming possible.

"Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?" asked seminarian Sarah that day in the lecture hall, repeating God's words spoken to our biblical Sarah so long ago.

I have found myself repeating these words many times to churches that were struggling, even dying. "Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?" Other translations replace "wonderful" with "hard."

I ask because we all forget that the Almighty can bring life to that which is barren — even dead. Nothing is impossible with God. Sarah's story is one all churches this day need to hear, for the laughter of hope is still possible amid empty pews.

Just ask seminarian Sarah. She was ordained at 78 and called to serve a struggling rural congregation, where for five beautiful years they laughed together, cried together and grew together.

Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? No, it is not. Just remember the Sarahs.

God of laughter and beautiful promises, many of us are feeling like life has passed us by and that it is too late to start over, try again — even dare to believe dreams can still come true. But nothing is too wonderful for You. Strengthen our faith to believe that all things are possible and give us the patience to trust Your perfect timing. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today's Sunday Bulletin.)



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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