



IMMANUEL CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

1 Hovey Street • Oxford, MI 48371

www.icucc.org • 248-628-1610

August 9, 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.)

Ring of the Bell

Welcome

Pastor Jeff Erno

Special Music

Children Message

Pastor Liz Wilson

***Call to Worship**

Janet Caporale, Liturgist

One: Christ comes for us in sunshine and in the dead of night. Welcome the presence of Christ.

Many: We welcome you, O Christ! Blessed be your name!

One: Christ reaches out to us in the stillness of peace and in the rage of the storm. Nothing overwhelms our Savior. Nothing overcomes.

Many: Our hope and trust are in you! Blessed be your name!

Invocation

Pastor Jeff Erno

Merciful Christ, fill us with your faith and courage, that we may never be overwhelmed by great needs, but rather with your great grace, your great strength, your great compassion, your great presence, your great hope. Fulfill your greatness in us and through us for the honor and glory of your name, for the saving of lives, for the redemption of our world. Amen

***Hymn: "My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less"**

Page 2

Words of Assurance

Pastor Jeff Erno

When the unexpected comes; when the unthinkable overwhelms; when our choices lead to despair; remember the words of Jesus, "Take heart, I AM, do not be afraid." Remember the grace of Jesus, reaching out, raising us up. Remember the power of Jesus, the Son of the One, True, Living God.

The Congregation Prays

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Janet Caporle, Liturgist

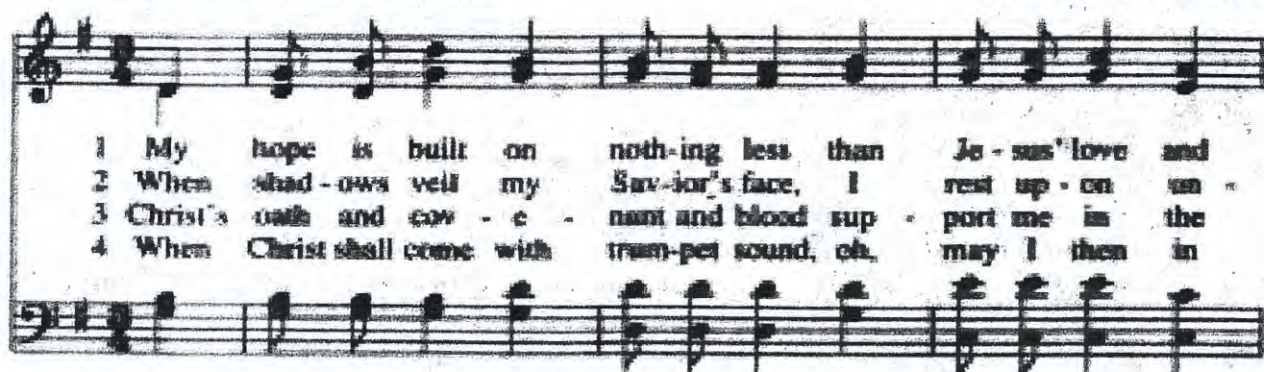
Congregational Response: "Lord hear our prayers." (Response after each Prayer request)

Silent Meditation

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Matt. 7:24-27; 1 Cor. 3:11; Heb. 4:19; Rev. 11:15

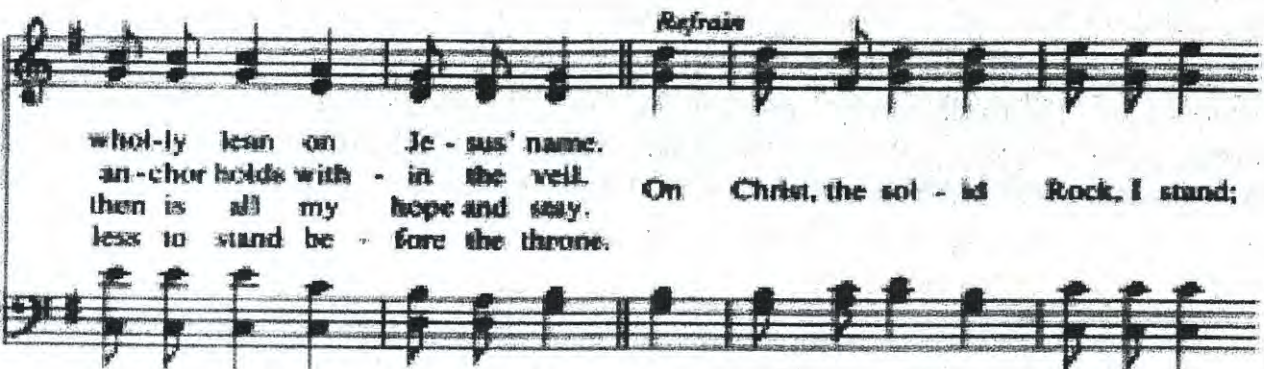
Edward Mow, c. 1884; alt.



1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' love and
 2 When shad - ows veil my Sav - ior's face, I rest up - on un -
 3 Christ's oath and cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me in the
 4 When Christ shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I then in

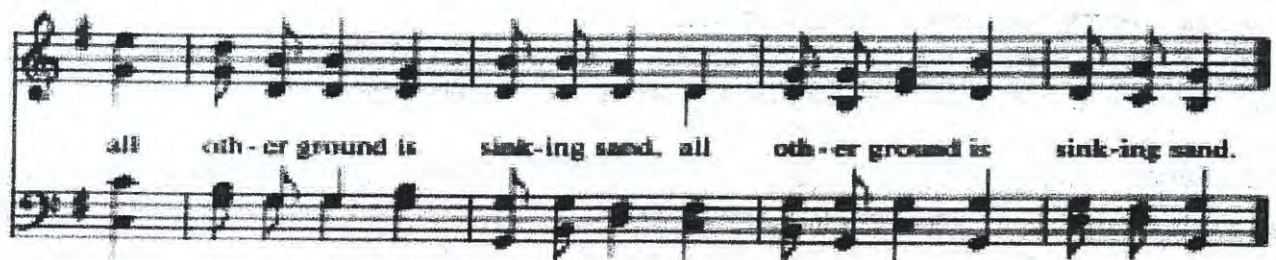


righteous-ness; I dare not trust this earth - ly frame, but
 chang-ing grace; In ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
 ris - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, Christ
 Love be found, Dressed in God's right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -



Refrain

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 an-chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand;
 then is all my hope and stay.
 less to stand be - fore the throne.



all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

William Broadbent met great success by composing hymn tunes and religious songs in a lively, popular style. He also helped establish music programs in New York public schools, served a church, and co-founded a piano company.

Tune: SOLID ROCK L.M. with refrain
 William B. Broadbent, 1863

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

Janet Caporale, 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:

Genesis 37:1-4, 19-36

Matthew 14:22-33

Romans 10:5-15

Janet Caporale, Liturgist

Page 34 Old Testament

Page 16 New Testament

Page 160 New Testament

Sermon: "Jesus Our Shelter Amidst the Storm"

Pastor Jeff Erno

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

Insert

STATEMENT FAITH

back of red hymnal

Stewardship Message

Announcements

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

Offering:

Offertory

***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.

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

Pastor Jeff Erno

Generous One, you reach down to raise us from fear and death. Your reach down so that we may reach out with your hope and help. Bless, accept, and multiply this offering, so many may know you, your saving power, and your saving love. Amen.

***Hymn: "Great Is Your Faithfulness"**

Insert front & back

*The Light of Christ goes into the world

***Benediction:**

Pastor Jeff Erno

One: Beloved of God, go now in peace to make peace.

Many: We go, assured of shelter amidst the storms of life.

One: Go with the blessing of our loving God.

Many: We go, armed with the protection and strength of the Holy Spirit.

One: Go clothed in compassion, kindness, humility, and gentleness.

Many: We know that God will never forsake us.

ALL: AMEN

Please wait to exit unit after the recessional.

Grace for fellowship hour

Pastor Jeff Erno

***Postlude**

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

Lam. 3:22-23

Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; alt.



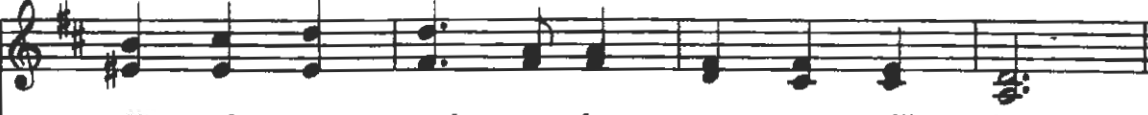
1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,*
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,



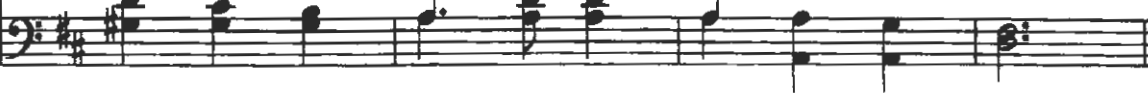

with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
 your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.




You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.
 to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.



*originally "my Father"

This hymn was one of a number sent by poet Thomas O. Chisholm to composer William M. Runyan for musical settings. It became a favorite of Will Houghton, president of Moody Bible Institute, whose enthusiasm helped establish its popularity.

Tune: FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10. with refrain
 William M. Runyan, 1923

Refrain

Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed your

hand has pro - vid - ed, Great is your faith - ful - ness, God, un - to me!

Join together for refreshments in Fellowship

In Worship and Service Today

Sermon: Pastor Jeff Erno

Liturgist: 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. Wednesday Choir practice (restart in Sept.)

6:00 p.m. Thursday Prayer Meeting

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

Sunday, August 16

Scriptures at Scriptor Park

Service, Baptism, and potluck picnic (bring a dish to pass & your chair)

Sunday, September 20

1:00 p.m. Historical Marker Dedication

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the month of August

Birthday

August 2: Joe Tubbs

August 9: Liz Wilson

August 11: Marsha Chapman

August 22: Sarah Apigian

August 25: Jim Makedonsky

Anniversaries

August 7: Julianne & Terry Sutton

August 15: Holly & Mike Graves

August 25: Janet & Doug Caporale

- **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 July 26 was \$718 and August 2 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
- Please remember to sign the black attendance book at the end of each pew.
- Our annual "Scripture at Scriptor" summer picnic is coming up in August. We will be having a baptismal service after the picnic. If you are interested in being baptized or re-professing your faith through the sacrament of Holy Baptism, please speak to Pastor Jeff.

August 9, 2026

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

When All Seems Lost

Joseph was a dreamer. He was also the child his father loved the most, which didn't sit well with his brothers. So much so, they plotted to kill their younger sibling. But not wanting Joseph's blood on their hands, they threw him in a pit instead. When the pit didn't ease their guilty conscience, they then sold the boy for 20 pieces of silver to a group of Ishmaelites on their way to Egypt.

Yes, Joseph was a dreamer. And yes, he was the family's golden child. But I believe what really spurred the brothers' hatred was that Joseph dared to dream.

"Here comes the dreamer," his brothers would say with a biting sarcasm when Joseph approached. Here comes the one with lofty ideas, with bold plans, with a vision that quite honestly isn't enviable but downright frightening because it holds a mirror to our inability to embrace a new way of living.

And that's the thing about dreams. They have the power to unsettle others. A reason why many life coaches advise against sharing too freely our most treasured dreams with everyone, because not everyone will understand and be supportive. Many a dream has been squashed by a naysayer who thought they were listing all the cons out of love and concern for the dreamer.

What a shame it is that in our lives we give too much power to the opinions of others, especially when it comes to our dreams, for those dreams just might be from God who, in the Bible, often communicated in nocturnal slumbering.

And when a dream is a God dream, they are never then the sole property of the dreamer. They are for the making of a better world, which comes at the price of the old world having to come to an end or at least make some big changes. Thus, why people often seek to kill dreams.

Yes, here comes the dreamer. No, I am not referring to Joseph, but to you, for we all have dreams. Some so big they might seem impossible, but they are not. Some within reach, ready to be grabbed hold of. And all with the ability to change life as we know it.

As Harriet Tubman once said, "Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience and the passion to reach for the stars and to change the world."

If all seems lost right now for you, my dear dreamer, it is not. Keep reaching. Keep believing. God is with you.

Inspiring God, may today we find ourselves daring to dream once again. May we find the strength to take those forgotten dreams off the dusty shelves of our hearts. May we believe beyond belief, that with You, all things are indeed possible. 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.)

