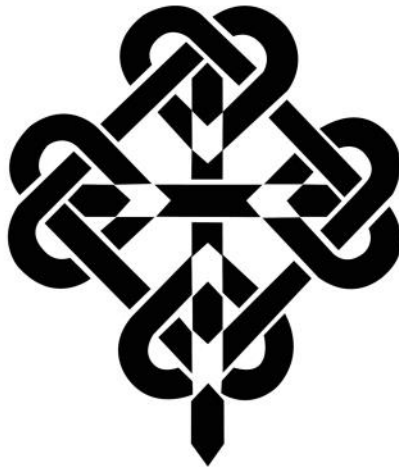


WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

Immanuel

Presbyterian Church



*The whole body joined and knit together...
building itself up in love.
— Ephesians 4:16 —*

APRIL 7, 2024

Who We Seek to Be

In our love for Christ and guided by God's Word we seek to be a community of

Joyful Worship, thoughtfully centered in the wonder and wisdom of the living God and celebrating the diversity of the body of Christ.

Loving Fellowship, encouraging and serving one another in the unifying love of the Holy Spirit.

Life-changing Learning, biblically-based preaching and teaching to equip children, youth, and adults to grow in their relationship with God.

Enthusiastic Service, reflecting the servant heart of Jesus as we proclaim the gospel near and far in word and deed.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Come, let us worship our great God, the Creator and Sustainer of life.

**People: Let us worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
who triumphed over sin and the grave!**

Pastor: Who is like the Lord among gods? Glorious in holiness, fearful in praises,
doing wonders!

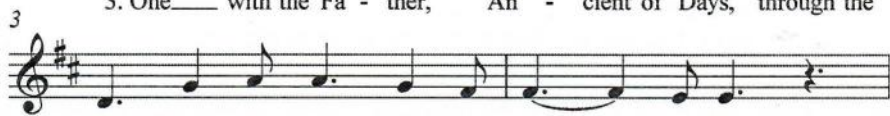
**All: Let us sing praises to our risen king; let us worship together
our God, who is like no other!**

* INVOCATION

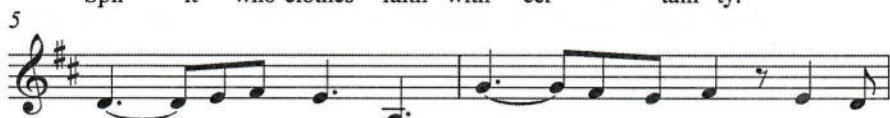
** Congregation stands.*



1. See ___ what a morn - ing, glo - rious-ly bright, with the
 2. See ___ Mar - y weep - ing, "Where ___ is He laid?" as in
 3. One ___ with the Fa - ther, An - cient of Days, through the



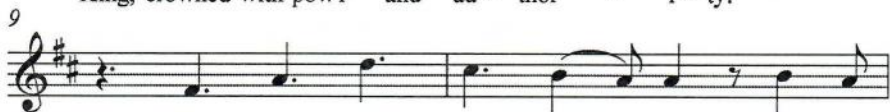
dawn - ing of hope in Je - ru - sa - lem.
 sor - row she turns from the emp - ty tomb.
 Spir - it who clothes faith with cer - tain - ty.



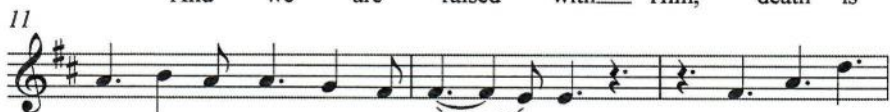
Fold - ed the grave clothes, tomb ___ filled with light, as the
 Hears ___ a voice speak - ing, call - ing her name. It's the
 Hon - or and bless - ing, glo - ry and praise to the



an - gels an - nounce "Christ is ris - en!"
 Mas - ter, the Lord, raised to life ___ a - gain!
 King, crowned with pow'r and au - thor - i - ty!



See God's sal - va - tion ___ plan wrought in
 The voice that spans the ___ years, speak - ing
 And we are raised with ___ Him, death is



love, borne in pain, paid in sac - ri - fice. Ful - filled in
 life, stir - ring hope, bring - ing peace_ to us -- will sound till
 dead, love has won, Christ has con - quered. And we shall



Christ the ___ Man, for He lives, Christ is ris - en from the dead.
 He ap - pears, for He lives, Christ is ris - en from the dead.
 reign with Him, for He lives, Christ is ris - en from the dead.

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Lord Jesus, we acknowledge you as the Light of the World:

People: Lord, lead us from darkness to light.

Leader: Lord Jesus, we acknowledge you as a light to the nations:

People: Lord, help us to reflect the light of your love.

Leader: Lord Jesus, we acknowledge you as the true light from heaven:

People: Lord, may we always live in the light of your holiness.

Leader: Lord Jesus, we acknowledge you as the light that overcomes the darkness:

People: Lord, guide us and shine your light on our daily path.

Leader: Lord, Jesus, we acknowledge you as the eternal light of our life:

**People: Lord, we are your children of light, aglow and ever praising you,
our Sun of Righteousness forever. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God demonstrates his own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness
And brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,
In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

* SONG OF ACCLAMATION: *Holy, Holy, Holy* (Please stand)

Franz Schubert
(Communion book, p. 20)

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

* APOSTLES' CREED

**All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
He descended into hell,
the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of
God the Father Almighty;
from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic* Church;
The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

** universal*

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Please share God's peace with those around you.)

WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: *I Will Make the Darkness Light*

Charles Price Jones
SARAH HOLMAN/ZAK REYNOLDS

I will make the darkness light before thee,
What is wrong I'll make it right before thee,
All thy battles I will fight before thee,
And the high place I'll bring down.

When thou walkest by the way I'll lead thee,
On the fatness of the land I'll feed thee,
And a mansion in the sky I'll deed thee,
And the high place I'll bring down.

With an everlasting love I'll love thee,
Though with trials deep and sore I'll prove thee,
But there's nothing that can hurt or move thee,
And the high place I'll bring down.

I will make the darkness light before thee,
I will make the crooked straight before thee,
I will spread my wings protecting o'er thee,
And the high place I'll bring down.

DIACONAL PRAYER

AMY TREIER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANNIKA DURBIN

(Children may return to their seats.)

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

(Please remain standing for the reading of God's Word.)

READERS: DIETLIN FAMILY

* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Isaiah 25:6-9*

⁶ On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare
a feast of rich food for all peoples,
a banquet of aged wine—
the best of meats and the finest of wines.

⁷ On this mountain he will destroy
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,
the sheet that covers all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death forever.
The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears
from all faces;
he will remove his people's disgrace
from all the earth.

The Lord has spoken.

⁹ In that day they will say,
"Surely this is our God;
we trusted in him, and he saved us.
This is the Lord, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *1 Peter:3-9*

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. NIV

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION: *A Living Hope (Part 1)*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*Please **approach the tables from the center aisles**, and we ask that you
return to your seats on the outside aisles.*

*If you would rather not go to the front, please feel free to remain seated.
Tell an usher if you would like to be served in your seat.*

*If you would like to be seated at the lower tables,
just take a seat in the front row while you wait for openings at those tables.*

*If you prefer to be served by an elder who is wearing a face mask and gloves
please indicate that to the usher at the front of the sanctuary.*

*During Communion **Jeff and Anna Gissing** will be available
on the stair landings at the back of the sanctuary if you would like prayer.*

(Times of singing and silence.)

(Communion music is found in the Communion song book, unless otherwise noted.)

Behold the Lamb of God	page 6
At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing	page 3
I Stand Amazed at God's Presence	page 25
I Am the Bread of Life	page 23

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN: *Amazing Grace*

HYMN 460

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.*

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

TODAY

Thanks to our musicians: Mary Hopper, Zak Reynolds, Kent Richter, Mike Dietrich, Graham Haydon, Sarah Holman

If you would like someone to pray with you after the service, elder **Sheroll Ritchie** will be available near the platform.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Youth Group (<i>Game Night</i>)
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Mothering Together

THIS WEEK

Tuesday	9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study (<i>childcare</i>)
	11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open

In Immanuel and Beyond

From the Finance Team: Giving in the first quarter of 2024 has exceeded our projection (based on patterns over three years). By the end of March, giving to the General Fund was \$258,000, well above our projection of \$205,000 against the 2024 budget of \$956,300. We were amazingly blessed to receive a gift of \$100,000 for the Long-Term Maintenance fund, and other gifts amounting to \$12,000 for other reserve funds (Deacons, Food Pantry, Memorial, Youth). Praise God, we're off to a tremendous start! Thank you for your faithful and generous financial support.

New Adult Ed classes have begun! Adult Ed courses take place each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. The following three classes will be offered during April and May.

Dan Treier will be teaching on the Holy Spirit in his next installment of Systematic Theology 101, in the sanctuary.

Your missions team will be Zooming around the World with Immanuel's missionaries over in the Ministry House. This week you can get acquainted with our dear friends Thomas and Susanna Smoak, zooming from Brazil. Adult Ed Course Descriptions, Teacher Bios.

Finally, an informal parenting discussion class (for both moms and dads) will meet upstairs in the Ministry House, in the classroom to the left at the top of the stairs.

Planning ahead: The Prime Timers group will meet on Saturday, April 27, for "This Is My Story" with Jack and Theo Robinson. *Look for a sign up sheet in the narthex the next two Sundays.* Prime Timers is a social group for those who are 60ish or beyond.

Prayers during Communion

Prayer to begin a new life in Christ

Dear God, I recognize Jesus came to earth to die on the cross for the sins of your people. I want to recognize now that he came to earth to die for *my* sins. I confess that I am a sinner in need of your grace and the saving blood of Christ. Please forgive me of my sins through the perfect sacrifice of your Son who died in my place. Jesus, come into my heart and change me from the inside out. Help me to truly repent from my previous way of living without you, and help me to surrender to your rule over my life as my Savior and Lord. Thank you for your Spirit that reveals to me the new life that I have in Christ and empowers me to walk in obedience to your truth and will for me. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Merciful God, I am thankful that as your child I am not defined by my sin. Help me to walk in obedience to you in all areas of my life. Forgive me for the particular area(s) where I still succumb to temptation and disobey you. Help me to remember that in every area where I am tempted, your word promises that you will provide a way out of those temptations. Fill me with your Spirit, which working in me can do what I cannot do on my own. Help me to walk in obedience to your commands and also delight in them and your guiding words of truth. Please give me the courage to reach out to others in the body of Christ for strength and support when I am especially vulnerable. Amen.

Prayer for those wrestling with doubts and fears

Gracious God, even as your child I wrestle with the fact that your will for me is perfect and that you will supply all of my needs. Help me to set my mind on the truths of your word, and guard my heart when the enemy clouds my mind and heart with fear and doubt. Help me to rest in the peace and security of being your child, and by your Spirit testify with my spirit that I am yours when feelings tell me otherwise. Remind me of your love and delight in me as your child. Amen.

Prayer for those seeking freedom from their past

Almighty God, you have the power to set us free from the sins and entanglements of our past. Release me from the shackles of my past that I carry that you have released me from. Forgive me for holding my past against me in the ways that you do not, and enable me to grasp what it is for you to see me in the perfect righteousness of your Son, both now and forever. May your Spirit, the Spirit of liberty, liberate me from any thought or feeling that belies the fact that I am completely forgiven, or free to live the new life in Christ I have as your new creation. Amen.

ELDERS

Katherine Anderson (*Clerk of Session*), Bill France, Larry Funck, Sarah Holman,
Ron Netzel, Carl Pickard, Sheroll Ritchie, Cathy Sayer, Steve Westfall

DEACONS

Phebe Balzer, Tim Curley, Seth Ehorn (*Chair*), Debby France, Ron Haydon,
Tom Nguyen, Joel Rose, Amy Treier, Kathy Wetters, Sharon Wolgemuth

STAFF

George A. Garrison, *Senior Pastor*; Annette LaPlaca, *Minister of Congregational Life*;
Mary Hopper, *Minister of Music*; Annika Durbin, *Children's Minister*;
Anna and Scott Scheidt, *Ministers to Youth*;
Barbara Lawrence, *Church Secretary*; Frank Lawrence, *Church Sexton*

STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS

Bev Burch, Leon Sinclair, Angela Wisdom, Annette LaPlaca