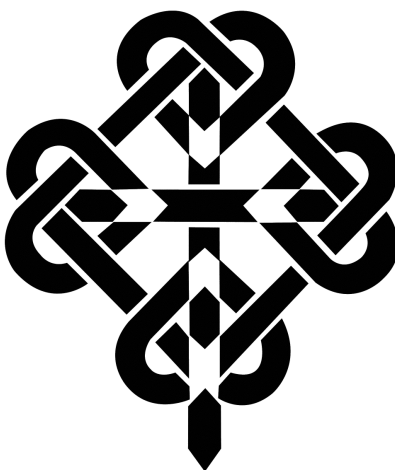


WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

# Immanuel

## Presbyterian Church



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

FEBRUARY 18, 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

MARY HOPPER

PRELUDE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Praise be to you, our Heavenly Father, from everlasting to everlasting.

**All: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power,**

Pastor: And the glory and the majesty and the splendor.

**All: For everything in heaven and earth is yours.**

Pastor: You are exalted as head over all; you are ruler of all things.

**All: Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.**

### \* INVOCATION



1.Though the na - tions rage king - doms rise and fall there is  
2.Though the dread of night ov - erwhelms my soul, He is  
3.Though I may not see what the fu - ture brings, I will



still one King reign - ing ov - er all. So I will not fear for this  
here with me, I am not a - lone. O his love is sure and he  
watch and wait for the sav - iour king. Then my joy com plete stand - ing



truth re - mains: That my God is the An - cient of Days. None a -  
knows my name For my God is the An - cient of Days.  
face to face in the pres - ence of/the An - cient of Days.



bove him, none be - fore him, all of time is his hands. For His throne it shall re -



main and ev - er stand. All the pow - er, all the glo - ry, I will



trust in His name. For my God is the An - cient of days.

## WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

SHEROLL RITCHIE

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

**People: the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;**

Leader: the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**People: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.**

Leader: Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

**People: But who can detect their errors: Clear me from hidden faults.**

Leader: Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**All: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

SONG OF CONFESSION

The musical notation consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff is labeled 'Cantor' and 'All'. The lyrics are 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' followed by 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' The second staff is also labeled 'Cantor' and 'All'. The lyrics are 'Chri - ste e - le - i - son.' followed by 'Chri - ste e - le - i - son.' The third staff is labeled 'Cantor' and 'All'. The lyrics are 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' followed by 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.'

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (*from Psalm 130*)

Leader: People of God, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love, and with him there is full redemption. Hear God's forgiveness: The Lord himself will redeem you from all your sins through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

\* ACCLAMATION

**All: To him whose sovereignty is never-ending and whose kingdom endures through all generations, to the Most High, the Ever-Living One, be blessing and honor and glory. Amen.**

\* 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.)*

## SERVICE OF OFFICER INSTALLATION

The following persons were elected to office at our annual congregational meeting:

ELDERS: Larry Funck, Carl Pickard, Cathy Sayer

DEACONS: Kathy Wetters, Sharon Wolgemuth

OPENING PRAYER

CHARGE TO NEW OFFICERS AND CONGREGATION AND VOWS

PRAYER OF BLESSING:

READER 1: O Lord, may our elders experience joy in serving you. May they be aware that you are truly their guide and help as they lead us in our mission and ministries. May they enjoy our trust and encouragement and may their faith and vision be an example and motivation to us in our spiritual growth.

**CONGREGATION: Amen.**

READER 2: Dear Savior, may they each grow in wisdom through their study of your Word and in deepening prayer life. May they see and help us see the rule of Christ in his church and over this dark world. May their authority over us be directed by the law of love and the power of the Holy Spirit.

**CONGREGATION: Amen.**

READER 1: O Lord, may our deacons experience joy in serving you. May they be aware that they truly represent our Lord Jesus, who did not come to be served, but to serve; who for our sakes became poor, so that we through his poverty might be rich.

**CONGREGATION: Amen.**

READER 2: Dear Savior, give them your own spirit of compassion for human needs. May they experience your understanding and wisdom in the meeting of those needs. May they see, and help us to see, with your eyes the wounds that you would heal in human hearts.

**CONGREGATION: O Lord, may our elders and deacons be so blessed and strengthened in all their labors that they will find your yoke easy and your burden light and when our Great Shepherd appears, may they receive that crown of glory that will never fade away. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF OFFICE

## WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

Kingsfold  
Arr. Catherine McMichael  
DEBORAH AND SIMON KLEMME

### \* DOXOLOGY

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow:  
Praise him, all creatures here below:  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

### CHILDREN'S BLESSING

*(Children 3 years through 5th grade go downstairs to continue their worship.)*

### MISSION FOCUS

CLAIRE MILLER

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER

RON NETZEL

### \* HYMN: *Be Still My Soul* (verses 1 and 2)

HYMN 689

## WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READERS: EMMA RILEY AND MICHAELA KUSTRA

### \* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Psalms 42:1-5*

<sup>1</sup> As the deer pants for streams of water,  
so my soul pants for you, my God.

<sup>2</sup> My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.  
When can I go and meet with God?

<sup>3</sup> My tears have been my food  
day and night,  
while people say to me all day long,  
"Where is your God?"

<sup>4</sup> These things I remember  
as I pour out my soul:

how I used to go to the house of God  
under the protection of the Mighty One  
with shouts of joy and praise  
among the festive throng.

<sup>5</sup> Why, my soul, are you downcast?  
Why so disturbed within me?

Put your hope in God,  
for I will yet praise him,  
my Savior and my God.

*(continued)*

\* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *1 Peter 4:12-19*

<sup>12</sup> Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. <sup>15</sup> If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. <sup>16</sup> However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. <sup>17</sup> For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup> And,

“If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,  
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

<sup>19</sup> So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good. NIV

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION: *Taking Suffering Personally*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION



# WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

\* CLOSING HYMN: *He Will Hold Me Fast*

Matt Merker



1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
2. Those He saves are His de - light, Christ will hold me fast;  
3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;



When the tempt - er would pre - vail, He will hold me fast.  
Pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast.  
Jus - tice has been sat - is - fied; He will hold me fast.



I could nev - er keep my hold Through life's fear - ful path;  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His Prom - is - es shall last;  
Raised with Him to end - less life, He will hold me fast



For my love is of - ten cold; He must hold me fast. —  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.  
'Til our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!



— He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;



For my Sa - vior loves me so,



He will hold me fast.

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\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

## TODAY

**Thanks to our musicians:** Mary Hopper, Deborah Klemme, Simon Klemme, Seth Ehorn, Jenn Parsons, Zak Reynolds, Immanuel Orchestra

**Welcome back, Claire!** You might remember Claire Miller, who worshipped with us while she was getting her degree in Biblical and Theological Studies at Wheaton (class of 2023). Claire felt a call to missions since she was in high school. Now she's getting ready to serve in evangelistic ministry in Paris, France (a post-Christian environment), with ReachGlobal. Plan to stay after worship to get to know her while sharing a light lunch (**International Cafe**, lower level) from noon to 1 p.m.

**IPC College Group** is meeting at Bretsens' home, 502 W. Indiana St., Wheaton from 5:00-7:00 p.m. for "Ask Me Anything" with our guest Lauren Matheus. Talk to Cindy or Steve after worship or text Cindy at 630-386-1534.

**If you have concerns or are in need of prayer**, elder Ron Netzel is available at the front following the service.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Food Pantry open**  
**College Fellowship Supper**  
**Youth Group**

## THIS WEEK

Tuesday	9:30 - 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	<b>Women's Bible Study</b> ( <i>childcare</i> ) <b>Food Pantry open</b>
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	<b>Mothering Together</b> ( <i>childcare</i> )
Friday	7:00 p.m.	<b>Taize service</b>
Saturday	9:00 - noon	<b>Choir Workshop</b>

## LENT/EASTER

Friday, March 1	<b>Taize</b>
Friday, March 8	<b>Taize</b>
Friday, March 15	<b>Taize</b>
Maundy Thursday	<b>Seder Supper</b>
Good Friday	<b>Tenebrae</b>
Easter	<b>Brunch/Worship</b>

## EDULT EDUCATION

### THINKING ABOUT HEAVEN

John Schuurmann  
and Kent Richter  
*Meets in the Sanctuary*

The volume of things that have been written, sung, painted, preached, and thought about the life of God's people after they die is like oceans or mountains, which is to be contrasted with the relative paucity of what the Bible has to say on the subject. We cannot hope to do justice to all the ideas and speculations about heaven, but in this class we will deal with what the Bible does say, and try to deal fairly with what the historic Christian Church has said, along with what sympathy card writers and artists as well as song writers and philosophers have communicated about the matter.

*John Schuurman and Janet have been worshipping and serving at IPC since John retired from ministry in the Christian Reformed Church in North America in 2011. John and Janet enjoy travel, reading, and attending theater performances and concerts. IPC folks have an open invitation to their credible little walk-up movie theater on most Friday nights in the summer.*

### IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Chris and Amy Danusiar  
*Meets in the Ministry House*

From long, sleepless nights, through toddler joys and tantrums, to school-day crazies, proms, and beyond, raising children is not for the faint of heart. There is no shortage of books or opinions on parenting, but how do we learn what our children need and how we can help them grow strong in grace, wisdom, and resilience. Chris and Amy, along with other seasoned parents from Immanuel, will share ideas, scriptural insights, and stories of what they've learned along the way and facilitate discussion on difficulties we face in raising children.

*Chris and Amy Danusiar brought their three little girls to Immanuel in 1999 and are incredibly thankful for ever nursery, Sunday School, Children in Worship, and Youth Group worker, pastor, or mentor who has helped in training up their children. By day, Chris is a veteran of the technology industry and Amy will always be a children's librarian at heart. Their grown daughters are married and living as far away from their parents as possible.*

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