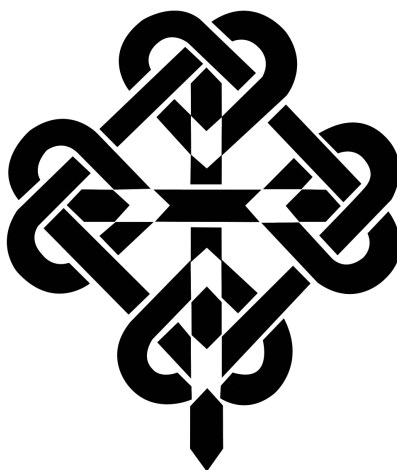


WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

# Immanuel

## Presbyterian Church



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

FEBRUARY 25, 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: *Gather Us in Mercy, Lord*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Cantor/All repeat' and contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: 'Gath - er us in mer - cy, Lord.' The second staff is also labeled 'Cantor/All repeat' and contains the melody for the second line: 'From the depths we cry to you.' The notes are simple quarter and half notes, with lyrics written below each note.

*Cantor/All repeat*  
Gath - er us in mer - cy, Lord.

*Cantor/All repeat*  
From the depths we cry to you.

\* *Congregation stands.*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: My tongue shall speak out the praises of the Lord, and all creatures shall bless his holy name forever and ever.

**All: We shall declare your mighty work with awe and tell of your great deeds. We shall recite the story of your abounding goodness and sing of your righteousness with joy.**

Pastor: For the Lord is righteous in all his ways, unchanging in all he does; very near is the Lord to those who call to him in singleness of heart.

**All: He hears our cry and saves us. He fulfills our desires if only we fear him.**

Pastor: The Lord watches over all who love him. Let us sing his praises together.

\* INVOCATION

\* OPENING HYMN: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

HYMN 38

**WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE**

CALL TO CONFESSION

STEVE WESTFALL

Leader: We come to you, Lord, for you alone can heal and restore us.

**All: We are not able to heal ourselves,**

Leader: We are not able to forgive ourselves,

**All: We are not able to restore ourselves,**

Leader: We are not able to sanctify ourselves,

**All: We are not able to satisfy ourselves.**

Leader: We come to you, Lord, for you alone can make us whole.

Lord of light, enter our past, dispel the works of darkness,

**All: Destroy the deeds of evil, defeat the thoughts of darkness.**

Leader: Enter the recording room of our memories,

**All: Enter the dark room of guilt and shame,**

Leader: Enter the secret room of sins hidden or forgotten.

**All: Come, Lord of Light, and forgive.  
Come, Lord of Love, and set us free.  
Come and scatter our darkness.  
Come, draw us closer to you.**

Adapted from *The Open Gate* by David Adam

SONG OF CONFESSION: *Kyrie*

*Cantor* *All*  
Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

*Cantor* *All*  
Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

*Cantor* *All*  
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to his grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

Adapted from *The Open Gate* by David Adam

\* SONG OF ACCLAMATION *Gloria Patri*

**All:** **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen, 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.)*

## WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: *Blessed Is the One*

*Craig Courtney*  
IMMANUEL CHOIR

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven.  
Blessed is the one whose sins are covered,  
the one to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,  
in whose spirit is no guile.

You are my hiding place.  
You will preserve me from trouble,  
surrounding me with songs of deliverance.  
When mighty waters rise,  
they will not reach me.

\* DOXOLOGY

HYMN 731

**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.)*

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

SHEROLL RITCHIE

\* HYMN: *I Know Whom I Have Believed*

HYMN 705

## WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READERS: PRISCILLA AND LEAH WITTE

\* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES

*Psalm 31:1-8*

- <sup>1</sup> In you, Lord, I have taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.
- <sup>2</sup> Turn your ear to me,  
come quickly to my rescue;  
be my rock of refuge,  
a strong fortress to save me.
- <sup>3</sup> Since you are my rock and my fortress,  
for the sake of your name lead and guide me.
- <sup>4</sup> Keep me free from the trap that is set for me,  
for you are my refuge.
- <sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commit my spirit;  
deliver me, Lord, my faithful God.

- <sup>6</sup> I hate those who cling to worthless idols;  
as for me, I trust in the Lord.
- <sup>7</sup> I will be glad and rejoice in your love,  
for you saw my affliction  
and knew the anguish of my soul.
- <sup>8</sup> You have not given me into the hands of the enemy  
but have set my feet in a spacious place.

*Hebrews 5:1-10*

<sup>1</sup> Every high priest is selected from among the people and is appointed to represent the people in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup> He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. <sup>3</sup> This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people. <sup>4</sup> And no one takes this honor on himself, but he receives it when called by God, just as Aaron was.

<sup>5</sup> In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him,  
“You are my Son;  
today I have become your Father.”

<sup>6</sup> And he says in another place,  
“You are a priest forever,  
in the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup> During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup> Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered <sup>9</sup> and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him <sup>10</sup> and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

\* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

*1 Corinthians 6:19-20*

<sup>19</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; <sup>20</sup> you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies. NIV

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
All: **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION: *Suffering for the Sake of Obedience*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

**WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE**

\* CLOSING HYMN: *May the Mind of Christ My Savior*

HYMN 644

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE: *Come Down, O Love Divine*

Ralph Faughan Williams  
arr. William Phemister

**TODAY**

**Thanks to our musicians:** Mary Hopper, Alethea Funck, Immanuel Choir

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

The **teen membership class** will meet in the lower level after church today.

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

**Food Pantry open**  
**Youth Group**

**THIS WEEK**

Tuesday 9:30 - 10:50 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

**Women's Bible Study** (*childcare*)  
**Food Pantry open**  
**Men's Book Group**

Friday 7:00 p.m.

**Taize service**

Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Adult membership class**

**LENT/EASTER**

Friday, March 1 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, March 8 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, March 15 7:00 p.m.

**Taize**  
**Taize**  
**Taize**

Maundy Thursday 6:30 p.m.  
Good Friday 7:00 p.m.  
Easter 9:00 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.

**Seder Supper**  
**Tenebrae**  
**Brunch**  
**Worship**



## ADULT EDUCATION

### THINKING ABOUT HEAVEN

John Schuurmann  
*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