

### Who We Seek to Be

*Called and gathered by the grace of Jesus Christ, we exist as a community of love and truth to celebrate the infinite glory of God through:*

**Joyful worship** centered in the wonder and wisdom of the living Word

**Resolute fellowship in Christ** made alive by the unifying love of the Spirit among us

**Transformative learning** for all ages toward full maturity in Christ

**Loving service** to one another, the community and the world, reflecting the servant heart of Jesus

**Spirited mission** to the lost near and far, proclaiming the gospel in word and deed

#### ELDERS

*Katherine Anderson (Clerk of Session), Dan Balzer, Phyllis LePeau, Lew Luttrell, Carl Pickard, Leon Sinclair, Alva Steffler, Steve Westfall, Ken Wolgemuth*

#### DEACONS

*Phebe Balzer, Judy Bryson (Chair), Tim Curley, Colin Holman, Marc Johnson, Michael Kendrick, Jim Mann, Harv Meyers, Jeanette Myra, Heather Reyes*

#### STAFF

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

IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Immanuel is affiliated with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC).



*under the Sun*  
*under the SON*

A SERMON SERIES ON ECCLESIASTES

IMMANUEL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 7, 2019

**ADULT EDUCATION**  
**SESSION 5** (Apr. 7—May 19)

## Welcome, Visitors!

Thank you for choosing to attend Immanuel this morning. We hope that you will find a warm welcome and that you will experience the presence of our Lord here. Our congregation comes from all kinds of backgrounds, so wherever you are in your faith journey, you are welcome here.

## Do you have young children with you this morning?

At Immanuel we believe God deeply loves and values children and mysteriously begins His work in them long before they may be able to articulate it. We joyfully welcome children of all ages into our worship service to join the larger body of Christ in worship, confession, giving, and fellowship. We offer a nursery for children under the age of three, a worship program designed for children in preschool through second grade, and Sunday School for ages preschool through fifth grade during the school year. Please stop by the **Children's Ministry Station** (in the Gathering Place) before the service to sign your children in and get more information on our ministries.

## Let us contact you.

At the end of each row, there is a friendship folder with welcome cards and a place for you to let us know you were here. If you simply sign your name and address, we'll send you a letter with more information about Immanuel. If you include your phone number and email, we'll be glad to contact you that way too. Thank you for coming!

Note: If you need **hearing assistance**, please speak to one of our ushers or sound crew.

## The Gospel of Mark: Study, Meditation and Prayer

Jim Wilhoit, Andy LePeau  
Ministry House

In this class we'll look at several key episodes in Mark through inductive Bible Study (working at tables to mark the text and discuss what we've found). Then as a class we'll meditate on the story we just studied, and finally we'll pray through the passage. The class is an experiment in providing an opportunity for us to wrestle with the text and interact with it in a very personal way as well.

*Andy Le Peau is a founding elder of Immanuel and was for many years the editorial director at InterVarsity Press. He still writes and edits, most recently publishing Mark Through Old Testament Eyes. But he feels he is best known as Phyllis Le Peau's trophy husband.*

*Jim Wilhoit began attending Immanuel on Pastor George's first Sunday. Jim feels he is best known for being married to the chair of the Social Team. In May he will retire from Wheaton College where he has taught for thirty-eight years.*

## Agreeing to Disagree: Christianity and Other Religions in Dialogue

Kent Richter  
Sanctuary

Studying the ideas and practices of other religions, we can look at how they share elements with Christian belief and practice while also clarifying differences that make for important disagreements. We can study Hinduism, different kinds of Buddhism, Islam and Sikhism, as well as other religions that interest you. Hopefully, we can take the ideas and implications of other religions seriously for their philosophical and moral implications, while we understand the uniqueness and necessity of Christian faith.

*Kent Richter is Professor of Philosophy and World Religions at the College of DuPage for 26 years, regular attendee at IPC for just as long. Been busy in choir and committees here and there, but mostly these days with the Food Pantry, being married to Renee, pantry coordinator.*

SCOTS’ FORM OF COMMUNION

The early Scottish Presbyterians felt strongly that their manner of celebrating the Lord’s Supper should clearly symbolize the truth that the Risen Christ is host to his redeemed people at this covenant meal. Samuel Rutherford wrote that “they should sit, as banqueters, at one table with our King, and eat and drink.” Abraham Kuyper expressed his opinion that the Lord’s Supper should be eaten from a table, saying, “Jesus spreads a feast for his friends and as a King invites his people to his table.”

We use this form largely for the same reasons expressed by our Presbyterian predecessors and also have discovered reasons in our own experience to value this observance of the Sacrament. The form demands a little more from us than the tradition of being served at our places in the congregation. As we overcome our nervousness about going forward we find that the very act impresses upon us the reality of our personal response to our Lord’s invitation to receive his grace. Sitting with others at his table, singing and watching others go forward impresses upon us the reality of our fellowship and the joy of seeing others meet our Lord in his love.

NOTICE TO FAMILIES: In accord with our practice of the Lord’s Supper, children who have not yet professed their faith in Christ to the elders are asked to refrain from partaking in communion. We desire that such children look forward gladly to the day when they take their first communion as a significant step in their spiritual growth. In the meantime, we want to provide ways they may grow to understand the meaning of the sacrament and also feel that though young, they are significant persons in the covenant family of God. So we invite those children to come forward to the Table and be seated with their parents. The elder who serves the elements to the parents will briefly offer prayer for the child. So that the elders may know which children to pray for in this way, we suggest that the children not taking communion *fold their hands on the Table*. We hope this custom will encourage parents as they help their children grow in the “nurture and admonition of the Lord” and prepare for the time when they are ready to profess Christ and take communion.

WE GATHER IN GOD’S PRESENCE

PRELUDE: *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart* Clarinet Quintet

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: How great and glorious is our God!

All: **From hour to hour, from day to day, our lives ought to overflow with praise and gratitude.**

Pastor: He creates beauty out of the dust of our fallen natures.

All: **Out of the ashes of our failures he brings forth meaning and purpose.**

Pastor: He exalts the humble and enriches the poor.

All: **He transforms our weaknesses into channels of his strength.**

Pastor: Our emptiness becomes a vessel for his fullness, our spiritual poverty the basis for his eternal grace.

All: **How great and glorious is our God!**

\* INVOCATION

1. Who has held the o-ceans in His hands? Who has num bered  
2. Who has giv - en coun-sel to the Lord? Who can ques - tion  
3. Who has felt the nails up - on His hands, Bear-ing all the

ev - ery grain of sand? Kings and na - tions trem - ble at His voice.  
an - y of His words? Who can teach the one who knows all things?  
guilt of sin - ful man? God e - ter - nal, hum-bled to the grave.

All cre - a - tion ris - es to re - joice. Be - hold our  
Who can fath - om all His won - drous deeds?  
Je - sus, Sav - ior ris - en now to reign!

God, seat-ed on His throne. Come let us a - dore Him. Be - hold our

King. No - thing can com - pare. Come, let us a - dore \_\_\_\_\_ Him!

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Him! Him!

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.

**THIS WEEK**

Tuesday	9:15 - 11:00 a.m.	<b>Women's Bible Study</b> ( <i>childcare</i> )
	11:00 a. m. - 1:00 p.m.	<b>Food pantry open</b>
	7:00 p.m.	<b>Women's Bible Study</b>
	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	<b>Pioneer Clubs</b>
	7:00 p.m.	<b>Men's book group</b> ( <i>Pastor's office</i> )
Wednesday	1:00 p.m.	<b>Encore</b>
	6:00 p.m.	<b>Lenten Soup Supper and Vespers</b>
Thursday	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.	<b>Food Pantry open</b>
Saturday	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	<b>Choir rehearsal</b>
	Noon	<b>Julie Nowack memorial service</b> ( <i>Light lunch to follow.</i> )

**IN IMMANUEL AND BEYOND**

**Women:** We'll be collecting gently used women's clothing through Palm Sunday. Look for the bin near the front doors of the church. On Friday evening, May 3 all Immanuel women are invited (whether or not they donated clothes) to come Swap-Till-You-Drop. On Saturday afternoon, May 4, we'll have a women's used clothing sale to benefit our ministry partners Warrenville Youth & Family Services. We need women's clothing, volunteers to take shifts organizing and folding clothes April 29-May 3, and volunteers to help work the sale on the Saturday. Talk with Amy Treier, Sharon Wolgemuth, or Annette with questions or to volunteer.

**HOLY WEEK 2019**

**Maundy Thursday Communion Service** (April 18, 7 p.m.)

**Good Friday Tenebrae Service** (April 19, 7 p.m.)

**Resurrection Sunday** (April 21 Brunch 9:30 a.m. Easter worship service 10:30 a.m.)

Let your glo - ry fill the earth\_\_ Let your

You will reign for - ev-er\_\_ You will reign for -

glo - ry fill the earth\_\_ Let your glo - ry fill the earth

ev - er\_\_ You will reign for ev - er\_\_

Let your glo - ry fill Be-hold our God. Seat-ed on His

You will reign for - ev-er\_\_

throne. Come, let us a-dore Him. Be-hold our King. No-thing can com

pare. Come, let us a - dore\_\_ Be dore\_\_ Him!

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: God is light, yet we have often been blind when truth has been so clear.

People: **When we could have looked ahead, we fell behind.  
When we could have viewed the wider picture, we saw only a part.**

Leader: When we could have sensed the Spirit leading, we missed the way.

People: **We need forgiveness for our dim apprehension of love’s clear leading.  
We need faith that trusts when it cannot see.**

All: **We seek to walk in the light that lingers when all else fails;  
We long to follow the bright Morning Star of our faith,  
Jesus Christ, the Savior.**

Adapted from *The Worship Sourcebook*

SONG OF CONFESSION

The musical score for 'Song of Confession' is written for two voices (Leader and All) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of staves. The lyrics are: Ky - ri-e, Lord, have mer-cy. Ky - ri-e, Lord, have mer-cy. Chris - te, Christ, have mer - cy. Chris - te, Christ, have mer - cy. Ky - ri-e! Lord, have mer - cy. Ky - ri-e, Lord, have mer - cy. Ky - ri-e, e - le - i-son. Ky - ri-e, e - le - i-son.

Text and music: Kathleen Hart Brumm (b. 1958)

TODAY

On Communion Sundays we receive a **Deacons’ Fund offering** for meeting needs in our church and community. If you are writing a check, write “Deacons’ Fund” on the memo line. It is not necessary to put your check into a Deacons’ Fund envelope.

If you have concerns or are **in need of prayer**, elder [Phyllis Le Peau](#) is available at the front following the service.

**Thanks to our musicians:** Mary Hopper, Katrina DiCrasto, Clarinet Quintet: Steve Ivester, Hannah Johnson, Peter Osielski, Luciana Balzer, Howard Whitaker

**Easter plants:** Today is the last opportunity to place an order for Easter plants. If you would like to purchase a plant in memory of a loved one to help decorate our sanctuary fill out an order form today in the Gathering Place.

**Easter Brunch:** On Easter, the worship service will be at 10:30 a.m. so that you can come to Immanuel for a celebratory brunch at 9:30, before the service. **Sign up in the Gathering Place today or Sunday April 14.** Please plan to bring a hot breakfast casserole, fruit that is cut up and ready to be added to a fruit salad, or some type of bread or pastry. To facilitate clean-up, disposable baking pans for those making a casserole will be available when you sign up.

**International Café today:** Get acquainted with Immanuel's newest missionary, EPC pastor Scott Burdsall, who will soon be moving with his family to London for a church planting ministry among the immigrant population. The missions team will offer a light lunch (shepherd's pie!) and good company right after the education hour, finishing up by 1:15. No sign-ups necessary. Just plan to stay!

- 11:10 a.m.
- 12:15 a.m.
- 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- 2:00 p.m.
- 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

- Sunday school and Adult Education
- International Café in the lower level
- Food Pantry open
- Iglesia Roca Eterna
- Youth Group in the Ministry House



WE RESPOND WITH THANKSGIVING

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.*

*Gluten-free bread is available at the table in the balcony.  
Please feel free to partake of the elements as you feel led.*

During Communion, Carol Wilhoit and Andy LePeau 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.)

At the Cross	p. 4
Food to Pilgrims	p. 15
God to Enfold You	p. 18
Humbly I Adore Thee	p. 23
Lamb of God	p. 31
What Wondrous Love Is This?	p. 43

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

- \* CLOSING HYMN: *Amazing Grace*

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE
- HYMN 460

(first and last verses)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we, free from sins, might live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed.

- \* SONG OF ACCLAMATION: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

(Music can be found on p. 20 of communion booklet.)
- Franz Schubert

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

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: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Clarinets

DIACONAL PRAYER

HEATHER REYES

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

ANNIKA DURBIN

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

I will hide your word in side my heart so that  
Come and pour your grace in-to my heart so that  
it may guide me. Like a shin-ing light let it  
it may fill me with the pre-cious things that your  
burn so bright; I will fol - low you.  
Spir - it brings; I will live in you.

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WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

*(Please stand for the reading of God’s Word.)*

READER: VINCE MORRIS

\* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Ecclesiastes 11:1-6*

- <sup>1</sup>Ship your grain across the sea;  
after many days you may receive a return.  
<sup>2</sup>Invest in seven ventures, yes, in eight;  
you do not know what disaster may come upon the land.  
<sup>3</sup>If clouds are full of water,  
they pour rain on the earth.  
Whether a tree falls to the south or to the north,  
in the place where it falls, there it will lie.

- <sup>4</sup>Whoever watches the wind will not plant;  
whoever looks at the clouds will not reap.  
<sup>5</sup>As you do not know the path of the wind,  
or how the body is formed<sup>[a]</sup> in a mother’s womb,  
so you cannot understand the work of God,  
the Maker of all things.  
<sup>6</sup>Sow your seed in the morning,  
and at evening let your hands not be idle,  
for you do not know which will succeed,  
whether this or that,  
or whether both will do equally well. NIV

\* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *John 12:23-26*

<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.<sup>24</sup>Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup>Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. NIV

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

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

\* HYMN: *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

HYMN 654

\* MEDITATION: *In His Hands*