



# FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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— HOPE —

IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ♦ DECEMBER 1, 2019

## **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.

## 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

PRELUDE: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming  
Of the Father's Love Begotten*

arr. Hayes  
arr. Rodriguez

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

CARRADUS FAMILY

Reader: Advent is a time to wait.

**All: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

Reader: During Advent we wait for light in the darkness.

**All: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

Reader: During Advent we wait for freedom from captivity.

**All: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

Reader: During Advent we wait for comfort in sorrow.

**All: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

Reader: During Advent we wait for power in weakness.

**All: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

\* SONG: *We Wait in Hope*

**Congregation:  
Refrain**

Joel Raney



(1st Sunday)	We	wait	in	}	hope_____	for the morn - ing	Light,
(2nd Sunday)	We	watch	in				
(3rd Sunday)	We	pre - pare	in				
(4th Sunday)	We	praise	with				
(Christmas Eve)	We	pro - claim	with				



for the love of Christ to il - lu - mi - nate\_\_\_\_\_ the night.\_\_\_\_\_



We	wait	with	}	joy_____	for the Sav - ior's	birth;
We	watch	with				
We	pre - pare	with				
We	praise	with				
We	pro - claim	with				



we	wait	in	}	hope	for	peace	on	earth.
we	watch	in						
we	pre - pare	in						
we	praise	with						
we	pro - claim	with						

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\* INVOCATION

\* OPENING HYMN: *Lo, He Comes with Clouds*



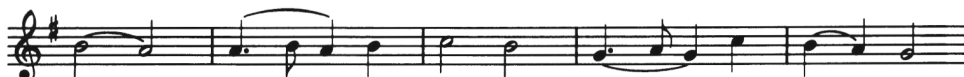
1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
 3 Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his  
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
 Music: *Helmsley*, melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778)

87. 87 12 7

## WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord,

**People: We trust the Lord's goodness. We rely on God's mercy. We find shelter in God's steadfast love.**

Leader: In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord,

**People: We walk in the Lord's way. We follow God's example of love. We keep our covenant promises.**

Leader: In this Advent season of waiting,

**People: Lord, forgive our sins. Remember your love. Remember each one of us. Remember your people everywhere.**

Leader: In this Advent season of waiting,

**People: Lord, we wait for your salvation. We wait for your leading. We wait for your coming.**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Be comforted and hear the good tidings of the gospel: If anyone has sinned, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. Believe the gospel and live in peace. Amen.

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

Franz Schubert

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

**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: *Wonderful, Merciful Savior*

Dawn Thomas, Eric Wyse  
RACHEL AND CHRIS GILMORE

Wonderful, merciful Savior,  
Precious Redeemer and Friend,  
Who would have thought that a Lamb could  
Rescue the souls of man?  
Oh, You rescue the souls of man.

You are the one that we praise,  
You are the one we adore,  
You give the healing and grace  
Our hearts always hunger for,  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Counselor, comforter, keeper,  
Spirit we long to embrace,  
You offer hope when our hearts have  
Hopelessly lost our way,  
Oh, we've hopelessly lost the way.

Almighty, infinite Father  
Faithfully loving Your own;  
Here in our weakness You find us  
Falling before Your throne,  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

Jes-se Tree, Jes-se Tree, sign of God's fi - del-i - ty, that

5 he will love e - ter-nal - ly the prom-ise made to

9 No - ah, and Ab ra-ham and I - saac, and Ja - cob on a jour - ney, and

12 Jo - seph and the tribes, who wait-ed for the com - ing of Em - man - u - el.

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**WE HEAR GOD SPEAK**

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

READER: BECKY EGGIMANN

\* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Genesis 3:8-15*

<sup>8</sup> Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

<sup>10</sup> He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”<sup>11</sup> And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

<sup>12</sup> The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”



<sup>13</sup> Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”  
The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

<sup>14</sup> So the Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,  
“Cursed are you above all livestock  
and all wild animals!  
You will crawl on your belly  
and you will eat dust  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity  
between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will crush your head,  
and you will strike his heel.” NIV

\* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Romans 5:17-21*

<sup>17</sup> For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God’s abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

<sup>18</sup> Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. <sup>19</sup> For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

<sup>20</sup> The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, <sup>21</sup> so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. NIV

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION: *Anticipation in Antagonism*

## 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, **Gary and Cathy Deddo** 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 Lamb's High Feast	p. 3
Come, Let Us Eat	p. 12
Lead Me to Calvary	p. 31
Humbly I Adore Thee	p. 22
One Bread, One Body	p. 38
I Stand Amazed	p. 25

## WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

\* CLOSING HYMN: *Amazing Grace*

HYMN 460  
*(first and last verses)*

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE: *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*

Johnson

## 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.

## 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.

## TODAY

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

**Thanks to our musicians:** Alethea Funck, Mary Hopper, Rachel and Chris Gilmore, Seth Ehorn, Peter Welander

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

**Food Pantry open**

**Iglesia Roca Eterna**

**NO Youth Group**

## THIS WEEK

Tuesday

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

**Food Pantry open**

**Pioneer Clubs for kids**

Wednesday 9:30 a.m.

**Mom Talk (childcare)**

Thursday 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**Food Pantry open**

Saturday 7:45 a.m.

10:00 a.m. - noon

**Men's Breakfast**

**Prime Timers "This Is My Story"**

IN IMMANUEL AND BEYOND

**Devotional material for Advent:** Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Look for materials in the Gathering Place and choose one to read as you prepare for Christmas.

**Adult Ed special classes:** Today our current adult ed classes will all meet in the sanctuary to hear testimonies from three of our current elders.

**Merry Christmas for our missionaries:** We took an offering at the Thanksgiving Eve Service to create a financial blessing for our church's eleven missionary families. If you were not able to be here but want to contribute, you can write a check to Immanuel with "Thanksgiving" in the memo line this morning.

**Men's Breakfast, Saturday, December 7, 7:45 a.m.:** Cost is \$5. Such a deal for a great catered breakfast and the chance to hear from Andy Le Peau! Sign up today.

**PrimeTimers' This Is My Story, Saturday, December 7, 10:00 a.m.** Come have some refreshments and hear from Bill and Diane Jerdan. Sign up today.

**Prayer Focus:** The prayer team for the Renovation process has been meeting to talk and pray about what God is leading Immanuel to do and how we can attend more closely to what he is doing in our midst. One thing we've been praying for is that our renewed building would better allow us to open our doors to our community--those already within our church family and those yet to come. This month as we practice thankfulness for his rich blessings on our church, may we also move into the Advent time of waiting and watching with an increased sense of expectancy: God has been faithful in the past, he will continue to be so. He is already at work, building a place and a people who will receive him and welcome many in his name. As we consider making our church home more welcoming and usable, may we also ponder how he is at work in us as his people, those with whom he came to dwell.



*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***

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