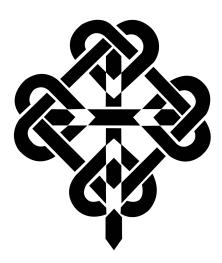
# Immanuel Presbyterian Church



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

The Winter of Our Souls

# 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** 

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

AMBER JOHNSON

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

# \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: God anointed Christ to console the afflicted.

All: Come, let us worship the Lord our Comforter!

Pastor: God anointed Christ to emancipate the enslaved.

All: Come, let us worship the Lord our liberator!

Pastor: God anointed Christ to bind up the wounded.

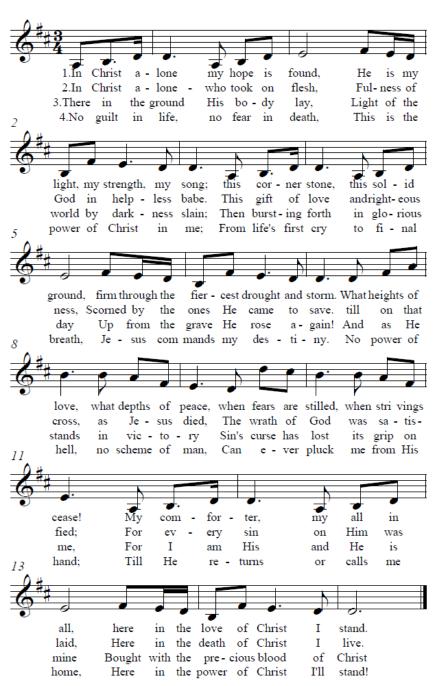
All: Come, let us worship the Lord our healer!

Pastor: God anointed Christ to deliver the troubled.

All: Come, let us worship the Lord our Savior!

Adapted from The Worship Sourcebook

\* Invocation



# WE ARE RENEWED BY GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION ALVA STEFFLER

Leader: The psalmist testifies:

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.

People: If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,

the Lord would not have listened.

Leader: But truly God has listened;

he has given heed to the words of my prayer.

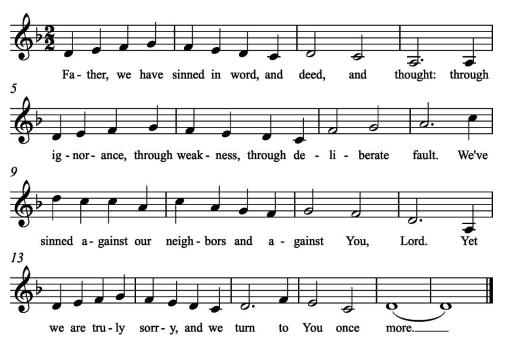
People: Praise be to God,

because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

Leader: In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

based on Psalm 66:16, 18-20, NRSV from The Worship Sourcebook

# SONG OF CONFESSION



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# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

# Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into

the world to save sinners. In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

# \* Acclamation

All: Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might to our God forever and ever. 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.)

MISSION FOCUS

JEFF PELZ
InterVarsity

# WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Ellie Durbin

# \* Doxology

All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.

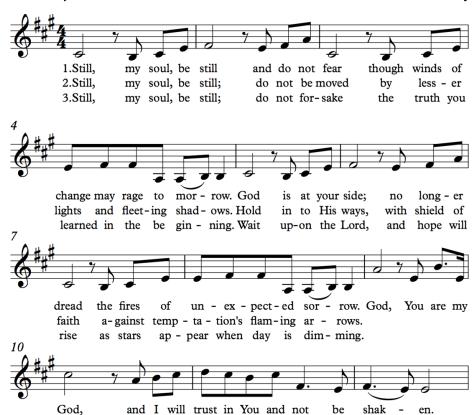
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

# CHILDREN'S BLESSING

(Children 3 years through 2nd grade are dismissed to go downstairs to continue their worship.)

INTERCESSORY PRAYER STEVE WESTFALL

\* Hymn: Still, My Soul, Be Still







# WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

# READERS: ELLIE DISELKOEN, MEREDITH EADES

- \* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Psalm 13
  - <sup>1</sup> How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?
  - <sup>2</sup> How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?
  - <sup>3</sup> Look on me and answer, Lord my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,
  - <sup>4</sup> and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," and my foes will rejoice when I fall.
  - <sup>5</sup> But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation.
  - <sup>6</sup> I will sing the Lord's praise, for he has been good to me. NIV
- \* New Testament Scripture: 2 Corinthians 1:3-11
  - <sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, <sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. <sup>5</sup> For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. <sup>6</sup> If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. <sup>7</sup> And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.
  - <sup>8</sup> We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. <sup>9</sup> Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. <sup>10</sup> He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, <sup>11</sup> as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many. NIV

# \* Congregational Response

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: God's Comfort: When My Winter Becomes Our Winter (Part 1)

# WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

\* CLOSING HYMN: Great Is Thy Faithfulness Hymn 32

\* Benediction

\* Postlude

# **TODAY**

**If you are in need of prayer**, elder Lew Luttrell will be at the front of the sanctuary following the service.

**We're glad to welcome Jeff Pelz**, the coordinator for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at College of DuPage. He and his wife, Jane, worked with IVCF at COD and then overseas, and now they are back at College of DuPage, where they hold Bible studies and other events for interested students. The Pelzes open their home most Saturday nights, and their ministry encompasses mostly international students. The Pelzes work with Kent Richter, the COD faculty liaison for InterVarsity.

**Thanks to our musicians:** Mary Hopper, Rob Noll, Ellie Durbin, Russ Adkins, Morgan Sobek, Jeff Sands, Annika Durbin, Immanuel orchestra.

Be sure to visit our **Bake Sale** this morning to support our Youth Mission Fund.

11:10 a.m.	Adult Ed and Sunday School Christianity and American Politics (Sanctuary) Grandparenting (Pastor's office) Youth Membership Class (Ministry House)
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
2:00 p.m.	Iglesia Roca Eterna
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	College Fellowship and dinner 502 W. Indiana St., Wheaton RSVP to Cindy (630-386-1534).
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Youth Group in the Ministry House

# THIS WEEK

Tuesday 9:15 a.m. **Women's Bible Study** 

11:00 - 1:00 p.m. **Food pantry open** 

7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

**Pioneer Club** 

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. **Mom Talk** (childcare)

Thursday 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. Food Pantry open

# IN IMMANUEL AND BEYOND

February 26, 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday service

# God's Construction Work in Us

As we prepare for the Lenten season and embrace the physical renovation project of our church facilities, we would like to put together a booklet containing stories and anecdotes of how God has worked (is working) among us. Using the quote below and the follow-up questions, we would love to have your written response to share in the booklet for the entire congregation's encouragement. Email responses to <a href="mailto:anneteograps">annette@immanuelpresbyterian.net</a> by Friday, February, 21. Please limit your responses to approximately 200 words.

Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of - throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself. C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

In what ways have you experienced God's "renovation" in your inward life through unforeseen circumstances or events?

How did the work God did in you change or help form your understanding of him in a way different from before he began this new renovation work?

# **BEGINNING NEXT WEEK**

# **ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES SESSION 4 • February 23—April 5**

# Traveling through Another Dimension: Christians, Culture, and the Twilight Zone

Michael Kendrick and Ron Netzel

This class will explore topics and ways how Christians can engage our friends and co-workers as we talk about questions of "fairness" (or justice) and "does the punishment fit the crime." We will revive the class previously run by Roger Lundin and Michael Kendrick, as a way to have this dialogue, as a tribute to Roger, and as a mechanism to connect with our world about Christ.

Michael Kendrick just celebrated with Andrea their 30th year as Immanuel members. He is proud to say he has four generations of family at our church. He has taught several Sunday School classes during the past few decades, including a couple courses on the Christian Year. This will be his third offering on the Twilight Zone, a remarkable television series that continues to be timely and relevant today. (And yes, he has watched all 156 episodes!)

Ron Netzel has been a member of Immanuel for several years. He is married to Dee and has one daughter, Sophie. He attended Wheaton College where he first learned about how God writes our story and the importance of listening to God's writing of his Story in our daily lives.

# Following Jesus Then and Now: Discipleship According to the Gospel of Matthew

Anna Gissing

Discipleship is a "churchy" word, but it hasn't always been that way. What did it mean to be a disciple in the first century? In this class, we'll consider portraits of discipleship in the Gospel of Matthew in light of relevant concepts in other Jewish movements. What does it mean to be a disciple now? We'll end each session with a brief discussion about how these Scripture passages help us follow Jesus today.

Anna Moseley Gissing is associate editor for IVP Academic, where she acquires and develops projects in biblical studies and related disciplines. She is married to Jeff and is mama to Nathan and Eliza. The Gissings have been at Immanuel since they moved to Wheaton in 2017.

#### **ELDERS**

Katherine Anderson (Clerk of Session), Dan Balzer, Lew Luttrell, Carl Pickard, Sheroll Ritchie, Leon Sinclair, Gaby Sosa, Alva Steffler, Steve Westfall, Ken Wolgemuth

#### **DEACONS**

Phebe Balzer, Tim Curley, Becky Eggimann, Seth Ehorn, Debby France, Marc Johnson, Michael Kendrick, Harv Meyers, Tom Nguyen, Heather Reyes (chair), Jack Swanson

#### 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).