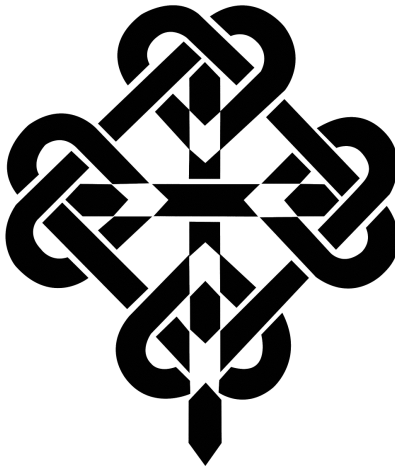


WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

# Immanuel

## Presbyterian Church



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

LENTEN SERIES  
The Character of Christ

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

## 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

ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Blessed are they whose help is the God of Jacob,

**All: Whose hope is in the Lord their God.**

Pastor: It is he who made heaven and earth, the sea and all life.

**All: The Lord is ever faithful. He champions justice for the oppressed.  
He feeds the hungry. He watches over the weak.**

Pastor: The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.  
Praise the Lord!

### \* INVOCATION

*\* Congregation stands*

\* OPENING SONG: *In Christ Alone*



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my  
 2. In Christ a - lone - who took on flesh, Ful-ness of  
 3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay, Light of the  
 2 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the  
 light, my strength, my song; this cor - ner stone, this sol - id  
 God in help - less babe. This gift of love and right-ous  
 world by dark - ness slain; Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious  
 5 power of Christ in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal  
 ground, firm through the fier - cest drought and storm. What heights of  
 6 ness, Scorned by the ones He came to save. till on that  
 day Up from the grave He rose a - gain! And as He  
 8 breath, Je - sus com mands my des - ti - ny. No power of  
 love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when stri vings  
 9 cross, as Je - sus died, The wrath of God was sa - tis -  
 stands in vic - to - ry Sin's curse has lost its grip on  
 11 hell, no scheme of man, Can e - ver pluck me from His  
 cease! My com - for - ter, my all in  
 12 fied; For ev - ery sin on Him was  
 me, For I am His and He is  
 13 hand; Till He re - turns or calls me  
 all, here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 laid, Here in the death of Christ I live.  
 mine Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ  
 home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

# WE ARE RENEWED BY GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

SHEROLL RITCHIE

Reader: "Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." (Isaiah 1:18, NIV)

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**People:** Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. When I kept silent, my bones wasted away, through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as in the heat of summer.

Reader: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not cover up my iniquity.

**People:** I said, "I will confess my transgression to the Lord"--and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**All:** Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found.

(Psalm 32:1 - 6, NIV)

SONG OF CONFESSION

*Sing first line.*

**All:** *Refrain*

Dm C Dm C Dm

I lift my soul to you; hear my prayer, hear my  
*Alternate* What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my

C Am F Am Em Dm

prayer. I lift my soul to you; hear my prayer.  
soul! What won - drous love is this, O my soul!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

(Romans 8:1, NIV)

\* ACCLAMATION *(Please stand)*

*Sing alternate line.*

**All:**

*Refrain*

Dm C Dm C Dm

I lift my soul to you; hear my prayer, hear my  
*Alternate* What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my

C Am F Am Em Dm

prayer. I lift my soul to you; hear my prayer.  
soul! What won - drous love is this, O my soul!

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**All:** **And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC: *The Old Rugged Cross/'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

KEVIN RITCHIE

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

ANNIKA DURBIN  
RUBY SCHEIDT

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

KATHERINE ANDERSON

## WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READER: DAVID MATHUES

\* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Psalms 123*

- <sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to you,  
to you who sit enthroned in heaven.  
<sup>2</sup> As the eyes of slaves look to the hand of their master,  
as the eyes of a female slave look to the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look to the LORD our God,  
till he shows us his mercy.  
<sup>3</sup> Have mercy on us, LORD, have mercy on us,  
for we have endured no end of contempt.  
<sup>4</sup> We have endured no end  
of ridicule from the arrogant,  
of contempt from the proud. NIV

\* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Matthew 11:25-30*

<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup> Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

<sup>27</sup> "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." NIV

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: *The Character of Christ: Approachability*

**WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE**

\* CLOSING HYMN: *O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

1. O, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise;  
2. My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,  
3. Je-sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor-rows cease!  
4. He breaks the pow'r of can-celed sin, He sets the pris-'ner free.  
5. Hear Him, ye deaf! His praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues em-ploy!

the glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of His grace.  
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of Thy name.  
'Tis mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.  
His blood can make the foul-est clean, His blood a-vailed for me.  
Ye blind, be-hold your Sav-ior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy!

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739

MUSIC: Carl Glaser, 1828

AZMON

CM

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

## Today

**If you are in need of prayer**, elder Sheroll Ritchie will be glad to pray with you (773-551-4568 soritchie@gmail.com).

**Thanks to our musicians:** Mary Hopper, Beth Bauer, Kevin Ritchie, Alva Steffler. Use of printed music is licensed under CCLI #294262, OneLicense #704683, GIA #7835.

**Thanks to our** Livestream video crew: Peter Welander, Marc Johnson

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

**Food Pantry open**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**3rd - 5th grade Sunday School**

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Youth Group** (Zoom)

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Adult Ed class** (Zoom)

Mark Noll's class finishes tonight.

Next Sunday evening, former member Michael Allen will begin a session on Augustine's *City of God*.

## This Week

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. **Women's Bible Study** (Zoom)

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Food Pantry open**

7:00 p.m. **Men's Book Group** (Zoom)

## Coming

**Interested in membership?** We will hold a class, via Zoom, on Saturday morning March 6, from 9-11 a.m. Contact Annette if you are interested, and we'll get you a packet of introductory materials about our church and denomination.



## NOTES

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*ELDERS*

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

*DEACONS*

*Phebe Balzer, Becky Eggimann, Seth Ehorn, Debby France, Katie Pickard,  
Dee Netzel, Tom Nguyen, Heather Reyes (chair), Jack Swanson, Amy Treier, Rebecca Williams*

*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).