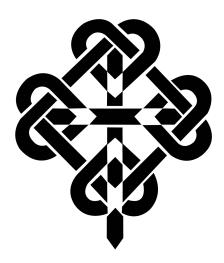
Immanuel Presbyterian Church



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

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: Morning Has Broken arr. Dicie

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Arise, shine, for your light has come!

All: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Pastor: The sun shall no longer be our light by day, nor will the brightness

of the moon shine on us,

All: For the Lord will be our light, and our God will be our glory.

Pastor: The Lord will be our everlasting light, and our days of sorrow will end.

All: Let us worship our light and our salvation!

from The Worship Sourcebook

^{*} Invocation

^{*} Congregation stands



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WE ARE RENEWED BY GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION LEON SINCLAIR

Leader: The psalmist models a transparent faith with these words:

Search me, O God, and know my heart;

People: Test me and know my thoughts.

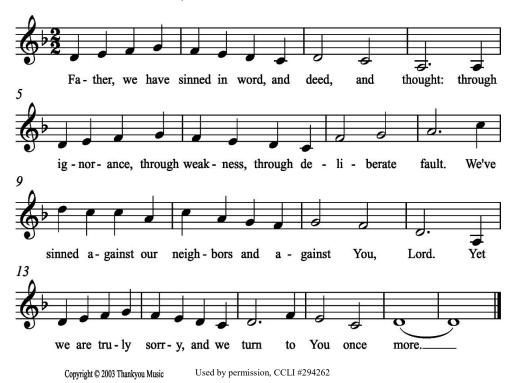
See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Leader: We express our longing for God's leading

by our own transparent confession.

based on Psalm 139:23-24, NRSV

Song of Confession: Father, We Have Sinned



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God the Creator brings you new life, forgives and redeems you.

Take hold of this forgiveness, and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus.

Amen.

* ACCLAMATION (Please stand)

All: Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing. Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN LEADERS ANGELA WISDOM, LEON SINCLAIR, ANNETTE LAPLACA

Leader: As part of the priesthood of believers, Christians are called to offer ourselves to our Lord in thanksgiving for what God has done and continues to do for us in Jesus Christ. It is our privilege to support those who are trained for specific ministries in this congregation, as we affirm Stephen Ministry and its leaders.

Because of your gifts, calling, and training, we charge you to cast a vision for this crucial ministry, to carefully recruit and train congregation members with the gifts, talents, and character to serve as Stephen ministers, to work with the leadership of this congregation to identify members who could benefit from this confidential caring ministry, to match hurting people with Stephen ministers based on their needs and to supervise these confidential caring relationships and offer regular opportunities for continuing growth in the skills and practice of caring ministry.

Will you assume this ministry in the confidence that it comes from God? If so, respond, "Yes, with the help of God."

Answer: Yes, with the help of God.

Leader: Will you nurture the skills you have learned and use them to support,

encourage, and build up people, and to enable excellent care while trusting

in God's healing?

Answer: Yes, with the help of God.

Leader: Members of Immanuel Presbyterian Church, will you open your hearts to the

ministry of these Stephen leaders and pray for them as servants of Christ?

If so, answer, "Yes, with the help of God."

Congregation: Yes, with the help of God.

Leader: Gracious God, you have called these people to a caring ministry. Grant them joy in their service and a spirit of bold trust in you, that their ministry may stir us to greater caring and more fruitful service. Help us all to be willing servants, so your name may be glorified, your people live in peace, and your good and gracious will be done, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

May the Lord fill you with the Holy Spirit and guide, bless, and keep you, so you may be faithful in ministry.

Special Music: Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

arr. Powell Grace Mayell

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

ANNETTE LAPLACA

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READER: ANGELA WISDOM

* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 35

¹ The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, ² it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way;
 say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear;
 your God will come, he will come with vengeance;
 with divine retribution he will come to save you."

⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. ⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. ⁷ The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow. ⁸ And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it. ⁹ No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, ¹⁰ and those the LORD has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing;

* New Testament Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:56-58

everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them,

and sorrow and sighing will flee away. NIV

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

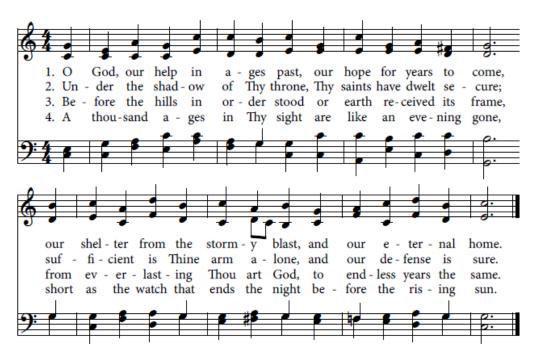
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: A Stream in the Desert

⁵⁸ Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. NIV

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

* CLOSING SONG: O God, Our Help in Ages Past (Verses 1, 2, 3, and 6)



- 5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
- 6. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be Thou our Guide while life shall last, and our eternal home!

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719 Music: William Croft, 1708 ST. ANNE CM

- * BENEDICTION
- * Postlude

Today

If you are in need of prayer, elder Katherine Anderson (630-292-4376 or katand@sbcglobal.net) will be available to pray with you.

Thanks to our musicians: Mary Hopper, Heather, Carter and Abott Klassen, Grace Mayell.

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Thanks to our Livestream video crew: Peter Welander, Doug Reneker.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	3rd - 5th grade Sunday School (Zoom)
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Youth Group (Zoom)
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Adult Ed class (Zoom) "Beyond the Christian West: Becoming a Truly Worldwide Faith in the 20th Century"

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
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Men's Book Group

COMING

Sunday, Feb. 7 3:30 p.m. Congregational Meeting (Zoom)

NOTES

NOTES

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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www.immanuelpresbyterian.net

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