

ELDERS

*Dan Balzer, Sarah Holman, Phyllis Le Peau, Lew Luttrell (Clerk of Session),
Carl Pickard, Leon Sinclair, Alva Steffler, Jack Swanson, Ken Wolgemuth*

DEACONS

*Judy Bryson, Tim Curley, Colin Holman, Marc Johnson, Michael Kendrick, Jim Mann, Harv Meyers,
Jeanette Myra, Dee Netzel, Trudy Zimmerman (Chair)*

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

29W260 Batavia Road
Warrenville, IL 60555
(630) 393-4400

www.immanuelpresbyterian.net

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



*under the Sun
under the SON*

A SERMON SERIES ON ECCLESIASTES

IMMANUEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 27, 2019

Welcome, Visitors!

Thank you for choosing to attend Immanuel this morning. We hope you will find a warm welcome and 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.

Candidates for Deacon

Phebe Balzer and her family have attended IPC since 1993, though they were overseas for a three-year stint. Her family includes her husband, Dan, and two daughters, Serena (college) and Luciana (high school). Phebe feels extremely grateful for and profoundly blessed by our IPC church family. She has enjoyed participating in various aspects of our church life. These include being a greeter in the Children and Worship program, paying the bills and keeping books for the finance committee, regularly attending the Tuesday women's Bible study, and doing a weekly food rescue pickup for our Neighborhood Food pantry. She has been a part of a very small group where she values connecting meaningfully and reflecting on faith issues. She and Dan recently joined a small group as a couple and look forward to connecting meaningfully together. Phebe has also enjoyed learning and connecting with her community of West Chicago by being a school board member and by being in a community book club.

Heather Reyes has been attending Immanuel since Rose DeBoer first brought her in late 2000, and in nearly twenty years she has served in multiple capacities including youth group help, nursery service and coordination, Sunday School instruction ranging from preschool through junior high, various VBS roles, Nominating Committee, and lots of flute playing. She and her husband, Mel, were married at IPC in 2008 and live in Aurora with their daughters Olivia (7) and Astrid (5) and rescued lab mix Atari Biscuit (2). Heather is an adjunct mathematics professor at Aurora University and in her free time loves to cook and bake, run and take exercise classes at the YMCA, and take her girls on various adventures. As a deacon, she looks forward to coming along fellow members walking through difficult times in both prayerful and practical ways, giving back to the community that has given so much to her and her family.

THESE CLASSES RESUME NEXT WEEK.

Christians in Science: Conversations about Faith and Practice Sanctuary

Steve Westfall joined Immanuel in 2015, having worshiped at Immanuel having worshiped here many times with his wife's late mother, Mary Leksa. Steve grew up in the Methodist church in Texas, committed his life to Christ during high school, and was involved with campus ministries during college. He attended Dallas Theological Seminary, studying Old Testament and Hebrew, followed by an MBA in finance from the University of Chicago. He worked with youth programs, preached at a retirement community, and gravitated toward Reformed theology. For thirty years Steve worked in information technology, while active in the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of North America, where he sang in the choir, coordinated adult education, was a representative to diocesan conventions, and served on the vestry. He served in leadership positions in Scouting for many years. At Immanuel, Steve and Janet sing in the choir, and Steve taught a class on the Book of Psalms. Steve and Janet have one son, who just completed a Ph.D. in New Testament, and two grandchildren.

Enthusiastic Service, reflecting the servant heart of Jesus as we proclaim the gospel near and far in word and deed.

* OPENING SONG: *O Worship the King*

HYMN 3

WE ARE RENEWED BY GOD’S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

CARL PICKARD

Leader: God is light, yet we have been so 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

TODAY

The rosebud at the front this morning celebrates the birth of Ezekiel Ransom Lee Noll, born to Rob and Kate Lee Noll and brother Amos.

If you are in need of prayer, elder [Ken Wolgemuth](#) will be at the front of the sanctuary following the service.

Thanks to our musicians: Mary Hopper, John Zimmerman, Immanuel choir

Please stay after the worship service this morning to take part in our Annual Congregational Meeting.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. **Food pantry open**
2:00 p.m. **Iglesia Roca Eterna**
6:00 p.m. **Service of Remembrance**
3:30 - 6:00 p.m. **Youth Group** Skating Party at All Seasons Ice Rink (31W330 N. Aurora Rd. Naperville.)
Pizza dinner.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday 9:15 - 11:00 a.m. **Women’s Bible Study** (*childcare*)
1:00 - 1:00 p.m. **Food Pantry**
7:00 - 8:30 p.m. **Pioneer Clubs**
7:00 - 8:30 p.m. **Women’s Bible Study**
7:00 p.m. **Men’s Book Study** (*Pastor’s office*)
Thursday 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. **Food Pantry**

IN IMMANUEL AND BEYOND

From the Finance Committee – The giving goal for December was \$153,040. The actual giving in December was \$139,967 or 91% of the giving goal. Giving in 2018 for the operating budget was \$728,326, just under 101% of the giving goal of \$722,040. Thank you for your generous giving for our church’s ministries and operations.

Children's Ministry: We need two additional nursery volunteers during SS hour, on a monthly rotation. Please speak to Rachel Ehorn (rachelehorn@gmail.com) or Annika Durbin (annikadurbin@gmail.com) if you are interested in serving in this way.

Next Sunday, February 3: International Café, light lunch with the Clarkston Five, 12:15 until 1:15, no sign up required.

Encore!: Feb. 6

⁸ The end of a matter is better than its beginning,
and patience is better than pride.
⁹ Do not be quickly provoked in your spirit,
for anger resides in the lap of fools.
¹⁰ Do not say, “Why were the old days better than these?”
For it is not wise to ask such questions.
¹¹ Wisdom, like an inheritance, is a good thing
and benefits those who see the sun.
¹² Wisdom is a shelter
as money is a shelter,
but the advantage of knowledge is this:
Wisdom preserves those who have it. (NIV)

* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *2 Corinthians 5:1-5*

¹ For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ² Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, ³ because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. NIV

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

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

SERMON: *Facing Matters of Life and Death*

* CLOSING HYMN: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

HYMN 598

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

SONG OF CONFESSION: *Lord, I Need You (verse 3)*

Matt Maher, Jesse Reeves

0
Lord, I need You, Oh I need You; ev - 'ry hour I

4
need You. My one de - fense, my

6
right - eous - ness, Oh God, how I need You.

9
1. Lord, I come, I con - fess; bow - ing
2. Where sin runs deep Your grace is more. Where grace is
3. Teach my song to rise to You when temp

12
here I find my rest. With - out You I fall a -
found is where You are. And where You are, Lord, I am
ta - tion comes my way. When I can't stand I'll fall on

15
part; You're the one that guides my heart. (Lord, I)
free; hol - i - ness is Christ in me.
You; Jes - us, You're my hope and stay.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God demonstrates his own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness
And brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,
In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

* ACCLAMATION (*Gloria Patri*) HYMN 735

All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, 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.)

WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: *Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal* Neil Harmon
IMMANUEL CHOIR

Hark, I hear the harps eternal Ringing on the farther shore, As I near those swollen waters With their deep and solemn roar.	Refrain Souls have cross’d before me, saintly, To that land of perfect rest; And I hear them singing faintly In the mansions of the blest.
Refrain: Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the lamb! Hallelujah, hallelujah, Glory to the great I AM!	Refrain
And my soul, tho’ stain’d with sorrow, Fading as the light of day, Passes swiftly o’er those waters, To the city far away.	

* DOXOLOGY

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all people here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S BLESSING
(Children age 3 to 2nd grade are dismissed to go downstairs.)

SILENT CORPORATE INTERCESSORY PRAYER

* HYMN: *My Jesus, I Love Thee* HYMN 648

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

(Please remain standing for the reading of God’s Word.)
READERS: VIOLET SMOAK, MARILYN SPRADLEY

* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Ecclesiastes 7:1-12*

- ¹ A good name is better than fine perfume,
and the day of death better than the day of birth.
- ² It is better to go to a house of mourning
than to go to a house of feasting,
for death is the destiny of everyone;
the living should take this to heart.
- ³ Frustration is better than laughter,
because a sad face is good for the heart.
- ⁴ The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning,
but the heart of fools is in the house of pleasure.
- ⁵ It is better to heed the rebuke of a wise person
than to listen to the song of fools.
- ⁶ Like the crackling of thorns under the pot,
so is the laughter of fools.
This too is meaningless.
- ⁷ Extortion turns a wise person into a fool,
and a bribe corrupts the heart.