



EPIPHANY

GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH

IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ♦ JANUARY 5, 2020

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: *God with Us*

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather in the presence of God, through whom all families on earth receive their life and their name.

People: We wish to be strengthened in our inner selves, that the Light of the World may shine in our hearts.

Leader: We seek to be rooted and grounded in God's love and in the love of Christ, which surpasses understanding.

All: We come to worship and praise the source of true love and peace throughout the world. Glory be to God in the church and in Jesus Christ to all generations forever and ever!

* INVOCATION

** Congregation stands.*

* OPENING HYMN: *Glorious Light*



1. Glor - i - ous light! See the dawn of sal - va - tion:
2. Long has the world fought the song of the an - gels;
3. There is a day all cre - a - tion has longed for,

5



An - gels in white fill the skies with their won - drous song, a -
Hea - ven - ly mus - ic is drowned by a war - ring world. Yet
when all of time has been spent and the Lord re - turns. His

10



wak - en - ing earth with news of His birth; Join the hymn of the
hope burns a light that shat - ters the night; Turn your heart to the
song we'll re - peat as Hea - ven com - pletes pro - mised peace that will

15



high - est hea - vens. Glo - ry to God in the high - est!
call of glo - ry.
fill the na - tion.

21



Peace to men on earth. Come and a - dore Him with

27



won - der - Christ, Lord of Hea - ven and earth.

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WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: O God, our guide, who once used a star to lead people to Christ,
we confess our poor sense of direction.

**All: We let ourselves become confused, we are easily distracted, and we
lose our way.**

Leader: We fail to follow the signs you provide.

**All: Forgive our waywardness, O God. Lead us to Christ so we
may follow his way to you.**

from The Worship Sourcebook

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.
To all who have received him, to those who believe in his name,
he gave the right to become children of God. And that is what we are!

* SONG OF ACCLAMATION: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*
(Music can be found on p. 20 of communion booklet.)

Franz Schubert

**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.**

* NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light
very God of very God,
begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead;
and the life of the world to come. 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: *Three Kings*

Peter Cornelius
DAVID LAPLACA

Three Kings from Persian lands afar
To Jordan follow the pointing star:
And this the quest of the travellers three,
Where the new-born King of the Jews may be.
Full royal gifts they bear for the King;
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.
Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem
The Kings are travelling, travel with them!
The star of mercy, the star of grace,
Shall lead thy heart to its resting place.
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;
Offer thy heart to the infant King.

The star shines out with a steadfast ray;
The kings to Bethlehem make their way,
And there in worship they bend the knee,
As Mary's child in her lap they see;
Their royal gifts they show to the King;

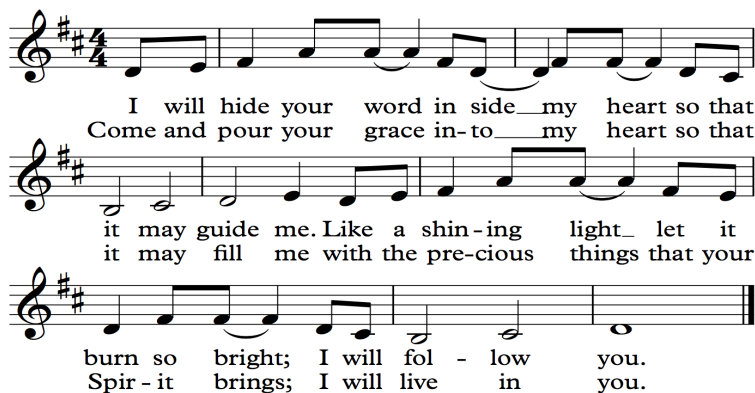
DIACONAL PRAYER

HEATHER REYES

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANNIKA DURBIN

SONG OF ILLUMINATION



I will hide your word in side my heart so that
Come and pour your grace in-to my heart so that
it may guide me. Like a shin-ing light let it
it may fill me with the pre-cious things that your
burn so bright; I will fol - low you.
Spir - it brings; I will live in you.

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WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READERS: AMBER AND HANNAH JOHNSON

* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Isaiah 60:1-6*

¹ “Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

² See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the Lord rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.

³ Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ “Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters are carried on the hip.

⁵ Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.

⁶ Herds of camels will cover your land,
young camels of Midian and Ephah.
And all from Sheba will come,
bearing gold and incense
and proclaiming the praise of the Lord. NIV

* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Matthew 2:1-12*

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ ““But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.””

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. NIV

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

* HYMN: *Saw You Never in the Twilight*

HYMN 228

MEDITATION: *The Light We Desperately Need*

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, **Annette LaPlaca and Ron Netzel** 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.)

<i>Table of Plenty</i>	<i>page 39</i>
<i>Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery</i>	<i>page 10</i>
<i>Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts</i>	<i>page 30</i>
<i>God to Enfold You</i>	<i>page 18</i>
<i>O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus</i>	<i>page 36</i>
<i>Jesus Messiah</i>	<i>page 28</i>

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN: *Amazing Grace*

HYMN 460
(first and last verses)

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Renovation Update

Next Sunday, January 12th, we will be providing information regarding the Renovation, including the status of our fundraising, the path forward for the near future, the vision behind it. etc. We will also be providing a survey for the congregation that we encourage everyone to participate in. Be on the lookout for more information next week!

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.

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.

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: Mary Hopper, David LaPlaca, Seth Ehorn, Mike Dietrich, Vic Mala.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Food Pantry open

Iglesia Roca Eterna

Youth Group (Game Night)

THIS WEEK

Tuesday	9:15 - 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study Food Pantry open Women's Bible Study
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Mom Talk (<i>childcare</i>)
Thursday	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open

IN IMMANUEL AND BEYOND

Update your directory information: Please look for a draft of the church directory and look for your entry. Mark OK if the information is correct, or mark corrections or changes legibly in red pen. Please do not move the copy from the table.

Register now for Snow Camp: Martin Luther King weekend at HoneyRock Camp in northern Wisconsin. We head up Friday January 17 and leave Monday morning Jan 20. There will be cross-country skiing, snowshoeing on the lake, big and small hill tubing, a sleigh ride and horseback riding in the snow if the weather cooperates! Many more activities as well. Some just like to sit by a roaring fire with hot cocoa and a good book, knitting or maybe a jigsaw puzzle. On Sunday morning we'll have a wonderful hymn sing. We hope you will join us for a time of refreshment in the beautiful woods of northern Wisconsin. For more information, contact John Burch <burch.jr@att.net>. All are welcome. Cost is \$160 for adults and teens, \$80 for children under 13. That covers three nights and seven meals from Saturday breakfast to Monday breakfast with a late Friday snack on arrival.

PrimeTimers: This Is My Story, Saturday, January 18

Pioneer Club resumes January 21.

ADULT EDUCATION
SESSION 3 • January 5—February 16

Christianity and American Politics: Lessons from the Past for the Present

Mark Noll
meets in the Sanctuary

This class is a non-partisan examination of crucial times in American history when political and Christian commitments were intermingled. It tries to show how better understanding of far-away events like the French & Indian War, the Election of 1800, and the American Civil War might help believers keep our political balance today.

Although Mark Noll was a history professor for almost thirty years at Wheaton College and for a decade at the University of Notre Dame, he considers adult ed classes at Immanuel his most challenging and most rewarding experiences as a teacher. Mark and his wife, Maggie, are long-time members..

Grandparenting: Loving Our Children's Children

Phyllis and Andy Le Peau
and other Immanuel grandparents
meets in Pastor's office

Grandparents have a special role in the lives of children. Together we'll explore how we can bless our grandchildren in a variety of ways and meet some of the challenges. Each session will focus on what we can learn from the Scripture and from each other's stories. We will consider topics like prayer, favoritism, forgiveness, nurturing contentment, loving the parents of our grandchildren, learning to let the next generation lead, and more.

Andy and Phyllis Le Peau have attended Immanuel since its inception and served in a variety of roles, most recently for Phyllis as elder and for Andy as a K-2 Sunday school teacher. They have thirteen world-class grandchildren and are the authors of several books and Bible study guides including the LifeGuide Bible Study Grandparenting, which will be the basis for the class.

Youth Membership Class (6th - 12th grade)

meets in the Ministry House

Annika and other church leaders will lead all middle-schoolers, some high schoolers, and a few parents through the doctrine and policy information in anticipation of some of these young people choosing to become members of Immanuel.

NOTES

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***

IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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