



EPIPHANY

GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH

IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • JANUARY 8, 2023

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: *How Lovely Shines the Morning Star!*

Buxtehude

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

SCOTT SCHEIDT

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

IMMANUEL CHOIR
JOHN ZIMMERMAN

How lovely shines the Morning Star!
The nations see and hail afar
the light in Judah shining.
Thou David's son of Jacob's race,
my bridegroom and my King of grace,
for thee my heart is pining.
Lowly, holy, great and glorious,
thou victorious Prince of graces,
filling all the heav'nly places.

* 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

* OPENING HYMN: *As with Gladness Men of Old*

HYMN 226

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

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

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* (Please stand.)

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

**All: 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: *Saw You Never in the Twilight*

Mark Schweizer
IMMANUEL CHOIR

Saw you never, in the twilight,
When the sun had left the skies,
Up in heav'n the clear stars shining
Through the gloom, like silver eyes?
So of old the wise men, watching,
Saw a little stranger star,
And they knew the King was given,
And they followed from afar.

Know ye not that lowly baby
Was the bright and morning Star?
He who came to light the Gentiles,
and the darkened isles afar?
And we, too, may seek his cradle;
there our hearts' best treasures bring;
Love, and faith, and true devotion
For our Savior, God and King.

Heard you never of the story
How they crossed the desert wild,
Journey'd on by plain and mountain,
Till they found the Holy Child?
How they opened all their treasure,
Kneeling to that infant King;
Gave the gold and fragrant incense,
Gave the myrrh in offering?

DIACONAL PRAYER

AMY TREIER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANNIKA DURBIN

(Children 3 years through 2nd grade may return to their seats.)

* HYMN: *O Splendor of God's Glory Bright*

HYMN 58
(verses 1, 2, 5, 6)

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READERS: BILL AND DEBBY FRANCE

* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Isaiah 42:1-9*

- ¹ "Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen one in whom I delight;
I will put my Spirit on him,
and he will bring justice to the nations.
² He will not shout or cry out,
or raise his voice in the streets.

³ A bruised reed he will not break,
and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.
In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;
⁴ he will not falter or be discouraged
till he establishes justice on earth.
In his teaching the islands will put their hope.”
⁵ This is what God the Lord says—
the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out,
who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it,
who gives breath to its people,
and life to those who walk on it:
⁶ “I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness;
I will take hold of your hand.
I will keep you and will make you
to be a covenant for the people
and a light for the Gentiles,
⁷ to open eyes that are blind,
to free captives from prison
and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.
⁸ “I am the Lord; that is my name!
I will not yield my glory to another
or my praise to idols.
⁹ See, the former things have taken place,
and new things I declare;
before they spring into being
I announce them to you.”

* New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 4:12-17

¹² When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali— ¹⁴ to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶ the people living in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

John 8:12-16

¹² When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

¹³ The Pharisees challenged him, “Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid.”

¹⁴ Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵ You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. ¹⁶ But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. NIV

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION: *The Light of the World*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

(Times of singing and silence.)

(Communion music is found in the Communion song book, unless otherwise noted.)

Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery	page 10
God to Enfold You	page 18
The Love of God	page 42
I Am the Bread of Life	page 23

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN: *Amazing Grace*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

(continued)

Today

If you have concerns or are **in need of prayer**, elder Carl Pickard will be available to pray with you near the platform.

Thanks to our musicians: Mary Hopper, John Zimmerman, Immanuel Choir
Thanks to our tech team.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Youth Group
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Mom Talk

THIS WEEK

Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
	11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open
	7:00 p.m.	Evening Women's Bible Study
		Men's Book Group
Friday	11:00 a.m.	Memorial Service for Zondra Swanson at Windsor Manor in Carol Stream. <i>(Visitation at 10:00 a.m.)</i>

Coming

BLOOD DRIVE: There is a critical need for blood. Immanuel will have a mobile unit in the parking lot on February 2, from 2-6 p.m. See newsletter for link to sign up.

February 5 Annual Meeting (During education hour)

February 10-12 Youth Group Winter Retreat

ELDERS

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

DEACONS

Phebe Balzer, Becky Eggimann, Seth Ehorn (Chair), Debby France, Dee Netzel, Tom Nguyen, Katie Pickard, 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; Barbara Lawrence, Church Secretary; Frank Lawrence, Church Sexton