Immanuel Presbyterian Church



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

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

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

Gathering Music Hymn Requests

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS MARY HOPPER

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

All: Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

Pastor: Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

All: For he is our God and we are the sheep of his pasture, the flock under his care.

* Invocation

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION SARAH HOLMAN

Leader: We come to you, Lord, for you alone can heal and restore us.

All: We are not able to heal ourselves,

Leader: We are not able to forgive ourselves,

All: We are not able to restore ourselves,

Leader: We are not able to sanctify ourselves,

All: We are not able to satisfy ourselves.

Leader: We come to you, Lord, for you alone can make us whole.

Leader: Lord of light, enter our past, dispel the works of darkness,

All: Destroy the deeds of evil, defeat the thoughts of darkness.

Leader: Enter the recording room of our memories,

All: Enter the dark room of guilt and shame,

Leader: Enter the secret room of sins hidden or forgotten.

All: Come, Lord of Light, and forgive.

Come, Lord of Love, and set us free. Come and scatter our darkness. Come, draw us closer to you.

(adapted from "The Open Gate" by David Adam)

Song of Confession: *Shine on Me* (Verse 1)



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Colossians 1:21–22)

Leader: And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has

now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and

blameless and irreproachable before him.

ACCLAMATION

All: To him who loves us, who leads and feeds us, the Great Shepherd of the sheep, to him be glory and honor and praise throughout all generations. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. Leader:

All: And also with you.

(Please share God's peace with those around you.)

WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

Offering and Offertory: This Little Light of Mine

arr. Mark Patterson Family Choir

* Doxology Howard Whitaker



CHORUS: Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

(Children come forward.)





Parable Reading

JOHN SCHUURMAN

(Children ages 3 through 1st grade are dismissed to go downstairs.)

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

STEVE WESTFALL

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READER: WILL DURBIN

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 55:6-11

⁶ Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

⁷ Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,"

declares the Lord.

⁹ "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it

without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish,

so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,

11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth:

It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire

and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." NIV

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



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NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Matthew 18:21-35

SERMON: Unmeasured Forgiveness

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

- * CLOSING HYMN: Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing Hymn 384
- * BENEDICTION
- * Postlude

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²² Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

 $^{^{35}}$ "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart." $_{
m NIV}$

TODAY

Thanks to our musicians: Mary Hopper, John Zimmerman, Lauren Mathues, family choir

If you would like someone to pray with you after the service, elder Ron Netzel will be available near the platform.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. **Food Pantry open**

No Youth Group

This Week

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

Thursday 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. **Bible Study at Terra's**

In Immanuel and Beyond

Children's Ministry 2023-2024 - Planning is underway for the upcoming year of children's ministry! We are so amazed by all that God is doing in children's ministry and within our families. Would you be willing to pray about joining our teams in some capacity? (Stay tuned: Next week Annika will provide specific areas where volunteers are needed.)

Sunday, July 30 9:30 a.m. Book of Acts read aloud

(lower level)

Threat and Response Briefing

(Ministry House)

Saturday, August 5 9:00 a.m. - noon Back-to-School Carnival

at Johnson elementary

Sunday, August 13 (evening) Sing-Along Worship on the lawn

ELDERS

Katherine Anderson (Clerk of Session), Dan Balzer, Bill France, Sarah Holman, Ron Netzel, Sheroll Ritchie, Leon Sinclair, Steve Westfall, Ken Wolgemuth

DEACONS

Phebe Balzer, Tim Curley, Seth Ehom (Chair), Debby France, Ron Haydon, Dee Netzel, Tom Nguyen, Katie Pickard, Joel Rose, Amy Treier, Rebecca Williams

STAFF

George A. Garrison, Senior Pastor; Annette LaPlaca, Minister of Congregational Life; 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

STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS

Leon Sinclair, Bev Burch, Angela Wisdom, Annette LaPlaca