

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

Immanuel

Presbyterian Church



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

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

JUNE 25, 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

GATHERING MUSIC

SINGING THE PSALMS
CHUCK KING

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP: *Courante from Suite #3*

J. S. Bach

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Christ is the mediator of a new covenant. Since he has died for our sins, those who are called may receive the eternal inheritance promised them.

All: The Lord remembers his covenant forever.

Pastor: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all; with Christ he will surely give us all things that we may glorify him. Praise the Lord.

* INVOCATION

** Congregation stands.*

1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a
 2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair, and tells me
 3. Be - hold Him there! The ris - en Lamb, my per - fect,
 strong, a per - fect plea, A great High Priest whose name is
 of the guilt with - in, Up - ward I look and see Him
 spot - less Right - eous - ness; The great un change - a - ble I
 "Love," who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is
 there who made an end to all my sin. Be - cause the
 AM, the King of glo - ry and of grace! One with Him
 grav - en on His hands, my name is writ - ten on His
 sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed
 self I can - not die, My soul is pur - chased with His
 heart; I know that while in heav'n He stands no tongue can
 free; For God the Just is sat - is - fied to look on
 blood; My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my
 bid me thence de - part, no tongue can
 Him and par - don me, to look on
 Sav - ior and my God, with Christ, my
 bid me thence de - part.
 Him and par - don me.
 Sav - ior and my God.

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

RON NETZEL

Leader: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.

Leader: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures forever.

Leader: But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

People: For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;

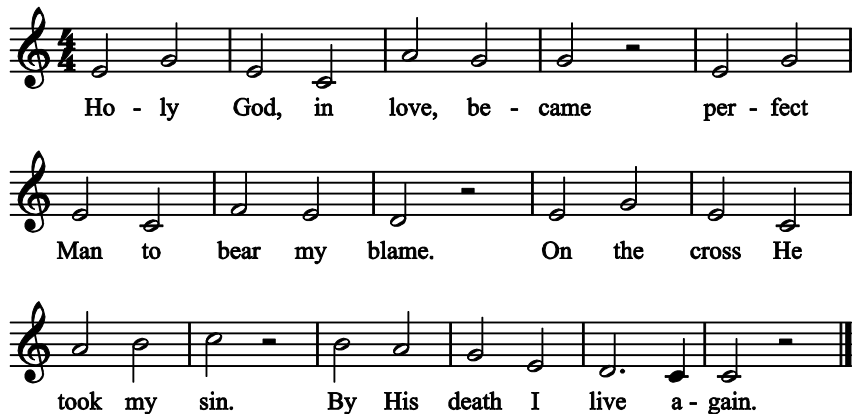
Leader: they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith.

People: But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Leader: For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

People: But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

Leader: So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.



Ho - ly God, in love, be - came per - fect
 Man to bear my blame. On the cross He
 took my sin. By His death I live a - gain.

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we, free from sins, might live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed.

* SONG OF 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.)

MISSION FOCUS

ZAGAMI FAMILY

WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: *Prelude from Suite Antique*

John Rutter
 EMMA FOWLER, flute

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here be-
low. Praise Him above, ye Heav'nly host; praise Father,
Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

CHORUS: *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus*

(Children come forward.)

Tell me the stories of Jesus, Just as his followers heard.
5
Lessons he taught his disciples, Writ-ten for us in His Word.

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

* HYMN: *Jesus Sinners Doth Receive*

HYMN 473

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES

Judges 9:7-15

⁷ When Jotham was told about this, he climbed up on the top of Mount Gerizim and shouted to them, “Listen to me, citizens of Shechem, so that God may listen to you. ⁸ One day the trees went out to anoint a king for themselves. They said to the olive tree, ‘Be our king.’

⁹ “But the olive tree answered, ‘Should I give up my oil, by which both gods and humans are honored, to hold sway over the trees?’

¹⁰ “Next, the trees said to the fig tree, ‘Come and be our king.’

¹¹ “But the fig tree replied, ‘Should I give up my fruit, so good and sweet, to hold sway over the trees?’

¹² “Then the trees said to the vine, ‘Come and be our king.’

¹³ “But the vine answered, ‘Should I give up my wine, which cheers both gods and humans, to hold sway over the trees?’

¹⁴ “Finally all the trees said to the thornbush, ‘Come and be our king.’

¹⁵ “The thornbush said to the trees, ‘If you really want to anoint me king over you, come and take refuge in my shade; but if not, then let fire come out of the thornbush and consume the cedars of Lebanon!’ ”

2 Samuel 12:1-7a

¹ The Lord sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, “There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, ³ but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

⁴ “Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.

⁵ David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! ⁶ He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”

⁷ Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man!”

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Luke 15:1-32*

¹ Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴ “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵ And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

⁸ “Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ ¹⁰ In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

¹¹ Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

¹³ “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

²⁸ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

³¹ “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.

³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’” NIV

SERMON: *Lost in Stories. Lost in Translation. Lost in Justice.*

DOUG PENNEY

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN: *Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!*

HYMN 498

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE: *Sonata #1*

MOZART

TODAY

Thanks to our musicians: Mary Hopper, Chuck King, Wheaton College Summer Institute students (Audriana Hall, Emma Fowler, Natalie Chapman, Ellie Cho, Hannah Jeong, Asaiah Savelkoul, Tessa Leverman, Milan Shroff, Rachel Bishop, Vera Bresser, Lola Bryce, Elias Bouchard).

Thanks to our own Doug Penney for opening God's Word for us today. Doug has just retired from nearly three decades of teaching Greek, Hebrew, and other classical languages at Wheaton. He and the other Dr. Penney (Bambi) are long-time members of Immanuel.

Welcome, Zagami family! Immanuel is happy to have missionaries Daniel and Sarah, Orion, Eva, and Emma with us for a few days. The Zagamis serve among the large immigrant population just outside Atlanta, helping to plant churches and equip leaders, as well as helping to bless and welcome newcomers to America.

If you would like someone to pray with you after the service, Dan Balzer will be available near the platform.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Food Pantry open
Youth Group**

This Week

Tuesday 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
5:30 p.m.

**Food Pantry open
Bring-your-own picnic with Zagamis
(Northside park)**

Wednesday 6 - 9 p.m.

**Reception for Lillian (Smoak) Cordova
at Spradleys**

Thursday 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Bible Study at Terra's

In Immanuel and Beyond

Saturday, July 8, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Game Night in the lower level. Exciting new games for adults and teens. See the IPC newsletter form ore information.

Sundays, July 9-30, 9:30 a.m.

Book of Acts read aloud

July 9, noon - 1:00 p.m.

**Bring-your-own picnic lunch with Smoaks
after church**

July 9, 3:30 p.m.

Wedding shower for Bella Anderson in the Ministry House. *RSVP to Priscilla Witte (pgwitte@yahoo.com)*. Look for a link to Bella's registry in the newsletter.

July 15-21

High School Mission Trip to Mexico

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, Angela Wisdom, Annette LaPlaca