

IMMANUEL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE TOOLS OF SPIRITUAL RENOVATION
— LENTEN SERMON SERIES —

March 1, 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

ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP: *Gather Us in Mercy, Lord*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Cantor/All repeat' and contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: 'Gath - er us in mer - cy, Lord.' The second staff is also labeled 'Cantor/All repeat' and contains the melody for the second line: 'From the depths we cry to you.' Both staves end with a double bar line and repeat dots.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Let us worship the eternal God, the source of love and life, who creates us.

All: Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one, who lives among us.

Pastor: Let us worship the Spirit, the holy fire, who renews us.

**All: To the one true God be praise in all times and places,
through the grace of Jesus Christ.**

** Congregation stands.*

* INVOCATION

* OPENING HYMN: *Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery*



1. Come, be-hold the won-drous mys-tery, in the dawn-ing of the King.
2. Come, be-hold the won-drous mys-tery, He the per-fect Son of Man.
3. Come, be-hold the won-drous mys-tery, Christ the Lord up-on the tree.
4. Come, be-hold the won-drous mys-tery, slain by death the God of life.



He, the theme of heav-en's prais-es, robed in frail hu-man-i-ty.
In His liv-ing, in His suf-fering, nev-er trace nor stain of sin.
In the stead of ru-ined sin-ners hangs the Lamb in vic-tor-y.
But no grave could e'er re-strain Him; praise the Lord; He is a-live!



In our long-ing, in our dark-ness, now the light of life has come!
See the true and bet-ter Ad-am, come to save the hell-bound man.
See the price of our re-demp-tion, see the Fa-ther's plan-un-fold.
What a fore-taste of de-liv-'rance, how un-wav-er-ing our hope.



Look to Christ who con-de-scend-ed, took on flesh to ran-som us.
Christ, the great and sure ful-fill-ment of the law; in Him we stand.
Bring-ing man-y sons to glo-ry, grace un-meas-ured, love un-told.
Christ in pow-er res-ur-rect-ed as we will be when He comes.



EXT and MUSIC: Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, and Michael Bleecker

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WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Before the Lord, all hearts are open.

People: We need forgiveness for our secret sins, our habitual sins, our unnoticed sins.

Leader: We need forgiveness for our sins of thought, word, and deed, and for all that we have left undone.

All: For our sins against ourselves, our sins against others, our sins against God, all where we have fallen short of the glory of God and not done what he has called to do; we desperately need his forgiveness and mercy.

Adapted from *The Open Gate* by David Adam

SONG OF CONFESSION

The musical notation consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff is labeled 'Cantor' and 'All' above the notes. The lyrics are 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' The second staff is also labeled 'Cantor' and 'All' above the notes. The lyrics are 'Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.' The third staff is labeled 'Cantor' and 'All' above the notes. The lyrics are 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.'

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Take comfort in the assurance that even those things that are hidden from memory, or are too deep for our words, are not beyond God's forgiving love. God, who knows us completely, bestows pardon and peace.

* SONG OF ACCLAMATION: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

Franz Schubert
(Music on p. 20 of communion booklet.)

**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.**

* APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
He descended into hell,
the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of
God the Father Almighty;
from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic* Church;
The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

* universal

* 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: *At the River*

arr. H.M. Best
SARAH HOLMAN

Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever,
Flowing by the throne of God?

Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

Ere we reach the shining river
Lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirit will deliver,
And then provide a robe and a crown.

O, there is a balm in Gilead.
There is a balm; there is a balm;
O, O there is a balm, a balm.

DIACONAL PRAYER

MARC JOHNSON

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANNIKA DURBIN

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

**Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.**

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READERS: STEVE AND KATHY WALL

* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Psalm 130*

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord;

² Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.

³ If you, Lord, kept a record of sins,
Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But with you there is forgiveness,
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

⁵ I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.

⁶ I wait for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

⁷ Israel, put your hope in the Lord,
for with the Lord is unfailing love
and with him is full redemption.

⁸ He himself will redeem Israel
from all their sins. NIV

* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Titus 2:11-14*

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹² It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. NIV

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

* HYMN: *O Breath of Life, Come Sweeping through Us*

HYMN 341

MEDITATION: *The Power behind Our Spiritual Renovation*

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, **Jeff and Angela Wisdom** 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>Behold the Lamb of God</i>	page 6
<i>Jesus Paid It All</i>	page 29
<i>Lead Me to Calvary</i>	page 31
<i>The Blood of Jesus Speaks for Me</i>	page 40

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

- * CLOSING HYMN: *Amazing Grace*
- * BENEDICTION
- * POSTLUDE

HYMN 460
(first and last verses)

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**, Ken Wolgemuth is available at the front following the service.

Thanks to our musicians: Mary Hopper, Alva Steffler, Sarah Holman

11:10 a.m.	Sunday school and Adult Ed
	College Students meeting (<i>narthex</i>)
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open
3:00 p.m.	Iglesia Roca Eterna
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	College Fellowship at the Bretsens' , 502 W. Indiana St., Wheaton RSVP to Cindy (630-386-1534)

THIS WEEK

Tuesday	9:15 - 11:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
	11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
		Pioneer Clubs
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Mom Talk (<i>childcare</i>)
	6:00 p.m.	Soup Supper and Vespers
Thursday	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open

IN IMMANUEL AND BEYOND

God's Renovation Work in Us: Out in the Gathering Place, pick up a little booklet of short testimonies from Immanuel friends about how God has worked renovation of the soul in unexpected ways.

Lenten Soup suppers will be held at 6:00 p.m., Wednesdays in Lent, beginning March 4, vespers to follow. You will have an opportunity to sign up the Sunday before each one. Sign up today for this Wednesday.

A second congregational meeting will take place during the education hour next Sunday, March 8, when we'll get to hear more ministry updates and information about the church, now and moving forward.

Saturday, March 14, 10:00 a.m. - noon: **Prime Timers "This Is My Story."**

Fellowship Dinners: Join us Saturday, March 21, for a Fellowship Dinner. Choose from two options. Adults are welcome in groups of about eight for potluck dinners at 6:00 hosted in homes. Immanuel friends of all ages are welcome for a potluck supper/games night at the church beginning at 5:30. Sign up in the Gathering Place on March 8 or 16 if you'd like to attend a dinner or to host a meal in your home. Questions? Ask Dottie Mann or Amy Treier!

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES
SESSION 4 • February 23—April 5

Traveling through Another Dimension: Christians, Culture, and the Twilight Zone

Michael Kendrick and Ron Netzel
meets in the Sanctuary
(This week Kent Richter is leading.)

This class will explore topics and ways how Christians can engage our friends and co-workers as we talk about questions of “fairness” (or justice) and “does the punishment fit the crime.” We will revive the class previously run by Roger Lundin and Michael Kendrick, as a way to have this dialogue, as a tribute to Roger, and as a mechanism to connect with our world about Christ.

Michael Kendrick just celebrated with Andrea their 30th year as Immanuel members. He is proud to say he has four generations of family at our church. He has taught several Sunday School classes during the past few decades, including a couple courses on the Christian Year. This will be his third offering on the Twilight Zone, a remarkable television series that continues to be timely and relevant today. (And yes, he has watched all 156 episodes!)

Ron Netzel has been a member of Immanuel for several years. He is married to Dee and has one daughter, Sophie. He attended Wheaton College where he first learned about how God writes our story and the importance of listening to God’s writing of his Story in our daily lives.

Following Jesus Then and Now: Discipleship According to the Gospel of Matthew

Anna Gissing
meets in the Ministry House

Discipleship is a “churchy” word, but it hasn’t always been that way. What did it mean to be a disciple in the first century? In this class, we’ll consider portraits of discipleship in the Gospel of Matthew in light of relevant concepts in other Jewish movements. What does it mean to be a disciple now? We’ll end each session with a brief discussion about how these Scripture passages help us follow Jesus today.

Anna Moseley Gissing is associate editor for IVP Academic, where she acquires and develops projects in biblical studies and related disciplines. She is married to Jeff and is mama to Nathan and Eliza. The Gissings have been at Immanuel since they moved to Wheaton in 2017.

NOTES

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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***

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