

*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

29W260 Batavia Road

Warrenville, IL 60555

(630) 393-4400

[www.immanuelpresbyterian.net](http://www.immanuelpresbyterian.net)

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



*under the Sun*  
*under the SON*

A SERMON SERIES ON ECCLESIASTES

IMMANUEL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 10, 2019

## 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.

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.

Who We Seek to Be

Called and gathered by the grace of Jesus Christ, we exist as a community of love and truth to celebrate the infinite glory of God through:

- Joyful worship centered in the wonder and wisdom of the living Word
- Resolute fellowship in Christ made alive by the unifying love of the Spirit among us
- Transformative learning for all ages toward full maturity in Christ
- Loving service to one another, the community and the world, reflecting the servant heart of Jesus
- Spirited mission to the lost near and far, proclaiming the gospel in word and deed

WE GATHER IN GOD’S PRESENCE

- PRELUDE: Come Ye Disconsolate Carlson
- CHURCH FAMILY NEWS ANNIKA DURBIN
- PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP: Blessed Are the Pure in Heart Callahan

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

- Leader: We gather in the presence of God, through whom all families on earth receive their life and their name.
- All: We wish to be strengthened in our inner selves, that Christ may dwell 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 to praise the source of love and peace. Glory be to God in the church and in Jesus Christ to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

\* INVOCATION

\* OPENING HYMN: *God, My King, Thy Might Confessing*

HYMN 5

**WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE**

CALL TO CONFESSION

STEVE WESTFALL

Leader: Let us confess our sins to our holy and gracious God with the words  
of Psalm 32.

**People: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.**

Leader: Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit  
there is no deceit.

**People: While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning  
all day long.**

Leader: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as  
by the heat of summer.

**People: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said,  
“I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the guilt of  
my sin.**

Leader: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the  
rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

**People: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you  
surround me with glad cries of deliverance.**

**IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN  
LENT AND HOLY WEEK 2019**

**Soup Suppers and Vesper Services**

March 13, 6 p.m.

March 20, 6 p.m.

March 27, 6 p.m.

April 3, 6 p.m.

April 10, 6 p.m.

**Maundy Thursday Communion Service**

April 18, 7 p.m.

**Good Friday Tenebrae Service**

April 19, 7 p.m.

**Resurrection Sunday**

April 21

Brunch, 9:30 a.m.

Easter worship, 10:30 a.m.

ADULT EDUCATION  
(Feb. 17—Mar. 31)

Rejoicing in the Holy Spirit Sanctuary

The Holy Spirit can seem like the mysterious member of the Trinity. Who is the Spirit? What is the Spirit's relationship to the Father and Son? How does he fit in our lives as followers of Jesus Christ? What is the nature and character of his ministry? We will consider what Scripture teaches us about the Spirit, helping us to guard against misunderstanding and discover how his work is essential to the life and ministries of the church and to the coming perfection of creation.

*Gary and Cathy have been members of Immanuel for about eighteen years now. Gary works for the Grace Communion International denomination as a teacher and speaker and serves as president of its online seminary. Cathy teaches the women's Bible studies here at Immanuel. They have three adult children and four grandsons.*

Hollywood's Answers to Our Deep Questions Ministry House

In this class, by using a lecture/discussion format and accompanied by film and television clips, we will seek understanding of Hollywood's powerful role as our culture's formative storyteller and "question asker." More than anything else we hope to remind ourselves of God's people's responsibilities as consumers of popular culture.

*John Schuurman, a long-time consumer of pop culture, seeks ongoing service in God's kingdom as a minister, teacher, voice-actor, and avid observer of the ways of the world. John and Janet have been worshipping and participating at IPC since 2011.*

SONG OF CONFESSION

Sheet music for the Song of Confession, featuring two staves (Treble and Bass clef) and lyrics. The music is in D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ky - ri-e, Lord, have mer-cy. Ky - ri-e, Lord, have mer-cy. Chris - te, Christ, have mer - cy. Chris - te, Christ, have mer - cy. Ky - ri-e! Lord, have mer-cy. Ky - ri-e, e - le - i-son. Ky - ri-e, e - le - i-son.

Chords: D, G, D, G, D, Bm, Em, Bm, Em, C, Em, C, A, D, G, D, G, D, D.

Text and music: Kathleen Hart Brumm (b. 1958)  
© 1992, Brumhart Publishing  
Used by permission, CCLI #294262

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Be comforted and hear the good tidings of the gospel: If anyone has sinned, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. Believe the gospel and live in peace. Amen.

\* ACCLAMATION

All: **Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name ascribe the glory, for your love protecting us is strong, and your constancy is everlasting. To the Lord be glory, forever and ever. 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

DIANE JERDAN

WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: *Psalms 130*

John Ferguson  
IMMANUEL CHOIR

Out of the depths I cry to you;  
O Savior, hear me calling.  
Out of the depths have I cried to you;  
Let your ears consider  
the voice of my supplication.

If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss,  
Who could stand?  
For there is forgiveness with you  
therefore you shall be feared.  
I wait for the Lord,  
whose word is my hope.

IN IMMANUEL AND BEYOND

**Make a reservation for the reservation!** This summer we will send a team to serve at the *Fort Apache Indian Reservation* in mid-eastern Arizona. Whether you enjoy building things or building relationships, this trip will have opportunities for you to serve the Apache people who are in need of help on many levels. Our youth group and a group from La Roca Eterna will take part in this trip that will be an inter-generational missions opportunity (all ages and stages of life welcome!). The week of service for this trip will be **July 22-26** (which does not include the travel days). If you are interested, there will be a meeting in the sanctuary today following the Sunday School hour that will provide more information. Due to the nature and logistics of this missions opportunity we will need commitments from those who can serve on this trip fairly soon.

Wednesdays in Lent we will host **Wednesday Soup Suppers at 6:00 p.m. followed by Lenten Vespers**. You can sign up to attend week to week in the Gathering Place.

**Men's Breakfast**, 7:45 a.m. Saturday, March 16, catered by HoneyMilk, with speaker Derek Morrison. Cost is \$5. *Today is your last chance to sign up!*

**ENCORE!** will meet on March 13 at 1:00 p.m. The discussion will focus on Friendship. ENCORE! is a women's group for recently retired, retired or never retiring women. RSVP to [graceschwanda@gmail.com](mailto:graceschwanda@gmail.com).

**Women’s Clothing Swap:** Immanuel women, we’ll be collecting gently used women’s clothing (no stains or tears) for all the Sundays during Lent. Look for a bin near the front doors of the church. On Friday evening, May 3, all Immanuel women are invited (whether or not they donated clothes) to come Swap-Till-You-Drop. On Saturday afternoon, May 4, we’ll have a women’s used clothing sale to benefit our ministry partners Warrenville Youth & Family Services. We need: women’s clothing donations, donations of hangers, volunteers to take shifts organizing and folding clothes April 29-May 3, and volunteers to help work the sale on the Saturday. Talk with Amy Treier, Sharon Wolgemuth, or Annette with questions or to volunteer.

**Thanks to our Immanuel kids for contributing their voices to the Psalm 23 presentation last Sunday.** The children whose voices we heard were: Trent Wisdom, Astrid Reyes, Jessie Smoak, Anna Treier, Annalyn, Stonewall, and Strider Taylor, Jonathan Osielski, Audra Loney, Abbott Klassen, Graham Haydon, Ellie, Samantha, Abigail, and Will Durbin, Bethany Buursma, Marion Anderson, and Anna and Bethany Abernethy. If you missed it or would like to see it again, the video can be viewed on the Children's Ministry homepage on our new website (<https://immanuelpresbyterian.net/children>).

**Save the date:** VBS 2019 “In the Wild” will be the week of June 24-28!

- \* BENEDICTION
- \* POSTLUDE

TODAY

If you have concerns or are **in need of prayer**, elder Alva Steffler is available at the front following the service.

**Thanks to our musicians:** Mary Hopper, John Zimmerman, Immanuel choir

11:10 a.m.	<b>Sunday school and Adult Education</b> (Membership class meets in Pastor’s office)
Following education hour	<b>Summer mission trip Information meeting</b> in the sanctuary following Sunday school. All ages are welcome. (More information on next page.)
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	<b>Food Pantry open</b>
2:00 p.m.	<b>Iglesia Roca Eterna</b>
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	<b>Youth Group</b>

THIS WEEK

Tuesday	9:15 - 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a. m. - 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	<b>Women’s Bible Study</b> ( <i>childcare</i> ) <b>Food pantry open</b> <b>Women’s Bible Study</b> <b>Men’s Book Study</b> ( <i>Pastor’s office</i> ) <b>Pioneer Clubs</b>
Wednesday	1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	<b>Encore!</b> <b>Soup Supper followed by vespers service</b>
Thursday	5:30 - 8:00 p.m.	<b>Food Pantry open</b>
Saturday	7:45 a.m.	<b>Men’s Breakfast</b> (Derek Morrison speaking)

- \* DOXOLOGY

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

CHILDREN’S BLESSING  
*(Children 3 years through 2nd grade are dismissed to go downstairs.)*

PASTORAL PRAYER

- \* HYMN: *Be Thou My Vision* HYMN 642

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

*(Please stand for the reading of God’s Word.)*  
READERS: *The Williams Family*

- \* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Ecclesiastes 9:7-18*  

<sup>7</sup> Go, eat your food with gladness, and drink your wine with a joyful heart, for God has already approved what you do. <sup>8</sup> Always be clothed in white, and always anoint your head with oil. <sup>9</sup> Enjoy life with your wife, whom you love, all the days of this meaningless life that God has given you under the sun—all your meaningless days. For this is your lot in life and in your toilsome labor under the sun. <sup>10</sup> Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the realm of the dead, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.  
<sup>11</sup> I have seen something else under the sun:  
The race is not to the swift  
or the battle to the strong,  
nor does food come to the wise  
or wealth to the brilliant  
or favor to the learned;  
but time and chance happen to them all.  
<sup>12</sup> Moreover, no one knows when their hour will come:  
As fish are caught in a cruel net,  
or birds are taken in a snare,  
so people are trapped by evil times  
that fall unexpectedly upon them.

<sup>13</sup> I also saw under the sun this example of wisdom that greatly impressed me: <sup>14</sup> There was once a small city with only a few people in it. And a powerful king came against it, surrounded it and built huge siege works against it. <sup>15</sup> Now there lived in that city a man poor but wise, and he saved the city by his wisdom. But nobody remembered that poor man. <sup>16</sup> So I said, “Wisdom is better than strength.” But the poor man’s wisdom is despised, and his words are no longer heeded.

<sup>17</sup> The quiet words of the wise are more to be heeded than the shouts of a ruler of fools.  
<sup>18</sup> Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good. NIV

\* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *James 1:16-18; 3:13-18*

<sup>16</sup> Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup> Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

<sup>13</sup> Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. <sup>15</sup> Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

<sup>17</sup> But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup> Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness. NIV

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: *What Makes the Good Life Good*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

\* CLOSING HYMN: *Benediction*

My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the  
knowl-edge of our Lord and Sav - ior. My friends,  
may you grow in grace, and in the knowl-edge of  
Je - sus Christ. To God be the glo - ry,  
now and for - ev - er, now and for - ev - er, a -  
men. To God be the glo-ry, now and for-  
ev - er, now and for - ev - er, a - men.

Used by permission, CCLI #294262

Text and music: Timothy James Meaney (b. 1965) and Sean Diamond (b. 1968); rev. Gregg DeMey (b. 1972) and Gregory Kett (b. 1970)