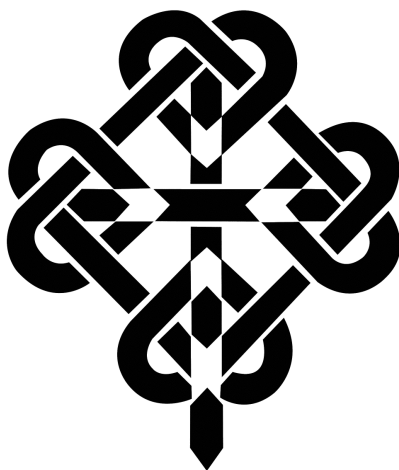


WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

Immanuel

Presbyterian Church



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

CITIZENS OF HEAVEN

Lent 2023

MARCH 26, 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: *God, My King, Thy Might Confessing*
Am I a Soldier of the Cross?

JOHN ZIMMERMAN

“Am I a soldier of the cross,
A foll'wer of the Lamb,
And shall I fear to own his cause,
Or blush to speak his name?”

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP: *Wondrous King, All Glorious*

Wondrous King, all-glorious,
sov'reign Lord victorious,
oh, receive our praise with favor!
From thee welled God's kindness
tho' we in our blindness
strayed from thee, our blessed Savior.
Strengthen thou, help us now:
let our tongues be singing,
thee our praises bringing.

* *Congregation stands.*

* 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: *We Come, O Christ to You*

HYMN 181

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

BILL FRANCE

Leader: Those who encountered the true and living God in Scripture were overwhelmed with a sense of his majesty and glory, and their own sinfulness. As we encounter the true and living God today, let us together ask for his forgiveness as we consider his character in light of our own.

Leader: Holy and strong One,

People: Forgive our weakness.

Leader: Holy and Wise One,

People: Forgive our foolishness.

Leader: Holy and loving One,

People: Forgive our hardness.

Leader: Holy and generous One,

People: Forgive our selfishness.

Leader: Holy and faithful One,

People: Forgive our fickleness.

Leader: Holy and gentle One,

People: Forgive our toughness.

All: Forgive us, Holy One, forgive.

Adapted from *The Open Gate*

HYMN OF CONFESSION: *O Lamb of God Most Holy!* (verse 1)

Stanzas 1,2,3

O Lamb of God most ho - ly! Who on the cross did suf - fer,
 And pa - tient still and low - ly, Your - self to scorn did of - fer;
 Our sins by You were tak - en, Or hope had us for -
 sak - en: 1. Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus!
 2. Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus!
 3. Your peace be with us, Je - sus!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the comforting word of the Scriptures to all who truly repent. As far as the East is from the West so far does he remove our transgressions from us. If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

* SONG OF ACCLAMATION *(Please stand)*

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.)

WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*

arr. Howard Helvey
IMMANUEL CHOIR

Take up your cross, the Savior said,
if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart,
and humbly follow after me.

Take up your cross, then in his strength,
and calmly every danger brave:
it guides you to abundant life
and leads to victory o'er the grave.

Take up your cross, let not its weight
fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross, and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

Take up your cross, heed not the shame,
and let your foolish heart be still;
the Lord for you accepted death
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

* DOXOLOGY

HYMN 732

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

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

(Children 3 years through 5th grade go downstairs to continue their worship.)

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

STEVE WESTFALL

* HYMN: *Yet Not I but through Christ in Me*

1. What gift of grace is Je - sus, my Re - deem - er; there is no
 2. The night is dark, but I am not for - sak - en, for by my
 3. No fate I dread; I know I am for - giv - en; the fu - ture
 4. With eve - ry breath I long to fol - low Je - sus, for He has

more for heav - en now to give. He is my joy, my right - eous - ness and
 side, the Sav - ior, He will stay. I la - bor on in weak - ness and re -
 sure, the price, it has been paid. For Je - sus bled and suf - fered for my
 said that He will bring me home. And day by day I know He will re -

free - dom, my stead - fast love, my deep and bound - less peace.
 - joic - ing, for in my need His pow - er is dis - played.
 par - don, and He was raised to o - ver - throw the grave.
 - new me un - til I stand with joy be - fore the throne.

To this I hold: my hope is on - ly Je - sus, for my life is
 To this I hold: my Shep - herd will de - fend me; through the deep - est
 To this I hold: my sin has been de - feat - ed; Je - sus now and
 To this I hold: my hope is on - ly Je - sus; all the glo - ry

Words and Music: Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, and Michael Farren
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whol - ly bound to His. Oh how strange and di - vine, I can
 val - ley He will lead. Oh the night has been won, and I
 ev - er is my plea. Oh the chains are re - leased, I can
 ev - er - more to Him. When the race is com - plete, still my

 sing: all is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
 shall o - ver - come! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
 sing: I am free! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
 lips shall re - peat: yet not I, but through Christ in me.

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READERS: WITTE FAMILY

* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Psalms 114*

- ¹ When Israel came out of Egypt,
Jacob from a people of foreign tongue,
- ² Judah became God's sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.
- ³ The sea looked and fled,
the Jordan turned back;
- ⁴ the mountains leaped like rams,
the hills like lambs.
- ⁵ Why was it, sea, that you fled?
Why, Jordan, did you turn back?
- ⁶ Why, mountains, did you leap like rams,
you hills, like lambs?
- ⁷ Tremble, earth, at the presence of the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- ⁸ who turned the rock into a pool,
the hard rock into springs of water.

* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Ephesians 1:15-22*

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church. NIV

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: *The Object of Our Heavenly Bliss*

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN: *Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder*

HYMN 172

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

TODAY

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

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

Enjoy the **Bake Sale** today, supporting the Youth Mission trip to Mexico in July.

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

Sign up today for Symbolic Seder Supper on Thursday, April 6, at 6:30 p.m.

This Week

Tuesday	9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (childcare) Food Pantry open
Friday	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Memorial service for Kathy Woodard at Windsor Park
Saturday	10:00 a.m. - noon	Choir workshop

In Immanuel and Beyond

More coffee helpers are needed for Sunday mornings. If you can take a turn, please contact Joy Hudson.

Communion set-up: If you would be interested in helping with Communion set-up, please contact Becky Eggimann (becky.eggimann@wheaton.edu)

Holy Week schedule:

Seder supper	Thursday, April 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Tenebrae service	Good Friday, April 7, 7:00 p.m.
Easter Brunch and Worship	Sunday, April 9, 9:30 a.m.

Kari Jobe in concert: You can support Outreach Warrenville (WYFS) and enjoy the music all in one night: Saturday, April 22, at Willow Creek in Barrington. See the link in the IPC Newsletter.

ELDERS

*Katherine Anderson (Clerk of Session), Dan Balzer, Bill France, Sarah Holman,
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;
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*

STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS

Leon Sinclair, Angela Wisdom, Annette LaPlaca