# Immanuel Presbyterian Church



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

## 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: Give God Thanks

Lloyd Larson

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Come, let us worship God, for his love has been poured into our hearts through

the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us praise God, for anyone in Christ is a new creature; the old things have

passed away; behold the new has come.

All: We know that he died for us, that we who live should no longer live for

ourselves, but for him who died and rose again on our behalf.

Pastor: Thanks be to God. Let us worship him together.

\* INVOCATION

#### WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION LEW LUTTRELL

Leader: Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere

flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

People: They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.

Leader: They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited

salt land.

People: Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

Leader: They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by

the stream.

People: It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year

of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

Leader: The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it?

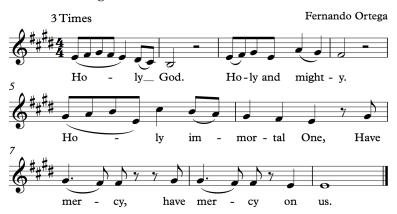
People: I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to

their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

Leader: Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved; for you

are my praise.

SONG OF CONFESSION: Trisagion



#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The promise of God is greater than our sinfulness: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Brothers and sisters, rest in this good news—in Jesus Christ

we stand forgiven. Amen.

#### ACCLAMATION

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and All: 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

Doug Fogwell, GoServ

#### WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: O Give Thanks to the Lord

John L. Bell IMMANUEL CHOIR

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to remember all God has done. Then God will remember our praises when he looks with love on his people. Save us, O Lord, in your love; bring us back from all that offends you. Oh, look not alone on our sins, but remember your promise of mercy

O give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures forever: O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord alone is good.

Blest be the Lord God of Israel both now and through all the ages. Let nations and people cry out and sing Amen, Alleluia.

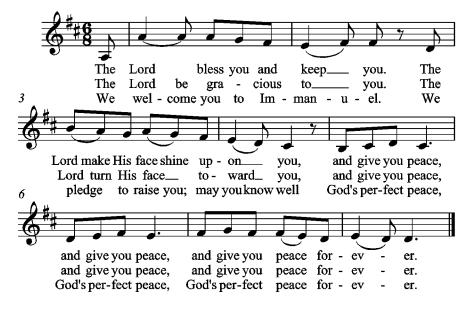
Our sin is the sin of our fathers. We have done wrong, we all have been evil. Like those who once lived in bondage we paid no heed to all you had done.

\* DOXOLOGY Howard Whitaker



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR EZEKIEL RANSOM NOLL

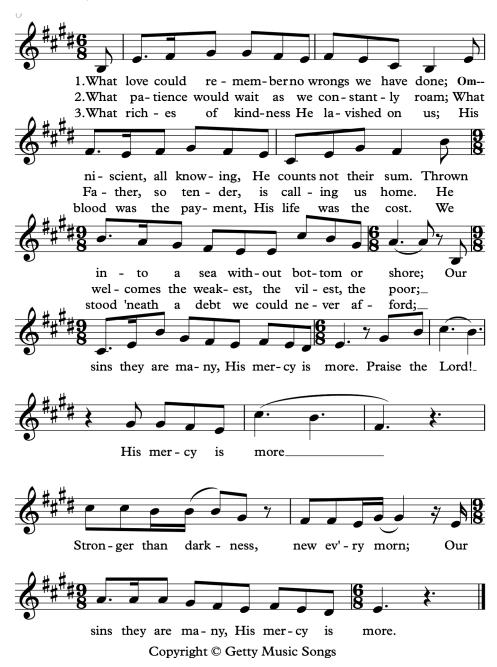
BAROCHA Michael Card



(Children 3 years through 2nd grade are dismissed to go downstairs.)

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

JIM WILHOIT



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#### WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READERS: BETSY DOWLING, EMILY SMITH

- \* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: 2 Kings 5:1-14
  - <sup>1</sup> Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.
  - <sup>2</sup> Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup> She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."
  - <sup>4</sup> Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. <sup>5</sup> "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. <sup>6</sup> The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy."
  - <sup>7</sup> As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!"
  - <sup>8</sup> When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." <sup>9</sup> So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup> Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."
  - <sup>11</sup> But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. <sup>12</sup> Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.
  - <sup>13</sup> Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'!" <sup>14</sup> So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. NIV

\* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

<sup>26</sup> Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth.

<sup>27</sup> But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup> God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one may boast before him. <sup>30</sup> It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. <sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written: "Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord." NIV

#### \* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: Idolatry in Success

#### WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

\* Closing Hymn: Jesus Calls Us Hymn 591

\* BENEDICTION

\* Postlude

#### **TODAY**

If you have concerns or are **in need of prayer**, **Phyllis Le Peau** is available at the front following the service.

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

11:10 a.m. Adult Education (see note below)

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

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. **College Fellowship** at Bretsens' home,

502 W. Indiana St., Wheaton. RSVP to Cindy (630-386-1534).

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Youth Group

#### THIS WEEK

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

7:00 - 8:30 p. m. Pioneer Clubs for kids

Men's Book Study (Pastor's office)

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve service

Thursday 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. **Food Pantry open** 

#### IN IMMANUEL AND BEYOND

**Adult Ed special class:** Today and on Sunday, December 1, two of our current adult ed classes will take a break (no Abernethy or Thom classes). Instead, we'll gather in the sanctuary and hear personal testimonies from Immanuel's elders.

**Thanksgiving Eve Service:** Join in a short service of Thanksgiving together with our brothers and sisters from La Iglesia Roca Eterna at 7 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

Men's Breakfast, Saturday, December 7, 7:45 a.m.: Cost is \$5. Such a deal for a great catered breakfast and the chance to hear from Andy Le Peau! Sign up today.

**PrimeTimers' This Is My Story, Saturday, December 7,** 10:00 a.m. Come have some refreshments and hear from Bill and Diane Jerdan. Sign up today.

**Merry Christmas for our missionaries:** We typically take an offering at the Thanksgiving Eve Service in order to create a financial blessing for our church's eleven missionary families. If you're not able to be here Wednesday evening but want to contribute, you can write a check to Immanuel with "Missions Christmas" in the memo line this Sunday or on Dec. 1.

# ADULT EDUCATION SESSION 2

(Nov. 3—Dec. 15)

A Disruptive Hope: Advent through an Old Testament Lens

(Not meeting today.)

Andy Abernethy Ministry House

Stress Is Good for You!

(Not meeting today.)

Nate Thom Sanctuary

El Evangelio de la Gloria de Dios - Juan 13-21

(The Book of Glory - John 13-21)

Carlos Sosa Ministry House, upstairs

This is an introduction to the Gospel of John in Spanish. Those who have even a basic knowledge of the language are very welcome to join us. We will read together John 13-21, paying attention to the main characters and theological themes. We will also discuss some implications of the message of the Gospel to contemporary life.

Carlos Sosa was born and raised in Guatemala, Central America, and currently teaches New Testament at Wheaton College. He and his wife, Gaby, are members of Immanuel, attending along with sons Scott and Daniel.

**Elder Testimonies** 

Sanctuary Phyllis Le Peau, Harold Myra

#### Why do we baptize infants?

In our culture today, we are not accustomed to thinking of the head of a household as deciding the spiritual commitments of all its dependent members. However, the biblical perspective is that the head of a household represents the family to God and commits them to his worship. The representative role of heads of households has great Scriptural precedent and rich implications in both the Old and New Testaments. (cf Eph. 5:25-27; Heb. 11:7)

Does the requirement of faith for salvation preclude the possibility of administering a covenant sign to children of believers? It did not in the Old Testament practice of circumcision, and the New Testament tells us why. The apostle Paul says in the book of Romans that circumcision was a "seal" as well as a "sign" of the righteousness that Abraham had by faith (Rom 4:11).

The seal acted as a visible pledge by the author to honor what He had covenanted to do in a document when the conditions it described were met. Like the seal of a document, the seal of circumcision could be applied long before the recipients of promised and signified blessing met the conditions of the covenant.

The Apostle Paul was very explicit about the continuation of the Abrahamic covenant and proclaimed, "Those who believe are children of Abraham" (Gal. 3:7). He goes on to say that the law of Moses "does not set aside the covenant previously established by God. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Gal.3:17,29). Since the shedding of Christ's blood to remove our sin was prefigured by circumcision, baptism with water has become the sign of the washing away of our sin (cf. Acts 22:6; 16:1; I Cor. 6:11; Heb. 9:14). While the sign of the covenant changes, the features of the covenant do not.

In addition to baptism as the new sign and seal of God's covenant promise, we also feel there is other Scriptural evidence to embrace this sacrament for infants. If the apostles had chosen to exclude infants from baptism, such an important change would have been recorded. The absence of a scriptural command to prohibit administering the sign of the covenant to children after two thousand years of observing such a practice weighs significantly against the view that the apostles wanted only those who were able to profess their faith to be baptized. In fact, when we read the New Testament accounts of baptism, every person identified as having a household present at his or her conversion also had the entire household baptized.

Finally, the devotion of the parents who present their children for baptism places each child in a privileged position both to hear and to understand the truths of the Gospel. The parents together with the covenant community of the church provide spiritual nurture and instruction for the child. The child is surrounded and embraced by the testimony of Christ at every turn in life. In this atmosphere, faith generally germinates and matures so that it is possible, even common, for the children of Christian parents never to know a day that they do not believe that Jesus is their Savior and Lord. Such covenantal growth of a child is, in fact, *the normal Christian life* that God intends for his people based on the Biblical account of his covenant with them throughout history. Thus we consider it a privilege to baptize Ezekiel Ransom Noll today.

Adapted from Why Do We Baptize Infants by Bryan Chapell

# NOTES

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#### **ELDERS**

Katherine Anderson (Clerk of Session), Dan Balzer, Phyllis Le Peau, 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, Childrens 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

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