

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

Immanuel

Presbyterian Church



Reformation Sunday

OCTOBER 29, 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.

The 5 Solas of the Reformation (solas, meaning "alones") are five principles foundational to the doctrine of salvation that are the foundation of reformed theology.

Sola Christus

PRELUDE: *A Mighty Fortress*

Joel Raney

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

ANNIKA DURBIN

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP: *O Come, Let us Worship*

Richard Shephard

CALL TO WORSHIP

YOUTH GROUP

Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn over all creation.
For by him all things were created:
things in heaven and on earth,
visible and invisible,
whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities;
all things have been created by him and for him.
Christ is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.
And Christ is the head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead,
so that in everything he might have the supremacy.
For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in Christ,
and through him to reconcile to himself all things,
whether things on earth or things in heaven,
by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Colossians 1:15–20

* INVOCATION

JIM WILHOIT

* OPENING HYMN: *In Christ Alone*



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my
 2. In Christ a - lone - who took on flesh, Ful-ness of
 3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay, Light of the
 2 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the
 light, my strength, my song; this cor - ner stone, this sol - id
 God in help - less babe. This gift of love and right - eous
 world by dark - ness slain; Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious
 5 power of Christ in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal
 ground, firm through the fier - cest drought and storm. What heights of
 ness, Scorned by the ones He came to save. till on that
 day Up from the grave He rose a - gain! And as He
 8 breath, Je - sus com mands my des - ti - ny. No power of
 love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when stri vings
 cross, as Je - sus died, The wrath of God was sa - tis -
 stands in vic - to - ry Sin's curse has lost its grip on
 11 hell, no scheme of man, Can e - ver pluck me from His
 cease! My com - for - ter, my all in
 fied; For ev - ery sin on Him was
 me, For I am His and He is
 13 hand; Till He re - turns or calls me
 all, here in the love of Christ I stand.
 laid, Here in the death of Christ I live.
 mine Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ
 home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Sola gratia

CALL TO CONFESSION

STEVE WESTFALL

Leader: We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,

All: but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.

Leader: Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,

All: so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God of grace, we are reminded this morning that we are dust. You know our “dustiness,” our brokenness, our frailties. We bring them before you this morning, trusting in you to bring forgiveness and healing. We confess that sometimes we simply don’t trust you with our lives, and the lives of those we love.

Silence

Leader: We confess our unbelief of the promises in your Word that your grace really is sufficient for us.

Silence

Leader: We confess our sins, the times we have willingly gone against your good will for our lives, choosing that which is wrong.

Silence

Leader: We confess that there are times we ignore the promptings of your Spirit, and fail to do the good deeds you have prepared for us to do.

Silence

All: Forgive us, Lord, and continue to shape us by your grace. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:4-9

SONG OF ACCLAMATION: *My Chains Are Gone* (Sing twice)

Refrain D/F# G D/F#

My chains are gone, I've been set free; my God, my

G/B D/A D/F# G

Sav - ior has ran - sored me. And like a flood, his mer - cy

D/F# Em7 A7 D

rains un - end - ing love, a - maz - ing grace.

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Sola Fide

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 21

Q. What is true faith?

A. True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ's merit.

* 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.)

OFFERTORY: *One Faith, One Hope, One Lord*

Craig Courtney

One Faith, one Hope, one Lord,
One church for which He died.
One voice, one song we lift in praise to Him
who was and is and shall be evermore.
Though we be many people, diverse with various gifts,
We are given to each another for the unity of faith,
that we grow in the knowledge of the Son of God,
In the fullness of Christ.

* DOXOLOGY

HYMN 731

**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. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

RACHEL EHORN

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

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

SARAH HOLMAN

Sola Scriptura

* HYMN: *Blessed Jesus at Your Word*

HYMN 303

Leader: O God, you are righteous.

All: Transform us by your Word!

Leader: Your judgments are upright.

All: Transform us by your Word!

Leader: Your precepts are unforgettable.

All: Transform us by your Word!

Leader: Give us understanding and we will live.

All: Re-form us, reconcile us, transform us by your Word!

Leader: O Still-speaking God,
throughout history and the wide world
you have gathered people around your Word
to instruct and inspire.
We give thanks for all who have received your vision
and shaped diverse and faithful communities
to follow in your Way.

**All: Continue to open that vision to us,
that we may become transformed
by the renewing of your Word in our hearts.
Enable us to grow in love and understanding for each other.
Create in us, O God, clean hearts and minds;
let us join with you in your suffering and your triumph.
We desire to be your children and
we claim these blessings in your name. Amen.**

READER: LINDA ROBINSON
(Please stand for the reading of God's Word.)

* OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Psalm 46

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
 God will help it when the morning dawns.
- ⁶ The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;
 he utters his voice; the earth melts.
- ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- ⁸ Come, behold the works of the Lord;
 see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
 he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
 he burns the shields with fire.
- ¹⁰ “Be still, and know that I am God!
 I am exalted among the nations;
 I am exalted in the earth.”
- ¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob is our refuge.

John 1:10-14

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. NRSV

SERMON: *His Kingdom Is Forever*

MARK NOLL

Soli Deo Gloria

* CLOSING HYMN *A Mighty Fortress* (verse 3 choir only)

HYMN 92

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE: *Celebration Fanfare*

Charles Callahan

TODAY

Thanks to our musicians: Mary Hopper, Beth Bauer, Alethea Funck, Immanuel Choir, Immanuel Brass

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

Special thanks to Mark Noll, opening God's Word for us while Pastor George and Susan are attending an EPC pastor's conference. Mark is retired as a history professor, first at Wheaton and then at Notre Dame. He and Maggie have been part of this church family for more than four decades.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Food Pantry open

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

College students are invited to the Bretsen home

(502 W. Indiana St., Wheaton, IL 60187) for a chili supper and pumpkin carving RSVP to 630-396-1534)

5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Youth Group Costume Party, with dinner

This Week

Tuesday

9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Women's Bible Study (*childcare*)

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Food Pantry open

Nominate officers: If you know of someone you'd like to see serving as an elder or a deacon, ask if he or she is willing to be nominated. If you get a yes, fill out the form and submit it (or contact Bill France, chair of the Nominating Committee) by November 5. The nominees watch a series of "Learning for Serving" videos while they continue to consider moving forward. Eventually nominees will meet with elders before confirming nominations. Nominated officers are voted on at the annual church meeting in early February.

How to reach Jill: If you have questions or want to volunteer to help, you can contact our new food pantry coordinator, Jill Personius, at IPCpantry@neighborhoodfp.org. You can also leave her a text at 940-453-1777.

Membership Class: Speak with Annette if you are interested in learning more about Immanuel. We hope to have a one-time class in November.

ADULT EDUCATION
NOVEMBER 5 THROUGH DECEMBER 17, 2023

INTRODUCTION TO THE REFORMED FAITH (SANCTUARY)

This class provides a basic orientation to the Reformed tradition that guides our church's teaching and its ministries. It offers a brief history of the origin and development of Reformed churches, including Presbyterian churches, before reviewing two of the most important Reformed statements of faith (Heidelberg Catechism, Westminster Confession). It explains why Reformed churches focus on "covenant" as a key to understanding the Scriptures. It also introduces central Reformed teachings about the person and work of Christ, salvation, Christian living, and life in the world.

***Mark Noll** is retired as a history professor, first from Wheaton College and then the University of Notre Dame. He and his wife, Maggie, have been privileged to be part of this congregation for more than four decades.*

NEW TESTAMENT WITNESSES TO CHRIST (MINISTRY HOUSE)

Jesus told his followers, "You shall be my witnesses." We want to be—we know we should be—but what does it mean practically to be a witness for Jesus? In this class we will observe and learn from various New Testament witnesses who can encourage us in our way of communicating our faith in our present context.

***Diane Jerdan** has attended Immanuel since 2011, when she and Bill moved here to be near their daughter's family following their years of missionary service in France. She has found the IPC family to be an anchor through the changes and transitions of the last few years. Diane enjoys walks in nature, reading, puzzles, keeping up with worldwide current events, and spending time with her fourteen grandchildren—with never a dull or boring moment.*



The Luther Rose

The pulpit banner before you is a recreation of the seal that Martin Luther designed for his personal coat of arms.

Luther, a priest and professor in Wittenberg, Germany, had come to believe, through his study of the Psalms and Paul's Epistles, that salvation came from faith in Christ alone, a free gift. When a Catholic official came into Luther's region selling indulgences (purchasing penance for sin with money), Luther was outraged. He nailed the Ninety-Five Theses (protesting this matter and others) to the church door on October 31, 1517—the event we celebrate today as Reformation Sunday. The devotion of Luther, John Calvin, and others to the authority of Scripture, salvation through faith, and the individual's access to God through Christ led to a separation from the Roman Catholic Church and the beginning of Protestantism.

In Luther's seal, the cross is black to represent the mortification Christ suffered for us, and the heart red for his shed blood. The white Messianic rose symbolized the joy of faith. The blue background represents the joy of heaven, and the ring of gold stands for eternal blessedness in Christ.

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, Bev Burch