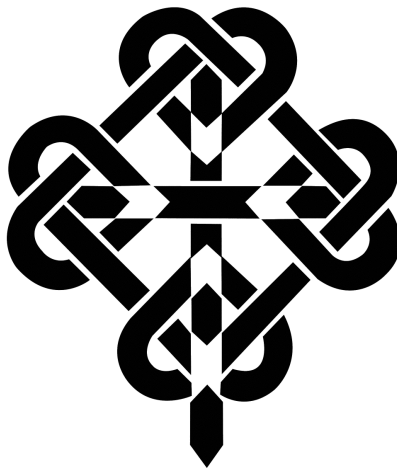


WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

Immanuel Presbyterian Church



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

Romans 12: *Thinking Through* Series

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

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.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE: *He Leadeth Me, Inspired by Liszt's "Un Sospiro"*
Nimrod, from Enigma Variations

Lopez
Elgar

Church Family News

ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP: *Christ, We Do All Adore Thee*

Dubois
Choral Introit

* CALL TO WORSHIP (*Please stand.*)

Pastor: Come, let us worship the Lord.

All: Together we will praise our Creator, who does all things well.

Pastor: His name is Mighty God; his works are a marvel to us.

**All: Therefore let us recount his deeds with great joy.
Praise the Lord.**

* INVOCATION

* OPENING HYMN: *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

HYMN 162

** Congregation stands.*

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

SHEROLL RITCHIE

Leader: Those who encountered the true and living God in Scriptures 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

Ky-rie E - lei - son, have mer - cy, Chris-te E - lei - son, have
 4 mer - cy. Ky-rie E - lei - son, have mer - cy, Chris-te E
 7 lei - son, have mer - cy. As we come be-fore You with the
 10 needs of our world we con-fess our fail-ures and our sin, for our
 13 words are ma-ny yet our deeds have been few; Fan the
 15 fire of com-pas-sion once a - gain. Ky-rie E-

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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.

* ACCLAMATION

All: Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever 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.)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

(Children 3 years through 2nd grade are dismissed to continue their worship downstairs.)

WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY: *A Canon of Praise*

W. A. Mozart
IMMANUEL CHOIR

Make a joyful noise to God, all ye lands.
Serve with gladness;
Draw to God with a joyful heart.
Come before God's presence with singing;
Into his gates with thanksgiving, his courts with praise.

* 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. Amen.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

STEVE WESTFALL



1. All my days I will sing this song of glad-ness, give my
 2. I will trust in the cross of my Re-deem-er; I will
 3. long to be where the praise is ne-ver end-ing; Yearn to



praise to the Foun-tain of de-ights; for in my help-less-ness You
 sing of the blood that nev-er fails, of sins for-giv-en, of
 dwell where the glo-ry ne-ver fades, Where count-less wor-ship-ers will



heard my cry, and waves of mer-cy poured-down on my life.
 con-science cleansed, of death de-feat-ed and life with-out end.
 share one song, And cries of "wor-ty" will hon-or the Lamb!



1. Beau-ti-ful Sa-viour, 2. Won-der-ful Coun-se-lor, clothed in



maj-es-ty, Lord of his-to-ry, You're the Way, the Truth, the Life, Star of the Morn-ing,



glo-rious in ho-li-ness, You're the Ris-en One, heav-en's



Cham-pi-on, and You reign, You reign o-ver



all!

3.1

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READERS: PRISCILLA, ANNIKA, LYNNEA WITTE

* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Psalms 21*

- ¹ The king rejoices in your strength, Lord.
How great is his joy in the victories you give!
- ² You have granted him his heart's desire
and have not withheld the request of his lips.
- ³ You came to greet him with rich blessings
and placed a crown of pure gold on his head.
- ⁴ He asked you for life, and you gave it to him—
length of days, for ever and ever.
- ⁵ Through the victories you gave, his glory is great;
you have bestowed on him splendor and majesty.
- ⁶ Surely you have granted him unending blessings
and made him glad with the joy of your presence.
- ⁷ For the king trusts in the Lord;
through the unfailing love of the Most High
he will not be shaken.
- ⁸ Your hand will lay hold on all your enemies;
your right hand will seize your foes.
- ⁹ When you appear for battle,
you will burn them up as in a blazing furnace.
The Lord will swallow them up in his wrath,
and his fire will consume them.
- ¹⁰ You will destroy their descendants from the earth,
their posterity from mankind.
- ¹¹ Though they plot evil against you
and devise wicked schemes, they cannot succeed.
- ¹² You will make them turn their backs
when you aim at them with drawn bow.
- ¹³ Be exalted in your strength, Lord;
we will sing and praise your might.

* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Romans 11:33 - 12:2*

- ³³ Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable his judgments,
and his paths beyond tracing out!
- ³⁴ “Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been his counselor?”

³⁵ “Who has ever given to God,
that God should repay them?”

³⁶ For from him and through him and for him are all things.
To him be the glory forever! Amen.

¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. NIV

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: *Thinking Through Our Differences*

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN: *We Are God’s People*

HYMN 355

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

TODAY

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

If you have concerns or are **in need of prayer**, elder Gaby Sosa (gabydesosa10@gmail.com) will be available to pray with you near the platform after the service or during the week.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Food Pantry open

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

College Fellowship at Bretsens'
(502 W. Indiana St., Wheaton)
Let Cindy know if you are coming
(bretsen@sbcglobal.net)

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Youth Group (Ministry House) Game night
Evening Mom Talk (narthex)

This Week

Tuesday

9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Women's Bible Study

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

Food Pantry open

In Immanuel and Beyond

Ladies, you're invited! Sylvia Eltherington is marrying Nathaniel Holman in early October. We'll celebrate Sylvia with a shower in the Ministry House at 3 p.m. next Sunday, September 18. Check out their registry at theknot.com/sylvia-nathaniel.

Choir Workshop, Saturday, September 24 , 10:00 - NOON.

Tabernacles picnic and camping: This overnight worship and fellowship event will take place on the adjacent Smoak/Spradley/Witte lawns in Wheaton on September 24, beginning at 4 p.m. Bring supper; breakfast provided. See the poster in the narthex. A QR code will take you straight to more information and to RSVP. Talk with Ken Wolgemuth or Paul Witte to find out more!

The education hour is back! Classes began this morning for all ages, children and teens, as well as adults. Nursery is available at 9:20. Classes for kids are in the lower level, while middle school and high school classes (separate) are upstairs in the Ministry House. Adults can attend a class taught by Mark Noll and Mary Hopper in the sanctuary or a class taught by Annie Rose in the lower level of the Ministry House. Everyone is invited! Try to come a bit early so teachers can begin right at 9:30.

NEW MEMBERS

John and Kathy Jacobsma come to Immanuel from Fox Valley Presbyterian, where they were active members for over 30 years. John was raised Christian Reformed; Kathy was raised Methodist. They both attending the Illinois Institute of Technology; John majored in computer science, Kathy in architecture. They should have never met except for both getting involved with Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. Their individual relationships with God blossomed, and their relationship started with that common experience. They celebrated their 40th anniversary this past June. They live in Geneva with their son, Nathanael. Their youngest son, Sean, lives and works in Holland, MI. Kathy works as a kitchen designer in the Geneva Home Depot. John is currently looking for a “third act” career.

Linda Robinson has been a near neighbor to IPC for about a year now. Born and raised in Chicago, she’s traveled in ministry and resided in several states. She’s a retired program coordinator/social worker for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in Cleveland, Ohio. A licensed and ordained evangelist/elder, she is pursuing her MDiv at Liberty University online. Linda enjoys music, concerts, fine dining, event coordination, travel, and dancing. She’s an avid fan of Lyric Opera and musical theater and a dog lover forever. Most of all she loves God with all her heart and loves her people.

Jason Rolland lives in Winfield with his wife, Leanne, and their 3-year-old daughter, Iliana. He spends his days as a full-time father and tries to be an I.T. Consultant when able. Aside from recovering from a tumultuous life of professional and semi-professional ministry, Jason likes to play Xbox and pretends to be a writer on occasion.

Leanne Rolland lives in Winfield with her husband, Jason; their daughter, Iliana; and their dog, Tyrannocanis Rex (Rex for short). She works on Bibles in the editorial department at Tyndale House Publishers. Leanne enjoys playing sports (especially softball) and sometimes coaching. She also enjoys cross-stitching, bowling, and playing her flute. She is a die-hard fan of both the Cubs and the Broncos. At Immanuel, she helps out in nursery and participates in the music ministry.

Stephanie Weckesser lives in Warrenville with her husband, Gabriel, and children, Jessica and Samuel. She grew up in France as the daughter of long-time Immanuel attendee Diane (and Bill) Jerdan. Stephanie works at Ball Seed Company in West Chicago as an IT business analyst (after starting there as a lab tech over 20 years ago—with a biology degree from Wheaton College—then transferring to IT as a French translator). She has enjoyed getting to know other families at Immanuel, especially in the Mom Talk group, while serving in Children's Ministries, and recently joining a small group.

Gabriel Weckesser lives a hop, skip, and a jump from Immanuel with his wife, Stephanie, and children, Jessica and Samuel. Vocationally he can be found spinning many plates as the IT Coordinator at Wayside Cross Ministries in Aurora. At Immanuel, he has sung in the choir, read scripture, and occasionally ground some coffee beans. He can sometimes be found jogging, watching movies, and researching his family tree. His children have also accused him of telling too many Dad jokes.

ELDERS

*Katherine Anderson (Clerk of Session), Dan Balzer, Ron Netzel, Carl Pickard,
Sheroll Ritchie, Leon Sinclair, Gaby Sosa, Steve Westfall, Ken Wolgemuth*

DEACONS

*Phebe Balzer, Becky Eggimann, Seth Ehorn (Chair), Debby France, Dee Netzel,
Tom Nguyen, Katie Pickard, Jack Swanson, 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*