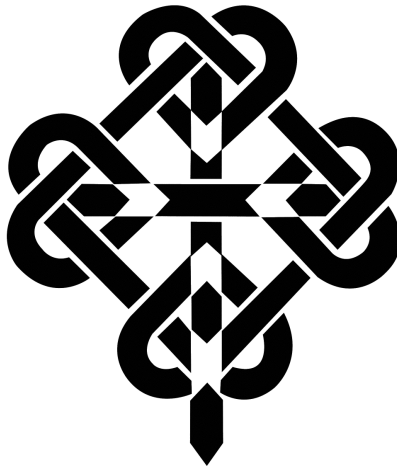


WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

# Immanuel

## Presbyterian Church



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

SEPTEMBER 18, 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

Church Family News

MARY HOPPER

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

\* CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please stand.)*

Pastor: How great and glorious is our God!

**All: From hour to hour, from day to day, our lives ought to overflow with praise and gratitude.**

Pastor: He creates beauty out of the dust of our fallen natures.

**All: Out of the ashes of our failures he brings forth meaning and purpose.**

Pastor: He exalts the humble and enriches the poor.

**All: He transforms our weaknesses into channels of his strength.**

Pastor: Our emptiness becomes a vessel for his fullness, our spiritual poverty the basis for his eternal grace.

**All: How great and glorious is our God!**

*\* Congregation stands.*

\* INVOCATION

\* OPENING HYMN: *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* (verses 1-4, 7)

HYMN 30

## WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

RON NETZEL

Leader: Let us approach our God who opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

**People: Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**

Leader: Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

**People: Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.**

Leader: Do not speak evil against one another, brothers and sisters. Whoever speaks evil against another or judges another, speaks evil against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

**People: There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save and to destroy. So who, then, are you to judge your neighbor?**

Leader: For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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. If we love our God with all our  
 10 heart, mind and strength, and we love our neigh-bours as our-  
 12 selves, then this law of love will heal the na-tions of earth and the  
 15 glo - ry of Christ will be re vealed. Ky-rie E-

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## 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

**All: To him who loves us and frees us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and power forever and ever.**

\* 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.)*

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: *Evil*

KENT RICHTER

Some say evil's an illusion,  
The confusion of samsara's flight.  
And those beyond delusion  
Know the unity of all things in light.  
Shall all the tears on earth begotten  
Sink in some dispassioned peace,  
And like th' enlightened mind forgotten  
simply cease?  
O God, we needed evil meaning  
More than the mystics say it does,  
Needed pain made part of God and so it was.

Some say evil's been refashioned  
By the passion of the Godhead torn,  
For with the Savior's "It is finished,"  
Pain is conquered and reborn.  
And all the tears on earth were given  
Meaning when the Savior cried,  
Every death made door to heaven  
when He died.  
O God, we need the life of Jesus,  
Death and pain made real in His,  
Life with meaning, death with hope, and so it is.

Some say evil is forever,  
Suffering ever living's hopeless fear.  
And vainly those endeavor  
Who would rage against the tears.  
Shall all the tears on earth just give us  
Uselessly a final cry?  
Echoes of our pain outlive us when we die?  
O God, we needed evil beaten,  
Conquered in a hero's cause,  
Needed hope made real as flesh and so it was.

\* 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 AND LORD'S PRAYER

KATHERINE ANDERSON

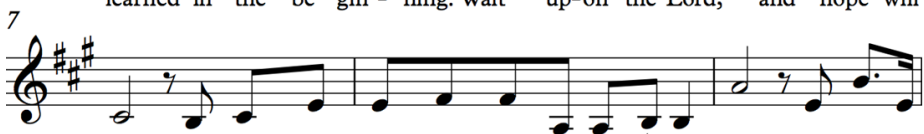
**Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**



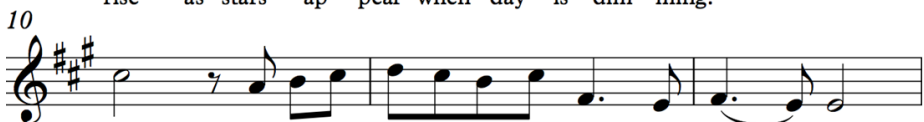
1. Still, my soul, be still and do not fear though winds of  
2. Still, my soul, be still; do not be moved by less - er  
3. Still, my soul, be still; do not for-sake the truth you



4 change may rage to mor - row. God is at your side; no long - er  
lights and fleet - ing shad - ows. Hold in to His ways, with shield of  
learned in the be gin - ning. Wait up-on the Lord, and hope will



7 dread the fires of un - ex - pect - ed sor - row. God, You are my  
faith a - gainst temp - ta - tion's flam - ing ar - rows.  
rise as stars ap - pear when day is dim - ming.



10 God, and I will trust in You and not be shak - en.



13 Lord of peace, re - new a stead - fast



15 spir - ir with - in me to rest \_\_\_\_\_ in You a - lone.

## WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READERS: DANUSIAR FAMILY

\* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Psalm 103:1-14*

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord, my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.  
<sup>2</sup> Praise the Lord, my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits—  
<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases,  
<sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and compassion,  
<sup>5</sup> who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.  
<sup>6</sup> The Lord works righteousness  
and justice for all the oppressed.  
<sup>7</sup> He made known his ways to Moses,  
his deeds to the people of Israel:  
<sup>8</sup> The Lord is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
<sup>9</sup> He will not always accuse,  
nor will he harbor his anger forever;  
<sup>10</sup> he does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to our iniquities.  
<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;  
<sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.  
<sup>13</sup> As a father has compassion on his children,  
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him;  
<sup>14</sup> for he knows how we are formed,  
he remembers that we are dust.

\* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Romans 8:26-28*

<sup>26</sup> In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

<sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. NIV



\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: *Processing the Pandemic — Part 1*

**WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE**

\* CLOSING HYMN: *Now Thank We All Our God*

HYMN 98

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

**TODAY**

**Thanks to our musicians:** Mary Hopper, Beth Bauer, Kent Richter, Zak Reynolds, Immanuel orchestra

If you have concerns or are **in need of prayer**, elder Katherine Anderson (katand@sbcglobal.net)) 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**

3:00 p.m.

**Bridal shower for Sylvia Eltherington**

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Youth Group** (Ministry House)

**This Week**

Tuesday

9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

**Women's Bible Study**

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

**Food Pantry open**

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

**Women's Bible Study**

Wednesday

9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

**Mom Talk**

Saturday

10:00 a.m. - noon

**Choir workshop**

4:00 p.m. - 8:30 a.m.

**Feast of Tabernacles**

## **In Immanuel and Beyond**

**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!

**Come for the education hour:** 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. Try to come a bit early so teachers can begin right at 9:30.



*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*