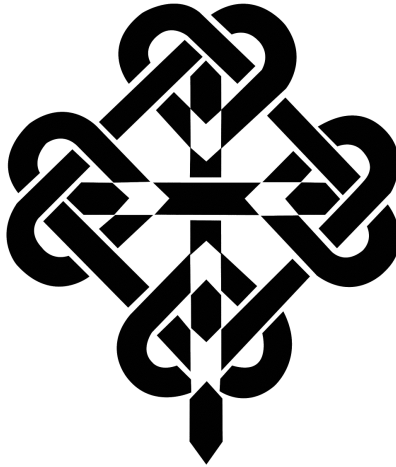


WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

# Immanuel

## Presbyterian Church



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

2 CORINTHIANS 5  
OUR LIFE IN CHRIST IN ONE CHAPTER

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

## 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: *String Quartet, Opus 76 No. 3 (Poco Adagio Cantabile)*

F. J. Haydn

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

ANNETTE AND ANNIKA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

**Pastor:** Let us worship God. "He is our refuge and our fortress, our God, whom we trust."

**People:** **Let us confess with our mouths, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead.**

**Pastor:** "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

**All:** **Let us call upon our true God, believing him in our hearts, confessing him with our mouths, worshiping him in spirit and in truth.**

Based on Psalm 91:2; Romans 10:9, 13

### \* INVOCATION

OPENING SONG: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (Violin solo)*

## WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

### CALL TO CONFESSION

GABY SOSA

Leader: Before the Lord, all hearts are open.

**People: We need forgiveness for our secret sins, our habitual sins, our unnoticed sins.**

Leader: We need forgiveness for our sins of thought, word, and deed, and for all that we have left undone.

**All: For our sins against ourselves, our sins against others, our sins against God, all where we have fallen short of the glory of God and not done what he has called us to do; we desperately need his forgiveness and mercy.**

*Adapted from The Open Gate by David Adam*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Be comforted and hear the good tidings of the gospel: If anyone has sinned, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. Believe the gospel and live in peace. Amen.

### \* ACCLAMATION *(Please stand)*

Pastor: To him in whom God's fullness dwells,

**People: To him through whom God reconciles all things to himself,**

**All: To him be glory and honor and praise throughout all generations 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.)*

### CHILDREN'S BLESSING

*(Children remain seated during the Children's Blessing, then will be led to their children's worship space.)*

### SPECIAL MUSIC: *O the Deep, Deep Love*

Duane Funderburk  
Piano Quintet

# WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

SHEROLL RITCHIE

\* SONG: *What Wondrous Love Is This*

The musical score is presented in three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. Chords are indicated above the treble staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

**System 1:**

Chords: Dm, Am, C, Em, Dm, C, Dm, Dm7, C, F

Lyrics:  
 1. What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what  
 2. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to  
 3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

**System 2:**

Chords: C, Bm, Am, G, Am, G, C, Dm, C, F, C, F, C

Lyrics:  
 won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is  
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm

**System 3:**

Chords: Dm, C, Am, Bm7, C, Dm, Am, Em, Dm, C

Lyrics:  
 this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my  
 Lamb, who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 free, I'll sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

**System 4:**

Chords: Dm, Dm7, C, F, C, Bm, Am, G, Am, G, C, Dm

Lyrics:  
 soul, for my soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!  
 on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on!

## WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READER: TOM NGUYEN

\* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Psalms 64*

<sup>1</sup> Hear me, my God, as I voice my complaint;  
protect my life from the threat of the enemy.

<sup>2</sup> Hide me from the conspiracy of the wicked,  
from the plots of evildoers.

<sup>3</sup> They sharpen their tongues like swords  
and aim cruel words like deadly arrows.

<sup>4</sup> They shoot from ambush at the innocent;  
they shoot suddenly, without fear.

<sup>5</sup> They encourage each other in evil plans,  
they talk about hiding their snares;  
they say, "Who will see it?"

<sup>6</sup> They plot injustice and say,  
"We have devised a perfect plan!"  
Surely the human mind and heart are cunning.

<sup>7</sup> But God will shoot them with his arrows;  
they will suddenly be struck down.

<sup>8</sup> He will turn their own tongues against them  
and bring them to ruin;  
all who see them will shake their heads in scorn.

<sup>9</sup> All people will fear;  
they will proclaim the works of God  
and ponder what he has done.

<sup>10</sup> The righteous will rejoice in the Lord  
and take refuge in him;  
all the upright in heart will glory in him!

\* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *2 Corinthians 5:1-5*

<sup>1</sup>For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. <sup>2</sup>Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup>because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. <sup>4</sup>For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup>Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. NIV

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: *The Greatest Thing We Know*

**WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE**

\* CLOSING HYMN: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

1 I want to walk as a child of the light;  
2 I want to see the bright - ness of God;  
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ;

I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
I want to look at Je - sus.  
I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world;  
Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,  
When we have run with pa - tience the race,

the star of my life is Je - sus.  
and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark - ness at all;

the night and the day are both a - like.

The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God;

shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text and music, Kathleen Thomerson  
© 1970, 1975 Celebration, Used with permission, CCLI #294262

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

## TODAY

If you have concerns or are in need of prayer, Gaby Sosa will be available at the front following the service.

**Thanks to our musicians:** Marcus Mayell, Grace Mayell, Timothy Holman, Helena Norman, Mary Hopper.

Music is licensed.

**You are welcome to stay for a picnic after church.** If you didn't bring lunch, stay anyway! See Annette.

## Thanks to our technical crew.

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  | <b>Food pantry open</b>   |
| 6:00 - 8:00 p. m. | <b>Youth Group</b> at the Ministry House. Bring a lawn chair!                     |
| 7:00 p.m.         | <b>Adult Ed</b> Theology 101, focusing on the themes of sin and salvation. (Zoom) |

## THIS WEEK

Tuesday

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Food Pantry**

## COMING

**September 26:** Mission snapshot with Micah Schuurman  
College group meets at Bretsens' house.

**PrimeTimers** will meet Saturday, October 16 at 10:00 a.m. RSVP to Alva (alvasteffler@yahoo.com).



## SYMBOLS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

Special thanks to the sewing team of Immanuel members who created the banners currently enhancing our worship in the sanctuary, which depict important symbols of Christian faith:



*Alpha and Omega:* The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet symbolize Jesus as the beginning and end of all things and are associated with the Trinity (Rev. 22:13).



*Chi Rho:* Since the time of Constantine, this symbol derived from the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ emphasizes the Great Shepherd, as the Greek letter rho looks a bit like a shepherd's staff.



*Lion holding the Cross:* The lion is one of the messianic titles (Gen. 49:9, Rev. 5:5) and represents royal dominion, strength and courage, and justice.



*Lamb:* Christ is the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29 and many other references).



*Hand of God:* The hand, a symbol of power and making the gesture of a blessing, is a physical representation for God the Father. The hand of God creates and protects, provides security and support, but also metes out judgment.



*Dove:* This primary symbol for the Holy Spirit also indicates God's peace and reconciliation with humankind.

## NOTES

## NOTES

*ELDERS*

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

*DEACONS*

*Phebe Balzer, Becky Eggimann, Seth Ehorn, Debby France, Katie Pickard,  
Dee Netzel, Tom Nguyen, Heather Reyes (chair), Jack Swanson, Amy Treier, Rebecca William*

*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;  
Amber Johnson, Business Manager; Barbara Lawrence, Church Secretary; Frank Lawrence, Church Sexton*