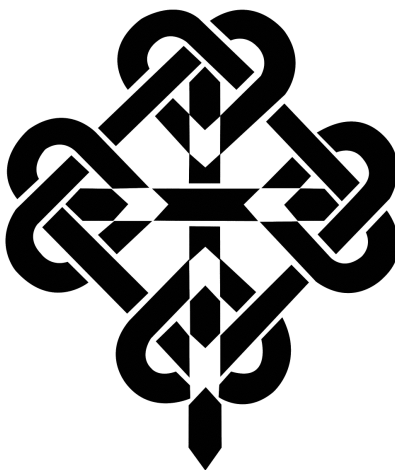


WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

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 26, 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: *And Can It Be?*

Plew, hymn tune
arranged by Dan Forrest
ALETHEA FUNCK

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are here to praise God because Jesus Christ has set us free to live.

All: **We are here because in Christ we are forgiven and made whole.**

Leader: We are gathered because Jesus Christ has united us into one family of faith.

All: **We will witness to the good news: Jesus Christ frees and unites.
Praise God! Alleluia! Amen.**

* INVOCATION

OPENING SONG: *O God Unseen*

Mark Schweizer
WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE

O God, unseen yet ever near,
Thy presence may we feel;
And thus inspired with holy fear,
before thine altar kneel.

Thus may we all thy word obey,
For we, O God, are thine;
And go rejoicing on our way,
renewed with strength divine.

Here may the faithful people know
The blessing of thy love,
The streams that through the desert flow,
the manna from above.

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

KATHERINE ANDERSON

Leader: Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;

People: love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

Leader: Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

People: Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

Leader: Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

People: Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

Leader: Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light;

People: let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy.

Leader: Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

* ACCLAMATION *(Please stand)*

All: Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing. 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

MICAH SCHUURMAN

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Fill My Life, O Lord, My God*

Robert J. Powell

Fill my life, O Lord, my God,
Fill my life with praise,
That my whole being may proclaim
Thy love and Thy ways.

So, O Lord, from even me
Shall Thou receive the glory due,
And so shall I on earth begin the glory due,
And so shall I on earth begin the song forever new.

Praise in my going out, O Lord,
And in my coming in;
Praise in each duty and each deed,
Now let my praise begin.

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

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

WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

GABY SOSA



1. What is our hope in life and death? Christ a-lone, Christ a
 2. What truth can calm the trou-bled soul? God is good, God is
 5 3. Un - to the grave, what will we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He



lone. What is our on - ly con - fi dence? That our souls to Him be
 good. Where is His grace and good-ness known? In our great Re-deem-er's
 9 lives!" And what re-ward will hea - ven bring? Ev - er - last - ing life with



long. Who holds our days with - in His hand? What comes, a -
 blood. Who holds our faith when fears a - rise Who stands a -
 12 Him. There we will rise to meet the Lord, Then sin and



part from His com mand? And what will keep us to the end? The love of
 bove the storm-y trial? Who sends the waves that bring us nigh Un - to the
 16 death will be destroyed, And we will feast in end-less joy, When Christ is



Christ, in which we stand. O sing hal - le - lu - jah! Our
 shore, the rock of Christ?
 21 ours for - ev - er - more



hope springs e - ter - nal; O sing hal - le - lu - jah! Now and ev - er we con



fess Christ our hope in life and death.

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READER: APRIL CARLSON

* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *Psalm 1*

¹ Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
² but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.
⁴ Not so the wicked!
They are like chaff
that the wind blows away.
⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
⁶ For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

* NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: *2 Corinthians 5:6-10*

⁶ Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. ⁷ For we live by faith, not by sight. ⁸ We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹ So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. ¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. NIV

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: *Seeing Our Future Through Christ*

WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN: *My Hope Is in the Lord*

1. My hope is in the Lord who gave him - self for me,
 2. No mer - it of my own his an - ger to sup - press,
 3. And now for me he stands be - fore the Fa - ther's throne.
 4. His grace has planned it all, 'tis mine but to be - lieve,

and paid the price of all my sin at Cal - va - ry.
 my on - ly hope is found in Je - sus' righ - teous - ness.
 He shows his wound - ed hands, and names me as his own.
 and rec - og - nize his work of love and Christ re - ceive.

REFRAIN
 For me he died, for me he lives,
 For me he died, for me he lives,

and ev - er - last - ing life and light he free - ly gives.

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

TODAY

Get to know Micah Schuurman, newly supported by Immanuel. Micah is the son of our dear John and Janet. He's been serving in Costa Rica since 2014, currently teaching at UNELA, the Evangelical University of the Americas, one of the very few accredited evangelical universities in Latin America. Micah teaches Old Testament and biblical languages. Micah also keeps busy helping with the youth group in his local church and running a neighborhood chess club for kids. During the pandemic, while Micah's classes have been online, Micah has been able to work from Winfield, and so has been able to support his parents during a tough year for them, health-wise. Stay after the service this morning for a time of getting to know Micah. We'll finish by 12:30.

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

Thanks to our musicians: Mary Hopper, Alethea Funck, Women's Ensemble

Music is licensed.

Thanks to our technical crew.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. | Food pantry open |
| 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. | College Fellowship meets at Bretsens'. Dinner provided (502 W. Indiana, Wheaton). Let Cindy know you are coming (bretsen@sbcglobal.net). |
| 5:30 - 8:00 p. m. | Youth Group at the Ministry House. Outdoor movie night. Snacks will be provided. Bring a lawn chair and jacket. |
| 7:00 p.m. | Adult Ed 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

Good news: The Session has approved a resolution authorizing a loan to complete the funding of our Renovation Project. To comply with our bylaws, we will conduct a brief congregational meeting for the purpose of an *active-member vote after worship on Sunday, October 10*, to affirm the resolution.

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

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*