

SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD · MATTHEW 6:33

# IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# **September 17, 2023**

### WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude: Organ Hymn

Raymond Hann

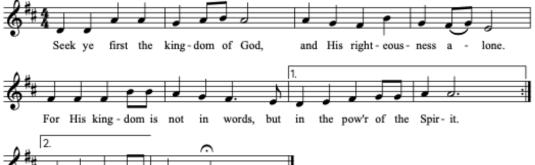
"For God alone my soul in silence waits." Psalm 62:1

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

ANNETTE LAPLACA

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (Congregation sings)

Howard Whitaker





## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what

he has done.

All: Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his

holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Pastor: Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

All: Let us remember the wonders he has done, his miracles and the judgments

he pronounced. For he is the Lord our God. He remembers his covenant

forever.

<sup>\*</sup> INVOCATION



fess Christ our hope in life and death.

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#### WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION STEVE WESTFALL

Leader: The psalmist testifies:

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.

People: If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,

the Lord would not have listened.

Leader: But truly God has listened;

he has given heed to the words of my prayer.

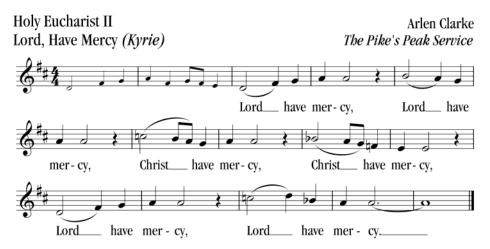
People: Praise be to God,

because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

Leader: In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

based on Psalm 66:16, 18-20, NRSV from The Worship Sourcebook

SONG OF CONFESSION: Lord, Have Mercy



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

# ASSURANCE OF PARDON (I John 1:8-9)

Leader: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in

us. If we confess our sins, He who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Brothers and sisters, believe the

gospel—in Jesus Christ we stand forgiven. Amen.

### \* ACCLAMATION

All: Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name ascribe the glory, for your love protecting us is strong, and your constancy is everlasting. To the Lord be glory, 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.)

# WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS

TESTIMONY KIM TAYLOR

Offering and Offertory: Rejoice with Me

Ensemble

My soul magnifies the Lord, And I rejoice in God my Savior! My soul magnifies the Lord, And I will not be silent; I will not be silent.

The Lord has looked on me. He has heard my humble plea. From one generation to the next All will rise up and call me blessed!

Blessed are we who believe. His promises we receive. He has said, "I will care for you." And what He says He will surely do. Rejoice with me For our God is holy! And He has come, come to save us!

We lift our voice as one, To the Father, Spirit, Son For the gift He's given from His hand – The mystery of God made man! \* Doxology Howard Whitaker



## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

# INTERCESSORY PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

BILL FRANCE

All:
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.



#### WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

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

READER: RACHEL EHORN

\* OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Psalm 65:1-7 (Please read responsively facing the other side.)

Pulpit side: Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion;

Baptismal side: to you our vows will be fulfilled.

Pulpit side: You who answer prayer, to you all people will come.

Baptismal side: When we were overwhelmed by sins,

you forgave our transgressions.

Pulpit side: Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts!

Baptismal side: We are filled with the good things of your house,

of your holy temple.

Pulpit side: You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds,

God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth

and of the farthest seas,

Baptismal side: who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself

with strength,

Pulpit side: who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves,

and the turmoil of the nations.

#### Luke 7:20-23

<sup>20</sup> When the men came to Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?" <sup>21</sup> At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. <sup>22</sup> So he replied to the messengers, "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. <sup>23</sup> Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

#### Luke 17:20-21

#### \* Congregational Response

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>Once, on being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, <sup>21</sup> nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is in your midst."

#### WE ARE DISMISSED TO LOVE AND SERVE

\* Closing Hymn: Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners! Hymn 498

- \* BENEDICTION
- \* Postlude

### **TODAY**

**Special thanks** to Clint Shaffer, Colin Holman, and Ron Haydon for a fresh season of adult education. Their classes on the German hymns of the Reformation and on seeing Jesus in the Old Testament will run through late October.

**Thanks to our musicians:** Mary Hopper, Zak Reynolds, Katie Abernethy, Eric Durbin, Ellie Durbin, Deborah Klemme, Russ Adkins, Graham Haydon, Daniel Dietlin, Immanuel Orchestra

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. **Food Pantry open** 

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Youth Group (Ministry House)

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

#### This Week

Tuesday	9:30  - 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m 1:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (childcare) Food Pantry open
Wednesday	9:30 a.m 11:00 a.m.	Mothering Together (childcare)
Saturdav	10:00 a.m noon	Choir Workshop

**Newcomer's Lunch:** If you are fairly new to Immanuel, plan to stay for lunch with church staff members on Sunday, September 24. We want to know you better. RSVP to Annette (annettelaplaca@comcast.net) if you can come.

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