



IMMANUEL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

transforming tradition

“In life and in death we belong to God.”

We have been called
to belong to the body of Christ
and to seek God’s purposes in this place.

Immanuel Presbyterian Church is
our home, where we grow and welcome all;
our community, where we care for one another and serve others.

We promise
to worship regularly,
to learn openly,
to give generously,
to live together in the unity of the Spirit
as a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
and to share the work of mission and ministry...
transforming tradition in the church and in the world.

Immanuel Presbyterian Church Covenant (2012)

MORNING WORSHIP
THIRTY- THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
THANKSGIVING AND PLEDGE DEDICATION SUNDAY

November 19, 2023

Ten O' Clock

+ PRELUDE Now Thank We All Our God *J. S. Bach*

*Welcome to our combined online and onsite worship service.
The order of service is designed for worshipers to participate
virtually from home or in the Sanctuary.*

Please enjoy the prelude as a time of silent preparation for worship.

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

+* HYMN 367 (stzs. 1-3) Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
St. George's Windsor

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION Psalm 50

*Leader: Mark this, you who forget:
Whoever brings thanksgiving as a sacrifice honors me.*

*People: To those who follow my way will be shown
the salvation of God.*

*Leader: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and pay your vows to the Most High;*

*People: Call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.*

*All: Generous God, Your bounty surrounds us,
yet we respond by holding on tightly to what we
have and accumulating more than we need.
We build barriers with our affluence and use our
possessions to insulate us from the reality of human
need. Make us aware of the insecurities that feed our
compulsive desire to have and have more, and
overcome our fears with the spirit of sharing.
As You have lovingly given of Yourself,
help us to give of ourselves, willingly and joyfully;
in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

* DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

* THE PEACE

*Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ,
let us forgive one another.*

People: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

* RESPONSE (*the congregation sings*)

Even so, Lord, quickly come to Thy final harvest home
Gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
there forever purified, in Thy presence to abide:
come, with all Thine angels, come;
raise the glorious harvest home!

+++ Latecomers may be seated during the response

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURES Psalm 136:1-9, 23-25

(OT 576)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

i thank You God

Elliot Levine

poetry by e. e. cummings

*i thank You God for most this amazing
day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes*

*(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth
day of life and of love and wings: and of the gay
great happening illimitably earth)*

*how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any-lifted from the no
of all nothing-human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?*

*(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)*

SILENT PRAYER, PASTORAL PRAYER

* HYMN 643 Now Thank We All Our God

Nan Danket Alle Gott

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

THE WORSHIP OF GOD WITH OFFERINGS

“The Christian life is marked by the offering of one’s self to God to be shaped, empowered, directed, and changed by God.

In worship, God presents us with the costly self-offering of Jesus Christ.

We are claimed by Christ and set free.

In response to God’s love in Jesus Christ, we offer God our lives, our gifts, our abilities, and our material goods, for God’s service.”

The Book of Common Worship, Presbyterian Church (USA)

The offerings and pledges for 2024 are gathered and presented.

OFFERTORY

We Gather Together

Burkhardt

Worshippers in the Sanctuary are invited to sign the red Friendship Folder in each pew and greet one another following the worship service.

Online worshippers are invited to indicate their “presence” by using the Virtual Worship Sign-in link: <https://bit.ly/IPCVirtualWorshipSignIn>

Children, youth, and teachers gather at the font for prayer before proceeding to Church School in The Peaceable Kingdom on the lower level.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION OF PLEDGES

The Book of Common Worship Presbyterian Church (USA)

Leader: Give thanks to God, whose goodness and love are everlasting.

People: Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

*Leader: For the good world;
for things great and small, beautiful and awesome;
for seen and unseen splendors;*

People: Thank You, God.

*Leader: For human life;
for talking and moving and thinking together;
for common hopes and hardships shared
from birth until our dying;*

People: Thank You, God.

*Leader: For work to do and strength to work;
for the camaraderie of labor;
for exchanges of good humor and encouragement;*

People: Thank You, God.

*Leader: For family and friends;
for living together and eating together;
for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared;*

People: Thank You, God.

*Leader: For children and youth;
for their energy and curiosity; for their high hopes,
their honesty, and their joy in learning;*

People: Thank You, God.

Leader: *For growing up and growing old;
for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in leisure;
and for time made precious by its passing;*

People: Thank You, God.

Leader: *For Your help in times of doubt and sorrow;
for healing our diseases;
for preserving us in temptation and danger;*

People: Thank You, God.

Leader: *For the church into which we have been called;
for the good news we receive by Word and Sacrament;
for our life together in the Lord;*

People: Thank You, God. With thanksgiving,
we offer our commitments to You.

Accept them as our gratitude, our promise, our prayer.
Bless these stewards that bow before You.
Bless this church which offers You its life.

Leader: *For those who have been renewed in Your Spirit,
those who give generously and steadfastly over many years,
those pledging for the first time,
those who have increased their commitment,
and those who tithe;*

People: We give You thanks and praise.

Leader: *For those whose lives are in transition or turmoil and who feel
they cannot pledge this year, but who continue to support the
work of Your church in disciplines of prayer and service;*

People: We give You thanks and pray for calm in their lives.

Leader: *Renew us in Your Spirit, that these pledges enable
ministry in this place and mission in the larger church,
in Your name and to Your glory.*

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.

* HYMN OF DOXOLOGY 711 Lord of All Good Toulon

THE SCRIPTURES I Thessalonians 5:12-28 (NT 205)

Leader: *The Word of God for the people of God.*

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "For Us: Living and Thanksgiving" Dr. Block

* HYMN 612 We Praise You, O God Kremser

*Worshippers in the Sanctuary turn to the camera on the back wall
so that online and onsite worshippers are facing one another
for the closing hymn.*

* BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

*The flowers at the arch points are in loving memory of
Charlotte P. Johnstone.*

A memorial service was held on Friday afternoon.

*The flowers on the Communion Table are given to the glory of God
in memory of Jack Landaas by his brother Bob.*

Following the postlude, an elder
will be at the font to receive prayer requests.

Welcome! Members and friends are invited to Coffee Hour in the Parlor. Coffee hosts are Ray and Claire Moulis, and Jim Schleif and Bill Morley. **Welcome Team** members this morning are Pat Parks, Janet Christiaansen, and Lindsey McKee. They are wearing nametags and are available to answer questions about the church and to give tours of the building.

Thank you to this morning's worship volunteers: Ushers – Dick Myers, Mark Connelly, Steve Jacobs, and Bill LeFeber; Camera operator – Evelyn Ericson

If you are visiting Immanuel Church today, we welcome you to Milwaukee's first church, marking its 186th anniversary this year. Today's congregation of over 500 members comes from next door, neighborhoods throughout the city, and as far north as Port Washington, as far south as Kenosha, and as far west as Summit. Our livestream worship extends our community across the country. Committed to "keeping faith in the city," Immanuel supports the Interchange Food Pantry and is active with Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity and Southeastern Wisconsin Common Ground. Global mission projects reach to Zambia and Cuba. Worship is our first priority and education is emphasized for all ages. Contact Associate Pastor Rob Ater (robertater@immanuelwi.org) for more information about Immanuel or church membership.

Nursery care for infants and toddlers is provided until noon. The **Immanuel Nursery** is located on the lower level; elevator access is also available. A “**crying room**” **on the second floor** offers sight and sound of the Sanctuary for parents with small children who prefer an alternate space during the worship service. **Church School classes for children and youth** follow the Prayer of Thanksgiving in The Peaceable Kingdom (lower level). Click <https://conta.cc/3szGG43> to read this week’s “Wednesday Grace” email.

Advent at Immanuel Presbyterian Church

Please see the bulletin insert for more details about the following activities.

The Advent Workshop
Sunday, December 3 + 11:00-1:00

“All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914”
PARISH LIFE COUNCIL OUTING
Sunday, December 3 + 2:00 p.m. at Calvary Presbyterian Church

Advent Evenings with Dr. Block
Three Wednesdays in December + 7:00-8:00 p.m. (Zoom)
December 6 - Decembers to Remember at Immanuel Church
December 13 - A preview of J.S. Bach's “Magnificat”
December 20 - The Tradition of the Crèche (share yours!)

“Black Nativity” by Langston Hughes
CHOIR AND FRIENDS OUTING
Thursday December 7 + 7:30 p.m. at the Marcus Center

The Alternative Christmas Market
Sunday, December 10 + 11:00 - 1:00 in the Upper Room

A Celebration of Christmas
Sunday, December 17 at Four o’clock

“A Future with Hope”

TODAY is Pledge Dedication Sunday *a celebration of giving and thanksgiving*

Pledge packets were distributed at last Sunday's program and mailed to members and friends on Monday. The packet includes an invitation to support the church financially in 2024, a pledge form. And other information about pledging and the 2024 proposed budget. Extras are on the Great Hall tables today if you did not receive the snail mail!

The Stewardship Committee:

Trustee Steve Carlton and Elder Kate Egan, co-chairs
Spencer Frank, Kristi Leswing, Kate Lewis, Will Loder, Jim Peterson

A CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

The Rev. Dr. Deborah A. Block **marks forty-six years of ordained ministry today** *“I will pray for and seek to serve the people* *with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.”*

Throughout the fall season, we've marked the Rev. Dr. Deborah Block's ministry with Immanuel Presbyterian Church over the last 45+ years with special celebrations of Dr. Block's leadership in Christian education, her service to the wider church, and the ways she has illuminated the church's hymnody in our life together. A "Celebration of Women in Ministry" offered thanks for the many gifts brought to this congregation by Dr. Block and the clergywomen from various denominations who now make their spiritual home among us.

Today, on this Thanksgiving Sunday when we re-commit ourselves to support the ministry and mission of Immanuel Church in the coming year, we offer our thanksgiving for Dr. Block's long commitment and service to Immanuel Church. Today is her 46th ordination anniversary to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. She began her ministry at Immanuel soon after. A Celebration of Ministry Sunday is being planned for the end of January (watch the bulletin next week for an official date!). The day will include a special worship service followed by a program in the Sanctuary and a reception and light brunch buffet in the Upper Room.

PASTORAL TRANSITION UPDATE

Two congregational sessions were held last month for interpretation and conversation as we move toward Dr. Block's February 1 retirement and a time of interim ministry. A "Q and A" summary of interim ministry and an introduction to the interim pastor who will guide us through this transition process, the Rev. Dr. Randall Bush, can be found in Friday's "Prelude to Worship" email blast.

INTERCHANGE FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

Today is Interchange Food Pantry Sunday when we lift up the ministry of this longtime mission partner. Use the yellow food pantry envelopes in the pew racks, follow this link (https://bit.ly/Donate_InterchangeFoodPantry) to make an online contribution, or send a check to the church office (payable to the Interchange Food Pantry).



Thank you to all who supported this month's special Thanksgiving Dinner Drive through Interchange that is helping to support the distribution of nutritionally balanced holiday meals this weekend. If you would still like to support the drive, it's not too late. Click here: <https://gofund.me/425c5e41> Food pantry volunteers are needed to sort and bag food for guests. Contact the pantry staff (ifpmilwaukee@gmail.com or 414-551-2184) for information or to sign-up.

THANKSGIVING THANKS!

from The Gathering Meal Program

The Gathering Meal Program served Thanksgiving Dinner yesterday to over 500 guests at three Milwaukee locations. Thank you to the Immanuel members and friends who roasted twelve (out of the 90) turkeys for this special holiday meal. Thank you for helping to make another person's Thanksgiving brighter. A longtime mission partner of Immanuel Church, the mission of *The Gathering* (<https://www.thegatheringwis.org/ourmission>) is to provide healthy meals to those who would otherwise go hungry without them.

An updated MESSAGE from the COVID ADVISORY TEAM **Masks Welcomed; COVID Boosters Now Available**

The COVID Advisory Team continues to review current guidelines and recommendations. The current predominant strains are giving generally less severe symptoms, making testing important to differentiate, and to isolate as needed. **Masks continue to be welcomed at Immanuel.** Please inform the Immanuel Church office if you test positive within 72 hours of attending an in-person church gathering. **A new vaccine protective against the current circulating strains is now available.** COVID cases are anticipated to peak again from December to February, and the vaccine is most protective in the first three months after a dose.

SPOTLIGHT ON MISSION

Meta House

Meta House ends the generational cycle of addiction by healing women and strengthening families. Meta House was one of the first residential treatment facilities in the country designed specifically for women with substance use disorders, and has been providing gender-responsive, family-centered treatment since 1963. It was also one of the first in the nation to include children in the residential setting. While the cornerstone of the program is substance abuse treatment, Meta House also offers parenting, vocational, and educational services to clients and a host of services for their children. This holistic approach ensures that as a woman gets well, her entire family has the tools to successfully adapt to a life of recovery. www.metahouse.org.

Every week this fall a Spotlight on Mission article highlights an Immanuel mission partner who will be participating in the Alternative Christmas Market on December 10.

GIFTS FOR CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TOY STORE

Contribution collection begins December 3

Supporting the Christmas Toy Store at Christ Presbyterian Church (20th and Walnut Streets) is a holiday tradition at Immanuel! This year's annual Toy Store event will be held on Saturday, December 16. Children from the neighboring community (12 & under) will visit the store and receive an age-appropriate reading/coloring book, toy, board game and a hat/glove set. Last year's event saw a significant increase with over 600 children participating.

Join the children of the Immanuel Church School in contributing to this important project with new/gently used items like toys, games, coloring/reading books, crayons, markers, stuffed animals, balls, mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, school supplies, dolls, cars/trucks, and puzzles. **Contributions may be dropped off on weekdays in the church office or bring them on December 3 and 10 to place under the tree in the Upper Room.** Immanuel will deliver the gifts to Christ Church on the morning of December 12.

SUNDAY MORNING PARKING: Worshipers may park behind another car in the Waverly or Telluris/Brico (north) lots. **PLEASE place a Sunday bulletin on your dashboard with your name and cell phone number and move your car immediately after worship.**

YOUR OFFERING, here and afar

During the pandemic many members changed their method of giving. Now that passing the offering plates has resumed, you may wish to observe this ritual. Those who are worshipping at home or away may continue their giving by:

1. **Mailing a check** to the office: 1105 N. Waverly Place, Milwaukee, WI 53202. Note in the memo line how you'd like the amount recorded.
2. **Going to our web site** at <https://www.immanuelwi.org/onlinegiving>
3. **Scanning this QR** ("Quick Response") code with your smart phone camera for immediate connection to giving options on the Immanuel site.
4. **Texting 833-712-0259** (number for Immanuel giving only). Enter the amount in a message bubble and you will receive a registration link for payment information and verification by text or email.



WEEKLY CALENDAR AND UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

NOVEMBER 19 8:55
 8:45-noon
 10:00
 10:30-noon
 11:15
Tuesday 5:45
Thursday-Friday

THANKSGIVING AND PLEDGE DEDICATION

Choir rehearsal
Nursery care ~ *Lower level*
Morning Worship; Dr. Block preaching
Church School for children and youth ~
The Peaceable Kingdom, lower level
Thanksgiving Coffee Hour ~ *Parlor*
Meeting of the Session ~ *Conference Room*
Church office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

NEXT SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 26 8:55
 8:45-noon
 10:00
 10:30-noon
 11:00-noon
November 27 6:00
November 29 5:00
November 30 4:00

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

Choir rehearsal
Nursery care ~ *Lower level*
Morning Worship; Ms. Larson preaching
The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Church School for children and youth ~
The Peaceable Kingdom, lower level
Coffee hour in the Parlor
Choir rehearsal ~ *Choir Room, lower level*
Membership Task Force ~ *virtual*
Adult Education Committee meeting ~ *virtual*

The **Immanuel Columbarium** is open today and every Sunday until noon.

**PORTABLE HEARING DEVICES,
LARGE PRINT BULLETINS
AND HYMNALS ARE AVAILABLE.
PLEASE ASK AN USHER FOR ASSISTANCE**



Bulletins returned to the tables in the Narthex will be recycled.



IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1100 North Astor Street
Offices: 1105 North Waverly Place
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
414.276.4757 www.immanuelwi.org
A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Deborah A. Block	Pastor
Robert W. Ater	Associate Pastor
Teresa A. Larson	Associate Pastor
Susan J. Stoll	Part-time Associate Pastor for spiritual care
William H. Johnstone	Pastor Emeritus
Jean Dow	Associate Pastor Emerita
Steven J. Jensen	Organist
John S. Komasa	Choir Director
James C. Fisher	Parish Associate
Sister Karlyn Cauley	Ecumenical Associate
Crystal Stinemates	Program and Office Administrator
Sarah Campbell	Part-time Financial Administrator
Nathan Wesselowski	Sexton

November 19, 2023