



**IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL**  
Episcopal/Anglican  
Alexandria, Virginia



---

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 17, 2023**

**Lessons and Carols for Advent and the Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30 a.m.**

**GAUDETE SUNDAY**

*Page references are for [The Book of Common Prayer](#).*

---

**Prelude:** Noël

Louis-Claude Daquin

**Processional Hymn 56** “O come, O come Emmanuel”      verses 1,2,7,and 8

*Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

**A BIDDING PRAYER**

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within the city of Alexandria. And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven. The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

*A New Heaven and a New Earth*

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day -- and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

**Choir Anthem:** "And I saw a new heaven"

text: Revelation 21:1-4

Edgar Leslie Bainton

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth:  
for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away;  
and there was no more sea.

And I John saw the holy city,  
new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven,  
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying,  
Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,  
and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people,  
and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;  
and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying,  
neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

**Second Reading: Isaiah 6:1-11**

read by Felicity Amos

*God reveals his glory to the prophet and calls him to be his messenger*

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said,

“Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.’ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt-offering instead of his son.

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

**Hymn 59:** “Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding”

verses 1 and 2

*Merton*

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

**Third Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

read by Lanai Bea

*A Covenant Written on Their Hearts*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt -- a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

**Choir Anthem:** “And the glory of the Lord”

*from* Messiah

George Frideric Handel

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Isaiah 40:5

**Fourth Reading: Isaiah 11: 1-9**

read by Candy Levin

*The Peaceful Kingdom*

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The

wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

**Choir Anthem:** "Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree"

Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul hath seen,  
Laden with fruit and always green;  
The trees of nature fruitless be,  
Compared with Christ the Apple Tree.

For happiness I long have sought,  
And pleasure dearly I have bought;  
I missed of all but now I see  
'Tis found in Christ the Apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,  
By faith I know but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see,  
In Jesus Christ the Apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil -  
Here I will sit and rest awhile,  
Under the shadow I will be,  
Of Jesus Christ the Apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,  
It keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be  
With Jesus Christ the Apple tree.

**Fifth Reading: Micah 5:2-4**

read by Doug Onley

*The Ruler from Bethlehem*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

**Choir Anthem:** "Prepare ye"

Marc Robinson

*Can you hear the voice crying in the wilderness?  
Can you hear the voice crying?  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord.*

Then came the Baptist crying in the wilderness  
I baptize you with water saying 'O-O"  
One is coming who will baptize you  
with the Holy Spirit and fire." *Refrain*

First came the prophet crying in the wilderness  
Speaking to the people saying  
"One is coming both to judge and said,  
you must prepare ye the way of the Lord. *Refrain*

Now we join the crying in the wilderness  
Let us lift up our voices saying:  
"Come Lord Jesus into our lives  
Let us prepare the way of the Lord." *Refrain*

*Annunciation, Magnificat*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

**Choir Anthem:** "Ave Maria"

*19<sup>th</sup> century text: anonymous*

Philip Stopford

Ave Maria, gratia plena,  
Dominus tecum.  
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and in the hour of our death. Amen*

*A period of silence is observed.*






## The Breaking of the Bread

S 164 *Agnus Dei* (found in the front of The Hymnal 1982)

Franz Peter Schubert

**CHANGE IN COMMUNION PRACTICE RELATED TO INTINCTION:** Our Bishop has issued a new policy discouraging communicants who wish to intinct (dip) the consecrated Bread from doing the intincting themselves. The goal is to avoid the many fingers and fingernails that can find their way into the Wine of the chalice, and the new procedure will resemble in some ways what we did during the later stages of the pandemic. The procedure is as follows:

-  Receive the consecrated Bread as usual.
-  If you plan to drink from the chalice please consume the Bread, as usual, and then move to the chalice to drink.
-  If you plan to intinct, please leave the Bread in your hand, and the Chalice will intinct for you and then place the intincted Bread back on your hand (or on your tongue, for those who prefer).

*Prayers for healing, with the laying on of hands, are offered at the icon on the right side of the Altar during Communion.*

### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

**Communion Solo:** “Comfort ye, my people” and “Every valley shall be exalted”

George Frideric Handel

*from Messiah*

**Allan Gervacio**, tenor

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.  
Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her,  
that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned.  
The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness;  
prepare ye the way of the Lord;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

*(Isaiah 40:1–3)*

Refrain: *Every valley  
Every valley shall be exalted  
Shall be exalted.*

And every mountain and hill made low  
The crooked straight  
And the rough places plain  
The crooked straight  
And the rough places plain.  
*Refrain*

And every mountain and hill made low  
The crooked straight  
And the rough places plain.  
The crooked straight  
And the rough places plain.  
*Refrain*

*Sung if needed*

**Hymn 72:** “Hark, the glad sound! the Savior comes”

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

*Richmond*

## Post Communion Prayer

*Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us  
as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

## The Blessing

Life is short,  
and we have too little time to gladden the hearts of those who journey with us.  
So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind...  
and may the blessing of God Almighty,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
be with you now and always. *Amen*

Closing Hymn 74 “Blest be the King whose coming”

*Valet will ich dir geben*

## The Dismissal

Clergy: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
People: *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude: Toccata

Baldassarre del Bianco

---

**SERVING AT THIS EUCHARIST:** *Crucifer:* Owen Biggs  
*Banner Bearer:* Charlie Biggs  
*Readers:* Dorothy Kellogg, Felicity Amos, Lanai Bea,  
Candy Levin, Doug Onley, Sydney Onley  
*Musicians:* Dr. Jane Tavernier (organ, Director of Music)  
The Immanuel Choir, Denise Freeland (Assistant Conductor)  
*Chalice Bearer:* Eileen Monnin-Kirby  
*Altar Guild:* Brooke Roberts  
*Flower Guild:* The Immanuel Flower Guild  
*Ushers:* Hartley Hobson Wensing, Kevin Wensing,  
Kristin Whitman, Shawn Whitman  
*Audio-Visual:* The Rev. Jan A. Maas, Tamika Martin  
*Celebrant:* The Rev. Susan D. Parsons



## GAUDETE SUNDAY

Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, takes its name from the Latin word *Gaudete*, which means “rejoice.” It is the first word in the proper Introit for the third Sunday of Advent, from the Roman missal.

It is often symbolized by a pink or rose color, hence the traditional pink candle in Advent wreaths.

The readings for this day are characterized by joy and expectancy, as we look towards the celebration of Our Lord’s Nativity.



### A Brief History of LESSONS AND CAROLS

The Festival of Lessons and Carols as we know it dates to December 1918, at King’s College, Cambridge, in the days immediately following the end of World War I. The Rev. Eric Milner-White, Dean of the College, reflected on his experiences as a British army chaplain and developed this liturgy as an opportunity to remember God’s great promises, even in the midst of so much suffering and untold devastation. The lessons speak of God’s great plan of salvation, articulated by Israel’s prophets and poets, and realized in the birth of Jesus Christ.

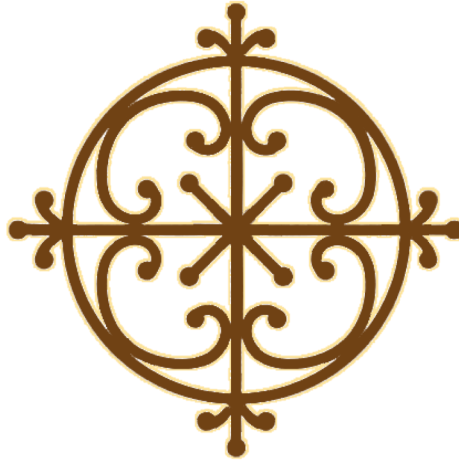
There are Advent and Christmas versions of the liturgy throughout the Anglican Communion, as this service has become a deeply beloved tradition for millions worldwide. The readings for this service in particular were chosen to highlight God’s promise of remaking and redeeming all things. Beginning with Christ, God has promised to make all things new.

**The funeral for [Betty Wanamaker](#) will be held Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 AM at Goodwin House Alexandria. A Committal for the Interment of ashes will follow at 2 PM in the [Memorial Garden at Zabriskie Chapel](#).**

*Rest eternal grant unto her, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon her.  
May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace, and rise in glory.*

### SEEKING NEW VESTRY MEMBERS

Our annual meeting is scheduled for the end of January, when we will elect new Vestry members to begin three-year terms. If you are interested in discussing what Vestry service at Immanuel entails, or if you are feeling called to stand, please contact Senior Warden Kristi Kubista-Hovis [kristi\\_kubista@yahoo.com](mailto:kristi_kubista@yahoo.com) or Father Randy at [ralexander@icoh.net](mailto:ralexander@icoh.net).



*Virginia Theological Seminary Cordially Invites you to the*

**OPENING AND DEDICATION OF THE WELCOME CENTER**

*with its exhibits: The St. Francis Crèche Collection and the St. Nicholas exhibit*

**by the Rt. Rev. Mark Stevenson, Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia,**

*followed by light refreshments and*

**The Service of Lessons and Carols**

*with presentation of The Dean's Cross to*

**Ellen Wofford Hawkins**

*daughter of The Rev. Dr. J. Barney Hawkins IV*

**Sunday, December 17, 2023**

*Dedication at 3 p.m., The Welcome Center*

*Service at 4:30 p.m., Immanuel Chapel*

*To attend, you **must register online in advance** for any and all events of the day, including the celebration dinner that follows the service. To RSVP, please find this bulletin on Immanuel's website and click on the cross above or the link below.*

**<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7615414/Advent-III>**

# IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

## Parish Notes

### December 17, 2023

---

**IN THE NAME OF CHRIST we welcome you to Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill!**

Immanuel is an Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia, and is part of the world-wide Anglican Communion. Immanuel was founded by the Virginia Theological Seminary. We are one parish that worships in two locations: the Zabriskie Chapel (3606 Seminary Road), and Immanuel Chapel (3737 Seminary Road) on the seminary grounds. Both chapels offer a fully-staffed nursery for our infant and toddler parishioners.

**Visitors are encouraged to fill out a visitor card — located in the pews or display stands at the entrances of the chapels.** Give your card to an usher or place in the collection plate. Thank you.

For the latest information on our online worship service and to view a video of our most recent service, please visit our website ([www.icoh.net](http://www.icoh.net)).

**PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS:** Natalie Doyle Hennin, Rollin Huntington, Marianne Ingold, Frances Johnson, Joseph, Kenny, Ann MacNamara, Cynthia Morton, Linda and Cy Murphy, Tony Rogers, Catherine Sinclair, John Smucker, Norma Taliaferro, and Francine Wargo.

**PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** Alice, Jack Allen, Kathryn Anschutz, Dave and Betsy Fox Berry, David Craig, Justine Claypoole, Jean Couban, The Most Rev. Michael Curry, Cynthia, Steve Davis, Dana DeCecco, Joseph Fabian, Cathy Fick, Gerald, Linda Gill, Betty Harris, Betty Hicks, Louise Jackson, Peter and Joanne, John, Katja, Tom Kellner, Charlotte Kellogg, Joseph and Elaine Kelly, Winnie Kidd, Marcia MacDonald, Marge McGoff, Joe Miceli, Stephen Miller, McQuade Milligan, Candy Morgan, Mary Muniz, Lysbeth, Jessi Napolitano, Shelby Ochs Owen, Paul, Lilly Pinner, Sarah Pollach, Jennie Rae, Michael Rathsack, Rebecca, Jim Rehnke, Sue Rehnke, Larry Rhoades, Roger, George Rustigian, Brian Tolson, Graham Tomlinson, Fred Vipperman, Mark Vipperman, Rosemary Wensing, Ryan Willis, and Richard Zitelli.

**Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week:** Asna Amiri, Tiffany McCaslin, Owen Malone, Mike Michaelis, Kameran Onley, David Peabody, Nikki Perry, Kendra Smyth, Eve Anderson, Martha Byron, James Henry, JoAnn Toledo, David Phillips, Holly Morton, and Katydean Price.

**Serving around the world:** Noah Barker, Ian Phillips, Todd Bates, Jason Osborne, Michael Hussey, and Jonathan, Nicole, Alina and Nolan Anderson, and Scott.

**Those who have died:** Edwin Milton Yoder. *Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.*

---

### Godly Play Schedule Update December-January 2023

- ☆ NO GODLY PLAY beginning **today** through January 7<sup>th</sup>, the day of our *Children's Epiphany Pageant*, 10:30 a.m., Immanuel Chapel.
- ☆ On January 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> we will have Godly Play at 10:30 a.m. in Immanuel Chapel (Octagon Room).
- ☆ On February 4<sup>th</sup> we will return to our normal schedule, and Godly Play will move back to the Worship Center at 9 a.m.

Questions? Contact Sarah Glassco at [glasscos@gmail.com](mailto:glasscos@gmail.com).

**IMMANUEL FAMILIES:**  
Sign-up for the Epiphany Pageant here!



# Announcements

## WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

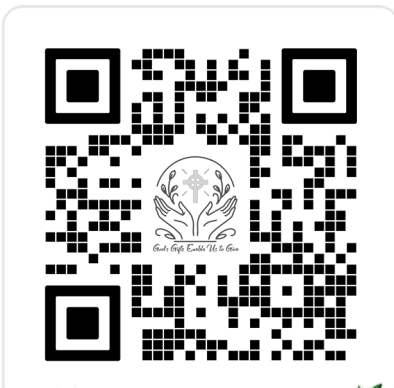
Morning Prayer @ 10:00, Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, Zabriskie Chapel

**Wednesday Holy Eucharist Rite II  
December 20<sup>th</sup> @ 12 Noon, Zabriskie Chapel**

Evening Compline, Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8:30 p.m., Online via Zoom

### Have you made your 2024 pledge? ***THERE'S STILL TIME, JUST GO ONLINE!*** Immanuel's Every Member Pledge campaign

We are trying to conclude Immanuel's [Every Member Pledge Campaign](#), as the Treasurer and Vestry are hard at work preparing a budget for next year.



Your financial pledge is vital to maintain and grow this parish, its ministries, and outreach initiatives. As of Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup>, we had received 115 pledges for \$532,808 -- including 16 new pledgers.

You may pledge on our website, by using the QR code at left, or by asking an usher for a blank pledge card and envelope.

Together, we make a difference by giving back to God from the gifts that God has first given us.



## Advent/Epiphany Service Schedule

Beginning today, Immanuel will *temporarily* return to a two-service worship schedule through the end of January. We have two Eucharists each Sunday, and our 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist returns February 4, 2024.

December 24	10:30 a.m.	Fourth Sunday of Advent with Holy Eucharist Rite II	
	4:40 p.m.	<i>Christmas Prelude with Choir and Brass</i>	
	5:00 p.m.	<i>Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist Rite II with Brass</i>	Immanuel Chapel
	8:40 p.m.	<i>Christmas Prelude with Choral Ensemble and Brass</i>	
	9:00 p.m.	<i>Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist Rite II with Brass</i>	
December 25	11:00 a.m.	<i>Christmas Day Holy Eucharist with Organ and Carols</i>	Zabriskie Chapel
December 31	8:00 a.m.	First Sunday After Christmas with Holy Eucharist Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	First Sunday After Christmas with Holy Eucharist Rite II	Immanuel Chapel
January 7, 2024	8:00 a.m.	The First Sunday After Epiphany with Holy Eucharist Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Children's Epiphany Pageant with Holy Eucharist Rite II followed by a Cookie Party in the Welcome Center	Immanuel Chapel

# CHRISTMAS GREENS, FLOWERS and SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC DEDICATIONS

This Christmas season you are invited to make a donation to help offset the cost of our Christmas greens and flowers, and/or the special music at our Christmas Eucharists. Tomorrow is the last day to make a memorial or thanksgiving donation for a loved one, or to make a thanksgiving dedication for some blessing. Please complete and drop this form off along with your check: (1) in the collection plate, (2) black bin on the Parish Office' door, (3) place it in the wooden alms box in the Zabriskie narthex. Names will be printed in our Christmas bulletins for all donations received by noon tomorrow, MONDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>. Sponsors and donors for The Brass Trio will list on [our "Worship"/ "Music at Immanuel" webpage](#) for at least 4 months. Any amount is welcome and greatly appreciated.



**GREENS/FLOWERS:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Given by:

Phone Number: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

In Thanksgiving for:

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_



**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC: GENERAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Given by:

Phone Number: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

In Thanksgiving for:

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

## Christmas Brass Trio at Immanuel

*Please indicate your special gift below with a checkmark .*

Strings **SPONSOR \$100**

Strings **PATRON \$200**

Given by:

Phone Number: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

In Thanksgiving for:

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_



**Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill**

3606 Seminary Road/ Alexandria, VA 22304-5200



**Christmas Families Update #4:  
INGATHERING OF GIFTS AND SPECIAL COLLECTION  
On the way to a glorious finale**

This table shows the families referred to us by Community and Human Services (including five families added recently), the Lazarus Ministry (Episcopal Region IV), and New Hope Housing

	Families	Parents	Children	All people
On our list from DCHS+	98	118	224	342
Signed up for	51	60	101	161
<b>Remaining</b>	47	58	<b>123</b>	181

**Ingathering and blessings of the gifts, the great celebration. This will be a very special day in our life as a parish.** We will praise God and lift our own spirits as we lift our voices in the glorious singing in *Lessons and Carols*. The blessing of the gifts with which we bring the good news of Christmas into the world is an integral part of this service, showing the unity of in-reach and outreach as inseparable parts of faith. At the forum hour we will show the same spirit in the wrapping of the gifts for children who were not "adopted", always an event of both great purpose in outreach and of great fellowship. See you all there.

**We still have 123 children and 58 parents to provide for.** These gifts will be wrapped and sorted at the forum hour. This year in addition to the main gift each child will receive a stocking stuffer so they have two things to open. For example, a child indicating interest in arts and science will receive a nice art kit and paper and a small science toy (bought at half price, \$6). A kit to make a friendship bracelet is another stocking stuffer. ((Kudos to Linda Serabian for this wonderful idea.) With more children than last year, and two gifts to wrap for each, **wrapping and sorting will be a massive task.** We start at 9 in the parish hall and go on until finished **with an intermission from 10:15 to noon for Lessons and Carols.**

Last Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, Connie Kurz and Laura Snow lead a work party **assigning 800 books, two to three books for each child.** The stacks of books will be wrapped and joined with the other gifts for a family.

Many used things for the boutique already came in. Remember to bring any used **toys and children's books, calendars you receive in the mail, and gently used clothing and blankets** this Sunday. The boutique's set up is scheduled for tomorrow, December 18<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9 a.m. at the Department of Community and Human Services, 4850 Mark Center Dr., Alexandria, VA 22311.

The Christmas Families Team buys gifts and books at a great discount. So while every dollar spent goes far, it still takes a lot of money to get gifts for 123 children, a small gift for 58 parents, and books for everyone.

The purpose of the **special collection** is to make buying all of things possible. **Please contribute generously.**

Our former Rector the late Reverend Bill Dols once told me "Christmas Families is a ministry of things". But Christmas Families is so much more. It is about things that speak. Things that speak of God's all-embracing love, of joy, of learning, of spirits rekindled, of "a *new heavens and a new earth*" (Isaiah 65:17), of the coming of God's Kingdom into the here and now.



## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP EVENTS: TWO Luncheons in ONE WEEK

*We're hosting two luncheons this month. Come to either or come to both!*

### DECEMBER 19: CHRISTMAS HYMN AND CAROL SING, ZABRISKIE CHAPEL

Join us Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 P.M. for a festive Christmas luncheon in the Parish Hall. Don't bring a brown bag for this one. After luncheon we will adjourn to the Chapel for a hymn/carol sing, with Dr. Jane Tavernier at the organ and fellow senior Rick Glassco with his bell chimes. **Please RSVP to Karen Besser at [Karen.Besser@gmail.com](mailto:Karen.Besser@gmail.com)**, so that there will be plenty of food and yummy desserts.

### DECEMBER 20: GOODWIN HOUSE LUNCHEON

Join us at Goodwin House-Alexandria for lunch on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at noon. **Please RSVP to Susan Kernan [skernan40@aol.com](mailto:skernan40@aol.com) or the Rev. Susan Parsons [sparsons@icoh.net](mailto:sparsons@icoh.net).**

---

## EASY WAY TO SIGN UP: **DECEMBER 2023 - JANUARY 2024**

Sign up to Serve in our Sunday Services *Through Advent and Christmastide* ONLINE via Our **Red SignUp Genius Button**



Would consider serving as a lay minister? If so, please sign up to serve as a Reader, Intercessor, Usher, Acolyte, Altar Guild, Crucifer and/or Chalice Bearer online via [SignUp Genius](#) for Immanuel by visiting the landing page of our website at [www.ICOH.net](http://www.ICOH.net) and clicking on the red button at left. *We especially need people to serve during Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany.*

If you are a first-timer and need training, please contact Agnes at the office on **Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.** (ext. #206), or via email at [asoos@icoh.net](mailto:asoos@icoh.net). Finally, if you need training for a particular ministry, please send a request to [sparsons@icoh.net](mailto:sparsons@icoh.net) or indicate so in the comments box under your name on the online form. Thank you!

### REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

### EYC Shrine Mont Weekend! January 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>

The EYC has reserved the Saint Andrews House at Shrine Mont during The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend, January 12–15<sup>th</sup> for a fun youth program of skiing, tubing, and fellowship. We'll also offer hiking, relaxation, games, puzzles and more.

Episcopal Youth Community youths (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders) and families (depending on space availability) are welcome to join us for all three nights, come for one or two days, or just visit for the day.

For all interested in this trip, please scan the QR code at right to register or contact Brian Rush at [james.b.rush2@uscg.mil](mailto:james.b.rush2@uscg.mil).

Scan to Register



**CLERGY AND STAFF**

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr. (ralexander@icoh.net) ..... Rector  
 The Rev. Susan D. Parsons (sparsons@icoh.net) ..... Associate Rector  
 The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs (sspurlockbiggs@icoh.net) ..... Assistant Rector  
 Reggie Hayes (r.hayes9@me.com) ..... Postulant Intern  
 Daisy Colón (dcolon@vts.edu) ..... Seminarian  
 Dr. Jane Tavernier (jtavernier@icoh.net) ..... Director of Music  
 Tom Hewson (thewson@icoh.net) ..... Treasurer  
 Mollie Lambert (mlambert@icoh.net) ..... Assistant Treasurer  
 Aleta Y. Powell (apowell@icoh.net) ..... Parish Administrator  
 Tamika Martin (tmartin@icoh.net) ..... Audio Visual Technician  
 Gilma Balcarcel ..... Nursery Coordinator  
 Stuart Dahlinger ..... Sexton

**THE VESTRY**

Kristi Kubista-Hovis ..... Senior Warden  
 Gerry Anderson ..... Junior Warden: Building and Grounds, Creation Care  
 Peter Kent ..... Junior Warden: Administration  
 Amy Thomas ..... Adult Formation and Discipleship  
 Brad Ashton ..... Stewardship and Planned Giving  
 Mollie Lambert ..... Outreach  
 Kathy Lloyd ..... Senior Ministry  
 Kristi Kubista-Hovis and Kathy Lloyd ..... Children Youth and Family Ministries  
 Julie Bruns ..... Pastoral Care  
 David Atwood ..... Social Justice  
 Taylor Houck ..... Communications  
 Caroline Bergmark ..... Evangelism and Newcomers  
 Matt Haskin ..... Worship  
 Caroline Bergmark and Taylor Houck ..... Fellowship  
 Sydney Onley ..... Youth Representative (nonvoting member)  
 Caroline Bergmark ..... Registrar

**SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel  
 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, Immanuel Chapel  
 3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

*Online*

[www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org](http://www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org)  
[Immanuel's YouTube channel](#)

**PRIESTS ASSOCIATE**

The Rev. Dr. J. Barney Hawkins, IV  
 The Rev. Dr. Ruthanna Hooke  
 The Rev. Jan A. Maas  
 The Rev. John R. Smucker  
 The Rev. Dr. Francis H. Wade

**RECTOR EMERITA**

The Rev. Dr. Margaret Ann (Sam) Faeth

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition, striving to be in relationship with God and each other as Christ has taught us, actively attempting to sense and to serve God’s plan with great love. We are guided by Mark 16:15: “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel,” to learn, discern, and proclaim the Good News by being active ministers in the various communities where we live and serve.



**Parish Office**  
 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304  
 Telephone: 703-370-6555, Fax: 703-370-0837  
[www.icoh.net](http://www.icoh.net)



Ways to GIVE