



# Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

## Episcopal/Anglican Alexandria, Virginia



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 19, 2021

### Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:30 a.m.

*With the exception of infants and toddlers, all are requested to wear a face mask  
for the entirety of the service.*

**Prelude:** The Angel Gabriel

*Traditional*

**Greeting and Invitation to Intentional Silence**

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

READER: "Today we light the fourth candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This candle is LOVE".

*The candle is lit.*

READER: "From John 13:34 – Jesus said to them, I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

PRAYER: "Together let us pray: ***Loving God, your mercy and compassion endure forever. Open our hearts, that we may receive your love; and following the example of your Son, spread that love to a love-starved world. Through Jesus Christ, who loved us to the end. Amen.***"

*(from The Rev. Matthew Kozlowski)*

**Processional Hymn 56:** "O come, O come, Emmanuel"

*found in* The Hymnal 1982

*Veni Emmanuel*

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Refrain: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!*
- 2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*
- 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

- 4 O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree  
free them from Satan's tyranny;  
that trust thy mighty power to save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave.  
Refrain: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!*
- 5 O come, thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring from on high,  
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

**Opening Acclamation**

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

**The Collect for Purity**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

**Kyrie S96** "Lord, have mercy"

*found in the front of* The Hymnal 1982

Franz Peter Schubert

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

*Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.*

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

*Lord, have mercy, have mercy.*

**The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**The First Lesson: Micah 5:2-5a**

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 labor 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; and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

**Canticle 15: The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### The Epistle: Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

### Sequence Hymn 67: "Comfort, comfort ye my people"

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

*Psalm 42*

1 Comfort, comfort ye my people,  
speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
comfort those who sit in darkness  
mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.  
Speak ye to Jerusalem  
of the peace that waits for them;  
tell her that her sins I cover,  
and her warfare now is over.

2 Hark, the voice of one that crieth  
in the desert far and near,  
calling us to new repentance  
since the kingdom now is here.  
Oh, that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way;  
let the valleys rise to meet him,  
and the hills bow down to greet him.

3 Make ye straight what long was crooked,  
make the rougher places plain:  
let your hearts be true and humble,  
as befits his holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord  
Now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
and all flesh shall see the token  
that the word is never broken.

## **The Holy Gospel: Luke 1:39-45**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke  
People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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."

The Gospel of the Lord  
People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**Sermon:** The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.

## **The Nicene Creed**

*We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.*

## The Prayers of the People

After the words “Hear us, Lord,”  
the congregation responds with “*For your mercy is great.*”

## Confession of Sin and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name.  
Amen.*

**Clergy:** Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

## The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People: *And also with you.*

## Welcome

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

### *Loose plate collection for Christmas Families*

**The Offertory:** “Comfort ye my people” and “Every valley ”                      *from* Messiah                      George Frideric Handel

**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.

Every valley,  
Shall be exalted  
And every mountain and hill made low  
The crooked straight, and the rough places plain.  
And the rough places plain

(Isaiah 40:1-3)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A**

p. 361

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.  
People: ***And also with you.***  
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.  
People: ***We lift them to the Lord.***  
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People: ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

***Sanctus S130***

*(from the front of The Hymnal 1982)*

Franz Peter Schubert

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full,  
full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest.***

*The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

***Christ has died.***

***Christ is risen.***

***Christ will come again.***

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant:

***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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power,  
and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.***

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
give us your peace, give us your peace.*

Celebrant: The Gifts of God, for the People of God

**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**

**Communion Anthem:** "Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming"

Friedrich Layritz

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
as seers of old have sung.  
It came, a blossom bright,  
amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
the Rose I have in mind,  
with Mary we behold it,  
the Virgin Mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
she bore to us a Savior,  
when half spent was the night.

**Communion Hymn 265:** "The angel Gabriel from heaven came"

*Gabriel's Message*

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

- 1 The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favored lady," Gloria!
- 2 "For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honor thee,  
thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,  
most highly favored lady," Gloria!
- 3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,  
"my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name."  
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!
- 4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say--  
"Most highly favored lady," Gloria!



## Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People: *Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father,  
send us out to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.*

## The Advent Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. *Amen.*

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## Closing Hymn 59: "Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding "

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

*Merton*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding.<br>"Christ is nigh," it seems to say;<br>"Cast away the works of darkness,<br>O ye children of the day."   | 3 Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,<br>comes with pardon down from heaven;<br>let us haste, with tears of sorrow,<br>one and all to be forgiven;    |
| 2 Wakened by the solemn warning,<br>from earth's bondage let us rise;<br>Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,<br>shines upon the morning skies. | 4 so when next he comes with glory,<br>and the world is wrapped in fear,<br>may he with his mercy shield us,<br>and with words of love draw near. |
| 5 Honor, glory, might, and blessing<br>to the Father and the Son,<br>with the everlasting Spirit,<br>while unending ages run.                     |   |

## The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

**SERVING AT THIS EUCHARIST:** *Crucifer:* Rayna Johnson  
*Readers and Intercessor:* Martha Shimkin, Tom Shimkin  
*Musicians:* Allan Gervacio, Dr. Jane Tavernier  
*Ushers:* Doug Onley, Marcus Rarick  
*Audio-Visual:* John Bednar, Sydney Onley, The Rev. Jan A. Maas  
*Flower Guild:* The Immanuel Flower Guild  
*Vestry Greeter and Counter:* TBD  
*Celebrant:* The Rev. Sam Sheridan

## UPCOMING SCHEDULE FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMASTIDE

### 2021

December 19	1:00 p.m.	Fourth Sunday of Advent, Holy Eucharist Rite II	Zabriskie Parish Hall
December 23	5:00 p.m.	Christmas Caroling on Seminary Hill	<i>meet at Zabriskie Chapel</i>
December 24	5:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist II with Brass and Full Choir <i>(Brass Prelude begins at 4:50 p.m.)</i>	Immanuel Chapel
	9:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist II with Woodwinds, Horn and Choral Ensemble <i>(Choral Prelude begins at 8:45 p.m.)</i>	Immanuel Chapel
December 25	11:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist	Zabriskie Chapel
December 26	9:00 a.m.	First Sunday After Christmas, Holy Eucharist Rite II	Zabriskie Chapel

### 2022

January 2	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Immanuel Chapel
	1:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Zabriskie Parish Hall

### BENEDICTINE COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING December 21st @ 7pm. online via Zoom

If you are attracted to having more contemplation and prayer in your life, you are invited to become part of the Benedictine Community at Immanuel. We'd love to have you join us virtually via Zoom on next Tuesday evening at seven. For more information, please contact Dana Hengst ([dana.hengst@gmail.com](mailto:dana.hengst@gmail.com)) or David Atwood ([David\\_Atwood@hotmail.com](mailto:David_Atwood@hotmail.com)).

# Luncheon and Christmas Carol Sing for Seniors

**THIS WEDNESDAY, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12 Noon**  
**Zabriskie Parish Hall**



All Seniors are invited to Immanuel's Senior Adult Ministry and Fellowship Christmas Holiday Social in the Zabriskie Parish Hall *this Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>* beginning at noon. Following a festive luncheon, we will adjourn to the Chapel with our Director of Music Dr. Jane Tavernier for a **Christmas Carol Sing**.

The luncheon will be served on individual plates, and we will be spaced around the parish hall at the large round tables, consistent with the CDC guidelines for safest indoor eating. The Carol Sing will be in the Zabriskie Chapel, and as with Sunday services, masks will be required. If you feel uncomfortable with one of these two venues or activities, please feel free to RSVP and attend for only the Carol Sing or the luncheon.

Please mark your calendar now and **RSVP** as soon as possible, as space is limited. The first 20 people to register will go home with a lovely amaryllis plant. There is no charge for this activity. Just bring yourself (and a neighbor if you wish!) and come prepared to sing.

Questions or to RSVP, contact Karen Besser at: [karen.besser@gmail.com](mailto:karen.besser@gmail.com) or **call the parish office at (703) 370-6555** and **press "9"** to leave your reservation via voicemail.



**IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL**  
**Parish Notes**  
**December 19, 2021**

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**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. Immanuel Chapel offers a fully-staffed nursery for our infant and toddler parishioners.

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)).

*Learn more about us at [www.icoh.net](http://www.icoh.net).*

**PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS:** Aggie Fortune, Ann MacNamara, Bruce Morton, Catherine Sinclair, David Stayanoff, Diana Walker, Eloise Payne, Francine Wargo, Jessi MacLeod, John Bednar, Kathy Lloyd, Kenny, Linda and Cy Murphy, Lucy, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Susan Wiard, Tony, Ted Walker, Edith, Joseph, Paul, and Doug.

**PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** Alice Meyer, Arsine Oshagan, Charlotte Kellogg, Dana De Cecco, Dorothy Phanuef, Dotty Eisenhour, George Rustigian, Jack Allen, Kathryn Anschutz, Louise Jackson, Margaret and Lloyd Chenoweth, Marjean Smith, Mildred Alexander, Paul, Preston, Rowena and Don Lynch, Steve Davis, Stephen Miller, Sue Rehnke, Ann Shelly, Sarah Minor, Tom Dollard, Jim McClane, Sandy Ford, and Elizabeth.

**Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week:** Eve Anderson, Martha Byron, James Henry, Jo Ann Toledo, David Phillips, Hollyann Morton, Katydean Price, Valia Amiri, Jason Donahue, Tim Gildersleeve, Debbie Hewson, Candace Quinlan, and Carol Crossmire.

**Serving around the world:** Noah Barker, Ian Phillips, Todd Bates, Philip Smucker, Jason Osborne, Michael Hussey, and Jonathan, Nicole, Alina, and Nolan Anderson. Pray for healing for US casualties and their caregivers.

**Those who have recently died:** Rear Admiral Edward K. "Ted" Walker, Navy Comander Brian Bourgeois. *Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

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**CHRISTMAS CAROLING ON SEMINARY HILL, DECEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>, 5 - 7:00 P.M.**

Join your fellow Immanuelites for singing Christmas Carols as we stroll through Seminary Hill on Thursday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> — we'll meet at 5:00 p.m. inside of Zabriskie Chapel before venturing outside. Let's spread some Christmas cheer in our neighborhood.

**COMPLINE Service on Fridays:** Join us for next **Friday Compline December 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:30p.m.** via Zoom. Compline is an offering of late evening prayer, sometimes referred to as the "Goodnight Prayer of the Church."

To participate, select this bulletin on our website under "Worship Service Bulletins" under the "Worship" tab, click the link: [Join Friday Night Compline Service](#), and enter the following: Meeting ID: **817 3973 7116**, Password: **029619**. To join the service by phone, dial: 1- (301) 715-8592.

# Announcements



*“Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your **God is with you wherever you go.**” Joshua 1:9*

## Awaiting God’s Love and Gift to Us

As we await the coming of our Lord, we give thanks for all the blessings we have received -- as individuals, and families, and as this parish community. And as we reflect on all we have been given, we are called to give back in gratitude for the blessings that God has gifted us.

During this Advent season, it is your opportunity to pledge generously to support God’s work through Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill.

As of December 7, 2021, we are blessed with 113 pledges representing \$604,682, forty-four percent of pledges have increased from the previous year. And, on average, those increases are by more than nine percent. Eleven pledges are new.

We constantly praise God for your generosity, faithfulness, and commitment of time, talent, enthusiasm, and treasure to Immanuel and God’s work through this parish. You can return your pledge card through the mail, place it in the offering plate, send an email to our treasurer [thewson@icoh.net](mailto:thewson@icoh.net) stating your pledge amount, or [pledge online](#).

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	1:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Zabriskie Parish Hall



## CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m., Zabriskie Chapel

Please join us on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in Zabriskie Chapel, when our regular Wednesday Holy Eucharist will be transformed into a celebration of the Feast of Epiphany, with special prayers, readings, and music.



# CHRISTMAS FAMILIES 2021

For a long time a strong and faithful commitment of bringing the good news of Christmas in a very tangible form that manifests God's inclusive love for all and raises hope has been woven into the fabric of Immanuel. In expectation that this commitment will show itself in a strong **special collection at all three Holy Eucharists today**, the Christmas Families ministry has undertaken or will soon undertake the following at the times when it does most good.

**\$5,000 to Alexandria Human Services** to be used for gift cards for holiday gifts and other urgent support for families. Since Human Services does not distribute physical toys this year, this check takes the place of parishioners signing up to provide toys for a family in need.

**\$1,200 to Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR, <https://www.oaronline.org/>)**, in support of their Project Winter Cheer for gift cards to children of incarcerated people, a joint effort of Christmas Families and our expanded social justice and criminal justice ministry.

In our long-standing collaboration with the refugee **ministry coordinated by Christ Church** (Melanie Gray), we provided 218 fleece blankets for children to cuddle with (from Kohl's with a 65% Black Friday discount). (Christ Church raised over \$30,000 to provide substantial gift cards to Target and Giant for each family). In addition, Christ Church had last-minute referrals, eight families with 16 children, for whom we will assemble physical gifts from our inventory. Linda Serabian is our point person for all this. Thank you, Linda!

We have an even longer-standing collaboration with **CFNC (Child and Family Network Centers)**. From inventory, we are giving each of the 139 children in their preschools one copy each of

- Anno's Counting Book
- 500 Words (small format pbk, for each word a picture and text in English and Spanish)  
(Connie Kurz is taking care of this. *Thank you, Connie!*)

**A primer on Christmas Family Finances.** Immanuel has a Christmas Families Fund, which dates back to 2005, when a fire at the Soergels' house (then the Christmas Families Headquarters) destroyed or damaged a lot of toys. A report on that small disaster on News 4 resulted in many contributions to Immanuel, way more than was needed to replace the toys. Since then, each year the fund was used to buy toys on sale and have them ready for wrapping. Last year and this year we needed to get gift cards to Human Services early. We spend an amount in line with what historically could be expected from the special collection. The special collection then pays the fund back to be ready for next year. Anything left over after that will go to fill last-minute needs the same year.

The Christmas Families team makes each dollar go far. Linda got the fleece blankets for just under \$10, regular \$26.99. As part of a Kohl's promotion, these purchases earned \$500 in Kohl's cash, which Linda used before it expired to buy baby and other toys on sale to replenish our inventory. In every normal year, Connie Kurz and Laura Snow make a trip to the Green Valley Bookfair to buy good books at a steep discount. Anno's Counting Book and 500 Words are staples in our ministry of adding books to the toys. Every three years or so we buy 500 copies of each, the minimum to get a 50% discount from the publisher.

**Please be generous today!**



## 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. Sam Sheridan (ssheridan@icoh.net)	Assistant Rector
Dr. Jane Tavernier (jtavernier@icoh.net)	Director of Music
The Rev. Shawn Rutledge (srutledge@vts.edu)	Seminarian
Tom Hewson (thewson@icoh.net)	Treasurer
Laura Snow (lsnow@icoh.net)	Assistant Treasurer
Sughra Bakhtiari (sbakhtiari@icoh.net)	Bookkeeper
Aleta Y. Powell (apowell@icoh.net)	Parish Administrator
Gilma Balcarcel	Nursery Coordinator
John Bednar (jbednar@icoh.net)	Information Technology Specialist
Stuart Dahlinger	Sexton

## THE VESTRY

Kathryn Haskin	Senior Warden, Co-steward: Social Justice
Martha Shimkin	Junior Warden: Administration
Darrell Wilson	Junior Warden: Buildings and Grounds
David Atwood	Adult Formation and Discipleship, Co-steward: Social Justice
Harrison Clark	Co-steward: Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
Danette "Dani" Gentile Kauffman	Stewardship and Planned Giving
Kristi Kubista-Hovis	Outreach, and Co-steward: Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
Brooke Roberts	Communications
Phyllis Sims	Fellowship, Senior Ministry
Francine Wargo	Worship
Shawn Whitman	Pastoral Care
Rachel Wilson	Youth Representative (nonvoting member)
Candy Levin	Register (nonvoting member)

### SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel  
3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA  
10:30a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, Immanuel Chapel  
3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA  
1:00p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II  
Zabriskie Chapel Parish Hall

#### *Online*

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

### PRIEST ASSOCIATES

The Rev. Dr. J. Barney Hawkins, IV  
The Rev. Dr. Ruthanna Hooke  
The Rev. Jan A. Maas  
The Rev. John R. Smucker  
The Rev. Canon Rosemari G. Sullivan  
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

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[www.icoh.net](http://www.icoh.net)

