



Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Episcopal/Anglican Alexandria, Virginia



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2022

Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00 a.m.

Page numbers refer to [The Book of Common Prayer](#) (the small red book with a cross).

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

p. 323

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

People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

The Collect for Purity

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Kyrie eleison

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Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

People: *And with thy spirit.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 *Qui regis Israel*

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Epistle: Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ..

The Word of the Lord

Response: ***Thanks be to God.***

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew
People: *Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord
People: *Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

The Sermon: The Rev. Susan D. Parsons

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Welcome	

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory	
Clergy: All things come of thee, O Lord; and of thine own, have we given thee.	p. 343
The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II	p. 340
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.	
People: <i>And with thy spirit.</i>	
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.	
People: <i>We lift them up unto the Lord.</i>	
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	
People: <i>It is meet and right so to do.</i>	
Sanctus and Benedictus	p. 334
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THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us

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

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, ***have mercy upon us.***

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, ***have mercy upon us.***

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, ***grant us thy peace.***

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

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

If you would only like to receive the consecrated Bread please extend one hand. Crossed hands indicate you would like to receive consecrated Wine as well, either intincted (dipped) by you or by drinking from the chalice. The glass chalice is for intinction and the silver one is for drinking. If you are physically unable to receive at the Altar, please let an usher know that you would like to have Communion brought to you.

Post Communion Prayer

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Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Prayers for healing, with the laying on of hands and anointing, are offered at the left side of the Altar.

SERVING AT THIS EUCHARIST: ***Reader/Intercessor:*** Ken McDonald
Chalice Bearer: Susan Gildersleeve
Usher: Dodd Sims
Altar Guild: Susan Gildersleeve
Flower Guild: The Immanuel Flower Guild
Vestry Greeter/Counter: David Atwood
Celebrant: The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander

IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

Parish Notes

December 18, 2022

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.

Visitors are encouraged to fill out a pew card — located in display stands at both entrances of the chapel — and give it 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).

PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS: Cynthia Morton, Catherine Sinclair, Francine Wargo, Jessi MacLeod, Kenny, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Tony, Daphne, Nancy Bishop, Ann Huntington, Rita, Betty Wanamaker, Edith, Joseph, Linda and Cy Murphy, John and Louisa Smucker, Ann MacNamara, the Sara Fein family, Norma Taliaferro, Jim Wise, and Margaret Stockton.

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Charlotte Kellogg, Dana De Cecco, George Rustigian, Jack Allen, Kathryn Anschutz, Louise Jackson, Marjean Smith, Paul, Rowena and Don Lynch, Steve Davis, Stephen Miller, Sue Rehnke, Ryan, John, McQuade Milligan, Peter and Joanne, Mary Muniz, the Rev. Rosa Harper, John Corbett, Joseph Fabian, Candy Morgan, Nancy Kraus, Jim Rehnke, Lisle Wade, Felicia Balzano, Roy Zartarian, Connie Smith; and Salih, Zeyneb, and Elif Sayilgan.

Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week: Owen Malone, Mike Michaelis, Kameran Onley, David Peabody, Nikki Perry, Kendra Smyth, Eve Anderson, Martha Byron, James Henry, Jo Ann Toledo, David Phillips, Holly Morton, Katydean Price, Valia Amiri, Jason Donahue, Tim Gildersleeve, Debbie Hewson, and Candace Quinlan.

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

Those who we recently learned have died: Robert “Bob” Young, father of Brian Young, and father-in-law of Katherine Smith. *Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.*

YOUR CHILD/TEEN CAN STILL PARTICIPATE IN TODAY’S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!

Immanuel’s annual Christmas Pageant returns **today**, beginning **at 5:00 p.m.**, and we need to fill our tableau! Kids of all ages are invited to participate in this special Sunday night service at Immanuel Chapel, which will include a Eucharist, and all parishioners are invited to join us for the service. We will have a cookie reception following the Pageant!

For all non-costumed participants, **just show up by 4:00 p.m. today at Immanuel Chapel**, and we’ll make it work!

Christmas Caroling on Seminary Hill, December 21st, 6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.: Our regular Wednesday evening 6:30 PM Eucharist continues on Wednesday the 21st. Any present will then be asked, purely optionally, if they would like to go caroling around our immediate neighborhood. Obviously, one may attend the Eucharist and not carol afterwards, but we will just see how the weather is and how the people in attendance feel about the possibility.

Announcements

Weekday Worship Opportunities

MORNING PRAYER @ 10 A.M., Zabriskie Chapel : All are invited to join Immanuel staff and clergy for Morning Prayer every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in Zabriskie Chapel. This quiet, contemplative service typically lasts thirty minutes and offers each worshipper a chance to lift a person, cause, or concern in prayer while learning about any saints of the Church is commemorating.

We will hold **our last Wednesday Evening Eucharist *for the year*** this Wednesday, December 21st, followed by caroling on Seminary Hill. Do **join us when our weekday service resumes on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m., Zabriskie Chapel.**

Our Weekly Bible Study Returns, Thursday, January 5, 2023 @ 10:30 a.m.
CONNECTING THE GREAT PROPHECIES OF DANIEL AND REVELATION

Evening Compline, Friday, December 23rd, 8:30 p.m., Online via Zoom

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP

Senior Adult Ministry and Fellowship is hosting a Christmas festive lunch in the Zabriskie parish hall on **Tuesday, December 20 at noon**. No brown bags this month; enjoy a delicious lunch and yummy sweet treats. Afterwards we will adjourn to the chapel for Christmas hymns and carols accompanied by Dr. Jane Tavernier on organ and Rick Glassco on bell chimes. There is no cost for this activity, but reservations are required. Email Karen at Karen.Besser@gmail.com.



We will also host a Christmas luncheon at Goodwin House-Alexandria on **Wednesday, December 21 at noon**. We will be joined by members of the Immanuel choir for a Christmas hymn and carol sing after lunch, accompanied by Rick Glassco on bell chimes. RSVP to Mother Susan by Monday at sparsons@icoh.net.

Benedictine Community Meeting, Tuesday, December 20th @ 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall and online via Zoom

If you want more contemplation in your life, you are invited to become part of the Benedictine Community at Immanuel. We currently meet twice a month: virtually on the 1st Tuesday online via Zoom, and host a **hybrid meeting in the Parish Hall (and online) on the 3rd Tuesday** — both days we meet from 7-8 pm.

The Community reflects on the tenets of St. Benedict such as humility, silence, and prayer. Individual reflection is guided by short readings from a Benedictine-inspired book, currently ***Benedictine Promises for Everyday People: Staying Put, Listening Well, Being Changed by God***, by Rachel Srubas.

As a Benedictine Community, we gather as companions on the journey with one another while drawing wisdom from a few pages from selected reading material. If this opportunity appeals to you and for more information, please contact one of the following: Dana Hengst (Dana.Hengst@gmail.com), Barbara Fornoff (cr8vweaver@gmail.com), or David Atwood (David_Atwood@hotmail.com).



We are off to a good start in collecting commitments in our Every Member Pledge Campaign. If you have not yet pledged you may do so easily through a number of options:

- 1) dropping your pledge card in the offering plate,
- 2) mailing it back to the office,
- 3) pledging online through our website, or
- 4) contacting our Treasurer, Tom Hewson, at 703.370.6555 ext. 208, or thewson@icoh.net.

As of December 15th, we have 106 pledges totaling \$531,000.

In this season of thanksgiving, may we be eager to return a measure of the gifts with which we have been blessed towards God’s service and for the life and ministry of our beloved Church.

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 Father Randy at ralexander@icoh.net, or Senior Warden Darrell Wilson at dlwilson729@gmail.com.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMASTIDE AT IMMANUEL



2022			
December 18	5:00 p.m.	Children’s Christmas Pageant	Immanuel Chapel
December 21	6:30 p.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II followed by Christmas Caroling (<i>weather permitting</i>)	Seminary Hill Neighborhood
December 24	5:00 p.m.	Festival Holy Eucharist Rite II with Brass (<i>musical prelude begins at 4:30 p.m.</i>)	Immanuel Chapel (<i>and livestreamed via YouTube</i>)
	10:30 p.m.	Midnight Mass Rite II with Brass (<i>musical prelude begins at 10:00 p.m.</i>)	Immanuel Chapel
December 25	11:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Zabriskie Chapel
2023			
January 1	11:00 a.m.	The Feast of the Holy Name Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Zabriskie Chapel
January 8	8:00 a.m.	The Feast of the Epiphany (<i>transferred</i>) Holy Eucharist, Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	The Feast of the Epiphany (<i>transferred</i>) Holy Eucharist, Rite II featuring the Handbell Choir of Immanuel	Immanuel Chapel (<i>and livestreamed via YouTube</i>)

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr. (ralexander@icoh.net) Rector
 The Rev. Susan D. Parsons (sparsons@icoh.net) Associate Rector
 Dr. Jane Tavernier (jtavernier@icoh.net) Director of Music
 Janettarose Greene (JGreene@vts.edu) Seminarian
 Tom Hewson (thewson@icoh.net) Treasurer
 Sughra Bakhtiari (sbakhtiari@icoh.net) Bookkeeper
 Aleta Y. Powell (apowell@icoh.net) Parish Administrator
 Tamika Martin (tmartin@vts.edu) Audio Visual Technician
 Gilma Balcarcel Nursery Coordinator
 Stuart Dahlinger Sexton

THE VESTRY

Darrell Wilson Senior Warden
 Kristi Kubista-Hovis Junior Warden: Administration
 Shawn Whitman Junior Warden: Building and Grounds, Creation Care Committees
 David Atwood Adult Formation and Discipleship, Social Justice
 Brad Ashton Stewardship and Planned Giving
 Mollie Lambert Outreach
 Kathy Lloyd Senior Ministry
 Brooke Roberts Communications
 Phyllis Sims Evangelism and New Members
 Julie Bruns Pastoral Care
 Gabriella Young-Smith Youth Representative (nonvoting member)

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

SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

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

10:00 a.m. Children’s Chapel, Side Oratory Chapel
 inside of Immanuel Chapel

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

Online

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

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
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www.icoh.net

