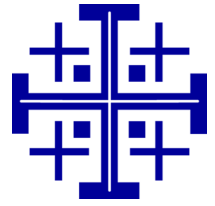




Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
Episcopal/Anglican
Alexandria, Virginia



THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 5, 2025

Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:00 a.m.
YOUTH-LED CREATION CARE SUNDAY
HONORING St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of Ecology

Page references are for [The Book of Common Prayer](#) and [Book of Occasional Services](#).

Prelude: Sheep may safely graze

Johann Sebastian Bach

Opening Hymn 405: “All things bright and beautiful”

from The Hymnal 1982

Royal Oak

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

p. 355

Celebrant: Blessed be the God of all creation.

People: ***And blessed be God's holy Name for ever.***

The Collect for Purity

p. 355

S102 Trisagion

(found in the front of The Hymnal 1982)

Alexander Archangelsky

The Collect of the Day and Collect for Saint Francis Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord: Grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfect joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen***

The First Lesson: Genesis 1:20–22a, 24–26a, 28, 31a

And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let us make humankind.” God blessed them.

God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 104:10–25 *Benedic, anima mea*

10. You, LORD God, send the springs into the valleys; *
they flow between the mountains.
11. All the beasts of the field drink their fill from them, *
and the wild asses quench their thirst.
12. Beside them the birds of the air make their nests *
and sing among the branches.
13. You water the mountains from your dwelling on high; *
the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.
14. You make grass grow for flocks and herds *
and plants to serve humankind;
15. That they may bring forth food from the earth, *
and wine to gladden our hearts,
16. Oil to make a cheerful countenance, *
and bread to strengthen the heart.
17. The trees of the LORD are full of sap, *
the cedars of Lebanon which God planted,
18. In which the birds build their nests, *
and in whose tops the stork makes a dwelling.
19. The high hills are a refuge for the mountain goats, *
and the stony cliffs for the rock badgers.
20. You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, *
and the sun knows the time of its setting.
21. You make darkness that it may be night, *
in which all the beasts of the forest prowl.

22. The lions roar after their prey *
and seek their food from God.
23. The sun rises, and they slip away *
and lay themselves down in their dens.
24. People go forth to their work *
and to their labor until the evening.
25. O LORD, how manifold are your works! *
in wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

The Epistle: Acts 4: 32-37

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means 'son of encouragement'). He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

The word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

Sequence Hymn 409: "The spacious firmament on high" verse 1

Creation

found in The Hymnal 1982

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew

Response: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, God of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, God, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Creator; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal God. 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon: The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs

The Nicene Creed

p. 358

The Prayers of the People

Confession of Sin and Absolution

p. 360

Clergy and People: *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.*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Welcome and Announcements

Want to give electronically? While the alms basin is being passed, you can also make an offering online using your bank account, debit, or credit card: just scan the code below.

Thank you for your gift to Immanuel.



Give Online

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem: “For the beauty of the earth”

John Milford Rutter

THE IMMANUEL CHOIR

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies;
for the love which from our birth,
over and around us lies:
*Lord of all, to thee we raise,
this our joyful hymn of praise.*

For the beauty of each hour,
of the day and of the night;
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light:
*Lord of all, to thee we raise,
this our joyful hymn of praise.*

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child;
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild:
*Lord of all, to thee we raise,
this our joyful hymn of praise.*

For each perfect gift of thine,
to our race so freely given;
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:
*Lord of all, to thee we raise,
this our joyful hymn of praise.*

Doxology: Hymn 380 (verse 3)

found in The Hymnal 1982

Old 100th

***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 C

p. 369

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 in the obedience of your saints you have given us an example of righteousness, and in their eternal joy a glorious pledge of the hope of our calling.


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 (from A Mass for Immanuel)

Jane Tavernier

14

Ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly Lord God of pow-er and might Hea-ven and Earth are

19

filled with your glo-ry, Ho- san - na in the high - est, Ho-san - na Ho- san - na Ho

24

san - na in the high-est Bles-sed is He, Bles-sed is He who comes in the name of the

29

Lord Ho- san - na, Ho- san - na, Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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The Lord's Prayer


p. 364

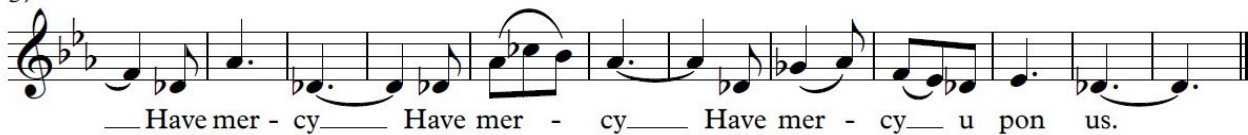
The Breaking of the Bread

Agnus Dei (from A Mass for Immanuel)

Jane Tavernier

34

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, You take a way the sins of the world

46

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, You take a way the sins of the world

57

Have mer - cy Have mer - cy Have mer - cy u pon us.

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Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us

Response: ***Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.***

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.

We will receive at one standing station.

If you are physically unable to come to the Altar, please let an usher know that you would like to have Communion brought to you.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION:

Communion Anthem: “Tantum ergo”

Gabriel Urbain Fauré

THE IMMANUEL CHOIR

Tantum ergo sacramentum
veneremur cernui,
et antiquum documentum
novo cedat ritui;
praestet fides supplementum
sensuum defectui.

*Therefore so great a Sacrament
let us fall down and worship,
and let the old law
give way to a new rite;
and let faith stand forward
to make good the defects of sense.*

Genitori Genitoque
laus et iubilatio,
salus, honor, virtus quoque
sit et benedictio;
procedenti ab utroque
compar sit laudatio.
Amen.

*To the Father and the Son
be praise and joy,
health, honour and virtue
and blessing;
and to him proceeding from both
be equal praise.
Amen.*

Sung, if needed

Hymn 60: “How great Thou art”

O Lord My God, When I in Awesome Wonder

found in the hymnal Lift Every Voice and Sing II

Post Communion Prayer

p. 365

*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

Recessional Hymn 400: “All creatures of our God and king” verses 1-4, and 7 *Lasst uns erfreuen*

from The Hymnal 1982

Dismissal Clergy: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

 People: *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude: Water Music

George Frideric Handel

SERVING AT THIS EUCHARIST:

<i>Musicians:</i>	The Immanuel Choir; Dr. Jane Tavernier, Director and Organist
<i>Adult Ushers:</i>	Doug Onley, Agnes Soos
<i>Adult Altar Guild:</i>	Matt Haskin
<i>Flower Guild:</i>	Karen Besser, Bryce Doorley, Grayson Yates
<i>Vestry Greeter/Counter:</i>	Peter Kent
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts:</i>	Darrell Wilson, Leah Wilson
<i>Audio Visual:</i>	Tamika Martin
<i>Celebrant:</i>	The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander

A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that we may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.

IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

Parish Notes

October 5, 2025

**IN THE NAME OF JESUS 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 visitor card — located in the pews or display stands at the entrances of the chapels. Please 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).

PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS: Ann MacNamara, Aster, Jim, Nancy, Spencer, and Zuzanna Wise, Carolyn Ferguson, Catherine Sinclair, Chris von Schoening, Craig Jackson, Cynthia Morton, Cy Murphy, David Phillips, Debbie Hewson, Gary and MeiLung DeVight, Gordon Johnson, Jane, John Richards, Joseph, Kenny, Marcus, Mary Jane Ruhl, Nancy Bishop, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Norma Taliaferro, Rollin Huntington, Susan Montague, Tom and Martha Shimkin, and Wendy Hoge.

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Andrew Davis, Ann Langdon Days, Ann Woodward, Barbara Kellner, Barbara Sagan, Betsy Fox Berry, Brian and Joyce, Bridget Rice Rose, Carol Ording, Charlotte Kellogg, Cicely, Donna Becker, George Rustigian, Gerry, the Howerton Family, Hudson Milligan, Jack Allen, Jackson Sirhal, Jean Couban, Jean Williams, Jill Lane, Jodi Williams, Joe Micelli, José Maria, Joseph and Elaine Kelly, Leea Gorman, Lilly Pinner, Louise Jackson, Lysbeth, Marcia Richardson, Marie, Mary Horner, Marty Childs, Mary Muniz, McQuade Milligan, Michael, Paul, Peter Blackledge, Rosemary Wensing, Russ, Soundary Dilan, Stephen Miller, Stephen Spurlock, Susan Little, Tony, Wesley Johnson, and Winnie Kidd.

Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week: Meggan Engelke-Ros, Betsy Huffman, Caroline Johnson, Nancy Lyons, Heather Schnedl, Susan Montague, Randy Kell, Diana Walker, Charlotte Barnes, Doug Onley, Brooke Roberts, Eddie Bouynton, Emily Friday, Brian Ply, Grace Wensing, and Alouette Horne.

Pray for those serving around the world: Noah Barker, Ian Phillips, Todd Bates, Jason Osborne, Michael Hussey, Scott, and Philip Pretzinger.

ALIVE! WALK During PRAY & PLAY *Today* After 10:00 a.m. Eucharist

Today after our 10a.m. Eucharist, we invite all youth to gather to pray and play as we head out into creation for our fundraising **ALIVE!** walk. We hope you will join us and support **ALIVE!** by donating. May our neighbors experiencing food insecurity and housing instability know God's love for them!



TODAY @ 12 NOON: BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Each October, in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi who saw God's love reflected in nature and wildlife, we bless those non-human members of our family. We ask you, your family, and your cherished pets to participate in our annual **Blessing of the Animals** in the backyard of Zabriskie Chapel, next to the Memorial Garden. If your pet is no longer with us, feel free to bring a photo or stuffed animal to represent them: God's blessing can find them!

Announcements

WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

All are welcome to participate

Morning Prayer Tuesday, October 7th @ 10:00 a.m., Zabriskie Chapel

Noonday Holy Eucharist Rite II, Wednesday, October 8th, Zabriskie Chapel

Quiet Prayer, Wednesday October 8th, 5:15 - 6:00 p.m.

The Oratory Chapel inside Immanuel Chapel

Weekly Bible Study: "*The Gospel of John*" Thursday, October 9th
@10:30 a.m. online via Zoom.

Look for login details in your weekly eBlast email.

Compline, Friday October 10th@ 8:30 p.m, online via Zoom

WEEKLY QUIET PRAYER AT IMMANUEL AND THE SEMINARY, WEDNESDAYS 5:15 - 6:00 P.M.

In recent penitential seasons (Lent and Advent, 2024, and Lent 2025) clergy and congregational members of Immanuel have shared silent prayer time together on a weekday evening, with ordinands and faculty members from the Seminary, and (increasingly) with some members of other local churches. At a time of much need for prayer in our churches and in the world, especially in our ongoing prayers for world peace, we are now responding to several requests to make this practice a weekly option for our parish(es) and the Seminary. With our first season ending on Wednesday December 17, we **gather in the Oratory Chapel inside Immanuel Chapel, from 5:15-6:00pm each Wednesday evening**. Please do consider joining us, either every week or when you have the time. This time of prayer can be used in many different and profitable ways; but the core theme is that, together, we wait on God's grace and respond to his calling. By coming together we offer, as Christ promised, more than the sum of our parts.

The Rev. Randy Alexander, the Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs, and the Rev. Dr. Sarah Coakley



WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORLD with *The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs*

THIS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH : Join Sarah for fellowship this **Wednesday, October 8th** from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Alexandria Pastry Shop, Bradlee Shopping Center on King Street. All are welcome!



Forum Hour: "*A Dialog on the Practicalities of Prayer*"

LED BY THE REV. DR. FRANK WADE AND THE REV. DR. SARAH COAKLEY

Sunday, October 12th @ 11:30 A.M, The Welcome Center

Join Frank and Sarah over coffee and refreshments in The Welcome Center for an open discussion to aid and encourage those setting out on the regular practice of prayer. This topic is in connection with the new 'Quiet Prayer' sessions that Rev. Sarah leads each Wednesday from 5.15-6pm in the Oratory Chapel. All are welcome.

IT'S AUTUMN AND SENIOR MINISTRY/FELLOWSHIP HAS PLANS. PLAN TO JOIN US!

OCTOBER: THIRD WEDNESDAY LUNCH AT GOODWIN HOUSE-ALEXANDRIA at noon on October 15 (same RSVP details as above).

FOURTH TUESDAY BROWN BAG LUNCH. The professional hockey season begins in October and if you don't know the difference between a snipe and a dangle, we're not gonna put you in the penalty box! Instead, come on Tuesday, October 28 and hear parishioner **Agnes Soos**, who will help us learn how to follow that fast puck around the ice and maybe become a fan for life. Bring your own sandwich and we will provide dessert and drinks. There is no reservation required and no cost to this event.

SPECIAL ADVANCE NOTICE—CELEBRATE VETERANS DAY WITH A TOUR OF THE U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY! On Thursday afternoon, November 13, we will travel to Annapolis to tour the Naval Academy. We will get around in nifty little electric cars, so distance and weather are no object. Van co-pay is \$20 and the tour price is \$35. Specific timing details will follow shortly but if you want to go, mark your calendar now and **RSVP to Karen Besser no later than Monday, October 13, as we need to provide names/addresses of all participants to the Academy in advance.** This event is strictly limited to 15 people.



Monthly Saturday Breakfast Bible Study: **“GOD’S PROMISES”** **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18th @ 8:00 AM, Held Online via Microsoft Teams**

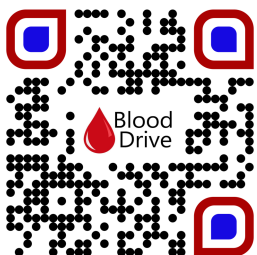
Join Immanuel's monthly Saturday morning Breakfast Bible Study **Saturday, September 20th** online via *Microsoft Teams* (find this bulletin on our website under the “Worship” tab, then click on the link below) beginning at 8 a.m. Our new theme for 2025 is ***God's Promises***. This month we will read **2 Corinthians 1:17-22** ***“For in him [Jesus Christ] every one of God's promises is a “Yes.”*** using the African Model of Reflection. For more information, please visit [our webpage “Breakfast Bible Study”](#), or contact Chrissie Crosby at cmcfaddencrosby@gmail.com.

[Join MSTeams Saturday Breakfast Bible Study Meeting](#) / Meeting ID: 959 5450 6553 / Passcode: 027913



IMMANUEL’S 4TH ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE—SIGN UP NOW FOR NOVEMBER 2!

We are partnering with Inova Hospital for the fourth time to host a blood drive on **Sunday, November 2, from noon to 4pm in the Zabriskie parking lot**. The link to sign up is now LIVE! Scan the QR code at left to pick a time, or you can reach out to Katherine Maas at katherinemaas@gmail.com. Blood drives are a meaningful way to help our community—one in seven people entering the hospital need blood and a single car accident



victim can require as many as 100 pints of blood. The blood from our drive will likely be used within 48 hours after it ends. Please see recently updated eligibility guidance on Inova's site inovablood.org/donate-blood/eligibility/. If you are considering donating blood for the first time, Inova has some helpful information at inovablood.org/donate-blood/prepare-for-your-donation/first-time-donors/.

If you are not eligible to donate, you can still help at the registration table—even an hour would help! Please contact Katherine with any questions or to express interest in volunteering at the registration table. Thank you!

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
Signa Strom (sstrom@vts.edu)	Seminarian
Beatrice Osumba (bosumba@vts.edu)	Seminarian
Dr. Jane Tavernier (jtavernier@icoh.net)	Director of Music
Aleta Y. Powell (apowell@icoh.net).....	Parish Administrator
Tim Lawhorn	Sexton
Tom Hewson (thewson@icoh.net)	Treasurer
Mollie Lambert (mlambert@icoh.net)	Assistant Treasurer
Mike Morgan (mmorgan@icoh.net)	Finance Manager
Tamika Martin (tmartin@icoh.net)	Audio Visual Technician
Bella Jung	Nursery Director
Miguelina “Mimi” Guzmann	Nursery Assistant

THE VESTRY

Amy Thomas	Senior Warden
Caroline Bergmark	Junior Warden: Buildings and Grounds, Registrar
Peter Kent	Junior Warden: Administration
Mark Fearer	Social Justice
Matt Haskin	Worship
Rich Hobson	Outreach
Taylor Houck.....	Adult Formation and Discipleship
Dave John	Fellowship
Doug Onley	Stewardship and Planned Giving
Mary Ann Ring.....	Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
Brian Rush.....	Senior Ministry, Pastoral Care
Kristin Whitman	Newcomers and Communications
Sydney Onley	Youth Representative

SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel
 10:00 a.m. *First Sunday in October, November & December 2025*
 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, Immanuel Chapel
 3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

Online

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

PRIESTS ASSOCIATE

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Coakley
 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, Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

ICOH.net



Ways to GIVE