



Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Episcopal/Anglican
Alexandria, Virginia



THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT: LAETARE SUNDAY

March 15, 2025

Holy Eucharist Rite II, with Confirmation, 10:00 a.m. Laetare Sunday

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

A professionally-staffed nursery is located in the south corner of the building (to the right as you face the organ); restrooms are located on either side of the double wooden doors.

We welcome the **Right Reverend Mark E. Stevenson**, Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia,
as our Celebrant and Preacher.

Prelude:

Wachet auf ruft uns die Stimme *arranged by* Sam Thomas *Johann Sebastian Bach*
(Sleepers awake)

Canzon Per Sonare #1 - La Spiritata *arranged for brass quintet by* David Marlatt *Giovanni Gabrieli*

Four Canzonas *arranged for brass quintet by* Henry Howey *Giovanni Gabrieli*

Processional Hymn 493: "O for a thousand tongues to sing" *found in* The Hymnal 1982 *Azmon*

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

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Bishop: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: ***His mercy endures forever.***

The Bishop then continues

People: There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God's Call to us;

Bishop: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People: ***One God and Father of all.***

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

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

Bishop: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen***

The First Lesson: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Epistle: Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light — for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

The word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

Sequence Hymn 679: “Surely it is God who saves me” *found in* The Hymnal 1982 *Thomas Merton*

The Holy Gospel: John 9:1-41

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

Response: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?”

Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon: The Right Reverend Mark E. Stevenson

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The Bishop says

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The Candidates will now be presented.

Presenter: I present these persons for Confirmation.

The Bishop asks the candidates:

Bishop: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate: *I do.*

Bishop: Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate: *I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.*

After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the congregation, saying

Bishop: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People: *We will.*

Bishop: Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: ***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: ***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.***

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: ***I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.***

Bishop: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People: ***I will, with God's help.***

Bishop: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: ***I will, with God's help.***

Bishop: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: ***I will, with God's help.***

Bishop: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: ***I will, with God's help.***

Bishop: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: ***I will, with God's help.***

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

The Bishop says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Leader: Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death

People: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Leader: Open their hearts to your grace and truth

People: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Leader: Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Leader: Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Leader: Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Leader: Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Leader: Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

THE CONFIRMATION

Silence may be kept. Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

For Confirmation

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant ***N.***, with your Holy Spirit; empower her for your service; and sustain her all the days of her life. ***Amen.***

The Bishop concludes with this prayer

Bishop: Almighty and everlasting God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Peace

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

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

Welcome and Announcements

Blessing of the Priests Associate

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 at right.



Thank you for your gift to Immanuel.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Today's loose plate offering will go to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.

Offertory Anthem: "To the Lamb on the Throne"

text by Charles Wesley

Dan Forrest

Worthy the Lamb. . .
Ye servants of God,
your master proclaim,
and publish abroad His wonderful Name.
The Name all victorious of Jesus extol:
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

Worthy the Lamb. . .
God rules in the height almighty to save,
though hid from our sight
His presence we have.
The great congregation His triumph shall sing:
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

Worthy the Lamb. . .
Salvation to God
Who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces,
and worship the Lamb.

Worthy the Lamb. . .
Then let us adore and give Him His right
all glory and power, all wisdom and might
all honor and blessing,
with angels above never ceasing
with infinite love.
Worthy the Lamb. . .

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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Bishop: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Response: *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

Agnus Dei S164 (found in the front of The Hymnal 1982)

Franz Peter Schubert

*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.*

Bishop: 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 standing stations.

Please let an usher know if you would like to have Communion brought to you.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION:

Communion Anthem: “The Lord’s Prayer”

Marianne Forman

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion Hymn 671: “Amazing grace! how sweet the sound” *from* The Hymnal 1982

New Britain

Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Bishop says
Let us pray.

*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

Closing Hymn 594: “God of grace and God of glory”

from The Hymnal 1982

Cwm Rhondda

The Dismissal

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

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude:

The Great Gate of Kiev *arranged for brass quintet by Tsuyoshi Yoroiguma* Modest Petrovich Mussorgsky

Ode to Joy *arranged for brass quintet by Luis Cardoso* Ludwig van Beethoven

LAETARE SUNDAY is the fourth Sunday in Lent in the liturgical calendar. The term is derived from the opening words of the Latin Mass, “Rejoice (Laetare) Jerusalem” (Isiah 66:10). The Church is called to joyful anticipation of the victory to be won. This joyful theme provides lightening from the penitential emphasis of Lent. Since the thirteenth century the celebrant of the eucharist has been permitted to wear rose-colored vestments which express the change of tone in the Lenten observance. Laetare Sunday therefore may be called “Rose Sunday.”



CONFIRMED TODAY

Caroline Lakota Maas Hicks

Piper Annabelle Horne

Agnes Laura Soos

Please join Bishop Stevenson in the Welcome Center for a reception, followed by his Lenten forum hour discussion on “The Church.”



SERVING AT THIS EUCHARIST:

<i>Crucifer:</i>	Charlie Biggs
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Adeline Haskin, Matt Haskin
<i>Banner Bearer:</i>	Owen Biggs
<i>Readers:</i>	Karen Besser, Dorothy Kellogg
<i>Intercessor:</i>	Dorothy Kellogg
<i>Musicians:</i>	THE BRASS QUINTET: Klara Farren (French Horn), Andrew Foote (Tuba), Megan Huffman (Trumpet), Austin Nicholas (Trombone), Sam Thomas (Trumpet) James Bartelt (timpani), Denise Freeland, Assistant Conductor, The Immanuel Choir Dr. Jane Tavernier, Director of Music, organ, and piano
<i>Ushers:</i>	Kristen Whitman, Bryant Mitchell, Madeleine Mitchell
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Brooke Roberts
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts:</i>	Alisa Biache, David John
<i>Vestry Greeter/Counter:</i>	Taylor Houck
<i>Audio Visual:</i>	Tamika Martin, the Rev. Jan A. Maas
<i>Bishop's Chaplain:</i>	The Reverend Canon d'Rue Hazel, Canon to the Ordinary
<i>Celebrant:</i>	The Right Reverend Mark E. Stevenson

Special Guest at Quiet Prayer March 25th: Father Martin Smith, well known to us as an experienced spiritual director and former religious superior, will be coming to the weekly *Quiet Prayer* session (in the Oratory Chapel, VTS) on **Wednesday March 25, 5.15-6pm**, to lead a 'group spiritual direction' for our parish and for VTS seminarians. He will take questions from the floor on the practice of prayer (and especially the prayer of silence), and help us to deepen our understanding of the importance of personal and group prayer as a parish. All are welcome (whether or not you are a regular attender of the Wednesday Quiet Prayer group).

IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

Parish Notes
March 15, 2026

**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, Carolyn Ferguson, Catherine Sinclair, Charlene Murphy, Chris von Schoening, Craig Jackson, Cynthia Morton, Debbie Hewson, Dick and Norma Taliaferro, Gary and MeiLung DeVight, Gordon Johnson, Hugh Campbell, Jane, Jim Hobson, Jim and Nancy Wise, Joseph, Kenny, Marcus, Marda Robillard, Mary Ann Rehnke, Mary Jane Ruhl, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Rollin Huntington, Thom Hussey, and Wendy Hoge.

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Andrew Davis, Ann Langdon Days, Ann Woodward, Barbara Kellner, Barbara Sagan, Becky Smith, Betsy Fox Berry, Brian and Joyce, Brian Van Buskirk, Bridget Rice Rose, Caleb Lusk, Carol Ording, Charlotte Kellogg, Cy Murphy, Donna Becker, Frances, George Rustigian, Gerry, Gerry and Nan Hardison, the Howerton Family, Hudson Milligan, Jack Allen, Jean Couban, Jill Perkins, Jodi Wilson, Joseph and Elaine Kelly, Karen Landry, Leea Gorman, Leslie Perez, Lilly Pinner, Linda Taucher, Louise Jackson, Lysbeth, Madeline, Marcia Richardson, Margie Lidoff, Mary Horner, Mary Muniz, Matt, McQuade Milligan, Melvyn and Stacy, Michael, Paul, Peter Blackledge, Rosemary Wensing, Russ, Sofia, Soundary Dilan, Stacey, Stephen Miller, Stephen Spurlock, Thomas Henry, Tim Williams, Wesley Johnson, Will Boggs, and Winnie Kidd.

Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week: Jeremy Enright, Jackie Phillips, Harry Diffendal, Hillary Parker, Cassidy McCaslin, Marcus Rarick, Albert Salleh, Patrick Tribe, Ruthie Christino, Lizzie Peabody, Marianne Ingold, and Michael Pawlukiewicz.

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

Those who have died: US troops who died in action serving in Operation Epic Fury: Sergeant Benjamin Pennington in Saudi Arabia. *Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.*

Lenten Series FORUM HOUR TODAY:

Commending the Faith that is in Us: What might you say when someone asks what you believe?



In a world where Christian believers are surrounded by non-believers, skeptics, and truth seekers, believers will increasingly be asked what they believe, and why. Those inquiring will expect credible answers, yet many Christians fear they wouldn't know what to say, or even how to begin to engage these honest questions.

Join us at **11:15a.m. in the Welcome Center today** for a reception, and then to hear Bishop Mark Stevenson discuss *The Church*. All are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Announcements

WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

All are welcome to participate

St. Patrick's Day Morning Prayer, Tuesday, March 17th @ 10:00 a.m., Zabriskie Chapel

Wednesday Holy Eucharist Rite II, March 18th @ 12 Noon, Zabriskie Chapel

***Quiet Prayer*, Wednesday, March 18th @ 5:15 p.m., Oratory Chapel at Immanuel Chapel**

Weekly Bible Study: “*The Book of Genesis*” Thursday, March 19th

@10:30 a.m. online via Zoom.

Look for login details in your weekly eBlast email.

Compline this Friday, March 20th @ 8:30 p.m., online via Zoom

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

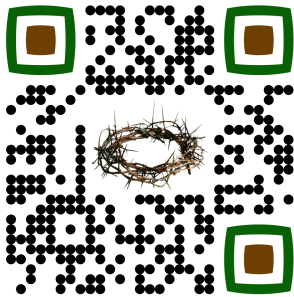
March 29	Sunday of the Passion: PALM SUNDAY	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
		10:00 a.m.	Bagpiper-led Procession with Palms to chapel (<i>gather at VTS white post office</i>)	Immanuel Chapel
March 31	Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer during Holy Week	Zabriskie Chapel
April 1	Wednesday	12 Noon	Holy Eucharist Rite II	Zabriskie Chapel
		5:15 p.m.	<i>Quiet Prayer</i> in The Oratory (<i>side</i>) Chapel	Immanuel Chapel
April 2	Maundy Thursday	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study “ <i>The Book of Genesis</i> ” (All are welcome)	Online via Zoom
		6:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist Rite II with choir; offering foot washing, and followed by overnight watch	Immanuel Chapel
April 3	Good Friday	12 Noon	Good Friday Stations of the Cross	Immanuel Chapel
		6:30 p.m.	The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday with choir	
April 5	EASTER SUNDAY: Feast of the Resurrection	7:30 a.m.	Feast of the Resurrection Holy Eucharist Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
		9:00 a.m.	Feast of the Resurrection Holy Eucharist Rite II with full choir, brass, and timpani	Immanuel Chapel
		10:00 a.m.	Children's Easter Egg Hunt	VTS Grounds
		11:00 a.m.	Feast of the Resurrection Holy Eucharist Rite II with full choir, brass, and timpani	Immanuel Chapel
April 12	The Second Sunday of Easter	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
		10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II with choir	Immanuel Chapel



WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORLD with *The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs*: March 18th

Join Mother Sarah **this Wednesday, March 18th** at 10 a.m. for coffee and fellowship at the Alexandria Pastry Shop. All are invited to attend.

NEXT SUNDAY, March 22nd @ 11:15a.m., the Welcome Center: Join us for **the final Forum Hour** in our Lenten Series, *Commending the Faith that is in Us: What might you say when someone asks what you believe?* Next Sunday at 11:15a.m. in the Welcome Center today to hear **The Rev. Sarah Coakley, Ph.D.**, Priest Associate at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, former professor at Harvard Divinity School and Cambridge University discuss *The Resurrection and Atonement*.



ALTAR OF REPOSE SCHEDULE NOW ONLINE: If you can help us keep watch by staying in the Oratory Chapel in Immanuel for one hour during the Overnight Prayer Vigil, **Maundy Thursday, April 2nd**, please scan the code at left.

Simply stop, pray and keep watch during the night until 12 noon Good Friday.

Thank you.



SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP MARCH ACTIVITIES:

THIRD WEDNESDAY LUNCH AT GOODWIN HOUSE-ALEXANDRIA on **March 18 at noon in the Fillmore room**. Please join us for luncheon and conversation. RSVP to Rev. Susan if you are not a resident of Goodwin House and to Susan Kernan if you are a resident.

FOURTH TUESDAY BROWN BAG LUNCH: Please join us for another great talk by Immanuel's own **Tom Kerns**, who generously shares with us his architect adventures in calling physical worship spaces into being from the ideas, gifts and physical and financial limitations of the congregations with whom he has worked over his prolific career. Tom will be preparing us to visit St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Gaithersburg, Md. (Put our trip to St. Rose on your calendar now, for Wednesday, April 22.)

We will meet in the **Parish Hall at 12:15pm on Tuesday, March 24**. Bring your own sandwich or salad, and drinks and dessert will be provided. No RSVP is necessary.

AS ALWAYS, friends are welcome to join Senior Ministry and Fellowship activities.

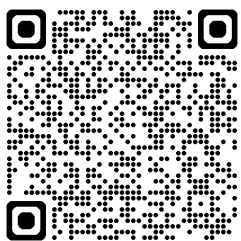


MONTHLY SATURDAY BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY'S NEW THEME FOR 2026: "CONTENTMENT"
(in accepting love and rejecting fear) **SATURDAY, MARCH 21st @ 8:00 AM**, Held Online via Microsoft Teams

Join Immanuel's first monthly Saturday morning Breakfast Bible Study for 2026 on **Saturday, March 21st** 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 2026 is *Contentment*. This month we will read **Song of Songs 2:8-17 "I am my beloved's and he is mine"** 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 SPRING 2026 RETREAT: We welcome everyone to join us for Immanuel's first local contemplative retreat. Retreating is a restorative practice of Sabbath keeping. Join us as we explore a practice of holy rest and renewal, and ways to intentionally open ourselves to God's ever-presence in day-to-day life.



This retreat is for everyone! If you...

- have an interest in retreats, but are unable to take a weekend away;
- are not sure about retreats, and would like to try it out;
- are looking to learn about different contemplative practices; or
- love retreats and would like to take any and every opportunity to be on one ...this retreat is for you.

The retreat will be on **Saturday, March 28, 2026, from 9am to 2pm**, at Bicentennial Hall, on the campus of Virginia Theological Seminary. A light lunch will be served.

If you are interested, please scan the QR code at left to register for the retreat. The **registration deadline is next Monday, March 23**. Please reach out to Katherine Maas at katherinemaas@gmail.com with any



NEW STORAGE FOR CHRISTMAS FAMILIES MINISTRY NEEDED

For the last 20 years since the fire at the Soergels' house, Christmas Families has been housed at 118 N Washington Street hosted by Christ Church. After many years of looking, Christ Church found a new tenant who will lease the entire building. We have been told that we can no longer use the space we've used over 30 years for rent-free.

We need to move next January and need 400-500 sq. ft. of minimally conditioned space, offering access on nights and weekends. Ideally, a location on the first floor that's easily accessible for loading and unloading. We do not have the budget to find a space that requires us to pay rent.

We ask everyone to let us know if they have any suggestions. Please contact Rich Hobson, richh777@gmail.com, or Linda Serabian, Serabian@somaarchitects.com. Thank you.



IN NEED OF CANDY OFFERINGS TO FILL EASTER EGGS: Please consider dropping off a bag or two of candy for the parish to use to fill empty plastic Easter Eggs for our annual Easter morning egg hunt. Each item should be individually wrapped (i.e. no loose jelly beans or gummy rabbits!). We are well-stocked on non-food items for the eggs, thanks to the generosity of Candy Levin!

Drop off your candy in the bin on the table outside of Rev. Sarah's office, starting today, Sunday.



SIGN-UP TO SERVE: IT'S EASY AND ONLINE:

Sign-up to Serve in our Sunday Services *through May 2026* ONLINE — including [the Altar of Repose](#) for Maundy Thursday and *Foreign Language Readers* for the Feast of Pentecost — by visiting the landing page of our website at ICOH.net and clicking our **Red SignUp Genius Button** or scanning the QR code at right.



If you're a student planning to spend occasional weekends home, feel free to **sign-up for a Sunday or two during the Lenten season, Easter, and the Feast of Pentecost only**. Training for all lay ministries available upon request. THANK YOU for your participation!

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)	..... Associate 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
Mina Sultani	..... Nursery Director
Tamana Karima	..... Nursery Assistant
Miguelina “Mimi” Guzmann	..... Hospitality Assistant

THE VESTRY

Mark Fearer	..... Senior Warden
Doug Onley	..... Junior Warden: Administration
Brian Ply	..... Junior Warden: Buildings and Grounds
Jennifer W. Greiner	..... Adult Formation and Discipleship
Rich Hobson	..... Outreach
Martin Horne	..... Communications
Taylor Houck	..... Stewardship and Planned Giving, Registrar
Dave John	..... Fellowship
Jim Kurz	..... Senior Ministry
Mary Ann Ring	..... Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, Newcomers, and Evangelism
Brian Rush	..... Social Justice
Diana Walker	..... Worship, Pastoral Care
Sydney Onley	..... Youth Representative

SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel
 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, *First Sunday of every month*
 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
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Ways to GIVE