



# Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

## Episcopal/Anglican Alexandria, Virginia



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ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5, 2025

### Holy Eucharist Rite II, 6:30 p.m.

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*Please stand during the silent processional.*

Opening Hymn 470: "There's a wideness in God's mercy"

*from* The Hymnal 1982

*Beecher*

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Opening Acclamation

p. 355

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: *His mercy endures forever.*

### Kyrie S96 "Lord, have mercy"

*found in the front of* The Hymnal 1982

Franz Peter Schubert

### The Collect for Ash Wednesday

p. 264

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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: Joel 2:1-2,12-17

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near -- a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

### **Psalm 103:8-14 *Benedic, anima mea***

- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.
- 14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
he remembers that we are but dust.

### **The Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10**

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see -- we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

**The Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

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

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

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

**The Sermon: The Rev. Susan D. Parsons**

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**Invitation to the Observance of a Holy Lent**

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*All stand, and the Celebrant invites the people to the observance of a holy Lent, saying:*

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

*Silence is then kept for a time, all kneeling.*

## Imposition of Ashes

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

### Psalm 51 *Miserere mei, Deus*

p. 266

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return to you.
- 15 Deliver me from death, O God, \*  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,  
O God of my salvation.
- 16 Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; \*  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

**The Litany of Penitence** (*Please kneel as you are able.*) p. 267

**The Absolution** p. 269

**The Peace**

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

People: *And also with you.*

**Welcome**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory Anthem:** “Agnus Dei”

Howard Goodall

**JIM BIGGS & DAVID TEMOSHOK**, soloists

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis. Dona eis Requiem.

*O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us. Grant them eternal rest.*

**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 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.*

**Sanctus S130** (*found in the front of* The Hymnal 1982)

Franz Peter Schubert

**The Lord's Prayer**

p. 364

## The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

*Agnus Dei S164*

*(found in the front of The Hymnal 1982)*

Franz Peter Schubert

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

*We will receive Communion at a 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:** “Set me as a seal”

René Clausen

#### THE IMMANUEL CHOIR

Set me as a seal upon your heart  
as a seal upon your arm  
for love is strong as death.  
Set me as a seal upon you heart,  
as a seal upon your arm,  
for love is strong as death.

Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can the floods drown it  
Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal upon your arm,  
for love is strong as death.

**Communion Hymn 516:** “Come down, O Love divine”

*from The Hymnal 1982*

*Down Ampney*

### Post Communion Prayer

*After Communion, the Celebrant 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.*

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## The Blessing

Closing Hymn 657: "Love divine, all loves excelling"

*from* The Hymnal 1982

*Hyfrydol*

## The Dismissal

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

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## SERVING AT THIS EUCHARIST:

*Crucifer:* Karen Besser  
*Readers:* Sudie McGahuey, Karen Besser  
*Psalm Leader:* Martha Shimkin  
*Chalice Bearer:* Beatrice Osumba  
*Ushers:* Doug Henry, Tom Kerns  
*Celebrant:* The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander

## 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  
 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  
 Gilma Balcarcel ..... Nursery Coordinator  
 Miguelina Guzmann ..... Nursery Assistant

## THE VESTRY

Amy Thomas ..... Senior Warden  
 Caroline Bergmark ..... Junior Warden: Building and Grounds, Registrar  
 Peter Kent ..... Junior Warden: Administration  
 Taylor Houck ..... Adult Formation and Discipleship  
 Brian Rush ..... Senior Ministry, Pastoral Care  
 Doug Onley ..... Stewardship and Planned Giving  
 Rich Hobson ..... Outreach  
 Mary Ann Ring ..... Children, Youth, and Family Ministries  
 Mark Fearer ..... Social Justice  
 Bert Shelters ..... Evangelism and Newcomers, Communications  
 Matt Haskin ..... Worship  
 Dave John ..... Fellowship  
 Sophie Johnson, David Lloyd, Sydney Onley, and Isabelle Young-Smith ..... Youth Representatives

### SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

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

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

#### *Online*

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

### PRIESTS ASSOCIATE

The Rev. Dr. 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 HOURS

Weekdays 9:00a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304  
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[ICOH.net](http://ICOH.net)



Ways to GIVE