

# The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord



(by Aleta Y. Powell using Adobe Firefly)

*Christ the Savior is Born*

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**DECEMBER 24, 2025**

**IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL**  
Episcopal/Anglican Alexandria, Virginia

**Choral Prelude with Christmas Brass and Choir, 4:40 p.m.**  
**FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST 5:00 p.m.**

*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.*



## WELCOME TO IMMANUEL



*Welcome* to Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, as we celebrate God coming among us in the birth of Jesus Christ. I welcome you today, whether you are a visitor looking for a Church home or a long-established member of this congregation. At the passing of the Peace, when we greet one another before Communion, please look around for someone you don't know and make sure to greet them.

What do we who make up the rich variety of God's children worshipping in this parish have in common? Somehow, in the mystery of God's great love and plans for us, we are reminded here that we are children of God, that we are loved beyond measure by God, and we have found ourselves placed within this community of the Church. In other words, we have found a home here. God has spoken to us here, probably in ways that are as unique as each one of us.

If you are looking for a Christian community where you feel encouraged to ask questions and explore your faith; where your experiences, talents, perspectives, and faith are welcomed and needed; where the community is absolutely committed to growing in the love of God, and then practicing that love together for the sake of our hurting world, Immanuel may be just the place for you. We would be proud to welcome you to our Church Family!

Our goal in all that we do is to honor and worship God, and to honor and love each other just as we have been loved. We worship and follow God-made-flesh in Jesus Christ, as our very name reflects. *Immanuel* means "God with Us" in Hebrew.

May God bless you, tonight and always.

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.  
*Rector*

*"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us". (John 1:14)*



### UPCOMING CHRISTMASTIDE SERVICES

December 24	8:40 p.m.	<i>Christmas Prelude with Choral Ensemble and Brass</i>	Immanuel Chapel
	9:00 p.m.	<i>Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist Rite II with Brass</i>	
<b>December 25</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b><i>Christmas Day Holy Eucharist with Organ and Carols</i></b>	<b>Zabriskie Chapel</b>
December 28	8:00 a.m.	<i>First Sunday After Christmas with Holy Eucharist Rite I</i>	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:00 a.m.	<i>First Sunday After Christmas with Holy Eucharist Rite II</i>	Immanuel Chapel
January 4, 2026	8:00 a.m.	<i>Holy Eucharist Rite I</i>	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Youth-led Sunday with Holy Eucharist Rite II</i>	
January 11, 2026	8:00 a.m.	<i>Epiphany Sunday (transferred) with Holy Eucharist Rite I</i>	Zabriskie Chapel
	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b><i>Children's Epiphany Pageant with Holy Eucharist Rite II followed by Festive Reception in the Welcome Center</i></b>	<b>Immanuel Chapel</b>

# MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

## Prelude:

“For behold darkness shall cover the earth”

**JONATHAN KAHN**  
bass-baritone

George Frideric Handel

“The people that walked in darkness”

George Frideric Handel

Hymn 109: “The first Nowell the angel did say”  
*found in The Hymnal 1982*

**CHOIR & CONGREGATION**

*The First Nowell*

*Selected Christmas Music played by THE BRASS QUARTET*

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## For behold darkness shall cover the earth

*from Messiah*

For, behold,  
the darkness shall cover the earth,  
and gross darkness the people:  
but the LORD shall arise upon thee,  
and his glory shall be seen upon thee.  
And the Gentiles shall come to thy light,  
and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

## The people that walked in darkness

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light,  
and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death,  
upon them hath the light shined

## The first Nowell the angel did say (verses 1 and 2)

The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.*

They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.  
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.*

# FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST

## Fanfare

Processional Hymn 83: "O come, all ye faithful"

*found in* The Hymnal 1982

*Adeste Fideles*

## THE WORD OF GOD

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

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

### The Collect for Purity

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

Hymn of Praise 105: "God rest ye merry, gentlemen"

verse 1

*God Rest You Merry*

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day  
to save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.  
*O tidings of comfort and joy,  
comfort and joy;  
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

### The Collect of the Day

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven, where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

### The First Lesson: Isaiah 9: 2-4, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness -- on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

**Psalm 96: 1-9 *Cantate Domino***

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; \*  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; \*  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations \*  
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; \*  
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \*  
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \*  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; \*  
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name;\*  
bring offerings, and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
Let the whole earth tremble before him.

**The Second Lesson: Titus 2:11-14**

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord

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

**Sequence Hymn 87:** “Hark! the herald angels sing”

*found in* The Hymnal 1982

*Mendelssohn*

**The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20** (*King James version*)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

People: ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

***Pause to honor the great mystery of the Incarnation.***

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

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

**The Sermon:** [The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.](#)

**Choral offering:** “O Bethlehem”

Christin Kieckhafer

O Bethlehem, how still you lie  
above the dreamless sleep, silent stars go by.  
O Bethlehem, how dark the night  
within your shadowed streets  
shines the everlasting Light, the light.  
O Bethlehem, how silently He came,  
greatest gift from heav'n without wealth or fame.  
O Bethlehem, how great your hope and fear  
lay to rest your wearied past.

Your Promised One is near, He is near.  
O Bethlehem, the Heavens shone bright!  
In a field not far away, shepherds witnessed the night.  
O Bethlehem, how the angels sing!  
O hear them proclaim, the birth of the King of kings.  
O Bethlehem, He's come to us, He abides with us.  
O Bethlehem, hear the angels tell how the Great I Am  
has become Emmanuel.  
O Bethlehem.

### **The Prayers of the People**

*After the Intercessor says “Lord, in your mercy”,  
The People respond with “**Hear our prayer**”.*

### **The Peace**

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

### **Welcome from The Rector**

*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

**The Offertory:** “What sweeter music can we bring”

*lyrics by Robert Herrick*

John Rutter

What sweeter music can we bring,  
than a carol, for to sing  
the birth of this our heavenly King?  
Awake the voice! Awake the string!  
Dark and dull night, fly hence away,  
and give the honour to this day  
that sees December turned to May.  
Why does the chilling winter's morn  
smile, like a field beset with corn?  
Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn  
thus, on the sudden? Come and see  
the cause, why things thus fragrant be:  
'Tis he is born, whose quickening birth  
gives life and lustre, public mirth,  
to heaven, and the under-earth.

We see him come, and know him ours,  
who, with his sunshine and his showers,  
turns all the patient ground to flowers.  
The darling of the world is come,  
and fit it is, we find a room  
to welcome him, to welcome him.  
The nobler part,  
of all the house here, is the heart,  
which we will give him; and bequeath  
this holly, and this ivy wreath,  
to do him honour; who's our King,  
and Lord of all this reveling.  
(What sweeter music can we bring,  
than a carol, for to sing  
the birth of this our heavenly King?)

**Presentation Hymn 96** (verse 1)

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

*Gloria*

*Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing through the night,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their brave delight.*

*Gloria  
in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria  
in excelsis Deo.*

**The Great Thanksgiving:** Eucharistic Prayer B

p. 367

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

*The Celebrant proceeds:*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

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.

*The Celebrant continues:*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

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

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

***We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that



**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION:**

**Communion Hymn 79:** “O little town of Bethlehem ”

verses 1,2, and 5

*St. Louis*

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

**Communion Solo:** “O Holy Night”

Adolph Adam

**MARIA KHOOBYAR, soprano**

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining;  
it is the night of the dear Savior’s birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,  
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!  
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!  
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!  
O night divine! O night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,  
and in His name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
let all within us praise His holy name.  
Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever!  
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!  
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

*Sung, if needed*

**Communion Anthem:** “Wonder in a Manger”

Dr. Jane Tavernier

*text and music written by DR. JANE TAVERNIER © 2025 for Immanuel*

The shepherds saw him lying in a manger  
With awe and wonder they knelt, their heads bowed low  
The wise men too in joy and supplication  
Laid their gifts before the tiny child  
They knew he loved them, their humble adoration  
Came to embrace eternal joy, salvation  
Alleluia!  
We too are shepherds, seeking that which only Christ,  
Can give to broken hearts, the lost  
His gift of love.  
Come to that manger, and find our God incarnate  
Alleluia!  
Lay your sorrows at his feet, and your trust in His hands  
Eternal life, embodied in that manger  
His gift to us forever and amen!

**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.*

**Carol of Adoration, Hymn 111: “Silent night”**

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

*Stille Nacht*

*Acolytes will assist the congregation in lighting candles during the singing of this hymn.*

**The Christmas Blessing**

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon Him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of His holiness. ***Amen.***

**Recessional Hymn 100 “Joy to the world! the Lord is come”**

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

*Antioch*

**The Dismissal**

Clergy: ***Let us go forth in the name of Christ.***

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

**Postlude: *Christmas selections***

**THE BRASS QUARTET**

## SERVING AT THIS EUCHARIST:

<i>Crucifer:</i>	Charlie Biggs
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Owen Biggs, Grace Wensing
<i>Chalice Bearers:</i>	Suzanne Wilson Heckenberg, the Rev. Jo Ann Murphy, Anne Ritchie
<i>Readers:</i>	Wendy John, Kathryn Tatko
<i>Intercessor:</i>	Dorothy Kellogg
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Brooke Roberts
<i>Musicians:</i>	Dr. Jane Tavernier (organ, Director of Music); Denise Freeland (Assistant Conductor); Soloists: Jonathan Kahn, Maria Khoobyar The Immanuel Choir; <b>THE BRASS QUINTET:</b> Klara Farren, French Horn; Megan Huffman, Trumpet; Austin Nicholas: Bass Trombone; Katelyn Scarlett: Trumpet; James Bartelt, percussion
<i>Flower Guild:</i>	The Immanuel Flower Guild
<i>Ushers:</i>	Steve Brown, Thomas Brown, Doug Henry, Tom Kerns
<i>Audio-Visual:</i>	Tamika Martin, Martin Horne, The Rev. Jan A. Maas
<i>Celebrant:</i>	The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander

## Christmas Greens and Flowers

Tom and Sally Guy Brown	In thanksgiving for grandsons, James, Thomas, and Fenton O'Neil
Hugh and Jan Campbell	In thanksgiving for our grandchildren: Hugh, Matthew, Elizabeth, Claire, Chloe, and Virginia Campbell
Dignity Northern Virginia	In thanksgiving for the many years of kindness of the Immanuel community
Jane Flinn	In memory of Ted Flinn and Blair Jones
Denise Freeland and Paul Smyth	In thanksgiving for our daughter and her family
Kenneth R. Gerhart	In memory of James C. Gerhart and Dorothy Gerhart
The Douglas Henry Family	In thanksgiving for The Immanuel Choir
Doug and Wendy John	In thanksgiving for our grandsons, Ben and Thomas John
Dave and Wendy Lane John	In memory of Wendy's mother, Joyce Faith Kneip
Dorothy Kellogg and David Lindsey	In thanksgiving for our children: Allen and Stephen Kellogg and Susan and Michelle Lindsey
Kevin and Eileen Monnin-Kirby	In thanksgiving for Debbie Kirby
Kathy and David Lloyd	In loving memory of Arlo and Katie Lloyd
The Maas Hicks Family	In memory of Georgia S. Maas
Ann MacNamara	In memory of Lawrence and Margaret MacNamara, Lawrence MacNamara, Jr., and Helen C. Angle
Celia Ochs	In thanksgiving for Daisy LaForce Dreher, and in memory of the Rev. Shelby Ochs Owen
Chris and Meggan Ros	In thanksgiving for Phillips and Lynn-Steven Engelke
Katherine and Brian Young-Smith	In thanksgiving for the lives of Bob and Ann Young, whose love continues
Jim and Laura Snow	In thanksgiving for Kate and Andy; Melinda, Steve, Paul and Jim
Agnes Soos and Rich Rogers	In memory of Coleman and Gizella Soos and Grace Soos Harber
The Whitman Family	In memory of Alvin Fentress and for our Whitman family near and far
Darrell and Leah Wilson	In thanksgiving for our friends and family at Immanuel

*"...and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore,  
and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number,  
whose hope was in the Word made flesh,  
and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we are forever one."*

## Christmas Music Dedications

Randy Alexander	In thanksgiving for Patty, William, Peter and Andrew; and for the fellowship we share at Immanuel; and in memory of Joe and Mildred Alexander and Ed and Dorothy Phanuef
Anthony Christino and Adrienne Goins	In thanksgiving for our daughters, Martha and Ruth; and in memory of Ruth Turner Parrott Gibson
The Christoffersen Family	In memory of Becky Cotton Christoffersen
Denise Freeland and Paul Smyth	In thanksgiving for Jane Tavernier and the Immanuel Choir
Kenneth R. Gerhart	In memory of James C. and Dorothy Gerhart
The Douglas Henry Family	In memory of Mary Ellen Henry
Doug and Wendy John	In thanksgiving for our granddaughters, Cora and Scarlett John
Dave and Wendy Lane John	In memory of Wendy's father, Stephen Condrey
Dorothy Kellogg and David Lindsey	In gratitude for a family of musicians: Jim Kellogg, Dianne Lindsey, Tommy & Doris Allen, Dorothy McIntosh, and Charlotte Kellogg
Tom and Roz Kerns	In thanksgiving for our family and this wonderful church community
Kevin and Eileen Kirby	In memory of Joseph Louis Kirby
Father Jan Maas and Katherine Maas	In honor of Caroline Maas Hicks
Ken and Mia Mason	In thanksgiving for Anna, Lizzy, Steven, Jackson, and Mason
Mary Ann Rehnke	In memory of Charles O. Willis
Rich Rogers and Agnes Soos	In memory of Richard M. Rogers
Chris and Meggan Ros	In thanksgiving for Juan and Odile Ros; In memory of Carmen Ros
Katherine and Brian Young-Smith	In thanksgiving for the lives of John and Eleanor Smith, whose love continues
Rosi Urbine	In memory of Tony and Frances Urbine
Chris von Schoening	In memory of Maria von Braun and Alexis von Schoening
The Whitman Family	In memory of Alvin Fentress
Darrell and Leah Wilson	In memory of Stanley K. Twaddle, Darrell K. Wilson, and James A. Adrian

# IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

## Parish Notes

### December 24, 2025

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**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 for our 10:00 a.m. Eucharist.

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

**PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS:** Ann MacNamara, 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, Hugh Campbell, Jane, the Jim and Lisa Clausen Family, John Richards, Joseph, Kenny, Mary Jane Ruhl, Nancy Bishop, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Norma Taliaferro, Rollin Huntington, Susan Montague, Thom Hussey, Tom and Martha Shimkin, 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, Bridget Rice Rose, Caleb Lusk, Carol Ording, Charlotte Kellogg, Cicely, Donna Becker, George Rustigian, Gerry and Nan Hardison, the Rev. Harry Benjamin, the Howerton Family, Hudson Milligan, Jack Allen, Jackson Sirhal, Jean Couban, Jodi Wilson, Joe Micelli, the Rev. John Hogg, Joseph and Elaine Kelly, Judi Rhodes, Leea Gorman, Lilly Pinner, Louise Jackson, Lysbeth, Marcia Richardson, Margie Lidoff, Marie, Mary Horner, Mary Muniz, Marty Childs, Matt, McQuade Milligan, Melvyn and Stacy, Michael, Paul, Peter Blackledge, Rosemary Wensing, Russ, Sofia, Soundary Dilan, Stacey, Stephen Miller, Stephen Spurlock, Susan Little, Thomas Henry, Tim Williams, Tony, Val, Wesley Johnson, and Winnie Kidd.

**Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week:** Jason Donahue, Tim Gildersleeve, Debbie Hewson, Carol Crossmire, Amy Parks, and Drew Parks.

**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:** Alex Perez, and victims of the Brown University/Brookline, MA shooting now identified: Ella Cobbs Cook, Mukhammad Aziz Umurzokov, and Nuno F.G. Loureiro. *Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

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***Wednesday Quiet Prayer* at Immanuel and the Seminary Continues Wednesdays 5:15 - 6:00 p.m., beginning January 7<sup>th</sup>:** Clergy and congregational members of Immanuel share silent prayer time together on Wednesday evenings, with ordinands and faculty members from VTS, 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 responding to several requests to make this practice a weekly option for our parish(es) and the Seminary. 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.

# Announcements

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## WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

*All are welcome to participate*

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Compline will Resume Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 8:30 p.m, online via Zoom

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Morning Prayer Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m., Zabriskie Chapel

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Weekly Bible Study: “*The Gospel of John*” will Resume Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup>  
@10:30 a.m. online via Zoom.

*Look for login details in your weekly eBlast email.*

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## WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORLD with *The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs* *Will resume January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

Join Sarah next year for fellowship **Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>** from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Alexandria Pastry Shop, Bradlee Shopping Center on King Street. **All are welcome!**



## SIGN-UP TO SERVE IN OUR WORSHIP

Sign-up to Serve in our Sunday Services *through February 2026* ONLINE by visiting the landing page of our website at [ICOH.net](http://ICOH.net) and clicking our **Red Sign Up 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 only a Sunday or two**. Training for all lay ministries available upon request. **THANK YOU for your participation!**



## COME JOIN US ON THE IMMANUEL BUS TO RICHMOND WITH THE INTERFAITH CENTER, WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21

For the past several years, the Social Justice committee has joined with other Immanuelites for a stimulating and fun bus trip and day in Richmond to meet with our representatives, learn about the Virginia legislative process, and advocate – with Vestry concurrence – on behalf of Immanuel on one or two issues important to our faith.



This year, we will be following up on further legislative action regarding higher education opportunities in Virginia's prisons and easing zoning restrictions on those Virginia churches that want to use part of their property for affordable housing.

The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy is the overall sponsor of this exciting day. For more information, or to make sure you have a place on the bus, please talk to [Kathryn Haskin](#), [Jamie Conrad](#), or [Julie Bruns](#); registration is required (see QR code at left), and we can defray the fee for anyone who requests it. Lunch will be provided.

## Creation Care Tips: *Is Your Wrapping Paper Recyclable?*

Be mindful of our planet this Christmas season and choose gift wrap that can be recycled or is made from recycled content. A lot of gift wrap isn't recyclable because of the coating on the paper, which is often shiny and laminated. You can also reduce holiday waste by using decorative boxes that do not require wrapping and that can be recycled.

The Environmental Protection Agency encourages consumers to reuse gift bags and tissue wrapping paper, and not discard them after a single use. While tissue wrapping paper is not recyclable, it is compostable as long as it is plain and free of glitter or metallic foil.

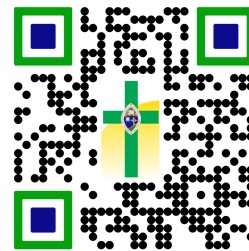
If you find yourself accumulating more tissue wrapping paper than you need or can store, here are some creative ways to reuse it by crafting gifts: <https://modpodgerocksblog.com/crafts-with-tissue-paper/>

Questions? Contact Denise Freeland: [eco.voce@verizon.net](mailto:eco.voce@verizon.net).



### To our Every Member Pledge Campaign Donors: *Thank you*

Thank you to all who have made a financial commitment to support our parish — vital to the life of this institution. If you have not yet made your pledge, please consider doing so promptly. You may return the pledge card that was mailed to you, pledge by scanning the QR code at right, or pledge through [our website](#), by clicking the "Pledge Here" button.



## Immanuel's Creation Care Ministry: HONORING GOD'S CREATION

Did you know that Immanuel has a Creation Care Ministry website? As people of faith who care deeply about our planet home, the Creation Care Ministry Team seeks to build climate literacy so we can take meaningful actions at home and in our church. We learn about and adopt ways to reduce our climate impact and live more gently on the Earth.



You can access the website by scanning the QR code at left, or from the Immanuel Website, you go across the top of the homepage to Serve. Click it and the drop down menu shows the Creation Care Ministry link which you will select.

If you would like more information about this Ministry Team and its upcoming projects, please contact: Denise Freeland, [eco.voce@verizon.net](mailto:eco.voce@verizon.net).

## Schedule Changing in the New Year? Consider Ways to Help ALIVE!

As mentioned in our weekly eBlast, Immanuel rose to the occasion for our inaugural diaper/wipe/formula drive. We thank all who contributed to our total of 380 pounds of needed diapers, wipes and formula last month.

Now more than every, ALIVE! Can use your help. Consider becoming a volunteer — or donating — by scanning the QR code at right or visit <https://qrco.de/bgX7Sd>. Thank you.



### *Vestry News:*

- The Election Committee has commenced the nomination process for new Vestry members.
- The next Vestry meeting is January 13, which will include approval of the 2026 budget.
- The annual meeting of Immanuel Parish will be held on Sunday, February 1, in Zabriskie Parish Hall, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist. Please plan to attend in person so we can meet the quorum needed for electing new Vestry members.



## ***MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Monthly Saturday Breakfast Bible Study Resumes***

***SATURDAY, JANUARY 17<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 AM,***

***Held Online via Microsoft Teams***

Join Immanuel's final monthly Saturday morning Breakfast Bible Study for 2025 on **Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>** 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. using the African Model of Reflection. For more information, please visit our webpage "Breakfast Bible Study", or contact Chrissie Crosby at [cmcfaddencrosby@gmail.com](mailto:cmcfaddencrosby@gmail.com).

Look for our new theme for 2026 and scripture reading for January in your weekly eBlast!



## **BEWARE of Questionable Emails without "ICOH.net" Extensions**

Immanuelites, cyber criminals are at in again; we've received several attempts to compromise our security with phishing emails posing as parishioners (by name) and as Father Randy under fake accounts.

Should you receive a request for any information on Immanuel that doesn't come from the icoh.net extension, please do not hesitate to forward it to Aleta at [apowell@icoh.net](mailto:apowell@icoh.net) for verification.

Let's remember to keep everyone involved and affected by these cyber attempts in prayer.

**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  
 Mina Sultani ..... Nursery Director  
 Miguelina “Mimi” Guzmann ..... Hospitality 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. 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](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**

3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304  
 Telephone: 703•370•6555, Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

[ICOH.net](http://ICOH.net)



**Ways to GIVE**