

# Immanuel's Lighted Path

EASTER 2023



**April 2, 2023**

*Palm Sunday*

**11:00 AM Worship Service**



**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**April 6, 2023**

**Potluck Dinner  
&  
Service**

**Dinner: 6pm**

Bring your favorite side dish to share

**Service: 7pm**



**GOOD FRIDAY**

**April 7, 2023**

**Service  
&  
Prayer Stations**

**Service: 12pm**  
**Prayer Stations: 1pm-12am**



**HE IS RISEN**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**April 9, 2023**

**Sunrise Service: 7am**

Outside (weather permitting)  
Breakfast To Follow

**Traditional Worship: 11am**

## Easter Flower Dedications & Drop-Off



Have your dedications to Sue Clark for inclusion in the bulletin by Thursday, April 6th.  
You can email the information to [sclark@udel.edu](mailto:sclark@udel.edu).

Please bring flowers to the church between 10am-12pm on Saturday April 8th.



## *From The Pastor's Desk*

*This is quite a week for followers of Christ. This week in Jesus is in or around the Holy City of Jerusalem. The end is near. According to Matthew's gospel, everything happened to fulfill the Old Testament prophecy. Because of the event of this week, we have salvation.*

### **Palm Sunday**

*Things are supposed to happen a certain way. In our country on January 20, every four years we have an inauguration to swear in a new president, complete with a parade and all. There must be a parade when the King of Kings enters the city. Jesus and his followers were modest folks. But they recognized the need for a procession. Several of the Psalms are based on people singing praises as a king enters the city triumphantly. They waved palm branches because they were readily available. This king is different, he is humble and rides on a symbol of peace; not as a conquering King riding on a horse. The people sing Hosanna. God save us. Jesus comes to bring salvation.*

### **(Maundy) Holy Thursday**

*Jesus wanted to have dinner with his disciples to get them ready for the event yet to unfold. First, there was the celebration of the Passover. Jesus wants this night to be a special time for his followers. According to John's gospel, Jesus has a lot to say. On this night was the institution of the Lord's Supper. The ancient Passover of God's salvation of Israel from Pharaoh is redefined. We are to focus on the body and blood of Christ that provides salvation for all mankind. Jesus said, as often as you gather for this sacred meal, remember me. Remember the price that was paid for your salvation. A lot happened that night. John dedicates chapters 13-17 to Jesus' long-winded speech. Peter's time was about togetherness, love, humility, and the coming of the Holy Spirit. A lot happened that night. Jesus was, betrayed, denied, abandoned, arrested, mis-tried, and falsely convicted.*

### **Good Friday**

*Jesus foretold this to his disciples and they did not accept it. Jesus was their savior and the great hope for the world. His crucifixion did not make sense to them. Jesus died. They placed him in a borrowed tomb. Because the Sabbath was approaching they had to wait. This is time in which we wait in the dark. The dark night of the soul. Just because we don't feel him does not mean God is not there.*

### **Easter**

*On Easter we celebrate Triumph over sin and death. Because he lives, truth lives, hope endures, love triumphs, and virtue is justified. Because he lives, integrity is legitimated, honesty has overcome, and righteousness is proven. Because he lives, holiness is real, salvation has come, grace is all-sufficient. Therefore if anyone be in Christ... Because He lives I can face tomorrow, all fear is gone. I know he holds the future and life is worth the living just because he lives.*

*Rev. Grant L. Johnson  
Pastor*



## **Palm Sunday April 2**

### **11am Worship Service**

On Palm Sunday we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the week before his death and resurrection. It marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes on Easter Sunday.



## **Good Friday April 7**

### **12pm Worship Service**

We will be having a short service of reflection as we kick-off the Good Friday Prayer Stations.

### **1pm-12am- Prayer Vigil Stations**

Throughout the years, Christians have experienced a powerful and moving commemoration of our Savior's death by attending Good Friday Prayer Vigils. At Immanuel, our Good Friday Prayer Station Vigil is from 1:00pm Friday, April 7th to 12:00am Saturday, April 8th. We ask participants to sign up for a 30-minute time slot. During this time, you can use the prayer stations to pray, reflect, read scripture and complete the station's activity. Plan now to set aside some time on Good Friday to commemorate Christ's redeeming act. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary or visit [immanueltownsend.com](http://immanueltownsend.com) to grab your spot.



## **Maundy Thursday Dinner & Service April 6**

### **6pm- Covered Dish Dinner**

Bring your favorite side dish to share as we gather to eat together before our Maundy Thursday service.

### **7pm- Service**

Join with us in celebrating the last supper of Jesus in preparation for Good Friday and the Easter celebration.



## **Easter Sunday April 9**

### **7am Sunrise Service**

Join us for an outdoor worship experience as we celebrate the morning when Jesus conquered the grave.

*Breakfast To Follow- provided by UMW*

### **11am Traditional Service**

A traditional Resurrection Celebration service will be held. Bring your family to celebrate the Holiest Day of the Year.



# CAT'S MEOW VILLAGE FUNDRAISER

The Cat's Meow® Village are wooden gifts and keepsakes created to represent the special places and times in our lives.

Available for purchase, Immanuel Church replica and a replica of one of our beautiful stained glass windows, created by the Cat's Meow company on a wooden image.

## \$25.00 Each

Purchase During Sunday  
Service Or Online at  
[immanueltownsend.com/cat](http://immanueltownsend.com/cat)



## IMMANUEL TO BE A PART OF PATHWAYS PROGRAM

Our Annual Conference is offering a program called Vital Pathways designed to assist churches in organizing more effectively you fulfill its mission. For the coming year we will work with a guide to help us. The church recently did a survey called Readiness 360 which assess the church based on values and activities, or D.N.A.

Readiness 360 assesses four capacities for a thriving ministry. Spiritual intensity, dynamic relationships, missional alignment, and cultural openness. We thank the members of the church who did the online survey so we can understand what is needed to move forward.

Stay tuned! More to. Come.



## SAVE THE DATE!

Immanuel Community Yard Sale  
May 6, 2023  
More Details Coming Soon!





For the last several months, the lessons in WOW have been about Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. We have learned about the Beatitudes, Salt and Light, Anger, Love, and Love Your Enemies among other topics. Since the beginning of Lent a few weeks ago, we also have been discussing the importance and meaning of Lent. We have rocks with various "Lenten" words on them and each week the students pick a word to focus on that week. So far, the words have been Prayer, Gratitude and Forgiveness. The Rocks are placed in our Lenten scene that has sand in it to represent the desert where Jesus spent 40 days, hearts to represent Jesus love for us and crosses to represent Jesus sacrifice. There also is a cross and a crown of thorns in the scene. In addition to the lessons, the kids have time to do a craft that is connected to the story or to Lent or both. Devin and Kailyn Biggs are staffing the nursery for preschool children and are doing a terrific job. We welcome new children at any time to nursery or WOW.



# Confirmation Sunday

## APRIL 30, 2023

Join us during our 11am worship service to witness and affirm our youth at a special moment in their spiritual journey as they are Confirmed in the church. Stay after for a small reception with cake, coffee and punch.



# CHOIR NOTES



This Easter we want to fill the Choir Loft with voices! Our Easter selection will be 'Up from the Grave He Arose'. If you're interested in lending your voice for this special Easter Choir please, let Debbie Edwards know.



The trustees have several spring projects planned. They include painting the door to Fellowship Hall, painting around the front windows, repointing the bricks on one of the chimneys and the front sign, and refreshing the landscaping around the front of the church. We recently replaced the thermostat in Fellowship Hall to prevent the users of the hall from putting it on hold which was wasting fuel. All the bulbs in the sanctuary have been replaced with LED bulbs and the old electrical outlets have been replaced. We have a meeting scheduled with representatives of the Townsend Cemetery Committee to discuss the ownership of the cemetery and future plans for the cemetery. A Little Library which is an Eagle Scout project has been approved and should begin soon. This will be built on the South Street side of the church near the entrance to Fellowship Hall.



### **Givelify**

Download Givelify for free from your phone's app store (Google Play or the iPhone App Store). Search for Immanuel United Methodist Church on the app using either the map or search engine, then tap the heart next to "My Place of Worship" or "Make Home Church" (depending on your phone). This will prompt you to create a personal giving account using your email address



### **Paypal**

As a convenience we now offer online giving for both recurring and one-time donations through Paypal. Click the donate button and you will be directed to a secure PayPal website where you may specify the amount of your donation.

### **Online Bill Pay**

Most banks offer a free feature called online bill pay. If you want to give electronically, this is often the easiest way without additional fees. Add "Immanuel United Methodist Church" as a payee, indicate how often you would like to send a check, and the rest is done for you!

