



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



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**THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**September 17, 2023**

**Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:30 a.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.*

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**Prelude:** Andante

César Franck

**Processional Hymn 411:** “O bless the Lord my soul”      verses 1-3, and 6

*St. Thomas (Williams)*

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**Opening Acclamation**

p. 355

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

People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

**The Collect for Purity**

p. 355

**S102: Trisagion**

*found in the front of The Hymnal 1982*

Alexander Archangelsky

**The Collect for the Day**

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**The Epistle: Romans 14:1-12**

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

### **Psalm 114 *In exitu Israel***

- 1 Hallelujah!  
When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

**Sequence Hymn 516:** "Come down O love divine"

*Down Ampney*

*found in The Hymnal 1982*

### **The Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35**

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

Response: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went

out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Sermon:** The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.

### The Nicene Creed

*We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

*He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

## The Prayers of the People

### Confession of Sin and Absolution

*Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

### The Peace

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

### Welcome and Announcements

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory:** "Hark, I hear the harps eternal"

arr. by Alice Parker

Robert Shaw

### THE IMMANUEL CHOIR

Hark, I hear the harps eternal  
Ringing on the farther shore,  
As I near those swollen waters  
With their deep and solemn roar.

And my soul, tho' stain'd with sorrow,  
Fading as the light of day,  
Passes swiftly o'er those waters,  
To the city far away.

Refrain *Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
Hallelujah, praise the lamb!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
Glory to the great I AM!*

Souls have cross'd before me, saintly,  
To that land of perfect rest;  
And I hear them singing faintly  
In the mansions of the blest.

**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.*

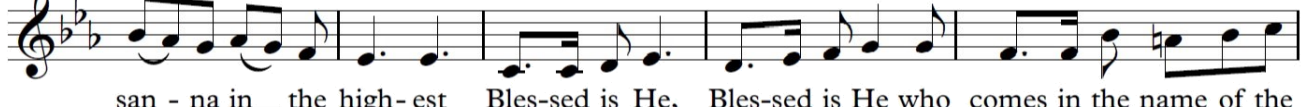
**The Great Thanksgiving:** Eucharistic Prayer B


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.*

14  
  
 Ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly Lord God of pow-er and might Hea-ven and Earth are

19  
  
 filled with your glo-ry, Ho- san - na in\_ the high - est, Ho-san - na Ho- san - na Ho

24  
  
 san - na in\_ the high- est Bles-sed is He, Bles-sed is He who comes in the name of the

29  
  
 Lord\_ Ho- san - na, Ho- san - na, Ho-san - na in\_ the high - est.


The Lord's Prayer


Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us


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

The Breaking of the Bread

Agnus Dei (from A Mass for Immanuel)

34  
  
 Lamb\_ of God,\_\_\_ Lamb\_ of God,\_\_\_ You take\_a- way\_\_\_ the sins of the world\_\_\_

46  
  
 Lamb of God,\_\_\_ Lamb of God,\_\_\_ You take\_ a way\_\_\_ the sins of the world\_

57  
  
 \_ Have mer - cy\_\_\_ Have mer - cy\_\_\_ Have mer - cy\_\_\_ u pon us.

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

*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:** “His voice as the sound of dulcimer sweet”

*Samanthra*

**THE IMMANUEL CHOIR**

His voice as the sound of the dulcimer sweet,  
is heard through the shadows of death;  
The cedars of Lebanon bow at His feet,  
the air is perfumed with His breath.  
His lips as a fountain of righteousness flow,  
that waters the garden of grace,  
From which their salvation the Gentiles shall know,  
and bask in the smile of His face.

O! Thou in whose presence my soul takes delight,  
on whom in affliction I call;  
My comfort by day, and my song in the night,  
my hope, my salvation, my all—  
Where dost Thou at noontide resort with Thy sheep,  
to feed on the pastures of love?  
Say, why in the valley of death should I weep,  
or 'lone in the wilderness rove?

O! why should I wander an alien from Thee,  
and cry in the desert for bread?  
Thy foes will rejoice when my sorrows they see,  
and smile at the tears I have shed.  
Ye daughters of Zion, declare, have you seen  
the star that on Israel shone?  
Say if in your tents my beloved hath been,  
and where, with His flock, is He gone?

“What is thy beloved, thou dignified fair?  
What excellent beauties hath He?  
His charms and perfections be pleased to  
declare, That we may embrace Him with thee.  
This is my beloved, His form is divine;  
His vestments shed odor around;  
the locks on His head are as grapes on the vine,  
when autumn with plenty is crowned.

The roses of Sharon, the lilies that grow,  
in the vales, on the banks of the streams.  
On His cheeks in the beauty of excellence blow;  
His eyes are as quivers of beams.  
His voice as the sound of the dulcimer sweet  
is heard through the shadows of death;  
the cedars of Lebanon bow at His feet,  
the air is perfumed with His breath.

**Hymn 304:** “I come with joy to meet my Lord”

*found in* The Hymnal 1982

*Land of Rest*

**Post Communion Prayer**

p. 365

*Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## The Blessing

Closing Hymn 347: “Go forth for God, go to the world in peace”      *found in* The Hymnal 1982      *Litton*

## The Dismissal

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude: Marche

Alexandre Guilmant

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*The flowers on the Altar are given by Mr. Doug Henry to the glory of God and in loving memory of his late wife, Mary Ellen Henry on the anniversary of their wedding day.*

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**SERVING AT THIS EUCHARIST:**    *Readers:* Doug Onley, Sydney Onley  
  *Musicians:* Dr. Jane Tavernier, organist; The Immanuel Choir  
  *Altar Guild:* Brooke Roberts  
  *Flower Guild:* Linda Serabian  
  *Ushers:* Steve Brown, Agnes Soos  
  *Audio-Visual:* The Rev. Jan A. Maas, Tamika Martin  
  *Celebrant:* The Rev. Susan D. Parsons

## YOU WANT TO GO WHERE EVERYBODY KNOWS YOUR NAME...

If you've been in church lately, you probably noticed some new faces, and maybe even some familiar faces you haven't seen in a while. It's a fact: not only have we been blessed with new parishioners and visitors, but more Immanuelites are returning to regular churchgoing. And one of the best ways we can help each other get acquainted – or reacquainted – is by wearing name badges.

You should be able to find your name badge in one of the alphabetically-arranged storage trays in either Narthex. **Please wear your name badge to church worship and activities!** You can feel free to replace it in the tray where it won't get lost between visits.

If you don't see your name, please fill out a "Request Name Badge" form (they're next to the name badge trays) and we will prepare a new name badge for you and place it in the tray.



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## REPORT TO PARISH

The Immanuel Spiritual Retreat Committee thanks parishioners for responding to the survey they issued this summer which has provided a better understanding about how to support the spiritual needs of our congregation.

Because some parishioners have family or work responsibilities that prevent them from devoting a full weekend to a spiritual retreat, the committee will try to schedule a half day program on a Saturday this coming spring in Alexandria on a spiritual topic rather than provide two weekend retreats.

In planning for future retreats, the committee would strive to avoid the busy Advent season as well as the weeks before Easter. For parishioners involved in choir or altar guild, these are periods when they need to be at church on Sunday mornings rather than on a retreat. Unfortunately, the date of the upcoming Advent Retreat led by the Rev. Ruthanna Hooke scheduled for December 8-10 at Holy Cross Abbey cannot be changed.

It was helpful to learn that being in a beautiful natural setting, having time to focus on one's spiritual life, learning from the guidance of the retreat leader, and stepping away from the stresses of daily life were elements of a retreat that attracted those who participated in them.

Survey respondents encouraged the committee to provide more information about the schedule for a retreat and have past participants share some of the benefits of retreats with the congregation.

Immanuel Spiritual Retreat Committee:

*Amy Thomas*

*Mark Fearer*

*Becky McCann*

*Katherine Maas*

*Mary Ann Rehnke*



# IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

## Parish Notes

### September 17, 2023

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#### **IN THE NAME OF 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 pew card — located in display stands at entrances of the chapels — and give it 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:** Brad and Melinda Ashton, David Atwood, Edith, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Ann and Rollin Huntington, Frances Johnson, Hal Johnson, Joseph, Kenny, Ann MacNamara, Cynthia Morton, Linda and Cy Murphy, Everett Post, Tony Rogers, Catherine Sinclair, John Smucker, Norma Taliaferro, Betty Wanamaker, and Francine Wargo.

**PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** Jack Allen, Kathryn Anschutz, Felicia Balzano, Bogumil Knypinski, Dave and Betsy Fox Berry, Jean Couban, Steve Davis, Joseph Fabian, Cathy Fick, Linda Gill, Betty Harris, Betty Hicks, Louise Jackson, Peter and Joanne, John, Katja, Tom Kellner, Charlotte Kellogg, Joseph and Elaine Kelly, Winnie Kidd, Marcia MacDonald, Joe Miceli, Stephen Miller, McQuade Milligan, Candy Morgan, Mary Muniz, Shelby Ochs Owen, Paul, Lilly Pinner, Sarah Pollach, Jennie Rae, Michael Rathsack, Rebecca, Jim Rehnke, Sue Rehnke, Larry Rhoades, Roger, George Rustigian, Jim Sanford, Brian Tolson, Fred Vipperman, Mark Vipperman, Rosemary Wensing, Ryan Willis, and Richard Zitelli.

**Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week:** Tracey Friday, Ryan McCann, Kate Snow, Ginny Johnstone, Wilton Corkern, the Very Rev. Ian S. Markham Ph.D, Kathryne Gould, Frances Johnson, Jimmy Moore, Alan Becker, Celia Ochs, Rachel Becker, Peter Beckmann, Clay Burke, Grayson Yates, Bill Kerekes, Lorelai Low, and Benjamin Richter.

**Serving around the world:** Noah Barker, Ian Phillips, Todd Bates, Jason Osborne, Michael Hussey, and Jonathan, Nicole, Alina and Nolan Anderson, and Scott.

**Those who have died:** Robert Knott, son-in-law of Ginny Johnstone. *Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.*

#### **EYC and CYF Meet –n- Greet *TODAY* at 10 AM, Parish Hall**

Attention all parishioners interested in Episcopal Youth Community and Children, Youth, and Family Ministries! We are hosting our first meet and greet coffee hour with Rev. Sarah!

When? This Sunday after the 9:00a.m. Eucharist.

Where? In our parish hall.

Why? Because our families need the love and connection of this sacred community.

We want to hear from you and have news to share of upcoming events—so we hope you can make it!

# Announcements

## WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Morning Prayer, Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, Zabriskie Chapel

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**Wednesday Evening Eucharist September 20<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m., Zabriskie Chapel**

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**Bible Study “*The Gospel of Matthew: Book of the Messiah*”, Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> @10:30 a.m. online via Zoom. Look for login details in your weekly eBlast email.**

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Evening Compline, Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8:30 p.m., Online via Zoom

## Immanuel’s New SUNDAY Worship Schedule

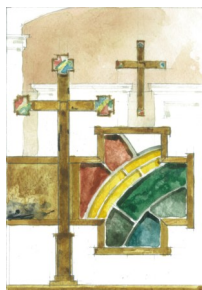
***Beginning TODAY Sunday, September 17, 2023***

8:00 AM | Holy Eucharist Rite I, a contemplative service without music, Zabriskie Chapel

9:00 AM | Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with choir and nursery care, Zabriskie Chapel

10:30 AM | Holy Eucharist Rite II, with choir and nursery care, Immanuel Chapel

Feast Days, Sunday School, Forums, and Coffee Hours as announced



### Weekday Worship Schedule

Wednesday, 6:30 PM | Holy Eucharist Rite II, at Zabriskie Chapel

Tuesday 10:00 AM | Morning Prayer, at Zabriskie Chapel

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## FUNERAL AND COMMITTAL for **ROBERTA SHAW “BOBBIE” THOMAS**



***Tomorrow, September 18, 2023, ZABRISKIE CHAPEL***

Funeral at **11:00 a.m.**, followed by Committal *in the Memorial Garden,*  
*and Reception in the Parish Hall*

## UPCOMING SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

### **September 20 - THIRD WEDNESDAY LUNCH AT GOODWIN HOUSE ALEXANDRIA:**

Please join us for lively conversation over lunch in the Fillmore Room at Goodwin House Alexandria. We gather at noon on the third Wednesday, which is September 20<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP to Mother Susan at [sparsons@icoh.net](mailto:sparsons@icoh.net).

### **September 26 - FOURTH TUESDAY BROWN BAG LUNCH with Guest Speaker Pierre Shostal:**

Join us in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, September 26, at 12:15 p.m. to hear from fellow parishioner Pierre Shostal about his experience ministering to refugees here in Alexandria. Pierre works with other Immanuel folks in conjunction with the refugee ministry of Christ Church, Alexandria.

Luncheon will begin at 12:15 p.m. in the parish hall and our program will start around 12:30. Don't forget to bring your own sandwich or salad and Senior Ministry will provide beverages and dessert. There is no cost for this event and no reservation is required.

## UPCOMING FORUM HOURS

*Join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Zabriskie Parish Hall for each of the following special Forum Hours below:*

### **FORUM HOUR WITH DEAN IAN MARKHAM NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH**

The Very Rev. Ian S. Markham, Ph.D, Dean and President of Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS) since August 2007, will host a special forum hour next Sunday, September 24, 10:00 a.m., in the parish hall.

All are encouraged to attend.



### **FORUM HOUR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup> *Understanding Opioids & How We Can All Help***

As you've undoubtedly heard in the news, the opioid epidemic poses a significant threat to public health, nationally and locally. Join us to hear from guest speaker Emily Bentley, LPC. Ms. Bentley serves as the City of Alexandria's **Opioid Response Coordinator** and is in charge of the Alexandria Opioid Work Group. This position was created in 2019 to lead the City's response to the local effects of the national opioid epidemic.

Our parish stewardship theme for 2023 is Rooted and Grounded in Love and Community. What a relevant way to demonstrate our love for others as we learn about the multi-dimensional approach to attacking the opioid crisis in Alexandria.

**EASY WAY TO SIGN UP: SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2023**  
**Sign up to Serve in our Sunday Services ONLINE**  
**via Our New SignUp Genius Button**

Would you like to serve as a lay minister? If so, please sign up to serve as a Reader, Intercessor, Usher, Acolyte, Altar Guild, Crucifer and/or Chalice Bearer online via [SignUp Genius](#) for Immanuel by visiting the landing page of our website at [www.ICOH.net](http://www.ICOH.net) and [clicking on the red button at right.](#)



If you are a first-timer and need training, please contact Agnes at the office on **Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.** (ext. #206), or via email at [asoos@icoh.net](mailto:asoos@icoh.net). Finally, if you need training for a particular ministry, please send a request to [sparsons@icoh.net](mailto:sparsons@icoh.net) or indicate so next to your name on the sheet. Thank you!

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**COME LISTEN TO EACH OTHER AS CHRISTIANS BURDENED BY THE ISSUES  
OF **VIOLENCE, GUN SAFETY, AND MENTAL ILLNESS****

***A request for those planning to attend the October 3 session on violence, gun safety, mental illness and loneliness:*** All are welcome and invited to participate in the next listening session on these issues, which can be difficult, sensitive, and divisive. Our July and August sessions demonstrated some consensus that a) so many of us are feeling burdened, sorrowful, helpless, fearful, and angry, but also know that God is with us as we carry these burdens; and b) Immanuel could be a place where we can speak from the heart and seek common ground – rooted in our common faith – to understand and respect each other and search for appropriate responses as a believing community.

We urge and strongly request that if you are planning to attend the session at 7:00 PM October 3 in the Fairchild Room that you:

- Arrive on time, in order to *participate in the opening prayer and ground rules* for listening.
- Prior to October 3, spend some *time in discernment and prayer* seeking guidance on common responses we together might make across our differing perspectives.

We don't know what to do, what the role of a church is in the face of this kind of protracted crisis, but we do know that we are to listen when we hear the Lord tugging at our hearts even as our perspectives on these issues vary widely and as we seek responses as a community. Explore with us what we as followers of Jesus may be called to do in the face of crisis, pain and evil.

The session is Tuesday, October 3 (7:00-8:30) in the Fairchild Room. For questions, concerns, or further information, please talk to [David Atwood](#), [Sanjiv Augustine](#), or Father Randy.

## AN ADVENT RETREAT WITH THOMAS MERTON

Holy Cross Abbey, Berryville, Virginia  
December 8-10, 2023

The Rev. Dr. Ruthanna Hooke, Retreat Leader



In the season of Advent, we await the coming of the Christ child, who is Immanuel, God with us. This waiting time of Advent is a time of longing, a time to connect more deeply with our desire for God and God's desire for us. Thomas Merton, a Cistercian monk and one of the great mystics and contemplatives of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, is a fruitful companion for those who feel this longing. Merton's writings about such topics as finding the true self, developing contemplative prayer practices in an active world, and discerning the presence of God in everyday life continue to inspire and guide those seeking to know and love God more fully.

This retreat will be held at Holy Cross Abbey, a Cistercian monastery in Berryville, Virginia, a fitting place to spend some time with Merton's wisdom. The retreat will include times for rest, contemplation, silence, and fellowship. If you are desiring a closer relationship with God this Advent season, please join us!

The retreat will be led by the Rev. Dr. Ruthanna Hooke, Priest Associate of Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill and Professor of Preaching at Virginia Theological Seminary. She is the author of *Transforming Preaching*, and she is currently working on *Real Presence: Preaching as Embodied Event*. We are pleased that a priest who is so familiar with Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill and her parishioners will be guiding us through the retreat.

Our retreat will begin Friday afternoon, December 8, shortly before the evening meal and will end after the noon meal on Sunday, December 10. The retreat will be at Holy Cross Abbey, Berryville, Virginia, which is an hour and fifteen-minute drive from our church on a one thousand acre farm by the Shenandoah River at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains. For more information on the monastery, see their website <https://www.virginiatrappists.org/about/>.

The \$350.00 registration fee includes all materials, comfortable accommodations, individual rooms each with a bathroom, and all meals. **Following Holy Cross Abbey policy, we may not be able to accommodate retreat reservations received after November 10.**

Two scholarships given in memory of Charles Willis are available; please contact the rector for scholarship assistance. If you receive a scholarship, please complete a registration form and indicate that you have a scholarship.

Registration is limited to 15 persons; please reserve your space using the form in the bulletin or on the Immanuel, [www.ICOH.net](http://www.ICOH.net). If you have questions about retreat logistics, please contact Mary Ann Rehnke, [mfrb2695@gmail.com](mailto:mfrb2695@gmail.com). Participants needing a ride to the Abbey or those wishing to volunteer to provide a ride may contact the retreat carpooling coordinator, Katherine Maas, [katherinemaas@gmail.com](mailto:katherinemaas@gmail.com).

**Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill  
Advent Retreat  
Holy Cross Abbey Retreat House  
December 8-10, 2023**

**First person registering for retreat**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Second person registering for retreat**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

Number of registrants \_\_\_\_\_ x \$350 = \_\_\_\_\_ Total registration fee

Please make check payable to Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill and write Advent Retreat on the check. Return this form and your check to the Immanuel Church office, 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22304 by **Wednesday, November 1**. Please put Advent retreat on the envelope.

If you need to cancel your registration and there is no one on the waiting list who can take your place, Holy Cross Abbey retains the \$75.00 per room deposit. All but \$75.00 of your registration fee would be returned to you.

## Immanuel Outreach and the PUMPKIN PATCH'S 30<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

Fall at Immanuel is synonymous with the Pumpkin Patch, now in our 30<sup>th</sup> year. No other activity in the Parish involves so many people contributing so much effort in so many ways. For many of us, it is a month-long enterprise that leaves us tired but happy by Halloween. So, in anticipation of the work ahead, perhaps it's appropriate to remind ourselves that these efforts are all about Outreach.

Outreach is how we act on our faith in our daily lives – it's the money we contribute to others, it's the hours of volunteer service, and it's the people and worthwhile projects that we enable. At Immanuel, Outreach isn't just a category of activities - it's how we try to live our lives individually and collectively. As a faith community working together, Outreach is a force multiplier of good works. We see it in the hours of cooking and serving meals at Carpenter's Shelter and Christ House or the volunteers at ALIVE or in refugee ministries and in so many other ways.

Since the year 2000, when we first started keeping detailed records, we have raised \$1,225,473 from the Pumpkin Patch, all of which has gone to Outreach.

These pumpkin proceeds have enabled us to do the Lord's work in a wide array of ministries. For example, proceeds from last year (2022) amounted to \$96,000 and helped us support 14 local Alexandria charities, 5 regional charities, and 6 international charities. Included were local grants to ALIVE!, Carpenter's Shelter, Community Lodgings, Culmore Clinic, and Refugee Ministries. Among many things, Outreach funds help support our efforts to aid the homeless, restore dignity to offenders, assist refugees, and aid impoverished children in Haiti and Africa. Usually, some Outreach funds are held in reserve to respond to emergency needs.

Outreach at Immanuel is also about giving every parishioner the opportunity and encouragement to become involved. The Outreach Committee wants to follow where parishioners lead; an important criterion for funding any charity is direct parishioner involvement. Any parishioner can participate in the Outreach Committee.

Pumpkin proceeds are divided 60/40 between the consignor of the pumpkins and Immanuel Church (we keep 100% from the sale of food and crafts). The consignor of the pumpkins supports Navajo farmers who grow the pumpkins on Navajo Nation lands in Farmington, New Mexico. When you think about it, so much good comes from a simple pumpkin. A pumpkin delights a child, a family, a school group; they get painted and bobbed for and carved. God grows a pumpkin, and everyone benefits.

We need a lot of volunteers for the Patch this October. There's a job available for everyone from making soups, baking tasty treats, making crafts to sell, to manning the sales tables. PLEASE GO TO [www.ICOH.net](http://www.ICOH.net) AND USE THE SIGNUP GENIUS TO VOLUNTEER. Our first two pumpkin trucks arrive Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.

*See you at the Patch!*

### Parish Directory Print Copies Available by Request

Do you need a printed copy of Immanuel's Parish Directory? Aleta updated it on Friday, so feel free to send her an email at [apowell@icoh.net](mailto:apowell@icoh.net) with "Directory" in the subject line and she'll make sure you receive one. In addition, you can drop-off your old copies outside of the parish office and she'll shred them for you. Finally, if you don't have internet access, you can leave her a voicemail on extension x200.

**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  
 Reggie Hayes (r.hayes9@me.com) ..... Postulant Intern  
 Dr. Jane Tavernier (jtavernier@icoh.net) ..... Director of Music  
 Tom Hewson (thewson@icoh.net) ..... Treasurer  
 Sughra Bakhtiari (sbakhtiari@icoh.net) ..... Bookkeeper  
 Aleta Y. Powell (apowell@icoh.net) ..... Parish Administrator  
 Tamika Martin (tmartin@icoh.net) ..... Audio Visual Technician  
 Gilma Balcarcel ..... Nursery Coordinator  
 Stuart Dahlinger ..... Sexton

**THE VESTRY**

Kristi Kubista-Hovis ..... Senior Warden  
 Gerry Anderson ..... Junior Warden: Building and Grounds, Creation Care  
 Peter Kent ..... Junior Warden: Administration  
 Amy Thomas ..... Adult Formation and Discipleship  
 Brad Ashton ..... Stewardship and Planned Giving  
 Mollie Lambert ..... Outreach  
 Kathy Lloyd ..... Senior Ministry  
 Kristi Kubista-Hovis and Kathy Lloyd ..... Children Youth and Family Ministries  
 Julie Bruns ..... Pastoral Care  
 David Atwood ..... Social Justice  
 Taylor Houck ..... Communications  
 Caroline Bergmark ..... Evangelism and Newcomers  
 Matt Haskin ..... Worship  
 Caroline Bergmark and Taylor Houck ..... Fellowship  
 Sydney Onley ..... Youth Representative (nonvoting member)  
 Caroline Bergmark ..... Registrar

**SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel  
 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, 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. J. Barney Hawkins, IV  
 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, Fax: 703-370-0837

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



SCAN ME