Friends,

God made each of us as complex mixtures of body, mind, and spirit. Our spirits are touched through prayer and silence. Our minds are awakened and expanded by God. And God moves through our bodies. God meets us in the mystery of our senses as we see, smell, hear, taste, and touch. This is one reason that worship at Immanuel engages all the senses.

As we approach Palm Sunday – the beginning of Holy Week, we will have a chance to do this in special and significant ways that only happen during this sacred season. Through Holy Week, we reenact, relive, and participate in the passion of Jesus Christ and we are reminded that while we come as individuals from a variety of backgrounds and week-to-week ways of life, our liturgy binds us into one, using words and practices that are many hundreds or even thousands of years old. Sundown on Maundy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday is considered the most solemn part of Holy Week and, in fact, of the liturgical year.

This three-day period is referred to as the Easter Triduum, also known as the Sacred Triduum, or Paschal Triduum.
Basically, the Sacred Triduum (which means the holy three days) is one great festival recounting the last three days of Jesus’ life on earth, the events of his Passion and Resurrection, when the Lamb of God laid down his life for us. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ’s Paschal Mystery.

The 40 days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent is in preparation for the culmination of the Paschal mystery: the Resurrection. Therefore, Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the ‘Feast of feasts’, the ‘Solemnity of solemnities’, just as the Eucharist is the ‘Sacrament of sacraments’. St. Athanasius calls Easter ‘the Great Sunday’ and the Eastern Churches call Holy Week ‘the Great Week’. The mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ crushed death, permeates with its powerful energy our old time, until all is subjected to him.

As we approach Palm Sunday and Holy Week, the Church invites us to use our body, mind and spirit in prayer and worship. On Palm Sunday, like the people of Jerusalem who greeted Jesus’ entry, we stand and wave palms, shouting “hosanna.” On the weekdays of Holy Week, we sit, or kneel in fear with the disciples. On Maundy Thursday, we are invited to contemplation, as representatives of the congregation come forward for the ritual foot washing and we follow Jesus in the way of humility and service. On Good Friday (which is a day of fasting and abstinence), we are invited to venerate the wood of the cross, through which Christ has redeemed the world. At the Easter Vigil and on Easter Day, we stand with joy, are sprinkled with Holy Water, sing Alleluias with gusto, and receive the “medicine of immortality” - the Body and Blood of Christ.

Brothers and sisters, as God brings us through Lent, Holy Week and to a new Eastertide, may we allow the Spirit to animate our bodies, minds and spirits in new ways and with new joy.

In Christ,
Fr. Keene

The Services of Lent, Holy Week & Easter at Immanuel on the Green

Stations of the Cross, Fridays at 7PM

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion, April 14
8AM, Said Holy Eucharist with Distribution of Palms,
10AM, Blessing of Palms and Procession (beginning in the Academy)
   Dialogue Passion and Holy Eucharist
4PM, Choral Evensong, sung by the Immanuel Choir
Monday through Wednesday, April 15-17, 9:30AM
Litany of the Passion, Said Mass

Maundy Thursday, April 18, 7PM
Institution of the Lord’s Supper, Foot Washing, Stripping of the Altar,
Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday, April 19, 7PM
Sung St John Passion, Veneration of the Cross,
Mass of the Pre-sanctified (Communion from the Reserved Sacrament)

Great Vigil of Easter, April 20, 7PM
Lighting of the New Fire, Vigil of Lessons,
Renewal of Baptismal Vows, First Eucharist of Easter

Easter Day, April 21
8AM, Said Holy Eucharist
10AM, Solemn Sung Mass of the Resurrection, with Procession

MUSIC AT IMMANUEL YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

Lent, as everyone knows, is a season of fasting. But when it comes to music, Lent is a feast, offering us the opportunity to savor some of the most expressive and moving sacred music ever written. Here's a sampling of what our choir will be singing in the next few weeks:

Sunday, March 24 will feature the musical masterpiece Sicut Cervus ("As the deer longs for the water-brooks"). This best-loved composition by the 16th century Italian composer Giovanni da Palestrina is an extended musical "sigh" that eloquently expresses our yearning for God.

Sunday, March 31 will be a Choral Mass, in which portions of the Ordinary (fixed texts of the Liturgy) are sung by the choir (in this season of Lent, the Kyrie, Sanctus, and Agnus Dei). The musical setting in Rite I English is by the brilliant 20th-century Scottish composer Kenneth Leighton, whose musical style underpins graceful melodies with a distinctively rugged, dramatic harmonic language. The occasional use of a choral setting of the Mass gives us one more way to experience the richness of our musical heritage as Christians and Anglicans.

Sunday, April 7 the choir will sing the Geistliches Lied ("Spiritual song") of Johannes Brahms, in which moving words of hope and reassurance are set to music of breathtaking lyric beauty, concluding with an expressive, soaring musical "Amen."

Palm Sunday, April 14, the beginning of Holy Week, is also Immanuel’s monthly Choral Evensong at 4pm. The Immanuel Choir will sing service music by William Byrd and Walford Davies, and Anton Bruckner's stirring Passiontide motet, Christus factus est.

But wait--there's more! Every Sunday in Lent brings a wealth of wonderful music to adorn and enrich our common prayer. You won't want to miss any of it!

- Jack Burnam

BREWS AND STEWS
On March 2nd we celebrated Mardi Gras in style at our second (now annual) Stews and Brews potluck supper! Buddy Garrison did his magic as our Brewmaster and treated us to a wonderful ImmanuAle that was served in our very own Immanuel glasses; both bottle and glasses are now collectors items! It was a wonderful evening of fellowship with music, wonderful conversation and delicious dinner fare, thank you to all who attended and brought a dish. We are already looking forward to next year.

- Mary Davis
We Want Your Photos and Ideas!

We're always looking for photos to put in the Curate and the weekly emails. These photos can be of recent events, Immanuelians gathering outside of church, or older events. Whatever you have, we'll take them! Send the photos to the office at immanuelonthegreen@comcast.net. We keep them on file for future use.

We are also looking for story ideas. Send in an article about an event you attended. Or, if you don't want to write an article, send in your ideas for a story for someone else to write. We want to hear from you!
In the past several months the Flower Guild has welcomed and incorporated several new members who expressed interest at the Annual Parish Meeting of 2018.

Having more than doubled our active membership, we have been busy with instruction and hands on training over the past year. Our newest members, who include Barbara Vellrath Valerie Long, Jim Evitts, Michael Westman and eventually Susan Hager, have been working with their mentors (Mark Bacher, Bob Davis and Thomas Tear) week by week since the beginning of last summer.

Over the course of an almost complete liturgical year they will experience the ebb and low of special services as well as the every week by week tasks and obligations of being a member of the Guild. It has been a joy filled experience and full of an increased sense of belonging and service to and in this parish we all love so much. I am proud of their work and of them for offering their abilities and talents in the spirit of increasing stewardship, in which we all are invited to participate.

I also would like to bring attention to the congregation the continual need we have of donors towards this work that we, as a Flower Guild, are engaged in. Did you know that any Sunday /Holy Day is available for memorials/thanksgivings/milestone observances? There are 52 Sundays of any given year and currently we have 24 ‘covered’ as dedicated flower offerings. Please consider availing yourself of this unique opportunity at Immanuel.

We have one of the few active Flower Guilds in this Diocese and are well known for our lovingly and, if I may say, beautifully arranged flowers. Won’t you consider making an offering to God in this most profound and touching way? We take our responsibility very seriously to offer to God our best effort first and, secondly, to be entrusted with the privilege of bringing
these, your memories and prayers for those you love, before Him. Won't you consider a Sunday in the near future? The suggested donation is $45.00.

On behalf of the Flower Guild,
Mark Bacher
FROM THE VESTRY

The Vestry met for its monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 20, and the following topics were discussed:

- A Day in Old New Castle (DIONC) will be May 18. This is our biggest outreach opportunity of the year.
  - Tours will be given of the church, and the bells will be rung. Tour guides and greeters are needed.
  - We will be selling church swag outside the church -- Christmas tree ornaments, mugs, etc. The Vestry also discussed having a bake sale and the participation of church guilds.
  - Volunteering for DIONC is an easy way to share your love and knowledge of Immanuel with the greater community. See Jon Barrett if you'd like to help.
- The annual Parish Picnic will be on June 9, which is also the last day of Sunday school.
- The Vestry will hold its annual retreat this Saturday at the Parish Hall. The theme is Invite, Welcome, Connect (http://www.invitewelcomeconnect.com/menu-2).
- There will be a summer cleanup day for the nursery and church school. Volunteers are needed. More details to follow.
- Thank you again to all who responded to the Stewardship call. Letters will be sent out with conformation to all who increased their pledges. This is an ongoing process so pledges can be increased at any time.

- Geri Krolin-Taylor

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES

New Service Opportunity during Lent on Wednesday, April 17
Friendship House, which is an organization that helps homeless families and individuals in Wilmington and Newark has opportunities for volunteers to bring potluck dinners to serve at Andrews Place, which is located in the basement of Saints Andrew and Matthew Church in Wilmington. Volunteers cook and bring meals (there are no kitchen facilities). We will know how many people we are serving a few days ahead of time to plan how much food to prepare

Immanuel's own Jo Harney has served meals at Friendship House through her job at Christ Church. This is how she described it:

"The shelter has changed its mission somewhat in the past year, serving now as more of a transitional shelter. Men staying there must be working or looking for work and have a plan for moving toward more independence, with the support of Friendship House. This means the numbers are smaller than they once were. We've typically been serving 10-12 people. Sometimes, we pack up plates for men who are arriving later, after work.

The food is brought to the shelter, set up on the counter, and plates are dished up and brought to the men at their tables. We then sit down and eat with them. The tables are for 4 each, so we can usually manage 1 volunteer at each table. Children do best if they sit with their parent and a couple of the residents.

We usually take a main dish, sometimes a starch like rice or potatoes, a salad and/or vegetable, and dessert. Pitchers of water are already on the tables."

There are multiple ways that you and your children can help - you can prepare food to share and/or come to serve. We will arrive around 5:15 and stay until around 6:15. Children under 18 are welcome to participate as well; several of our families are already planning to join us. If you are interested, please reach out to Mara Gorman at maragorman@gmail.com or 302-690-7520.

**Emmanuel Dining Room seeks volunteers for April and May**

Every month volunteers from Immanuel prepare and serve lunch at two Emmanuel Dining Room locations, one on Rogers Road in New Castle and the other at 2nd and Jackson Street in Wilmington. We are seeking volunteers for the following dates (note that one of them is a Saturday);

- Monday, April 15 - Rogers Road
- Thursday, April 18 - Wilmington
- Saturday, May 18 - Wilmington
- Monday, May 20 - Rogers Road

Volunteers must be 18 or older. If you come to help serve, the commitment is from 11:45 until 1 (there is a hard stop at 1, so you will not need to stay any later). Volunteers can also help prepare the food earlier in the morning. If you are interested, please reach out to Mara Gorman at maragorman@gmail.com or 302-690-7520.

**The Food Pantry** is always accepting contributions, the list of current needs has been updated and is as follows:

- Box Mac & Cheese
- Pasta
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Crackers...Ritz or Saltines
- Dry Unsweetened Cereal  Cheerios, Corn Flakes, etc
- Instant Potatoes
- Canned Fruit
Please leave all contributions in the church porch, and thank you for your help in this ministry! You really are making a difference.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Ecumenical Lenten Soup

Join with your friends in New Castle to observe the season of Lent. We will gather Wednesday evenings March 13th through April 10th for fellowship suppers at 6:00 pm, followed by a presentation. Participants are free to go by 7:15.

The schedule for the suppers is:

*March 27 - Immanuel Episcopal Church on the Green*
*April 3 - St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church*
*April 10 - New Castle United Methodist*

St. Anne's to Host Speaker from the Food Bank of Delaware

There will be a speaker from the Food Bank of Delaware at the April 1 meeting of the St. Anne's Guild. Caitlin Custer, donor relations manager, will talk about the Food Bank's new facility in Newark (which opens in April), its many programs, and how we may be able to help, either as a group or individually.

The meeting, on Monday, April 1, starts at 7 pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome. Come learn more about the Food Bank and how it is working toward its vision of a community free from hunger.

- Geri Krolin-Taylor

Click here to learn more about the Food Bank

Immanuel's organist Jack Burnam will play an organ recitals in March.

On Wednesday, March 27 at 11:30 am, Jack will appear on the mid-week Lenten Recital Series at St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Speak to Jack if you'd like details!

Next Movie Discussion Night on Saturday, March 23

We will gather together for our next Movie Discussion Night at 6 PM on Mar 23. Our hosts are Carol Hickman and Bob Vietri at 900 Gray Street (corner of W. 9th St and Gray St).

The film to watch before you come is "Selma". This historical drama examines the 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery. What events led up to the march, what happened during the march,
and what changes did it bring to our history, and why.

Bring a dish or refreshment to share and come ready to talk about the social and religious questions raised by the story and the values it highlights.

A ladies coat was left in the church on Sunday 2/10, it has been placed in the lost and found in the office. If this is your coat, please contact the office on (302)328-2413 to arrange pick up.

SERVICES AT IMMANUEL

Did you know we hold Mass every Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday at Immanuel Church on the Green? Of course you did, but just in case, our service schedule is:

Sunday
- 8am - Said Mass
- 10am - Sung Mass
- 7pm - Compline

Wednesday
- 9:30am - Said Mass

Thursday
- 6pm - Said Mass

Large print bulletins are available.

Compline continues every Sunday at 7 p.m.

This includes holiday weekends, summer Sundays, ordinary and extraordinary days.

Immanuel has been offering Compline on Sunday evenings at Immanuel for just over one whole year! We have ranged from 2 to 17 in attendance. The service has been led by many different individuals and the candlelight set-up is shared by anyone willing. The church is incredibly beautiful when lit by 60+ candles, and it provides a setting for prayer that is reverent and serene.

So what is Compline like? Those who attend usually spend a few minutes of quiet prayer in their pews. When the tower bell strikes seven, we stand and move to the altar. Bringing our service leaflets with us, we stand in a circle around the altar and recite the prayers, psalms, and readings of this beautiful office. The service is about 8 minutes long with time allowed for
individuals to offer their own thanksgivings and intercessions. We return to our pews for additional time of quiet prayer before leaving in silence. Please consider attending; it’s the perfect way to end your Sunday and to center yourself for the coming week.

For more information, contact Father Keene on (302)328-2413, or Jo Harney on (302)598-0858.

STAY CONNECTED
The FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out) struggle is real. If you haven't already, be sure to follow us on Twitter and Instagram, for memes like this one:

Stay up to date on all the latest happenings by visiting our website.