



Immanuel Presbyterian Church

8:30am Alternative Worship

2nd Sunday in Lent

Communion Sunday

March 5, 2023

*Discovering and displaying Christ
in here and out there*

Celebration of the Lord's Day

Welcome and Community Life

Prayer of Adoration

*Song

Sing, Sing, Sing

Tomlin

*Call to Worship

Psalm 121

One: I look up to the mountains—does my help come from there?

All: **My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth!**

One: He will not let you stumble; the one who watches over you will not slumber.
Indeed, he who watches over Israel never slumbers or sleeps.

All: **The Lord himself watches over you! The Lord stands beside you as your protective shade.**

One: The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon at night.

All: **The Lord keeps you from all harm and watches over your life.**

One: The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go,

All: **both now and forever.**

*Song

Your Love O Lord

Third Day

Call to Confession

Rom. 4: 4-5

One: We cannot earn God's grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given. Confident in God's love for us, even when we are ungodly, we confess our sin in faith.

Prayer of Confession

All: **Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the**

life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Moment of Silent Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness

John 3: 16-17

One: Friends, God is for us and not against us! For that very reason, God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Believe the good news, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God!

Song

Praise You In This Storm

Casting Crowns

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

John 3: 1-17 NRSVue

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person."³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.'⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony.¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.¹⁷ "Indeed,

God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

One: The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of God endures forever.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Born of the Spirit

Rev. John C. Tittle

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Music

Fix You

Coldplay

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Concluding Prayer

*Closing Song

Soul on Fire

Third Day

*Charge and Benediction

Participants:

Rev. Dr. John Tittle

Clay Whittington, Alternative Worship Service Music Leader

Kris Goorsky, Director of Christian Formation

Sean Shifflette, lay reader

Ed Vander Woude, audio visual

Adoración Ensemble – George Davis, Bob and Carol Van Gelder, Sandy Russell, Christina Russell, Joy Hager

Acknowledgments:

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Bulletin Art: Henry Ossawa Tanner, Study for Christ and Nicodemus on a Rooftop, ca. 1923, oil on wood panel, Smithsonian American Art Museum



Immanuel Presbyterian Church
9252 E 22nd Street - Tucson, AZ 85710
520-296-2253 - immanuelpc.org