



IMMANUEL CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

1 Hovey Street • Oxford, MI 48371

www.icucc.org • 248-628-1610

October 18, 2026 • 11:00 a.m.



Welcome to worship at Immanuel United Church of Christ!

God is Still Speaking,

Immanuel Open and Affirming Statement:

We welcome and affirm all people in celebrating diversity. We welcome to our faith family people of every race, age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, mental or physical ability and those who have doubts or questions.

Thank You for taking the time to turn off your cell phone during the worship service.

Prelude

*Bringing in the Light of Christ

(** denotes those who are able may stand.*)

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome

Jeff Erno

Choir Anthem "Thy Word"

Immanuel Choir

Children Message

***Call to Worship**

Susanne Waldrep, Liturgist

One: May the nations quake and the people tremble

Many: God sits enthroned in the heavens, bringing justice and righteousness.

One: May the mountains tremble and the seas roar

Many: God's glory is stronger than the foundation of the earth.

One: May the humble seek the living God.

Many: God's goodness and mercy sustain the faithful in times of trial.

One: Come, let us worship the Lord.

Invocation

Jeff Erno

Mighty God, awe us with your glory as you pass before us, and reveal the radiance of your presence. May we embody your word as we strive to live as a holy people and as we seek to share your message of love with the world. Amen.

***Hymn: "Rock of Ages"**

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Words of Assurance

Jeff Erno

When we call, God answers. When we seek, we are sure to find. Call to God and seek the Lord with your whole heart.

The Congregation Prays

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Susanne Waldrep, Liturgist

Congregational Response: "Lord hear our prayers." (Response after each Prayer request)

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

Jeff Erno

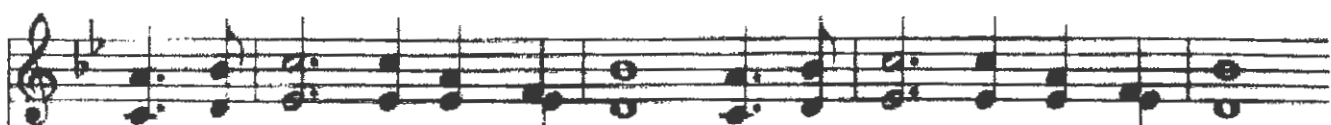
Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Isa. 26:4; John 19:34

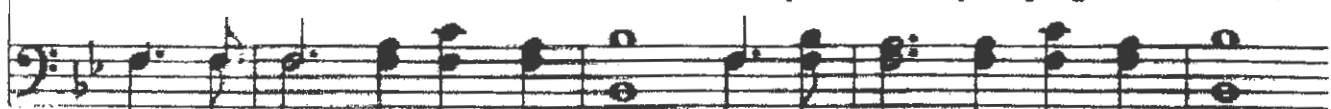
Augustus M. Toplady, 1776; alt.



1 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide; my shel - ter be!
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill your law's de - mands;
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to your cross I cling;
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when my eyes shall close in death.

Let the wat - er and the blood, from your wound - ed side which flowed,
 Could my zeal no re - spite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 Na - ked, come to you for dress; help - less, look to you for grace;
 When I soar to worlds un - known, meet you at your judg - ment throne,




Be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.
 All for sin could not a - tone; you must save, and you a - lone.
 Stained, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die!
 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide; my shel - ter be!



Augustus Toplady first published this poem as part of an extensive article in which he likened the English national debt to the burden of sin. The present form is a hybrid of the original and revisions in 1815 by Thomas Coterill.

Tune: TOPLADY 7.7.7.7.7.
 Thomas Hastings, 1830
 Alternate tune: REDHEAD NO. 76

The Lord's Prayer: (use words most comfortable for you)

Susanne Waldrep, Liturgist

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Matthew 22:15-22
Luke 19:28-40
Romans 13:1-7

Susanne Waldrep, Liturgist
Pages 24 & 25 New Testament
Page 88 New Testament
Page 162 New Testament

Sermon: "Was Jesus Political?"

Jeff Erno

***Hymn: "We Shall Overcome"**

Insert

Stewardship Message

Announcements

(Be sure to read about up-coming events in the back of the bulletin.)

Offering:

Offertory

***Doxology:** (The tune is found on page 356 of your red hymnal.)

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW...

PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW...

PRAISE GOD, ABOVE, YOU HEAVENLY HOST...

CREATOR, CHRIST AND HOLY GHOST...AMEN.

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

Jeff Erno

God of manifold blessings, enrich the works of our hands, that we may speak your truth and share your love with the world. Accept and bless these gifts, that they may aid those in need, even as they are visible signs of the honor you are due. Amen

***Hymn: "This Is the Day"**

Page 5

***The Light of Christ goes into the world**

***Benediction:**

Jeff Erno

One: Strengthened by the presence of God

Many: We go forth in hope.

One: Guided by the teachings of Christ

Many: We go forth to serve

One: **Led by the power of the Holy Spirit,**

Many: We go forth to love.

ALL: AMEN

Please wait to exit unit after the recessional.

Grace for fellowship hour

Jeff Erno

***Postlude**

We scatter to serve*****

From The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026. Copyright © 2025 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

We Shall Overcome

570

United States traditional

John 8:31-32; Rom. 12:21; 2 Cor. 13:11

1 We shall o - ver - come, we shall o - ver -
 2 We'll go hand in hand, we'll go hand in
 3 We are not a - fraid, - - we are not a -
 4 Our God will see us through, our God will see us

come. we shall o - ver - come some day;
 hand. we'll go hand in hand some day;
 fraid, we are not a - fraid to day;
 through, our God will see us through some day;

(1-6) Oh, deep in my heart, I do be - lieve,

we shall o - ver - come some day.
 we'll go hand in hand some day.
 we are not a - fraid to day.
 our God will see us through some day.

5 The truth shall make us free . . . some day.

6 We shall live in peace . . . some day.

This anthem of the 1960s civil rights movement was frequently sung at mass meetings and marches. Several sources have been cited as its origins, including the spiritual "No more auction block for me" based on the tune known as Sicilian Mariners; an old Baptist hymn "I'll Be All Right"; and parts of the text from C. A. Tindley's gospel hymn "I'll Overcome Someday."

Tune: WE SHALL OVERCOME Irr.
 United States traditional
 Harm. J. Jefferson Cleveland, 1981

This Is the Day

Ps. 118:24; Luke 24:1-7; Acts 2:1-4

St. 1 paraphr. by Les Garrett, 1967; alt.
St. 2-3, traditional; alt.

Unison Eb Bb7

1 This is the day, this is the day that our God has made, that our
 2 This is the day, this is the day Je - sus rose a - gain, Je - sus
 3 This is the day, this is the day when the Spir - it came, when the

Eb

God has made; we will re-joyce, we will re-joyce and be glad in it, and be
 rose a - gain; we will re-joyce, we will re-joyce and be glad in it, and be
 Spir - it came; we will re-joyce, we will re-joyce and be glad in it, and be

Ab Eb Ab

glad in it. This is the day that our God has made, we will re-joyce and be
 glad in it. This is the day Je - sus rose a - gain, we will re-joyce and be
 glad in it. This is the day when the Spir - it came, we will re-joyce and be

Eb Eb/Bb Bb7 Eb

glad in it; This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.
 glad in it; This is the day, this is the day Je - sus rose a - gain.
 glad in it; This is the day, this is the day when the Spir - it came.

The first stanza of this hymn was written by Leslie Garrett, who was born in New Zealand and served as pastor of a church in western Australia. The other two stanzas are anonymous.

Tune: THIS IS THE DAY Int.
Les Garrett, 1967

Join together for refreshments in Fellowship

In Worship and Service Today

Sermon: Jeff Erno

Liturgist: Susanne Waldrep

Children's Message:

Choir Director: Ken Martin

Accompanist: Ann McKinley

Our Tech team: Tammy & Ken Martin

Floral Arrangements: A gift created by Amy Wilson

Ministers: All the Immanuel Church faith community

Sunday School: Amy Wilson, Liz Wilson, Susanne Waldrep

Church Officers & Staff

Moderator: Ken Martin

Vice Moderator: TBA

Treasurer: Art Nagasaki

Council Secretary: Susanne Waldrep

Clerk: Susanne Waldrep

Church Secretary: Sue Molczyk

Building & Grounds Team Leader: TBA

Calendar at a Glance

Weekly Events

11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship & Fellowship

5:30 p.m. Community Meal every Tuesday

5:00 p.m. Wednesday Free Meals

7:00 p.m. Wednesday Choir practice (restarts Sept. 9th)

6:00 p.m. Thursday Prayer Meeting

4:00 p.m. Mondays "True Colorz" LGBTQ+ Support Group

Saturday, October 31

Halloween Party/details to follow

Sunday, October 18

9:30-10:15 am Bible Study

Sunday, October 25

9:30-10:15 am Bible Study

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the month of October:

Birthdays

October 4: Sara Schuette

October 9: Trevor Edwards

October 10: Jeff Hanft

October 12: Ann McKinley

October 12: Lucas Schuette

October 13: Lori Hanft

October 22: Patsy Hartz

October 30: Tristin Medeiros

October 30: Ed Sellers

Anniversaries

October 22: Sara & Eric Schuette

- **Please be sure to visit Immanuel's website at www.icucc.org**
- **Please join us for Sunday Service via Virtual Worship. Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/oxfordimmanuelucc> You do not have to join facebook, it will ask if you want to join. If not click no and it will still get you to the service.**
- **Treasurer's Note:** Our offerings for October 11 TBA. We need to collect \$1,675 each week to fund our approved budget. **Remember to honor your pledge commitments and tithes, especially when you miss any Sundays!** Art Nagasaki, Treasurer
- REMINDER to bring in flexible plastic
- Kroger packaging for recycling. Call Peggy with questions. The sock program has been discontinued.
- Please continue to collect and donate your pop can tabs. There's a container in Fellowship Hall. Pop can tabs help support the Ronald McDonald Houses where parents can stay when their child is hospitalized. Tammy will be sending our donation later in May to the Ronald McDonald House in Ann Arbor.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry will be starting up again. If you knit, crochet or fleece tie, see Tammy so we can pick date and time. Also, Prayer Shawls are available to give to those you want to give a prayer and a hug of comfort. See Tammy or Jeff.**
- Please remember to sign the black attendance book at the end of each pew.
- **Pastor Jeff is looking for volunteers for the Transgender Day of Remembrance. If you can help contact Pastor Jeff.**
- **There is a new list of supplies on the kitchen freezer. If you're able to donate put your name on the sheet so we know it's on its way.**
- **Craft room and classroom clean-ups 2-4 p.m. on Tues, Oct. 20, Tues., Oct. 27, Mon., Nov. 2, Tues. Nov. 10. Thanks Tammy 248-672-7860**

In the 1920's when minister's wife Lesbia Scott's three children were young, she enjoyed writing simple hymns for them about everyday things. "Make us a hymn about a picnic," they would ask. Or "write a hymn about a foggy day." She collected the songs she wrote for her children in a long-out-of-print collection.

The only one that remains in regular circulation was not a favorite of hers, or her children's, but it continues to capture the imagination of singers generations later. *I Sing A Song of the Saints of God* (*#295 in *The New Century Hymnal*) canonizes the gospel writer Luke, queen Margaret of Scotland, Joan of Arc, John Donne and Ignatius of Antioch - not by name but by characteristics. Today will you sing this song in your church? Which image makes you smile? Which image makes you wonder? Which image makes you understand something about God's people you didn't before?

I sing a song of the saints of God,
Faithful their whole lives through
Who bravely labored, lived, and died
for the God they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
And another a shepherd in pastures green:
they were saints of God, if you know what I mean.
God, help me to be one too.

They loved their God and they lived that love,
It was loving that made them strong;
They did what was right for Jesus' sake,
Lived justly their whole lives long.
And one was a prophet, and one was a priest,
and another was slain by a fierce wild beast:
and there's no earthly reason, none in the least,

They lived not only in ages past:
there are hundreds of thousands still;
the world is filled with living saints,
Who choose to do God's will.
You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea,
in church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea;
for the saints are folk like you and me,

And I mean to be one too.

**The New Century Hymnal*. Cleveland, Ohio. The Pilgrim Press; United Church of Christ. © 1995 The Pilgrim Press. Hymn #295 Words, Lesbia Scott. Music, John H. Hopkins.



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8 1/2" x 14 UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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