



**IMMANUEL CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST**

1 Hovey Street • Oxford, MI 48371

[www.icucc.org](http://www.icucc.org) • 248-628-1610

November 1, 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.)

Ring of the Bell

Welcome

Pastor Jeff Erno

Choir Anthem "We Are One, Lord"

Immanuel Choir

**\*Call to Worship**

Mary Beth Wiechert, Liturgist

One: Bless the Lord, whose love shines upon us

**Many: Bless the Lord, my soul!**

One: Bless our lives, that reflect God's love.

**Many: Bless the Lord, my soul!**

One: Bless our worship, that it might glorify God.

**Many: Bless the Lord, my soul!**

Invocation

Pastor Jeff Erno

Glorious God, we come into your holy presence with joy and gratitude. Bless this time of worship to draw us closer to you. Bless our lives to shine brightly with your love. Bless our work in the world to bring your justice and compassion to life. In your holy name, we pray. Amen

**\*Hymn: "For All the Saints"**

Page 2

Words of Assurance

Pastor Jeff Erno

God saves us again and again and again, calling us to blessings and saintly living. This hope and this grace are enough to purify us, even as Christ is pure.

**Prayer of Confession:**

**Sainthood is hard! Yet, you call us to live into your blessings by loving and caring for all of your creation. Give us strength to answer our call. Give us wisdom to live your teachings. Give us courage to withstand the trials and tribulations of life. Give us humility to embrace sainthood, even when our sins and shortcomings haunt our days and cause us to judge ourselves and others. Love us into sainthood, that others may find us to be generous and compassionate friends.**

Heb. 12:1

William W. How, 1864; alt.

1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who to the  
 2 You were their rock, their ref - uge, and their might: you, Christ, the  
 3 Still may your peo - ple, faith - ful, true, and bold, live as the  
 4 Ringed by this cloud of wit - ness - es di - vine, we fee - bly  
 5 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, steals on the

world their stead-fast faith con - fessed, your name, O Je - sus,  
 hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you  
 saints who no - bly fought of old, and share with them a  
 strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet in your love our  
 ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, then hearts are brave a -

be for - ev - er blessed.  
 were their one true light.  
 glo - rious crown of gold. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 faith - ful lives en - twine,  
 gain, and faith grows strong.

*This traditional All Saints Day hymn originally consisted of eleven stanzas written for the Sarum Hymnal (1809) and set to a tune by that name, Sarum. It has grown in popularity since it was later paired with the enduring Sine Nomine in The English Hymnal (1906).*

Tune: SINE NOMINE 10.10.10.4,  
 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Music Copyright ©, Oxford University Press. From *The English Hymnal* 1906.

The Congregation Prays

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

, Liturgist

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

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Jeff Erno

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

Mary Beth Wiechert, 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:

Psalm 34:1-10

Revelation 7:9-17

Matthew 5:1-12

Mary Beth Wiechert, Liturgist

Page 508 Old Testament

Pages 249 & 250 New Testament

Page 4 New Testament

Sermon:

"Why Must We Endure Such Tribulation?"

Pastor Jeff Erno

Candle-Lighting Memorial

Pastor Jeff Erno

**Unison Prayer:**

**We light candles to remember the names and faces of those who are not named individually:**

- **For those victims of natural disasters.**
- **For those who gave their lives so that others may live.**
- **For those victims of violence around the world.**
- **For those individuals not read aloud today, but still in our memories and in our hearts.**

**AMEN**

**\*Hymn:**

**"I Sing A Song of the Saints of God"**

Page 4

**CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Insert

Stewardship Message

Announcements

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

Offering:

**Offertory "What Are They Doing in Heaven?"**

Insert

**\*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.**

L. 1125100



1 I sing a song of the saints of God, . . . faith-ful their whole lives  
2 They loved their God and they lived that love. It was lov-ing that made them  
3 They lived not on-ly in a - ges past, there are hun-dreds of thou-sands



through, who brave-ly la-bored, lived, and died for the God they  
strong. They did what was right, for Je-sus' sake, lived just-ly their  
still. The world is filled with liv-ing saints who choose to



loved and knew. And one was a doc-tor, and one was a queen, and an-  
whole lives long. And one was a proph-et, and one was a priest, and an-  
do God's will. You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea, in a



oth-er a shep-herd in pas-tures green; they were saints of God, if you  
oth-er was slain by a fierce wild beast; there is no earth-ly rea-son,  
church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea; for the saints are folk like



know what I mean. God, help me to be one, too.  
none in the least, why I should-n't be one, too.  
you and like me, and I mean to be one, too.

This hymn was included in Lesbia Scott's *Everyday Hymns for Little Children* with her original words, music, and illustrations. A native of Britain, Scott was also the author of six published plays and enjoyed painting until her death in 1956.

Tune: GRAND ISLE 1st  
John H. Hopkins, 1940

# HOLY COMMUNION

## WELCOME

We invite all who worship with us to partake of Holy Communion. As Christ welcomed all, we too welcome all, regardless of church membership or affiliation, regardless of where all are in life's journey.

## INVITATION

One: Come freely, for this table of grace is here for all. Come confidently, for this table of love offers blessings beyond our wildest dreams. Come humbly, for this table is set by Christ, who humbled himself to both live and die in his great love for us.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: Lift up your hearts!

**Many: We lift them up to God!**

One: Celebrate God's love!

**Many: It is right to give God our thanks and praise!**

One: We give thanks and praise to you, God of love and grace! We celebrate the creative presence that called forth this glorious earth and the heavens above.

**Many: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

One: Even when faced with impending death, Christ gave thanks and blessed the fruit of your good earth, offering not only bread and wine, but the bread of life and the wine of salvation.

**Many: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. Do this in remembrance of me."

## SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Please come forward to receive the bread and the cup. Approach in single file down the center aisle. After all have received the elements, we will partake together.

Let us partake of the bread. Let us partake of the cup.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, that we might be disciples of your love and grace. Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine, that your life and love might flow through us.

**ALL: Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life. We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live your way and share your joy. We are now called to feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

# **What Are They Doing in Heaven?**

By Charles Albert Tindley, 1851-1933

I am thinking of friends whom I used to know  
Who lived and suffered in this world below;  
They've gone up to heaven, but I want to know  
What are they doing now?  
There were some whose hearts were burdened with care,  
They passed their moments in sighing and tears,  
They clung to the cross with trembling and fears,  
But what are they doing now?  
There were some whose bodies were full of disease,  
Medicine nor doctors could give them much ease;  
They suffered 'til death brought a final release,  
But what are they doing now?

## *Refrain:*

What are they doing in heaven today?  
Where sin and sorrow are all done away,  
And peace abounds like a river, they say,  
Oh, what are they doing now?

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

Pastor Jeff Erno

Holy One, thank you for blessing us in so many ways. Please bless our offerings: to bring your presence more fully into the world, to spread your love to far and wide, to bring hope and peace where despair runs deep. In loving gratitude, we pray. Amen

**\*Hymn: "I Love to Tell the Story"**

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\*The Light of Christ goes into the world

**\*Benediction:**

Pastor Jeff Erno

One: Dear friends, you are God's children

**Many: The world needs God's children**

One: Go to make the world better with love

**Many: For the world needs more love, and we're the ones to bring it!**

**ALL: AMEN**

**Please wait to exit unit after the recessional.**

Grace for fellowship hour

Pastor Jeff Erno

**\*Postlude**

*We scatter to serve*\*\*\*\*\*

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**Join together for refreshments in Fellowship**

**In Worship and Service Today**

**Sermon:** Pastor Jeff Erno

**Liturgist:** Mary Beth Wiechert

**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

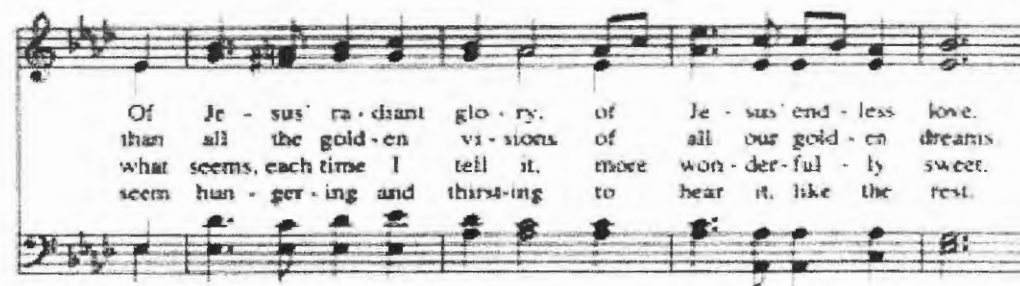
**Clerk:** Susanne Waldrep

**Church Secretary:** Sue Molczyk

**Building & Grounds Team Leader:** TBA



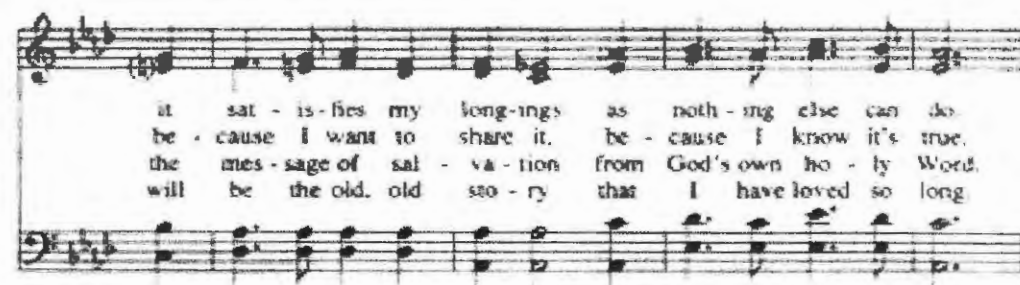
1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove.  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: more won - der - ful it seems  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry: it's pleas - ant to re - peat  
 4 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



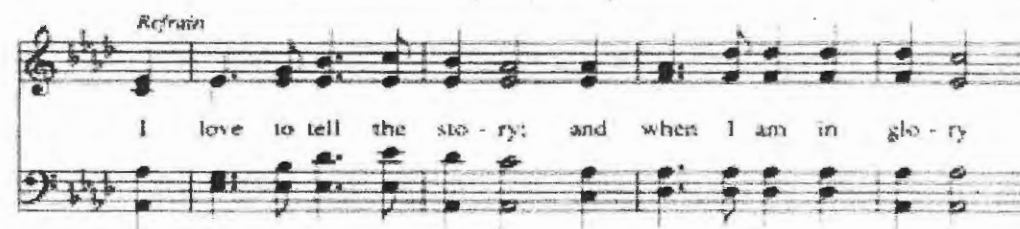
Of Je - sus' ra - diant glo - ry, of Je - sus' end - less love.  
 than all the gold - en vi - sions of all our gold - en dreams  
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, I tell it now to you  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when I sing in glo - ry, I know the new, new song



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do  
 be - cause I want to share it, be - cause I know it's true,  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word,  
 will be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long



*Refrain*  
 I love to tell the sto - ry: and when I am in glo - ry



I'll tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus' end - less love.

Tune HANKEY 1A7AD with refrain  
 William G. Poacher, 1859

Born in Clapham, England, Katherine Hankey belonged to the  
 Clapham Set of Evangelists and established a Bible class for  
 girls in London's West End. This hymn is drawn from her  
 extended poem on the life of Jesus, which also contains "Tell me  
 the old, old story."

## **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**

### **Monday, November 2**

**2-4 p.m. Cleaning Craft room & Class-rooms**

### **Saturday, November 7**

**9:00 am. Fall Clean-up**  
**(rain day November 14)**

### **Monday, November 9**

**7:00 a.m. Council Meeting**

### **Tuesday, November 10**

**2-4 p.m. Cleaning Craft room & Class-rooms**

### **Saturday, November 14**

**9:00 a.m. Alternative Fall Clean-up**  
**(only if November 7 has rain)**

### **Sunday, November 15**

**1:30 p.m. Craft Capades**

### **Friday, November 20**

**7:00 p.m. Transgender Day of Remembrance Service**

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries for the month of November:**

### **Birthdays**

November 6: Billie Ollie-Ray  
November 7: Susanne Waldrep  
November 29: Dan Plummer

**Please be sure to visit Immanuel's website at [www.icucc.org](http://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 25 was \$. 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.**

Long before he was Pope, a priest called Francis developed a prayer he called the five-finger prayer. On this All Saints Day, it's a good way to call to mind those saints in our lives and in the world who have led the way in the faith.

Hold your hands palm down in front of you, and look at your fingers one by one, beginning with your thumb, which is the closest to your heart.

Thumb: Pray for those closest to you. Pray for those in your chosen family, or for your close friends.

Pointer finger: Pray for those saints who have pointed you in the right direction. Pray for older relatives, wise teachers, good employers, and thoughtful mentors.

Middle finger: This finger stands tall. Pray for the saints in leadership in your community and the world. Pray for those in business, government, and church leadership whose decisions affect so many.

Ring finger: This finger is the weakest of all the fingers. Pray for those on the margins, pray for the oppressed or the downtrodden. Pray for the ill and the dying. Pray for the addicted and the imprisoned.

Pinky finger: This finger is the smallest. This is where you put your prayers for yourself.

In today's scripture story, Jesus teaches the crowds and disciples about servant leadership. He showed them that when we are followers of Christ, our words and actions need to be consistent. As we pray this prayer, we can get clearer about who are the ordinary, everyday saints in our lives and the world. We can better understand who those are who walk their walk and talk their talk, those saints who have something to teach us here and now.