



# The Weekly

Immanuel Anglican Church  
Prince William County

May 17, 2026

## Pastor's Corner "Ascension & Authority"

*We believe...Jesus ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

**The Ascension of Jesus**, celebrated 40 days after Easter Sunday (**which was Thursday, May 14!**), is an essential part of the Nicene Creed, and is core to our understanding of who Jesus is and what he's doing. The Gospel writers' descriptions of this event are so brief, and we're so familiar with the story, that perhaps we forget that the Ascension of Jesus Christ is mind-blowing.

Just for starters, he defies gravity. Then, like something out of a Marvel movie, he crosses between physical and spiritual realms; the eternal God the Son remains in his resurrected, God-made-flesh body while simultaneously remaining within the spiritual unity of God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. He also fulfills Old Testament types and promises and prophecies, *and* becomes a bridge between the present world and the age to come—the "already" of the present world and the "not yet" of

the world to come overlapping and meeting in Jesus Christ, seated on his throne at the right of the Father.

As we remember this awe-full moment today, I want to emphasize two understandings.

**First, the Ascension means Jesus is King over all, and his authority extends into every crevice of creation.** As liturgist Doug McKelvey writes, *“Our thoughts of you, O Lord, have been too small, too few—for seldom have we considered how specific is the exercising of your authority, extending as it does into the myriad particulars of creation. There is no quarter over which you are not king.”*

**Second, Jesus uses his authority to intercede for us.** Jesus is praying for you, for me, for this world. In the letter to the Hebrews it says, “[Jesus] is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them” (7.25). King Jesus sits at the right of the Father, seeing every corner of creation, and having authority over it all, he leans over to him and says, “Father, forgive. Father, redeem. Father, restore. Father, your kingdom come, your will be done there on earth as it is here in Heaven.”

This Ascension Day, entrust your needs, fears, and concerns into the care of our Ascended King and Older Brother, who has the compassion and authority to intervene in every crevice of your life.

*Almighty God, whose only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven: May our hearts and minds also there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever. Amen. (BCP 2019, p. 613)*

Your Pastor in Christ,

Travis +

## Worship

Please join us, each Sunday at 8:00am or 10:30am at 7075 Hoadly Road, Manassas, VA. You may also join us at 10:30am via [livestream](#).

Morning Prayer is offered via [Zoom](#) every Thursday at 8am.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85934655171>

Meeting ID: 859 3465 5171

Morning Prayer is offered at Immanuel Tuesday - Friday, in the Nave from 8:30am - 9:30am.

Midday prayer is offered Tuesday – Friday in the Nave at noon.

Visit [iachurch.org/worship](http://iachurch.org/worship) for more details.

## IMPORTANT DATES

May 17	New Members Class	12-1:30 pm Nave
	Nursery provided (please register)	
	Cruciform	5-7 pm Nave
May 20	Life Group Leaders Training	
		7-8:30 pm CR4
	Nursery provided (please register)	
May 24	One Service Sunday/Picnic	9:30-12:30 pm
May 31	Prayer Team Interest Meeting	
		9:15-10 am CR4, 12-12:45 pm Nave

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**New Members Class:** Are you new to Immanuel? Are you interested in becoming a member of Immanuel and learning about what it means to say “yes” to Anglicanism? Do you want to know more about Immanuel mission and programs? Do you want to volunteer and not sure how or what the options are? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, join us May 17, after the 10:30 service (about 12:15) for a light lunch and one-hour information session. Nursery and childcare will be provided but require a RSVP in Realm or call the church at (703) 340-3120 or send an email to Tyra Harpster, Director of Parish Administration at [office@iachurch.org](mailto:office@iachurch.org).

**Mission Trips:** Pray for Catherine Annand as she prepares for her trip to Africa in May and for Kevin Robertson who is currently in Indonesia.

**BP4 KIDS (Backpacks for Kids: BP4 KIDS (Backpacks for Kids):** Thank you for all your generous help in providing weekend bags of food placed in the backpacks of children in cooperation with ML King Elementary School guidance counselors! **You make a difference in the lives of children!** Our final packing event for the school year is Weds., June 3rd, 12:30 p.m. in the hallway outside classroom 1. POC - Dean or Pat Tony. [patbtony@gmail.com](mailto:patbtony@gmail.com)

**The Food Cupboard Ministry:** For the month of May we are collecting canned tomato products (diced, crushed, sauces and paste). The food cupboard is to the left as you enter the storage room located between classrooms 1 & 2.

**Blessing Bags:** Updated lists for the contents of the Blessing Bags are available. Please pick one and fill a bag for a woman in need. Please contact Lee or Jennifer Roberds at (703) 298-5240 if you have any questions.

## COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

**Immanuel Kids:** Can you remember the last time you got lost in a really good book? The epic quests, daring escapes, and wild adventures make it hard to put down! While our lives might not include mythical creatures or fantastical lands, we're all part of an incredible adventure—following God and helping others do the same. Each week, kids will explore the amazing and true stories about Jesus that show us what it means to live for God. In this 5-week series, kids will discover the true story of how **Jesus is always with us, God helps us be righteous, God hears us when we pray, the Holy Spirit gives us power, and God helps us share the good news.**

**Youth Group:** Middle and high school students are invited to Youth Group each week. Mark your calendar for June 14th where we meet on Second Sundays at 6:00 PM, and on all other Sundays from 12:00- 1:30 PM. For more information, contact [mbyers@iachurch.org](mailto:mbyers@iachurch.org).

**Sunday Night Men's Bible Study:** The men meet each Sunday night. The third Sunday of the month is Cruciform. The next meeting will be on May 24. They will begin an 8-week series viewing a DVD authored by J.D. Greear. Men facing the cultural challenges of today will connect to the ancient wisdom of Daniel and learn that the power to make a difference is found in the commitment to be different. Beginning at 7pm in classroom 4 the time will be split between Listening,

Discussing and Fellowship concluding by 8:30 pm. If you have any questions, see MikeHarpster@comcast.net or ScottSFinney@verizon.net.

**Cruciform**: Join us May 17, from 5-7 for a deep dive into men's decision-making paths at Cruciform Crossroad Conversations - a journey of self-discovery and growth. Real talk. Real faith. Real growth. Participate in in-depth conversations about the challenges men are navigating in today's world. Bring a friend. Open to all men from all churches - 18+. Food included. Tom Harkness will be our guest speaker.

**Men's Dinner**: All Immanuel men and their guests are invited to join us for some fellowship and conversation at our weekly Monday Men's Dinner. The next dinner will be on May 18, 2026 at Brothers located at 5135 Waterway Drive, Montclair. New attendees are always welcome so come and join us and bring someone with you.

**Women's Monday Night Bible Study**: Monday evening gatherings 7-8:30 p.m. via ZOOM. All ladies are welcome to join us as we study the Gospel of Mark using N.T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides- MARK. From the back cover, "These twenty studies on Mark's Gospel give us a fresh, true picture of Jesus and the kingdom he brought, that we might choose his solutions as we participate in his kingdom even today." Please contact Kathy Oravetz at 571-334-8786 or

[koravetzdpt@gmail.com](mailto:koravetzdpt@gmail.com) for more information and the ZOOM link.

**Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study:** Join this lovely, caring group at 10:00 am in Classroom #1 as we dive into Isaiah using the Melissa Spoelstra book and video: "Isaiah: Striving Less and Trusting God More". We'll unpack Isaiah's words to reveal that you can trust God more than your own human effort or the counterfeits the world suggests. You won't be striving harder but instead trusting more deeply in the Faithful One who is so worthy of our utter dependence. In Him you'll find the comfort and peace you need to sustain you. Contact Barbara Finney at [blynn56@verizon.net](mailto:blynn56@verizon.net) or 703-405-2651 for workbooks or more information.

**Tuesday Ladies Dinner:** The next dinner will be at Dixie Bones located at 13440 Occoquan Rd, Woodbridge, on May 19, 2026 at 5:00 pm. Please RSVP to [Teharpster@comcast.net](mailto:Teharpster@comcast.net).

**Saturday Morning Men's Discussion:**

**May 16:** No Men's Saturday Discussion Group due to Men's Monthly Breakfast.

**May 23:** The Saturday morning men's discussion group will meet at 8 am to discuss chapter six of Wiersbe's commentary, "the prayer of the overcomer", pages 89 - 101, and the questions on pages 102 & 103. In your bible read John 17.

Books are available for \$15. We start at 8:00 am in Room Coffee and donuts are provided. Laughter is free. For more information, contact Alan Clark on 703-627-4725. Join us and bring a friend or join us via [ZOOM](#). Meeting ID: 827 91399156.

**Men's Breakfast:** The men will meet May16, for the monthly breakfast at 8:00am. Come join in for a hot breakfast and fellowship.

**Financial Update thru April 30, 2026**

**Operations**

Revenue	\$232,063.80
Expenses	<u>\$181,295.11</u>
Net	\$50,768.69

**Building**

Revenue	\$69,174.00
Expenses	<u>\$34,749.71</u>
Net	\$34,424.29

The Operations fund pays for salaries & admin costs, mission outreach, ministry expenses (such as children, youth and adult, altar guild, fellowship), and facility expenses (such as insurance, maintenance of property, equipment costs). The Building fund pays for the monthly mortgage, that loan amount due monthly is \$15,420.

## County Community Activities

Put your notice here

**Not receiving The Weekly?** You can sign up on the IAC website by going to [here](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page and complete the subscribe form. If you need help, contact the Parish Administrator at [office@iachurch.org](mailto:office@iachurch.org).

### Lost and Found

The found items are on the Usher's Table.

### Building Usage

If you or your group would like to use a room at the church, please contact the office at [office@iachurch.org](mailto:office@iachurch.org) or [tharpster@iachurch.org](mailto:tharpster@iachurch.org) to schedule the date, time and room. Unscheduled meetings cannot always be accommodated. Please note the configuration pictures in each room on the wall near the light switch. After your meeting, please return the room to the arrangement in the picture without exception. All rooms are used for many different activities. If your group is using the hallway space and set up tables, please return the tables to the closet at the end of the session.

## Parking Lot

If you or your group need to leave vehicles in the parking lot overnight during an activity, please contact the Parish Administrator before leaving. You will be asked to leave the make, model and license number of the vehicle, your departure and return dates and times. Any vehicles left in the parking lot without notification are subject to towing at the owner's expense.