

Immanuel Messenger

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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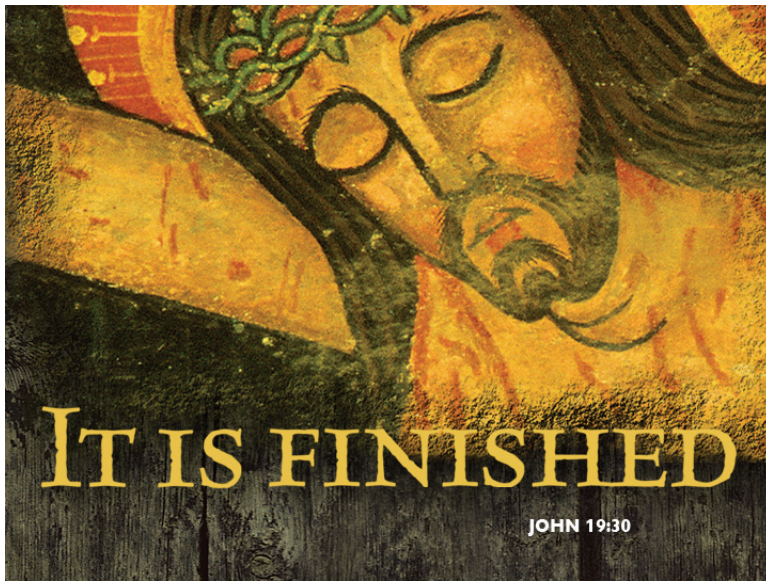
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Easter 2011



Rembrandt, *The Risen Christ Appearing to Mary Magdalene*, 1638

¹⁵Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?”
Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have
carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him
away.” ¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary.” (John 20:15-16, RSV)



Holy Week at Immanuel

Fresco, Debre Birhan Selassia, Gondar, Ethiopia.
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PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 17, 11 A.M.

Procession with Palms

Sunday Liturgy, with congregational
reading of the Passion

Sermon by Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

HOLY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

1:15 p.m. Midtown Concerts: Pergolesi's
Stabat Mater

6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 21

7 p.m. Holy Eucharist, with Footwashing

Music by Liszt, Fauré, and Gjeilo

Sermon by Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 22

7 pm Good Friday Liturgy with
traditional chant Passion

Sermon by The Rev. Thomas Green

Music by Gesualdo and de Wert

8:30 pm Candlelight Concert

Jesu Meine Freude by J. S. Bach and
additional music by J. M. Bach,
Buxtehude, and Rosenmüller
Immanuel Choir and ARTEK

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 23

7 pm Easter Vigil with Brass

Music by Palestrina, Jacquet de Mantua,
and Handl with choir and brass

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 24

11 am Sunday Eucharist

Sermon by Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

Festive music by Zelenka and Handl, with
choir and brass

Former Pastor Raymond C. Schulze

† October 3, 1932 - March 14, 2011 †

Some Words of Remembrance

By Rev. Dr. David W. Lotz

[Note from Pastor Fryer: Immanuel's former pastor Raymond C. Schulze died in Christ last month at age 78. Pastor David W. Lotz delivered the following remarks during the funeral service for Pastor Schulze. The funeral was held at the church Raymond and Margaret attend: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Church, Spring Hill, Florida. I was very glad to be present for that funeral, to be comforted by the Divine Liturgy, to see the warm affection the people and priests of that congregation had for Raymond and Margaret, and to hear the eloquent words of Immanuel's beloved Pastoral Associate David W. Lotz. Here are his words saluting his longtime friend, Pastor Schulze:]

Prior to his reception into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church in 1994 and his subsequent ordination to the Church's transitional diaconate, the Reverend Raymond Carl Schulze served for thirty-seven years as a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in this country.

For twenty of those years he was the Senior Pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, a large and historic congregation located on the Upper East Side of Manhattan (New York City).

For sixteen of those twenty years, it was my high privilege and constant joy to serve Immanuel as a Pastoral Associate and thus to serve alongside Pastor Schulze in the chancel and at the altar.

Even so, I am most grateful for the kind invitation extended to me by Raymond's beloved wife, Margaret, and by his no less dear sons and daughters (Christopher, Paul, Monica, Stephanie) to speak a few, fitting words in memory and honor of this my cherished friend, whom to know was to love.

Permit me to add that my own primary vocation was not that of a parish pastor, but that of a professor of the history of the Christian Church at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, where I taught for many years.

An American humorist once remarked: "God alone knows the future. Only an historian can alter the past." Well, be that as it may, I believe that my memories of Raymond are true to the man and to his ways and works.

From among a multitude of such memories let me single out what it meant to me and to the faithful at Immanuel to worship our Lord and Savior under Pastor Schulze's wise and winsome leadership.

It meant, for prime example, that we could take for granted that Immanuel's pulpit would not be given over to theological faddism or homiletical subjectivism, to the preacher's flights of fancy or navel-gazing. We could be confident, rather, that the sermon would be the

pure, unalloyed, Biblical gospel: directed to poor sinners who have been made bright with Christ's own righteousness, and delivered with literary felicity – with a loving regard for the beauties and subtleties and nuances of the English tongue.

In ordinary conversation, let it be noted, Raymond was not loquacious, a man of many words. In preaching, however, he took a somewhat different tack. Fearful, perhaps, of short-changing the congregation, he often gave us two sermons for the price of one. Moreover, in his writing and speaking about matters theological, he exhibited the cardinal virtues of faith, hope, and clarity! (Raymond loved wordplay, especially puns; so I've put one in for his possible delectation.)

His pastoral leadership also meant that our Liturgy – our Divine Service of Word and Sacrament – would invariably be conducted with sensitivity and propriety, that is, in keeping with the best liturgical traditions of confessional Lutheranism and of the Church catholic. We had no reason to fear, therefore, that our public worship would be redesigned each and every week in the pastor's study, in the name of "creativity" or "relevance." We could be confident, rather, that the old orthodox forms of worship would be preserved, would remain constant – so that they might grow on us and we might grow into them, to the end that our worship might be at once God-pleasing and soul-satisfying.

Pastor Schulze's leadership, finally, meant that the Christian tradition – what the Church of Jesus Christ believes, teaches, and confesses on the basis of the Word of God – would itself be faithfully "traditioned" to us, that is, handed on in such a way that we might know ourselves joined with and to the faithful of all times and all places. Without giving way either to traditionalism – to a mindless repetition of outworn formulas, or to iconoclasm – to an equally mindless rejection of the tried and true, Raymond tended the apostolic faith and, by God's grace, kept it alive in our midst and, no less, kept us alive in it and through it.

I earlier said that Raymond was a wordsmith. He was, in fact, a poet and hymnwriter. I know of at least three hymns that he composed over the years. One of them is simply titled "Ephphatha: Be Open." It is based on Saint Mark's Gospel, chapter 7, where we are told that the crowd brought to Jesus a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. "And looking up to heaven, Jesus sighed and said to the man [in Aramaic], 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

Who but dear Raymond would choose to write a hymn in five stanzas, of eight lines each, based on a single word of Jesus – and that a word in Aramaic?! I have no doubt that this particular Markan text held special meaning for Raymond because as a child and young man he himself had a profound stammer.

Let me now cite, in closing, the first and last stanzas:

When our Lord Christ ascended
The Church was not forlorn.
Apostles, martyrs, pastors,
From ages yet unborn.

Were named by Him to speak for Him
The word of His own choice:
His “Ephphatha – Be Open!”
That praise be given voice.

O Father, Son and Spirit,
O Holy Triune God,
Give, in our time, apostles,
That through your faithful Word,
We with all the saints before us,
At heaven’s gates may hear,
Your “Ephphatha – Be Open!”
And, singing, enter there.

By virtue of the boundless mercy of God the Blessed Trinity and the sinless self-oblation of God the Son “for us and for our salvation,” we may be assured that our beloved Raymond has heard the Lord’s “Ephphatha” and has entered the heavenly court with song: something by Bach, I should think, and some Gregorian chant.

Even so, my cherished friend, you have come home – to Abraham’s bosom – and there, where poor Lazarus is poor no longer, may you have eternal rest.

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Funeral Mass
Friday, March 18, 2011
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Church
Spring Hill, Florida

David W. Lotz

Immanuel’s Memorial Service for Former Pastor Raymond C. Schulze

The service was held 5 p.m. April 3, 2011, The Fourth Sunday in Lent

“The favors of the Lord are not exhausted, even when we are.”

(From Fr. Leonard Klein’s sermon at the memorial service)

[Note from Pastor Fryer: The memorial service for Pastor Schulze was wonderful -- the singing was so bold and strong, the attendance so large, the organ and brass and Choir so stirring, and the preaching so moving. That memorial service was exactly what I had hoped for: a fitting tribute to a dear pastor of this congregation, and even more, a fitting tribute to the One he adored and in whose hands he now rests, even Jesus Christ our Lord.]

There were many wonderful passages in Fr. Leonard Klein's sermon that evening, but let me here lift up but one. It concerns memory and forgetfulness. I think it was a heartbreak for anyone who knew Raymond Schulze that he should end up suffering with Alzheimer's disease. Fr. Klein spoke to this by referring to a reading from Lamentations. My wife, Carol, was especially moved by the passage I quote below because she ministers to so many people who have not only "forgotten what happiness is," but have even forgotten who they themselves are. So, it is good to be reminded that our Maker does not forget. Here is Fr. Klein's passage:]

Lamentations can also teach us how to brood and mourn properly – for in spite of its title this poem of exquisitely beautiful pain spins out its woes in a way that never abandons faith and hope. That too I think is true to Ray's spirit and his biography.

From the darkest era of Israel's history, surveying the wreckage of Jerusalem wrought by the Babylonians, the poet pours out his misery.

*My soul is deprived of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is;
I tell myself my future is lost, all that I hoped for from the LORD.
The thought of my homeless poverty is wormwood and gall;
Remembering it over and over leaves my soul downcast within me.*

Isn't that worthy of Ray?

But the poet does not stop there; he bursts into a song of redemption and resurrection as he does over and over again, all the while sitting in the ashes and rubble of Jerusalem.

*But I will call this to mind, as my reason to have hope:
The favors of the LORD are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent;
They are renewed each morning, so great is his faithfulness.
My portion is the LORD, says my soul; therefore will I hope in him.
Good is the LORD to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him.*

This church was, let us remember, in rubble when Pastor Schulze arrived, and I had the pleasure of working with him and the people of Immanuel on the glorious reconstruction that you still enjoy. Ann Siemer often spoke of figuring that Immanuel was done when the ceiling swung down, but you are still here. The favors of the Lord are not exhausted, even when we are. That's what the biblical poet knew, and Ray was a poet.

The faithfulness of God is not always easily seen, and it is often buried deeply in history, unclear in our lives, intangible in the rubble, but Christians know that it is precisely in weakness and loss that we come to life. The mystery of the cross is inescapable, and that is a good thing. Only through the mystery of the cross do we move with Jesus toward resurrection.

{Back to Pastor Fryer: Fr. Leonard Klein's complete sermon is posted on our Immanuel website: http://www.immanuelnyc.org/sermons/20110403_Memorial_Service_Schulze.pdf. In fact, nearly all sermons preached here at Immanuel are posted on the website, with past sermons in the sermon archives in the library: <http://www.immanuelnyc.org/sermon.shtml>. If you do not have access to the internet, but would like to have a hardcopy text of Fr. Klein's sermon, please let Parish Secretary Karen Rombey know and she will mail one to you.}

With Sympathy and Prayers from the Estonian Congregation

The Estonian Congregation and Pastor Tari extend their prayers and sympathies to the Schulze family and the whole Immanuel Congregation due to the death of Rev. Raymond C. Schulze. We dedicate the following two Bible passages that give comfort to all Christians at a time like this:

²⁵Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: ²⁶And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? John 11:25, 26

³Thus says the LORD, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee. Jeremiah 31:3

Easter Lilies and Music Fund

Gifts for Easter lilies and special music can be given as memorials to a loved one or friend to add to the beauty of our worship at Easter. Gifts in any amount are sought for the Music Fund; lilies are \$15.00.

Ester Ramos will be standing by the table in the narthex after the morning service on Sunday, April 17th. Please see her you are interested in donating to the Music Fund or contributing for lilies at Easter.

Council Meeting

Sunday, April 17, 2011 – 12:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Church Council will be held on Palm Sunday, April 17, 2011, at 12:30 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room.

Good Friday

April 22: Two sermons

We have a strong blessing in store for us 7 p.m. Good Friday evening: The Rev. Thomas Green is scheduled to preach for us then. Rev. Green served as Interim Minister here at Immanuel before Pastor Schulze. Those were hard days for our church because the neighborhood was changing, our church was losing members, and pastor after pastor declined the call to serve here. Pastor Green kept the congregation safe and calm and faithful until Pastor Schulze came along and accepted the call. I join many clergy in the Metro New York area in holding Pastor Green in very high regard, and I am delighted that he has agreed to preach for us this Good Friday evening.

Let me mention too that earlier in the day, I am scheduled to preach at nearby St. Ignatius Loyola Church, 980 Park Avenue, between 83rd and 84th Streets. I am one of the host of preachers for the three-hour Good Friday Devotional from noon until 3 p.m. I am to preach on the second of the Seven Last Words of Christ. My word is from Luke 23:43 -- "Today you will be with me in Paradise." Welcome to that too.

Pastor Fryer

Midtown Concerts' April Schedule

All concerts Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m. here at Immanuel
Admission free!

APRIL 13

Charites: *17th-Century Female Perspectives on the Dissolution of Beauty*

The vocal trio presents a musical *vanitas*, staged with period gesture, with virtuosic music and poetry by 17th-century women composers and writers.

APRIL 20

ARTEK: *Pergolesi's Stabat Mater*

Lauren Alfano, soprano, and Juli Borst, mezzo-soprano, accompanied by ARTEK's instrumental ensemble directed by Gwendolyn Toth, are featured in Pergolesi's beloved cantata.

APRIL 27

Ensemble Calandra: *French Cantatas of the 1720s*

Pairing the music of Boismortier and Monteclair, the program features cantatas published within four years of each other in a study of similarity and difference.

SPRING BAZAAR

SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH

11 TO 5 PM



DONATIONS WANTED

- Household furnishings and decorative accessories, kitchen items
- Personal accessories,
- Books, CDs etc
- Electronics,
- Toys
- Spring and summer clothing only. No fall or winter clothes please.
- Furniture, but only if you can hold it in one hand.
- Baked goods, or food items for cooking (*Call Maria for more information at 646/863-2902*)
- We have a good supply of hangers and shopping bags now, but Children's clothing hangers are needed. This time the children will be organizing their own table.

It would be appreciated if you could **start** bringing in your donations **now** and, if possible bring them in on Sundays, so we can start pricing items after the coffee hour.

For other drop off hours please call the church office.

Please, no last minute donations because it only overwhelms us! If you bring them in just before the bazaar date, it becomes too difficult to handle.

No donations will be accepted on the day of the bazaar!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (*call Kathy to volunteer @212/249-0125*)

- To help to mark items on previous days and evenings.
- Setting up.
- Breaking down on the day of the bazaar.
- Help in the kitchen would also be appreciated for the Immanuel Café.
- If you are able to work on the day of the bazaar, we need to know beforehand, as we must assign people to handle the tables and other tasks.

Showing up on the day of the bazaar to volunteer only disorganizes us.

Please keep the June date in mind.