

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888
March 22, 2020



Immanuel Lutheran Church is a
A Mission of the North American Lutheran Church
5955 S Elm Ave.
Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706
Office: (559)237-7909
Website: IMMANUELEASTON.COM
Email: immanueleaston@sbcglobal.net

Sunday Schedule

Worship for everyone online 10:30AM

Wednesday

Junior High & High School

Youth Group "Refuge" Meet from 6:00PM-8:00PM when the pandemic is over

Welcome To You in Your Home while we worship God! God invites all who would seek His face to worship Him this morning. Be open to the Holy Spirit as you hear God's Word and sing His praises. He is mighty and worthy of our praise! We are well-aware of the challenges we all face with the health crisis we are enduring. God is in charge and will see us through. Let us continue to worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

Immanuel is part of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). Our Core Values include being Christ-Centered, Mission-Driven, Traditionally-Grounded and Congregationally-Focused.

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month as well as other special occasions of the church year. If you are baptized and have received instruction concerning the Lord's Supper, you are welcome to receive this sacrament here. If you would like to learn about either baptism or communion, please speak with the pastor before the service or check the box on the worship registration form to schedule an appointment. Only non-alcoholic wine is used in communion at Immanuel.

Moms and Dads, we love children and we welcome children to worship with you and the whole congregation. If you so desire, we do have a nursery – the room with the large window next to the Library at the back of the sanctuary. In there is a rocking chair, toys, as well as a speaker and large window so you can see and hear the service. Your kids may enjoy the activity bags on the rack at the back of the church.

To learn more about Immanuel please be sure to fill out the worship registration slip on the back page of your bulletin and place it in the offering plate or fill out the guest registry located in the church entry.

Restroom facilities are located in the church entry (the narthex). When walking out of the sanctuary take a left and they are at the end of the short hallway.

Join us for a snack and a cup of coffee or juice immediately following our worship service where we can greet you more personally.

Order of Worship

Prelude

Laurel Jacobsen

Ringling the Bells

Calling the community of Easton to worship

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Deacon: Lord God, in this short time together, open our ears and our eyes to see your vision for this place and our part within it. Teach us, hear our prayers and enable us for service wherever you might take us, to your praise and glory. Amen.

ALL: Here we are Lord; your people, your Church meeting together in your presence. We welcome each other and we welcome You. Make yourself known to us new ways through our worship, our prayers and our understanding of your Word today. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Pastor: Lord, pull back the veil” and reveal your presence and work around us. When our eyes are open, we see that you are everywhere, in everything, always. When our eyes are open, we see every day is brimming over with your love and presence: filled with Your majesty, Your activity and Your miracles.

ALL Open my eyes, that I may see the Your love, mercy, and grace in the Lord Jesus Christ. Open my eyes, that I may behold wonderful things from Your law. Open my eyes to see Your glory in all of creation. Open my eyes to see the blessing in every hardship. Open my eyes to see the Gospel in every person. Amen.

Time of Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: O Holy One, we call to you and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love. Yet there are times, O God, when we fail to recognize you in the dailiness of our lives. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us small, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness, and we degrade our own wisdom.

ALL Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset, remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us. Free us from shame and self-doubt. Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from your wisdom.

Pastor: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. Amen.

Praise Music

“This Is Amazing Grace”

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory
The King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory
The King above all kings

This is Amazing Grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross

You lay down Your life
That I would be set free
Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory
The King of Glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of it's brilliance
The King of Glory
The King above all Kings

This is Amazing Grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross

You lay down Your life
That I would be set free
Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy, Worthy, Worthy

This is Amazing Grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross

You lay down Your life
That I would be set free
Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me
Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me

“You’re Worthy of My Praise”

I will worship with all of my heart. I will praise You with all of my strength
I will seek You; all of my days. I will follow; all of Your ways

I will give You all my worship I will give You all my praise
You, alone, I long to worship. You, alone, are worthy of my praise

I will bow down and hail You as King. I will serve You; give You everything.
I will lift up; my eyes to Your throne. I will trust You; trust You alone.

David Ruis
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The First Lesson

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, ‘Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.’

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name’s sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Gospel Lesson

John 9:1-41

¹As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’ ³Jesus answered, ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.’ ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, ‘Go, wash in the pool of Siloam’ (which means Sent).

Then he went and washed and came back able to see. 8The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' 9Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' 10But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' 11He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' 12They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'

13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' 16Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. 17So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.'

18 The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' 20His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' 22His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. 23Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

24 So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' 25He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' 26They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' 27He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' 28Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' 30The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. 31We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. 32Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. 33If this man was not from God, he could

do nothing.’ 34They answered him, ‘You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?’ And they drove him out.

35 Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, ‘Do you believe in the Son of Man?’ 36He answered, ‘And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.’ 37Jesus said to him, ‘You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.’ 38He said, ‘Lord, I believe.’ And he worshipped him. 39Jesus said, ‘I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.’ 40Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, ‘Surely we are not blind, are we?’ 41Jesus said to them, ‘If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, “We see”, your sin remains.

The Sermon

The Apostle’s Creed

ALL: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated.

Collection of the Offering

“Open My Eyes That I May See”

Celebration #563

Open my eyes that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free

Chorus

Silently now I wait for Thee
Ready my God Thy will to see
Open my eyes illumine me
Spirit divine

Verse 2

Open my ears that I may hear
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear
And while the wave notes fall on my ear
Everything false will disappear

Silently now I wait for Thee
Ready my God Thy will to see
Open my eyes illumine me
Spirit divine

Verse 3

Open my mouth and let me bear
Gladly the warm truth everywhere
Open my heart and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share

Silently now I wait for Thee
Ready my God Thy will to see
Open my eyes illumine me
Spirit divine

Bob Burroughs | Clara H. Fiske Scott
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Please stand as the gifts are brought forward and presented.

Offertory Response

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray. Blessed are you,

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

Closing Hymn

“Be Thou My Vision”

WOV# 776

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
Thou my best thought by day and by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,
Raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Light of my soul, after victory won,

May I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish, 8th-10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.

Please be seated.

Announcements

Dismissal

Pastor: *Go in peace and serve the Lord!*

ALL: Thanks be to God! (Sung) Amen, Amen, Amen!

Postlude

Laurel Jacobsen

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 23, 2020: Let's focus this week on the fact that we are children of the light.

1Peter 2:9 NIV. *"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."*

ONLINE GIVING IS NOW AVAILALABLE AT IMMANUEL! We have the opportunity to continue to support our church financially by going to immanueleaston.com and clicking on the word DONATE at the top of the page. It's easy and fun. You can donate to the GENERAL FUND as well as any designated funds you would like just by using the drop down bar. Your online contributions will also appear on your giving statement.

BANQUET TO SUPPORT THE HORN OF AFRICA MISSION. You are invited to learn more about the Horn of Africa mission April 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Clovis Veterans Memorial.

SUNDAY WORSHIP AND LENTEN MID-WEEK SERVICES ARE TEMPORARILY CANCELLED. Because of the coronavirus pandemic and mandates to meet in groups 10 people and less, we are cancelling our worship gatherings. Pastor Dawn will be using Zoom to broadcast her Lenten devotionals. Pastor John will be using our website and there will also be links on the Immanuel Facebook to broadcast his sermons and music selections. Our Immanuel leadership will keep you posted regarding schedule changes.

OUR CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE HELPING IMMANUEL STAY IN TOUCH. Each council member has voluntarily taken names from our church directory to call weekly and see how our folks are doing during this difficult time. Please let us know if you are homebound and would like to be included (if you haven't been called). We are the Church and want us to stay in community. God loves you and so do we!

Lenten Schedule

To date this is the plan: change may occur as needed to keep everyone safe.

Lenten Services

The Crowd	March 25th - Online	
The Disciples	April 1st - Online	
Judas Betrays Jesus	April 5th - Online	
<i>Sunday, April 5-Thursday, April 9th Break-Away for Immanuel Youth has been cancelled.</i>		
Maundy Thursday	April 9th	7:00PM in Sanctuary
<i>Washed the Disciple's feet and a new commandment I gift to you</i>		
Good Friday Service	April 10th	7:00PM in Sanctuary
<i>What else do they usually do?</i>		
Easter Sunrise Service	April 12th	6:28AM in Park
Pancake Breakfast sponsored by our Youth		After Sunrise Service
Easter Worship		10:30AM in Sanctuary

Prayers of the church

For Christ's Church: *Eternal God, we thank You for Your Church through which the gospel of Jesus Christ has been manifest in every age. As we move into a time of transition, help us to know that though the world around us changes, You do not change. And while we may not know what the future has for us, You know what that future looks like and are already there, so call us to Yourself and give us the courage and confidence to step out in faith.*

Members and their families serving in the military: *Kobe Bell, Joey Brewer, Henry Clark, Michael Hansen, Caleb Hathaway, Scott Linger, Matt Ward, & Matthew Tigchelaar.*

Those unable to travel about:

Tom Britter, Olga Hansen, Elsie Hoff, Marilyn Iversen Art & Marian Olesen, Phyllis Petersen, and Howard Nielsen.

Those in need of healing: *Bobby Bell, Tom & Sandy Britter, Luanne Byrd, Shirley Keller-Firestone, Pat Griffin, Pastor Gary Gould, Jenny Lee Hodges, Marguerite Johnson, Florence Johnston, Kathy Ann Little, Darel Mehrten, Glenn & Marilyn Nielsen, Isaac Orozco Sr., Fil Navaro, Eva Orum, Chuck Phillips, Sr., Virginia Pilegard, Timm Trickett, & Joe Wozniczka.*

For those morning the loss of loved ones:

The families of Damon Newsom & Ryan Tofteland & Sandra Bell.

Continue to Pray for our Call Process:

For our Interim Pastor and the Call Committee as well as the new Pastor the Lord will send to Immanuel.

Name _____	Date _____
Address _____	Phone _____
City / State / Zip _____	Email _____
Names / ages of Children living at home _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Time Guest <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Time or Regular Attender <input type="checkbox"/> Member I came as a guest of _____	
Home Congregation _____	

This Week at Immanuel

Today

10:30AM Worship for Everyone in your own shelter!

11:30AM Fellowship Time phone a friend from church.

Monday

7:00PM Narcotics Anonymous in social hall (small group available for those in need)

Wednesday

7:0PM Lenten Worship with Pastor Dawn in your own shelter online! Check your email.

Next Sunday

10:30AM Worship online in your own shelter.

11:30AM Fellowship Time phone a friend from church!

Pastor and Victoria are still working within the church office as needed. The mail is picked up every day please don't worry about sending your offerings through the mail. Online giving is available there is a recurring donation option offered. See immanueleaston.com and click on donate.

The bulletins are being sent out via postal mail to those who do not have access to the internet. Bulletins are always available online. If you know of someone who would like to receive a bulletin in the mail, please call the church office.

Please remember to call a friend from church and continue to pray for those affected by this virus.

If you have a special prayer request or other need please call or email the church office. Messages are checked daily.

Stay safe, we are working together by working apart. Keep praying. God is good all the time! All the time, God is good.

Please check the appropriate box and write your message in the space below.

- I want to learn more about faith.
- I want to receive the monthly newsletter ("The Chimes")
- I am receiving communion today
- I want to speak with the parish nurse
- I have a message for (circle:) the office / the pastor
- I have a prayer request: _____

I have hymn suggestions: _____