

Welcome to
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Immanuel means "God with us" (Matthew 1:23)
Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888
June 28, 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:
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Sunday Schedule

Worship for everyone online

Wednesday Schedule

Junior High & High School
Youth Group "Refuge" Meet
from 6:00PM-8:00PM on Zoom

Welcome to You in Your Home while we worship God! When the world is in turmoil we need to stand on the Solid Rock of our Lord Jesus Christ who is the same yesterday, today and will be forever. Now more than ever, in the midst of a pandemic, racial tension and violence, we need Jesus to be in our midst to heal and make whole. Our worship today equips us to be a welcoming church for all people, making an impact for the Kingdom of God. God's blessing on each of you as you worship the One who reconciled the world to Himself on the Cross!

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

To learn more about Immanuel please call the church office or fill out the worship registration slip on the back page of your bulletin and place send it in to the church. The office would like to keep track of all of the worshipers this week.

Call a friend immediately following your worship and talk and enjoy fellowship over the phone, maybe while you each enjoy a snack. Keeping connected to are brothers and sisters in Christ is important and very uplifting. Phone a friend!

Order of Worship

Prelude

Laurel Jacobsen

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Almighty God in Heaven, here we are before You, hearts exposed. Nothing is hidden from Your sight.

ALL: There is no place where secrets remain hidden because You know all things.

Pastor: We confess that we are sinners in desperate need of Christ our Savior to cleanse us from our sins.

ALL: Cleanse our thoughts through the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us.

Pastor: Hear well, people of God: You are forgiven in the presence of God, by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

ALL: We magnify Your holy and worthy name, Jesus, both now and forevermore.

Pastor: Thank You, Jesus!

ALL: Thank You, Lord. Amen.

Opening Songs

Allyson and Richard Kahn

“I Have Decided To Follow Jesus”

I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
No turning back no turning back

The world behind me the cross before me
The world behind me the cross before me
The world behind me the cross before me
No turning back no turning back

Though none go with me still I will follow
Though none go with me still I will follow
Though none go with me still I will follow
No turning back no turning back
Will you decide now to follow Jesus
Will you decide now to follow Jesus
Will you decide now to follow Jesus
No turning back no turning back

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“Just A Closer Walk With Thee”

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
Daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

I am weak but thou art strong: Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
Daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
Daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore.

Text: North American traditional

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The First Reading

Romans 6:12-23

Laurel Jacobsen

¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³ Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵ What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient servants, you are servants of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God, that you who were once servants of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸ and, having been set free from sin, have become servants of righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as servants to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as devoted servants to righteousness leading to sanctification. ²⁰ For when you were servants of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become devoted servants of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Special Music

Austin Bratton

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 10:40-42

Jesus says, ⁴⁰ “Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. ⁴¹ The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. ⁴² And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

Sermon

“A New, Old Type of Welcome”

Pastor Dawn Spies

Confession of Faith

Pastor: Let us confess our faith using the words of 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.

Prayers of the Church

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

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen!

Announcements

Sending Hymn

“All Creatures of Our God and King” LBW# 527, vss. 1-3; 7

All creatures of our God and King lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam thou silver moon with softer gleam

O praise Him, O Praise Him alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heaven along
O praise Him alleluia
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening find a voice

O praise Him, O Praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Thou flowing water pure and clear, make music for thy Lord to hear
Alleluia, alleluia
Thou fire so masterful and bright, Thou giv’est man both warmth and light

O praise Him O Praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

People and nations take your part love and forgive with all your heart
Alleluia, alleluia
All who long pain and sorrow bear trust God and cast on Him your care

O praise Him, O Praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

St. Francis of Assisi | William Henry Draper © Words: Public Domain, Music: Public Domain
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Dismissal

P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God! (Sung) Amen, Amen, Amen!

Postlude:

Laurel Jacobsen

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Announcements

PRAYER FOCUS THIS WEEK: Week of 6-29-2020. Let's focus on our calling to declare God's praises. 1 Peter 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".

Small Group Bible Studies for members in groups of 8-10 people! Immanuel has many Bible Studies in various forms of workbooks, devotionals and DVD lead series. During this pandemic, small group meetings can offer a time of fellowship and enrichment. If you are interested in joining a small group that would meet in someone's home or in someone's backyard, please call the church office at 237-7909 or email: immanueleaston@sbcglobal.net and Immanuel will get you connected.

The first small group to gather will begin on July 1st at the home of Allyson Kahn, this group of women will watch the DVD series "The Best Yes" by Lysa Terkeurst, the book is about making wise decisions in the midst of endless demands. The back of the book highlights: Lysa is learning that there is a big difference between saying yes to everyone and saying yes to God. She will help you:

- Cure the disease to please with a biblical understanding of the command to love.
- Escape the shame and guilt of disappointing others by learning the secret of the small no.
- Overcome the agony of hard choices by embracing a wisdom-based decision-making process.
- Rise above the rush of endless demands and discover your Best Yes in July.

This six-week session will be on Wednesdays at 7:00PM. For more information, contact the church office.

Memorial services for Ron Salwasser will be: Monday, June 29th at 11:30AM at the Clovis Missionary Baptist Church located at 854 Fowler Avenue in Clovis. Please consider all pandemic safety precautions as you attend. For those who do not feel comfortable attending, please contact Victoria for the link to the live stream the service online through Stephens and Bean Funeral Chapel.

Greetings brothers and sisters from our council president:

I hope you are well and finding great ways to pass the time during our COVID pandemic. The purpose of this article is to announce the re-opening of Sunday church services beginning July 19.

Worship will begin at 10:30 a.m. During Sunday services all current protocols of safety will be employed in an effort to keep our congregants, staff, and guests safe. These protocols include social distancing with only a third of the pews open for occupancy, face masks required for all attending, hand sanitizing as new hand sanitizing stations have been purchased and will be installed by the 19th, and observing the 25% rule prescribed by the Governor which is 85 congregants at one time for our sanctuary. I would like to reiterate that our campus buildings have been deep cleaned in their entirety, and will continue to be fully sanitized as we move forward.

Some food for thought as we look ahead to the 19th: if you are not feeling well with symptoms of fever, headache, sore throat, or vomiting and/or diarrhea please stay home. Your health as well as the health of others is key to making our re-opening work for everyone.

Conversely, if you have thought long and hard about returning to church, and you are feeling uneasy about this, please know it's okay to stay home a bit longer. In fact, we encourage it. We will still bring church to you! :) We will continue to provide church services available via YouTube. Pastors John and Dawn, and the music team are really enjoying the rock star status they each have achieved, and the crew is top notch as well!

Lastly, all church services will fully resume beginning Rally Day in the fall. As of today, your council has not determined a date for Rally day given the need for a degree of flexibility should restrictions ease in the coming weeks and months. Also, a caution: should we experience any negative change in COVID-19 cases that cause a reduction in the current Phase 3 opening we will need to cease with Sunday morning services until further notice. On behalf of your council, thank you for your understanding.

Our goal is quite simple. The health and safety of every member of our Immanuel family.
Love is a verb, Fred Cogan, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Council President

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

Those in need of healing: Bobby Bell, Connie Bennetts, Mike Bennetts, Sandy Britter, Luanne Byrd, Daniel DiPietro, Pastor Gary Gould, Jeff Gonchoroff, Jenny Lee Hodges, Marguerite Johnson, Florence Johnston, Glenn & Marilyn Nielsen, Isaac Orozco Sr., Fil Navaro, Eva Orum, Chuck Phillips, Sr., Virginia Pilegard, Timm Trickett, & Joe Wozniczka.

Those grieving the loss of loved ones: for the family of Ron Salwasser.

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.