

**Welcome to
Immanuel Lutheran Church**

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

October 4, 2020



5955 S Elm Ave.
Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706
Office: (559)237-7909
Immanueleaston.com
immanueleaston@sbcglobal.net

Sunday Schedule:
Outdoor Worship 9:00am
Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm Outdoor Refuge
For Junior High & High School

Immanuel Lutheran Church

October 4, 2020

Immanuel means "God with us" (Matthew 1:23)

Welcome! Wherever you are; whether at home and on-line, or at our outdoor service, we welcome you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ! We are united as a people of God in worship as a Body of Christ, the Church. We wish we could be together physically in our beautiful sanctuary, but the pandemic has forced us to be creative as our team has gone to great lengths to bring us together, technologically and in person. May God grant you safety and protection during these unprecedented times. Please share our worship opportunities with your family and friends and those who don't know the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Bathrooms are available in Grace Hall. We have hand sanitizer outside

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

**PLEASE PRACTICE
ALL PANDEMIC
SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

**Please allow us to take your temperature
before joining the group.**

Please separate each household group seating by at least 6 feet. Flags are set out as a tool to help guide the distancing.

Please wear a mask.

Order of Worship

Prelude

Laurel Jacobsen

Ringing the Bells

Calling the community of Easton to worship

Welcome

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Opening Prayer

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we invite you into our time of worship, and we thank you for the newness of life that only You can give. Give us a new heart and desire for you, that we may bring delight to You and be a powerful and loving witness to our world. Create in us a new heart, O Lord, and renew a right spirit within us. In Jesus Name we pray. Amen.

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Please Stand as you are able

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection

Pastor: Listen to these words as you reflect in your hearts: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew

us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Please be seated

Prayer of The Day

Generously pardon and give peace to your faithful people, O Lord, that being cleansed from every sin, we may be free and glad to serve; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Reading of the Word

The First Reading

Philippians 3:4-14

⁴even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh. If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

³³Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." ⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?" ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Children will remain in their seats with their parents

The Children's Sermon

Pastor Taylor

Sermon

"The Inheritance of the Lord"

Pastor Taylor

Special Music

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"

Rich & Allyson Kahn

Confession of Faith

Please stand as you are able for the confession of the Apostles Creed.

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.

Please be seated

Offerings may be placed in the red offering bags on each corner.

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

All: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Holy Communion

We Prepare

Pastor: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Words of Institution

Please stand as you are able.

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciple, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

Communion Distribution

Everyone should have a small communion package. Raise your hand if you did not receive one as you arrived at the worship service, and an usher will deliver one to you. The pastor will say the blessing before the elements are received, so we may take them in unity with one another.

Pastor: The body of Christ, given for you.

Pastor: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

ALL: Amen

Post Communion Canticle

“Thank the Lord”

Thank the Lord and sing his praise;
Tell everyone what he has done.
Let everyone who seeks the Lord
Rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises
And leads his people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Post Communion Prayer

Pastor: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: 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!

Please be seated.

Announcements

Dismissal

P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

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

Postlude

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Announcements & Opportunities To Serve

Indoor Worship Next Sunday: Fresno County has been in the red zone for the past three weeks, and so after much prayer and consideration, we have begun the process of transitioning worship back indoors. We want to ensure that this transition does not create any unnecessary risks so the following precautions will be put in place:

- Masks will be required at all times and hand sanitizer provided
- Pews will be marked to ensure that we are appropriately distanced from one another
- Music will only be offered through socially distanced soloist/family units
- The sanctuary will be sanitized every Saturday to ensure that we are worshipping in a clean space
- Because we will no longer be accounting for outdoor weather, **we will hold services at 10:00 am beginning next Sunday, October 11th.**

We will continue to broadcast our services every week so that those who are unable to join us in person and those with concerns about worshipping in person may continue to faithfully offer praise to God alongside us. We will continue to make adjustments as new information arises, and our priority is the health and safety of ourselves and our neighbors. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email or call Pastor Taylor at: ptmarie96@gmail.com or cell phone (803)767-5128

Tomorrow is the Easton Food Distribution at the Easton Presbyterian Church. Volunteers are needed from 12:00-3:00PM to pack and distribute foods to folks who drive by to pick up produce donated by the Central California Food Bank. Please let your friends and family know that the food distribution is for all who can use it. Volunteers must wear close toed shoes and bring your own water bottle.

Community Women's Prayer Gathering begins at 9:30AM, on Wednesday mornings, outdoors at Easton Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Geneva and Willamette. Peggy Mattos has organized this time of prayer for all women in our community. Spread the word and bring your friends who love to pray. Please abide by all pandemic safety precautions.

Community Men's Bible Study at 6:00AM on Thursdays, at the C. P. D. E. S. Hall on Jefferson, west of Elm Ave. All men are welcome for breakfast and reflection on the Holy Scriptures. The gathering is indoors and socially distanced. Please abide by all pandemic safety precautions.

The fires in California, especially and Hurricane Laura was what the Lord laid on our heart for assistance. The web site is thenalc.org/donate, and the address, if that is preferred is: NALC Disaster Response, 2299 Palmer Drive, Suite 220, New Brighton, MN 55112

Amazon Smiles Program offers portions of your purchases donated to Immanuel. When you shop on Amazon instead of going to amazon.com go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2737287> and our church will receive a percent of your purchase.

October is National Book Month! Why not stop by the library and pick up a book or two? We have some good titles for Reformation....for both adults and kids.... so stop in and check it out!

New Music: Austin Bratton, a student at Grand Canyon University, has shared music at Immanuel Lutheran several times during the past few years. He wrote a song (melody and lyrics) called 'Steadfast Love' that is now available on Canyon Worship 2020. The promo is on U tube (Canyon Worship 2020) and the music can be found on i tunes, Spotify, and Google Play.



Immanuel Lutheran Church Pulled Pork Sandwich Dinners

Pick up on:

Saturday, October 24th from 4:00-6:30PM

Pick up in front of Social Hall

All proceeds go to Fresno Mission

Pre-Orders Please! Suggested Donation: \$15.00

Call 237-7909 for Tickets or

Buy your tickets today!

Cash, Check or Credit Cards accepted!

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.*

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

Those unable to travel about: Connie Bennetts, Olga Hansen, Marilyn Iversen, Marguerite Johnson, Art & Marian Olesen, Phyllis Petersen, & Howard Nielsen.

Those in need of healing: **Those in need of healing:** Marilyn Bell, Sandy Britter, Luanne Byrd, Gaye Cissel, Geoff Cooper, Pastor Gary Gould, Jenny Lee Hodges, Florence Johnston, Sam Navaro, Glenn & Marilyn Nielsen, Eva Orum, Christie Pettitt, Chuck Phillips, Sr., Virginia Pilegard, Tucker & Cooper Rister, Phyllis Sullivan, Timm Trickett, Joe Wozniczka & Joni Zingarelli.

For those morning the loss of loved ones: The family of Stan Pilegard and the family of Lupe Franco.

For those who have lost their belongings to the fires in California. For Fire Fighters and other Emergency Responders who are battling the fires and the trauma. For protection to all who suffer from the bad air.

For people dealing with loneliness and depression caused by these pandemic precautions. For those battling the Coronavirus.

This Week at Immanuel

Today

10:30AM Worship for Everyone with Communion!

Monday

12:00PM Easton Food Distribution

Wednesday

9:30AM Women's Prayer at E.P. C.

Thursday

6:00AM Men's Bible Study at C.P.D.E. S. Hall

Next Sunday:

10:00AM Worship for Everyone

Following Worship: Congregational prayer

2:00PM Memorial Service for Tom Britter

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Don Pettitt & Lee Terkelsen & Randy McFarland

Sound & Technology Crew: Christian Jensen, Jacob Wood

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Worship Assistants Next Week:

Ushers: Don Pettitt & Lee Terkelsen & Randy McFarland

Sound & Technology Crew: Christian Jensen, Jacob Wood

Greeters: All of Immanuel