

*Welcome to
Immanuel Lutheran Church*

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

October 18 2020



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

Sunday Schedule:
Worship 10:00am
Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm Outdoor Refuge
For Junior High & High School

Immanuel Lutheran Church

October 18, 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.

All: 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.

All: 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

All: 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

O Lord, sustain your church with your perpetual mercy. Without you, in our weakness we will surely fail. Therefore, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us in all things towards our salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the holy spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Reading of the Word

Common Thread: The Lord is sovereign above all others—above the kings of the Old Testament, Caesar, and the kings of our own day. As Christians we are called to bow before the Lord and live each day as citizens of his kingdom.

The First Reading

Isaiah 45:1-7

¹ Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:

² I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the Lord, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the Lord, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the Lord do all these things.

Psalm 96:1-13

¹Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
²Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.
³Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.
⁴For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
he is to be feared above all gods.
⁵For all the gods of the nations are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
⁶Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and glory are in his sanctuary.
⁷Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
⁸Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come into his courts.
⁹Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.

¹⁰ Say among the nations, “The Lord reigns.”
The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.
¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.
¹² Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;
let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.
¹³ Let all creation rejoice before the Lord, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples in his faithfulness.

The Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Children will remain in their seats with their parents

The Children's Sermon

Pastor Taylor

Sermon

“Party Loyalty”

Pastor Taylor

Special Music

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 either of the red offering bags as you exit the Sanctuary.

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

Please serve yourself Holy Communion when directed on the next page.

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!

Postlude

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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!

Announcements & Opportunities To Serve

The Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood Drive is next Sunday. Please sign up online at <https://signup.com/go/TYtTCFf> . No appointment is necessary but helpful. Join us from 8:00-11:30AM to donate.

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.

Refuge Youth meet on Wednesdays at 7:00pm outside in front of Grace Hall. For more information, contact Jacob Wood.

Would you like to help out with our Tech Ministry? Contact Jacob Wood.

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 YouTube (Canyon Worship 2020) and the music can be found on iTunes, Spotify, and Google Play.

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, & Phyllis Sullivan.

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, Timm Trickett, Joe Wozniczka & Joni Zingarelli.

For those morning the loss of loved ones: The family of Franklin Hansen. (Victoria Salwasser's father)

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!

Tuesday

7:00PM Church Council Meeting in Social Hall

Wednesday

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

Thursday

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

Saturday

4:00-6:30PM Pull Pork Sandwich Pick Up

Next Sunday:

8:00AM-Noon Russ Dunbar Memorial

10:00AM Worship for Everyone

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