

*Welcome to  
Immanuel Lutheran Church*

*Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888*

*October 25, 2020*



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Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706  
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Sunday Schedule:  
Worship 10:00am  
Wednesdays 6:30pm Outdoor Refuge  
For Junior High & High School

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

October 25, 2020

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

**Welcome!** Wherever you are; whether at home and on-line, or worshipping in our sanctuary 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. 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!

**Immanuel is aligned with the North American Lutheran Church** whose Core Values are: Christ-Centered, Mission-Driven, Traditionally-Grounded, and Congregationally-Focused.

**Holy Communion** is celebrated every Sunday. If you are baptized 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 bag at the back of the sanctuary.

**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.

**Please practice all pandemic safety precautions.** Please wear a mask and allow us to take your temperature before entering the sanctuary. Please separate each household group by sitting in every other pew.

**Hand Sanitizers** are free and located on the walls at each entrance of the sanctuary.

# *Order of Worship*

**Prelude**

**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*

Pastor: The Lord be with you

**All: And Also with you**

Pastor: Let us pray

### **Prayer of The Day**

Sovereign God, we pray for the Holy Spirit to continue to reform the church of Christ. Keep it in the true faith; restore, correct, and inspire its teachings; and embolden it to bear witness to the life-giving message of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 sets us free and sustains us, protecting us from the damage sin and death would wreak on our lives, and providing us with comfort, solace, and reformation.*

### **The First Reading**

**Revelation 14:6-7**

6 Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. 7 And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

Reader: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 46**

1 God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,  
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

3 though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah

4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

5 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;  
God will help her when morning dawns.

6 The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

7 The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

8 Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth. 9  
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the chariots with fire.

10 “Be still, and know that I am God.  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!”

11 The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**The Second Reading**

**Romans 3:19-28**

19 Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. 21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. 27 Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28 For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Reader: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

**The Gospel**

**John 8:31-36**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter

**All: Glory to you, O Lord**

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33 They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" 34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you, O Christ**

*Children will remain in their seats with their family during the pandemic.*

**The Children's Sermon**

Pastor Taylor

**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**

*Please commune as led on page 8.*

**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 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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## *Announcements & Opportunities To Serve*

Thank you everyone who participated in the Pork Sandwich Dinner Fundraiser yesterday.

**Community Women's Prayer Gathering begins at 9:30AM, on Wednesday mornings, outdoors** at Easton Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Geneva and Willamette.

**Community Men's Bible Study at 6:00AM on Thursdays**, at the C. P. D. E. S. Hall on 172 W. Jefferson in Easton.

**Camp Parsonage returns are in the Social Hall.** If you helped fill the parsonage before Pastor moved in she has returned your belongings to the social hall ready for you to pick up. Thank you to all who helped fill their home while they waited for their belongings to arrive.

**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!

**Marcia Hollenbeck has volunteered to represent Immanuel as our coordinator for the NALC has a Disaster Relief team.** Bibles are needed when disaster strikes, the team is asking for donated Bibles. If you have a Bible or more to donate, please bring them to church and Marcia will get them where they need to go. If you are not getting out yet, due to Covid, call her at 269-7299 or the church office at 237-7909 to arrange for collection. You can also donate money for the church to purchase Bibles. Please note Bible Donation on all funds for this purpose. Please see your November Chimes for more information about this ministry.

## 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, Lois Rasmussen, Phyllis Sullivan, Timm Trickett, Joe Wozniczka & Joni Zingarelli.

**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.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
City / State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Names / ages of Children living at home \_\_\_\_\_  
  1st Time Guest     2nd Time or Regular Attender     Member    I came as a guest of \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

**Altar Flowers are presented by:** Mark and Victoria Salwasser for glory and honor to God and in celebration of their 30th wedding anniversary.

## **This Week at Immanuel**

### **Today**

**8:00-Noon Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood Drive**  
10:00AM Worship for Everyone & Communion!

### **Wednesday**

**6:30PM Outdoor Refuge for Youth**

### **Thursday**

600AM Men's Bible Study at CPDES Hall

### **Next Sunday:**

10:00AM Worship for Everyone in Sanctuary

### **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

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 want to learn more about baptism

I want to become a member of Immanuel

I want a visit from the visitation pastor

I want to speak with the pastor

I have hymn suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_