

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

March 28, 2021



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

Sunday Schedule:
Sunday School via Zoom 9:00AM
Outdoor & Online Worship 10:30am
Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm
Refuge Via Zoom
For Junior High & High School

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! **Please separate each household group seating by at least 6 feet. Please wear a mask.**

Order of Worship

Prelude

Laurel Jacobsen

Ringing the Bells *Calling the community of Easton to worship*

Welcome

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

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: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!

Pastor: As Jesus and the disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the town of Bethphage on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of them on ahead. “Go into the village over there,” he said, “and you will see a donkey tied there with its colt beside it. Untie them and bring them here. If anyone asks what you are doing, just say ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will immediately send them.” This was done to fulfill the prophecy, “Tell the people of Israel, ‘Look, your King is coming to you. He is humble, riding on a donkey – even on a donkey’s colt.’” The two disciples did as Jesus said. They brought the animals to Him and threw their coats on the road ahead of Jesus, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. He was in the center of the procession, and the crowds all around Him was in the center of the procession, and the crowds were shouting.

People: “Praise God for the Son of David! Bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Praise God in highest heaven!”

Pastor: The entire city of Jerusalem was stirred as He entered. “Who is this?” they asked.

People: “It’s Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee!”

Pastor: (Blesses the palm branches as he says,) We praise You, O God, for the acts of love by which You have redeemed us through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day He entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of

kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along the way. Let these branches be for us signs of His victory, and grant that we who bear them in His name may ever hail Him as our King, and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life!

People: Amen!

Palm branches are distributed to the congregation

Pastor: Let us enter our Jerusalem and proclaim Jesus as King of kings and Lord of lords!

Ringling the Bells

Calling the community of Easton to worship

Opening Hymn

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race ye ransomed from the fall
Hail Him who saves you by His grace and crown Him Lord of all
Hail Him who saves you by His grace and crown Him Lord of all

Sinners whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall
Go spread your trophies at His feet and crown Him Lord of all
Go spread your trophies at His feet and crown Him Lord of all

Let ev'ry kindred ev'ry tribe on this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe and crown Him Lord of all
To Him all majesty ascribe and crown Him Lord of all

O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall
We'll join the everlasting song and crown Him Lord of all
We'll join the everlasting song and crown Him Lord of all

Crown Him ye morning stars of light who fixed this earthly ball
Now hail the strength of Israel's might and crown Him Lord of all
Now hail the strength of Israel's might and crown Him Lord of all

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit:

C: Amen.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest. Almighty God, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ to take our flesh upon him and to suffer death on the cross. Grant that we may share in this obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection; 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

Strength can fail us because of guilt. But if we trust in the Lord, he sets us free by the blood of the covenant that has made with us. Because the Son of God took on human form and was obedient to his Father's will, suffering the death that all deserve, we are not only liberated from our sin guilt, but are set free to live godly lives (Phil 2:1-4). This is the grand fulfillment of the Scriptures: salvation through God's Christ, who suffered death so that we may live both now and forevermore.

The First Reading

Zechariah 9:9-12

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

11 As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. 12 Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 118:19-29

19Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. 20This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. 21I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. 22The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. 23This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. 24This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. 25Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success! 26Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD. 27The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. 28You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. 29O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

The Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

5Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. 9Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Please Stand as you are able

The Gospel

John 12:12-19

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to St John the twelfth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

12The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. 13So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord — the King of

Israel!"¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: ¹⁵"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. ¹⁷So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. ¹⁸It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. ¹⁹The Pharisees then said to one another, "You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!"

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated.

The Children's Sermon

Pastor Taylor

Children will remain in their seats with their family during the Children's sermon.

Sermon

Pastor Taylor

Hymn of the Day

Come Let Us Worship And Bow Down

Come let us worship and bow down let us kneel before the Lord
Our God our Maker come let us worship and bow down
Let us kneel before the Lord our God our Maker
For He is our God and we are the people of His pasture
And the sheep of His hand just the sheep of His hand

Repeat Song

Dave Doherty© 1980 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1825563

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

Pastor: Peace be with you

All: And also with you

Pastor: Let us share God's peace with one another.

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.

Please be seated.

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 “Lamb of God”

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Grant us peace. 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!

Dismissal

P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Today's service is reprinted by permission under our Church Copyright License through CCLI Sundays and Seasons v.20210119.1257 Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Announcements & Opportunities to Serve

Week of 3-28-2021 Focus on our Hosanna! Jesus. John 12:13 NIV. “They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! Blessed is the king of Israel.”

Maundy Thursday, April 1st at 7:00PM and Good Friday, April 2nd at 7:00PM will be offered indoors and recorded live in the sanctuary. We ask that everyone please practice all pandemic safety precautions.

Immanuel will serve first communion to 8 students this year: Lillianna & Tomas Perez, Colby Hartwig, Micah & Mckenzie Bennetts, Cody, Garrett & Elliot Caglia.

Easton Community Clean Up on Saturday, April 3rd starting at 9:00AM! Gather in front of Immanuel to grab a donut, team up and head out to beautify our community before Easter Morning!

Easton Community Sunrise Service will be at the park across the street at 6:40 AM Easter Morning!

Immanuel needs donations of packaged plastic eggs and packages of individually wrapped small candies. Donations can be dropped off at the church office no later than this Friday, April 2nd. We will meet before Easter, and fill the eggs with candy and little cards with Bible verses on them. Volunteers will gather at 6:00AM on Easter Sunday and hide 200 eggs around our church campus.

Updated 2021 Church Directory is available now. Pick one up at church on Sunday, or in the office this week. They will also be available on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday in the church entryway.

Interested in Joining Immanuel? Please contact Immanuel Church office if you would like to become an official member. Pastor Taylor will offer more information after Easter.

Our next “Email Sunday School” class will begin on March 28th. Our next study will be “Meeting God”. Here’s how it works: Every morning I will send out an email to begin the conversation for the day. There will be questions to answer, usually one or two. You can respond to each question or just one or not respond that day at all. You can respond on Wednesday to a question from Monday. You cannot answer a question wrong. No one calls you out. Your opinion is yours. While the study is important and hopefully we all will learn as we go the overriding point is to maintain a sense of Christian community. There will be some suggested prayers and you are encouraged to add to the list. All prayers will be lifted up. All you have to do is email me your email address and I will add you to the list. My email is: deaconofbutter@yahoo.com. I invite and encourage you to join in. We currently have about 16 participants. Victoria will have the books in her office or you can pick one up after church or call me and I’ll get one to you. Hope to see you in virtual class. John.

Now Offering Text Alerts Do you forget to check your email when you get home? Do events sometimes slip your mind? Is texting your preferred way of communication? Good news! Immanuel is now offering text alerts for church events. We will send out a brief text reminder about church events an hour before they begin. Church prayer requests and weekly schedules will still be offered through email. If you’d like to sign up for event reminders, please email or text Pastor Taylor your name and cell number. Her email is ptmarie96@gmail.com and her cell number is (803)767-5128.

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: Erica Botello, Joey Brewer, Henry Clark, Michael Hansen, Caleb Hathaway, Scott Linger, Matt Ward, & Matthew Tigchelaar.

Those unable to travel about: Olga Hansen, Gail Hansen, Marilyn Iversen, Art & Marian Olesen, Howard Nielsen, Phyllis Petersen, Lois Rasmussen, & Bonnie Terkelsen.

Those in need of healing: Those in need of healing: Those in need of healing Marilyn Bell, Sandy Britter, Eli Cisneros, Gaye Cissel, Pastor Gary Gould, Dennis Haugh, Al & Judy Hooper, Florence Johnston, Don Nielsen, Glenn & Marilyn Nielsen, Andre Oudum, Christie & Don Pettitt, Virginia Pilegard, Aslak Syse, Timm Trickett, Caitlin Tyler, Mark & Kami Waggoner & Joe Wozniczka.

Those mourning the loss of loved ones: The family of Luanne Byrd, Marguerite Johnson and Kris Zingarelli.

For people dealing with loneliness and depression caused by these pandemic precautions. For those battling the Coronavirus and the health care providers tending to those in need.

Altar Flowers are presented by the Orum Family for glory and honor to God and in celebration of Wayne's Birthday!

This Week at Immanuel

Today

9:00AM Sunday School on Zoom

10:30AM Outdoor & Online Worship

Wednesday

3:00PM Book Study at Immanuel

Thursday

7:00PM Maundy Thursday Service

In the Sanctuary & Online

Friday

7:00PM Good Friday Service

In the Sanctuary & Online

Next Sunday:

6:40AM Sunrise Service Immanuel Park

7:20AM Outdoor Easter Egg Hunt on Immanuel's Campus.

10:30AM Easter Worship

Outdoor Worship Recorded live on

Facebook & streamed on YouTube at

12:30

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Christian Jensen, Jacob Wood, John Jensen

Scripture Reader: Daniel Hartwig

Council Lock Up: Sharon Reynolds

Worship Assistants Next Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Christian Jensen, Jacob Wood, John Jensen

Scripture Reader: Daniel Hartwig

Council Lock Up: Volunteer Needed