

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

March 13, 2022



5955 S Elm Ave.

Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706

Office: (559)237-7909

ImmanuelEaston.com

office@immanueleaston.com

Pastor Taylor Stempniak: ptmarie96@gmail.com

Sunday Schedule:

Sunday School 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

Welcome! Wherever you are; whether at home and on-line, or joining us in our beautiful 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. Immanuel follows the current Centers for Disease Control Guidelines during the pandemic. Please wear a mask as you feel comfortable. 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 a member of the North American Lutheran Church whose Core Values are: Christ-Centered, Mission-Driven, Traditionally-Grounded, and Congregationally-Focused.

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday and other special occasions of the church year. If you have received instruction concerning the Lord's Supper, you are welcome to receive this sacrament here. If you would like to learn about either baptism or communion, please speak with the pastor following 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 as you exit the sanctuary or fill out the guest registry located in the church entry.

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.

Join us outdoors immediately following our worship service where we can greet you more personally.

Order of Worship

Prelude

Laurel Jacobsen

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

Welcome

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of your humble servants and stretch forth the right hand of your majesty to be our defense against all our enemies. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Gregorian Sacramentary, 6th Century)

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.

Opening Hymn

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Lutheran Book of Worship page 107

Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand;
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,
A home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat and burdens of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus, my eye at times can see
The very dying form of one who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears, two wonders I confess:
The wonder of his glorious love and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross.

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Please be seated

Prayer of The Day

Gather us, gracious Lord, into the saving grace of your covenantal promises. Show us the light of your countenance and remind us often of our true citizenship; through Jesus Christ, 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

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

1After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." 2But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." 4But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." 5He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." 6And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. 7Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." 8But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" 9He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." 10He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. 11And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. 12As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. 17When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. 18On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 27 (Congregation, please read the bold print verses responsively)

1The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

2When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh — my adversaries and foes — they shall stumble and fall.

3Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

4One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

5For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

6Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

7Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

8"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, LORD, do I seek.

9Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

10If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up.

11Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

12Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

13I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

14Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

The Second Reading

Philippians 3:17-4:1

17Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. 18For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. 19Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. 20But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. 21He will transform the

body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. 1Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

The Gospel

Luke 13:31-35

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to St Luke the thirteenth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

31At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." 32He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' 34Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

You may be seated.

The Children's Sermon

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Children will remain in their seats with their families.

Sermon

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Please stand for the hymn of the day.

Hymn of the Day

Oh Lord You're Beautiful

Oh Lord You're beautiful
Your face is all I seek
And when Your eyes are on this child
Your grace abounds to me

Bridge

I want to take Your Word
And shine it all around
First help me just to live it Lord
And when I'm doing well
Help me to never seek a crown
For my reward is giving glory to You

Oh Lord please light the fire
That once burned bright and clear
Replace the lamp of my first love
That burns with holy fear

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Please be seated.

P: The following people desire to affirm their baptism and become members of Immanuel Lutheran Church. As your name is read, please come forward to the altar.

We welcome today Bill, Kay, Ed, Ellen, and Margaret

P: Dear friends, in baptism, God received you and made you members of his Church. The people of this congregation would now like to publicly welcome you into this fellowship of this congregation, praising God for your presence here among us.

Confession of Faith

P: As a congregation, let us together profess our faith in God using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: 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 into hell. 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

Questions of Intent

Pastor addresses the new members:

P: You have made a public profession of your Christian faith. On behalf of this congregation, I now ask you: Will you regularly gather here in worship, to receive God's Word and share in his Holy Supper?

New Members: We will and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Will you give generously of your time, talents, and treasures in support of the mission of Christ through this congregation?

New Members: We will and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Will you be a servant to others and seek to love your neighbors, following in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus?

New Members: We will and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Will you proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and his lordship through your daily words and deeds?

New Members: We will and we ask God to help and guide us.

Pastor addresses the Congregation:

Pastor: People of God, will you warmly welcome these brothers and sisters in Christ? Will you pray for them, support them, and work side by side with them in the ministry that we share together as fellow members of the body of Christ?

C: We will, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord, we thank you for these men, women and children. By your Word and Spirit, we pray that we may grow together in mutual ministry and in service of your mission to all the world, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Peace be with you

All: And also with you

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

Offering

Offerings may be placed in the red offering bags on each corner. There is a QR Code printed on the back of the bulletin for those wishing to donate online through our website.

Offertory Response

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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.

All: 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

Communion will be served this week by intinction. Please follow the direction of the ushers, as you come to the altar the host will be dipped in the non-alcoholic wine and served to you by Pastor or a Deacon. Immanuel welcomes you to communion this morning.

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 Song of Simeon

The tune is located on the bottom half of page 93 in the front section of the Pew Hymnal

**Lord, now you let your servant go in peace;
Your word has been full-filled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation
Which you have prepared in the sight of every people:
A light to reveal you to the nations
And the glory of your people Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son
And to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning,
Is now, and will be forever. Amen**

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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

Please stand as you are able.

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!

Closing Hymn

Trust and Obey

***Chorus: Trust and obey for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus but to trust and obey***

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word
What a glory He sheds on our way, while we do His good will
He abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey ***Chorus***

Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies
But His smile quickly drives it away, not a doubt nor a fear
Not a sigh nor a tear, can abide while we trust and obey ***Chorus***

Then in fellowship sweet, we will sit at His feet
Or we'll walk by His side in the way, what He says we will do
Where He sends we will go, never fear only trust and obey ***Chorus***

Ending

Trust and obey

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Dismissal

P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God! Amen, Amen, Amen

Postlude

Laurel Jacobsen

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Here's What's Happening:

Everyone is invited to Sunday School on Sunday Mornings at 9:30AM in the Social Hall.

Week of 3-13-2022. Focus on a season of forgiveness. Matthew 6:14 NIV. "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you."

Creator's Corner will be this Saturday March 19th in Grace Hall from 10:00am-12:00PM. Bring "brunchy" snacks to share and join friends learning how to make a beaded bracelet. See a photo in the March Chimes. Class fee is \$6.00. Sign up in the Church Entryway.

Lenten Soup Suppers continue this Wednesday, with a special guest speaker from the Fresno Mission. Come and hear the exciting news about their plans for the center of the community. Soup Supper begins in the Social Hall at **6:15pm** with a soup potluck! Folks with birthdays in **April - June get to supply desserts.** Service starts in Sanctuary 7:00PM

Large Glass jars with lids needed for Soup Deliveries. Please save you 17-27 ounce jars with good fitting lids and bring them to the church for soup deliveries to our home bound.

The Holden Evening Prayer service and speaker will start at 7:00PM. This year's Lenten Offerings will be designated to the NALC Disaster Relief Fund.

Everyone is invited to an All – Church Baby Shower Potluck for Kaylee & Robert Hollenbeck on March 27th! They are expecting their first baby, a boy, in late April. RSVP/Sign-up on the Blue Bulletin Board in the church entryway. It's a main dish/side dish style potluck, drinks and dessert will be provided. The last day to donate towards the group gift, is **this Wednesday, March 16th.** Karen Jensen is collecting donations. Please give your donation for the gift in an envelope and list your name to be included in the card. Kaylee and Robert are registered at Amazon.com.

Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood Drive is Sunday, March 27th from 8:30-11:30AM. **No appointment needed just show up well fed and hydrated with your ID.** Thank you to everyone who donates, blood is always needed in our Central Valley.

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, Ryan Freitas, Michael Hansen, Caleb Hathaway, Leah Linger, & Matthew Tigchelaar.

Those unable to travel about: Gail Hansen, Art & Marian Olesen, Paul Pedersen, Lois Rasmussen & Bonnie Terkelsen.

Those in need of pain relief & healing: Dave Angel, Micah & Mckenzie Bennetts, Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Darin Bratton, Gaye Cissel, Dale Ewing, Joyce Futrell, Caleb Hathaway, Al Hooper, Marge Jacobsen, Kim Jennings, Carl Jensen, Donna Kennedy, Jordan Lyons, Mari Millar, John Mitchell, Lucas Morello, Christie Pettitt, Tony Pings, Kenneth Selzer, Timm Trickett, Caitlin Tyler & Keitt Wilson.

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.

Name _____	Date _____
Address _____	Phone _____
City / State / Zip _____	Email _____
Names / ages of Children living at home _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Time Guest <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Time or Regular Attender <input type="checkbox"/> Member I came as a guest of _____	
Home Congregation _____	

This Week at Immanuel

Today:

9:30AM Sunday School for all in Social Hall
10:30AM Worship
11:45AM Fellowship Time Outside
12:00PM Congregational Prayer Gathering

Monday:

7:00PM NA in Grace Hall

Wednesday

1:00PM FCA Lunch for WUHS Students
6:15PM Soup Supper in Social Hall
7:00PM Lenten Service in Sanctuary

Thursday

6:00AM Men's Bible Study

Saturday

10:00AM Creator's Corner

Next Sunday:

9:30AM Sunday School for all in Social Hall
10:30AM Worship & Communion
11:45AM Fellowship Outside

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Christian Jensen, Michelle Hollenbeck, Scott Hollenbeck

Scripture Reader: Fran Hansen

Fellowship Servers: Bill & Kay Pucheu

Council Lock Up in March: Carol Bennetts

Worship Assistants Next Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Christian Jensen, Michelle, Scott Hollenbeck

Scripture Reader: Jacob Caglia

Fellowship Servers: _____

Opportunities to volunteer on blue bulletin board.



Scan our QR code for links to our website, calendar texts subscription, and online giving!

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 have hymn suggestions: _____

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