

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

March 20, 2022



5955 S Elm Ave.

Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706

Office: (559)237-7909

ImmanuelEaston.com

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Pastor Taylor Stempniak: ptmarie96@gmail.com

Sunday Schedule:

Intergenerational 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 and current recommendation is that masks are optional indoors. 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 Bell

Calling the community of Easton to worship

Welcome

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, consider the worthy desires of your humble servants. Reach out to defend us from evil by the word and work of your majestic right hand. Grant this, we pray, through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Gelasian Sacramentary, 7th 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

Rock Of Ages

Lutheran Book of Worship page 327

Rock of Ages cleft for me let me hide myself in thee
Let the water and the blood from thy wounded side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure: cleanse me from its guilt and power

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands
Could my zeal no respite know could my tears forever flow
All for sin could not atone Thou must save and thou alone

Nothing in my hand I bring simply to the cross I cling
Naked come to thee for dress helpless look to thee for grace
Foul I to the fountain fly wash me Savior or I die

While I draw this fleeting breath when mine eyes shall close in death
When I soar to worlds unknown see thee on thy judgment throne
Rock of Ages cleft for me let me hide myself in thee

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Please be seated

Prayer of The Day

Everlasting God, draw us into this season of repentance and create within us fertile soil in which your Word bursts forth in lives marked by the abundant fruit of your grace; 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

Isaiah 55:1-9

1Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. 2Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

3Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. 4See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. 5See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. 6Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; 7let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. 9For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalms 63:1-8 (Congregation, please read the bold print verses responsively)

1 O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

2 So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

4 So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

5 My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

6 when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

7 for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

8 My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

1I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, 2and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3and all ate the same spiritual food, 4and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. 5Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. 6Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. 7Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." 8We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. 9We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. 10And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. 11These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. 12So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. 13No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

The Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord

1At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? 3No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. 4Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them — do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5No, I tell you; but

unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."6Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' 8He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. 9If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Special Music

Refiner's Fire

Praise Band

Purify my heart let me be as gold and precious silver
Purify my heart let me be as gold pure gold

Chorus

**Refiner's fire my heart's one desire
Is to be holy set apart for You Lord
I choose to be holy set apart for You my Master
Ready to do Your will**

Purify my heart cleanse me from within
And make me holy purify my heart
Cleans me from my sin deep within *Chorus*

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You may be seated.

The Children's Sermon

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Children are invited up to the altar with Pastor Taylor.

Sermon

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Please stand for the hymn of the day.

This is a house of worship, this is a place of praise
Where every demon trembles, where we proclaim Your name

This is a house of healing, our hearts are full of faith
You have our full attention You have the final say

Chorus

Come alive in the name of Jesus
Come alive in the name of Jesus
This is a house of miracles
We bring everything to the feet of Jesus
Everything in the name of Jesus
This is a house of miracles

There's resurrection power Your blood runs through our veins
Your Kingdom triumphs over even the coldest grave *Chorus*

I still believe You're moving I still believe You're speaking
God I believe You're working
All things for good I fix my eyes on Heaven
God I receive Your vision
God I believe You're working all things for good *Chorus*

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Confession of Faith

Pastor: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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.

This morning the ushers will pass offering plates through the pews for your offerings and attendance slips. 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

This week Communion will be served 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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow, of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be

Great is Thy faithfulness. Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning, new mercies I see
All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars, in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love *Chorus*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence, to cheer and to guide
Strength for today, and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside *Chorus*

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Dismissal

P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

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

Postlude

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Things to Remember:

The flowers on the altar today are presented by Susie and Phil Tews for glory and honor to God and in memory of Susie's sister, Luann Byrd. Susie would like to thank you all for your prayers for her sister during her long battle. She's been at free of pain and at peace for one year now.

Prayer Focus on loving your neighbor. Luke 10:27 NIV. "He answered, love the LORD your god with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself."

FCA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Kurt Wolfe leads the crew making lunch **THIS Wednesday** through April 27th, excluding April 13th for Easter Break. If you would like to help, please let him know. Immanuel likes to serve cookies for dessert! If you would like to donate cookies, please bring them to the social hall by 9:00am on Wednesdays. They serve 175+ each week so lots of cookies are needed. You can bring them to Immanuel on Sundays and place them in the freezer marked FCA.

Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood Drive is next Sunday, 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.

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

April Chimes deadline is tomorrow! Please get what you want in the church newsletter to the office by tomorrow morning at 10:00AM. Thank you!

Lenten Soup Supper Potlucks continue this Wednesday; Soup Supper begins in the Social Hall at **6:15pm** with a soup potluck! Folks with birthdays in **July-September 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, bring them to the church for soup deliveries to our home bound. Thank you everyone who help set up, clean up, & deliver soup.

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 next Sunday after church. Robert & Kaylee 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. Kaylee and Robert are registered at Amazon.com.

Thank you for the blanket, devotionals, and Bibles for the North American Lutheran Disaster Response Team. We have them stored on the stage as the collection was too big for the narthex. We now are looking for transportation of these blankets and books to San Jose. Is there anyone with a pick up or SUV that would be willing to deliver to St. Timothy's Lutheran Church in San Jose?

Choir Room Clean Up Help needed! The organ repair man will be here on April 18th. We must get the choir room cleaned up so he can move around in the area and get the parts in and out. Would there be any volunteers who would like to sort through the treasures and utilize the space appropriately? Please call the church office if you are able to help with this project.

Easton Community Easter Sunrise Service will be at 6:22AM at Immanuel Park across the street on Easter Sunday, April 17th.

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, Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Darin Bratton, Gaye Cissel, Dale Ewing, Joyce Futrell, Esther Gutierrez, Caleb Hathaway, Al & Judy Hooper, Marge Jacobsen, Kim Jennings, Carl Jensen, Donna Kennedy, Jordan Lyons, LynnMarie, Mari Millar, John Mitchell, Lucas Morello, Christie Pettitt, Tony Pings, Margaret Raven, 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 _____
 1st Time Guest 2nd Time or Regular Attender Member I came as a guest of _____
Home Congregation _____

This Week at Immanuel

Today:

10:30AM Worship

12:00AM Fellowship Outside

Monday:

7:00PM NA in Grace Hall

Wednesday

1:00PM Immanuel's turn to serve FCA Lunch

6:15PM Soup Supper in Social Hall

7:00PM Lenten Service in Sanctuary

Thursday

6:00AM Men's Bible Study

Next Sunday Blood Drive 8:30-11:30

10:30AM Worship & Communion

11:30AM **All Church Potluck Baby Shower!**

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

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

Scripture Reader: Jacob Caglia

Fellowship Servers: Carl, Christian & Karen Jensen in celebration of John's birthday!

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: Garrett Caglia

Fellowship Servers: All of Immanuel All Church for the Potluck Baby Shower!

Sign up to volunteer for scripture reading, altar flowers and fellowship service on the 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 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: _____