

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

January 29, 2023



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

Immanuel Lutheran Church

January 29, 2023

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

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. Wearing masks indoors is optional. 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 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

Ringling 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.

Opening Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Lutheran Book of Worship page 551

Joyful joyful we adore Thee
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee
Opening to the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

All Thy works with joy surround Thee
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays
Stars and angels sing around Thee
Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest vale and mountain
Flowery meadow flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee

Thou art giving and forgiving
Ever blessing ever blest
Wellspring of the joy of living
Ocean depth of happy rest
Thou our Father Christ our Brother
All who live in love are Thine
Teach us how to love each other
Lift us to the joy divine

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Prayer of The Day

Merciful God, your Son proclaimed the nearness of your kingdom, calling others to follow as his disciples. Help us to receive the gift of your grace given through the cross

and to follow as his disciples; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

Reading of the Word

The First Reading

Micah 6:1-8

1Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. 2Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. 3"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! 4For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. 5O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." 6"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? 7Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" 8He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalms 15 (Congregation, please read the bold print verses responsively)

1O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

2Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;

3who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

4in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

5who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

The Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to St Matthew the fifth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

1When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:3"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.4"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.5"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 6"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 7"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. 8"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 9"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. 10"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account 12Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

The Children's Message

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Children are invited up to the altar for the message.

Homily

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day

Seek Ye First The Kingdom of God

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness
And all these things
Shall be added unto you
Allelu alleluia

Man shall not live by bread alone
But by ev'ry word
That proceeds
From the mouth of God
Allelu alleluia

Ask and it shall be given unto you
Seek and ye shall find
Knock and the door
Shall be opened unto you
Allelu alleluia

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Confession of Faith

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.

Time for Offering

Offerings and Worship Slips may be placed in the plates as the ushers pass them through the pews. The slips are for you to use to communicate to the staff at Immanuel and for our congregation to keep track of our attendance numbers. Thank you for your help.

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

Leader: 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

Pastor: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Pastor: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give him thanks praise.

Communion Preface

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

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

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 evening.

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 Cantic**“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

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**Lord Dismiss Us With Your Blessing**

Lord dismiss us with Thy blessing
Fill our hearts with joy and peace
Let us each Thy love possessing
Triumph in redeeming grace
O refresh us O refresh us
Traveling through this wilderness

Thanks we give and adoration
For Thy gospel's joyful sound
May the fruits of Thy salvation

In our hearts and lives abound
Ever faithful ever faithful
To the truth may we be found

So that when Thy love shall call us
Saviour from the world away
Let no fear of death appall us
Glad Thy summons to obey
May we ever may we ever
Reign with Thee in endless day

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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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Announcements & Opportunities to Serve

The Annual Congregational Meeting will follow worship this morning in the sanctuary.

The next Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood drive will not be in February this year. The Blood Center is not able to be here on the 12th or the 19th because they have sign-ups for larger drives which takes all their staff and vehicles.

Prayer Focus for the week of 1-30-2023. Focus on the newness that awaits us. Revelations 21:4 NIV. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, or mourning, or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

Tech Team Volunteers, please sign up for your favorite months in 2023 to help with sound and technology.

Daily Devotionals and Offering Envelopes are located under the **Gold Bulletin Board** in the church entryway. Please help yourself to the devotionals if you would like envelopes and do not see any with your name on them please call the church office and Victoria will have them for you next Sunday.

Children's Sunday School: We had a great kick-off to this semester of Sunday School on January 15. We learned a few things that will enable us to improve this coming Sunday. For preschool-aged kids, we will move our start time forward to 9:45 to give us enough time to complete all the planned activities. The elementary kids will still meet at 9:30. Laurel did a great job leading music for the kids. We have a playlist of the songs we will be doing over the next few weeks. This playlist was sent out through the church email. It will be updated as new songs are added to the kids' repertoire.

Women's Weekly Book Study moved to every Tuesday at 10:00am in the church library. We will be reading "Prayer in the Night" by Tish Harrison Warren. This author is profound; she has a spectacular way of writing that speaks straight to your heart. The cover of the book states that this book is for "Those Who Work or Watch or Weep" it is based on the Prayer of Compline. Please join us for chapter 1 discussion this week. We hope all who can will join us on Tuesday morning for discussion. The book is available at local book stores as well as on Amazon.

Monthly Women's Bible Study continues to study **The Portraits of Jesus**. Women meet the first Tuesday of every month in Grace Hall. Next meeting is February 7th and the discussion is titled: "I am the Good Shepherd" Readings: Ezekiel 34:1-16 and John 10:11-30. If you would like a copy of the discussion questions pick them up on the table under the gold bulletin board today.

Attention Women: If you are interested in women's ministry at Immanuel please join us on February 11th at 11:00AM for pretty dishes, sustenance and idea sharing for the new year in Women's Ministry at Immanuel. Plan on 1-2 hours of time together starting with prayer, devotions, brainstorming and enjoyment of planning what women's ministry will look like in 2023.

Come pick up some free food! This Friday at noon is our monthly Food Distribution. Immanuel started this in 2013 as a partner to Lutheran Hunger Network. We moved the distribution to Easton Presbyterian Church since their campus has a wonderful covered area on concrete. It's perfect for the distribution in rain or shine. **Volunteers are always welcome.** Please wear close toed shoes and bring your own water to keep yourself hydrated. Thank you all for your help, many hands make this easier. It's also a great workout.

Easton Presbyterians Women's Ministries invites the women of Immanuel join them for their winter event: **"Abounding in Love"!** The Brunch and Craft Project with devotions by **Lana Roberts!** The cost for the event is \$15.00 each. Reserve your spot by calling 266-0695. Bring a friend!

Women of Hope is a monthly **Women's Bible Study** that meet in Grace Hall on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00PM. On February 7th we will discuss the stories from Ezekiel 34:1-16 and John 10:11-30. The study is titled "The Portraits of Jesus" February's discussion is based on Jesus as the good shepherd. If you would like more information call the church office at 237-7909.

Central Pacific
Mission District
Annual Meeting
Is this Saturday!
If you are interested
In Car Pooling call
The church office.



CPMD
ANNUAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 4, 2023
9:30 AM -1:30 PM

Ministry Renewal
Pastor Brad Hales, an expert on church planting and aging ministry, will join us to lead a workshop on developing ministry in aging and rural congregations.

Disaster Relief
Hear from Mary Bates about how we can best support disaster relief in our communities and beyond!

Updates & Fellowship
Catch up with friends and hear about developments in our congregations and the national church.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Pea Soup Andersen's
12411 CA-33,
Santa Nella, CA 95322

Questions? Contact Dean Taylor:
ptmarie96@gmail.com



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, Canaan Campbell, Joey Brewer, Henry Clark, Ryan Freitas, Michael Hansen, Leah Linger, & Matthew Tigchelaar.

Those unable to travel about: Gail Hansen, Paul Pedersen, Christie Pettitt & Bonnie Terkelsen.

Those in need of pain relief & healing: Lisa Anderson, Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Gaye Cissel, Valarie Cooper, Ed Gomez, Donna Kennedy, Diane & Darel Mehrten, Velia Miranda, Lance Petersen, Christie Pettitt, Debbie Pilegard, Patti Price, Sharon Reynolds, Kenneth Selzer, Richard Smith, & Keitt Wilson.

For those morning the loss of loved ones: The families of Carol Cox, Mim Gould, Al Hooper, Frank Moore, and Lorraine Slaton.

For people dealing with loneliness and depression. For those battling the illness 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 _____			

The Flowers on the altar this morning are provided by the Orum family for glory and honor to God and in celebration of Marcus turning 40 on the 26th.

This Week at Immanuel

Today:

9:30AM Sunday School for EVERYONE!
10:30AM Worship, Communion & Annual Meeting
11:30AM Fellowship Time

Monday:

7:00PM NA in Grace Hall

Tuesday:

10:00AM Women's Book Study

Wednesday

12:25 FCA Lunch

Thursday

6:00AM Men's Bible Study in Social Hall

Friday

12:00PM Easton Food Distribution

Next Sunday:

9:30AM Sunday School for all ages.
10:30AM Worship & Communion

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Jim, Victoria and Lee

Scripture Reader: Gina Cogan

Fellowship Server: Mike & Laura Nielsen

Council Lock Up in January: Gina Cogan

Worship Assistants Next Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Allyson

Scripture Reader: Mike Nielsen

Fellowship Servers: Gina & Fred Cogan

Council Lock Up for February: Victoria Salwasser

Sign up for worship assistant opportunities on the blue bulletin board in church entryway.

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