

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

February 12, 2023



5955 S Elm Ave.

Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706

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Immanueleaston.com

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Pastor Taylor Stempniak: ptmarie96@gmail.com

Sunday Schedule:

Sunday School 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

Immanuel Lutheran Church

February 12, 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

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.

Opening Hymn

In The Garden

I come to the garden alone
While the dew is still on the roses
And the voice I hear falling on my ear
The Son of God discloses

Chorus

**And He walks with me
And He talks with me
And He tells me I am His own
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known**

He speaks and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing ***Chorus***

I'd stay in the garden with Him
Tho' the night around me be falling
But He bids me go thro' the voice of woe
His voice to me is calling ***Chorus***

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Prayer of The Day

Please be seated

Reading of the Word

The First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

15See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. 16If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. 17But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, 18I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. 19I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you, life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, 20loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 119:1-8 (Congregation, please read the bold print verses responsively)

1Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD.

2Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart,

3who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways.

4You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

5O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

6Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

7I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances.

8I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

1And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. 2I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, 3for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? 4For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? 5What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. 6I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. 8The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. 9For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

The Gospel

Matthew 5:21-37

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord

21" You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' 22 But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. 23 So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. 25 Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. 26 Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. 27" You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. 31" It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' 32 But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 33" Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' 34 But I say to you, Do not swear

at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, 35or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. 36And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. 37Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

The Children's Message

Jennifer Hartwig

Children are invited up to the altar for the message.

Homily

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day

Have No Fear Little Flock

Have no fear little flock
Have no fear little flock
For the Father has chosen
To give you the Kingdom
Have no fear little flock

Have good cheer little flock
Have good cheer little flock
For the Father will keep you
In his love forever
Have good cheer little flock

Praise the Lord high above
Praise the Lord high above
For he stoops down to heal you

Uplift and restore you
Praise the Lord high above

Thankful hearts raise to God
Thankful hearts raise to God
For he stays close beside you
In all things works with you
Thankful hearts raise to God

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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 Canticle

“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

Just As I Am Without One Plea

Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot,
To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need in thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come,

Just as I am; thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871 tune by William B. Bradbury. Words & music public domain

Dismissal

P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God! *Sing: Amen, Amen, Amen*

Postlude

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Announcements & Opportunities to Serve

Prayer focus for the week on reconciliation. Romans 16:17 NIV. I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teachings you have learned. Keep away from them.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner is February 21st at 6:30PM. We have invited the community of Easton to join us. We need help! Who would like to help set up and clean up and cook pancakes and sausage on Tuesday evening? Call/Email the office.

Ash Wednesday Service will be at 7:00PM in our Sanctuary. Drive through imposition of Ashes will be from 5:00-6:00pm in the Grace Hall parking lot.

Fellowship Luncheon for all on February 23rd. Lunch is at noon, set up is at 10:30AM. If you would like to help set up or clean up, please contact Gina Cogan at 559-974-3579 and she will give you a job to do.

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

The next Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood drive will be on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd from 3:00-6:00PM.

Children's Sunday School: 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 does a great job leading music with 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.

Easton Presbyterians Women's Ministries invites the women of Immanuel join them for their winter event: "Abounding in Love" on February 25th at 9:30am! Enjoy 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!

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, Jody Daly, Ed Gomez, Donna Kennedy, Diane & Darel Mehrten, Marcus Miranda, Gloria Payne, 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 Marie Salwasser for glory and honor to God and in memory of her father, Henry Fritz.

This Week at Immanuel

Today:

9:30AM Sunday School for EVERYONE!
10:30AM Worship, Communion
11:30AM Fellowship Time
11:45AM Congregational Prayer in Sanctuary

Monday:

7:00PM NA in Grace Hall

Tuesday:

10:00AM Women's Book Study in Library

Wednesday

12:25 FCA Lunch

Thursday

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

Saturday

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: Allyson, John and Lee

Scripture Reader: Mike Nielsen

Fellowship Server: Salwasser Family

Council Lock Up in February: Pat Griffin

Worship Assistants Next Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Allyson, John and Lee

Scripture Reader: Mike Nielsen

Fellowship Servers: Lee Terkelsen

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