

# Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

**July 9, 2023**

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost



5955 S Elm Ave.

Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706

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Pastor Taylor Stempniak: [ptmarie96@gmail.com](mailto:ptmarie96@gmail.com)

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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 and they recommend that wearing a mask at all indoor gatherings 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 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

**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**

**“How Great Thou Art”**

*Lutheran Book of Worship page 532*

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

***Refrain***

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; ***Refrain***

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin; ***Refrain***

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" *Refrain*

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**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

### **Prayer of The Day**

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Please be seated*

### **Reading of the Word**

#### **The First Reading**

#### **Zechariah 9:9-12**

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. 11 As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. 12 Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Reader: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 145: 8-14**

8The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**9The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

10All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.

**11They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power,**  
12to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**13Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.**

14The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

**The Second Reading**

**Romans 7:15-25**

15I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. 17But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. 19For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. 20Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. 21So I find it to be a law

that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. 22For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, 23but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

Reader: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel*

**The Gospel**

**Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

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

**All: Glory to you, O Lord**

16But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 17'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' 18For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; 19the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."25At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; 26yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 27All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal

him.28Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you, O Christ**

*You may be seated.*

**The Children's Message**

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

*Children are invited up to the altar with Pastor Taylor.*

**Homily**

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

*Please stand for the hymn of the day.*

**Hymn of the Day**

**“Here I Am Lord”**

"I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?"



*Refrain*

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.**

"I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

"I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

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**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

## 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.**

Pastor: Peace be with you

**All: And also with you**

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

*Please be seated*

## Offering

*Offerings may be placed in the plate as it is passes along with the worship registration slip from the back of the bulletin. There is a QR Code printed on the back of the bulletin for those wishing to donate online through our website.*

## Offertory Response “Let The Vineyards Be Fruitful”

*Front section page 86 in Lutheran Book of Worship*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

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## 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**

*Please repeat names of those we pray for every Sunday.*

P: Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

## **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 and praise.**

## **Communion Preface**

### **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.

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.**

### **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 Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy 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 Thine 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 morning.*

### **Communion Distribution Hymns**

#### **“Lamb of God”**

*Page 92 in the front section of Lutheran Book of Worship.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

#### **“Take My Life That I May Be”**

*Lutheran Book of Worship page 406*

### **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.

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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

## “Softly and Tenderly”

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
Calling for you and for me.  
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,  
Watching for you and for me.

### *Refrain*

**"Come home, (Come home,) come home! (come home!)  
You who are weary, come home."  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
Calling, "O sinner, come home!"**

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
Pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,  
Mercies for you and for me? *Refrain*

Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,  
Promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,  
Pardon for you and for me. *Refrain*

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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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# *Announcements*

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**Prayer focus this week on the completeness of God.** Ephesians 3: 17b-19 NIV. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power together with all the LORD's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love surpasses knowledge-that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

**Daily Devotionals are available on the table under the Gold Bulletin Board.** Please help yourself to anything on the table.

**Women's Bible Study meet on Tuesday mornings.** Join Pastor Taylor for a Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study on the book of Hebrews from 10:00-11:00 am in the church library. **The weekly readings for this Tuesday are: Hebrews 5, Matthew 26:36-46 and Matthew 26: 45-50.** Readings are listed in the Chimes too.

**The Semi-Annual Meeting** will be following church on **July 30th**. We will have a report on the Social Hall Restoration Project at the upcoming congregational meeting.

**Volunteers are needed to teach Children's Sunday School Classes.** If you are interested in helping with Children's Ministry at Immanuel, please call the church office as soon as possible.

**SAVE THE DATE FOR FAMILY CAMP 2024: June 7-14, 2024 at Logger Flat Campground near Hume Lake!**



**Kingsburg's Historic City Band is back for another season of free concerts, at 8 p.m. Thursday evenings at Kingsburg's Memorial Park Bandstand.**

The park is located at Sierra Street (State Highway 201) and 18th Avenue, opposite the Kingsburg High School's campus. The band's season will include concerts each Thursday through July 20th. The venue opens at 5:00pm with food trucks. Bring your own chairs or take advantage of park bench seating.

The City Band attracts participating musicians and audiences from all over the central San Joaquin Valley. It was established in 1887 and is recognized as one of the nation's oldest community bands. Join the folks for an evening of fun and relaxation. It's an outdoor event and the usually cool and comfortable. You may need mosquito repellent and most of all bring some water to keep hydrated.

**It is time for our District's second annual mission trip!** Scheduled for the third week of July, beginning Sunday afternoon, **July 16th and ending the morning of Saturday, July 22nd.** This year we are helping those who have lost their homes and possessions due to fire in two separate areas of Northern California. On Sunday, the 16th, we will be heading to the mountain town of Somerset as the Pioneer Bible Church will be our accommodations for the evenings of Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Work will take place in Grizzly Flats, helping rebuild a home under construction. Wednesday, after breakfast, we will make our way to Volcanoville to build a storage shed for a fire victim, then making our way to our Foresthill Church, New Hope, that will serve as our hotel for the next three nights. Construction help will take place in Michigan Bluff one day, and the other day will be working at the Church. This wonderful opportunity of working within communities affected by wildfire, is open to youth and adults. Participate the entire week or part. All meals are provided and will be at the approximate cost of \$125.00 per person for the week, or prorated per participation time. Please contact Pastor Taylor by Sunday, July 9th if you would like to participate.

# *Immanuel you are invited to the Literary Event of the season!*

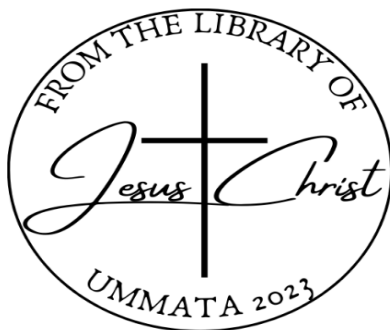
This summer the intergenerational team would like to invite you to join us for our literary-themed summer Ummata. We will provide a meal, fun classes, a speaker, and some music; all themed around fabulous modern books and based on the best book of them all, the Bible.

Dates: July 9 from 12 pm-2 pm  
July 11 from 6 pm-8 pm  
July 13 from 6 pm-8 pm

We have 4 classes:

- The Hatcher: Focuses on Outdoor Skills
- Eat, Pray, Love: A day each of eating, praying, and love (florals)
- Oh, the Places You'll Go: Learn about trips the leaders have taken and experience some culture from that area
- The Not So Quiet Library: Read a children's book and do activities inspired by the book (All are invited for this but we especially recommend this one for our younger ones)

**ANY QUESTIONS OR TO SIGN UP TEXT  
KRISTI HOLLENBECK @ (559)974-4408 OR  
USE THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP ONLINE**



**P.S. No Reading Required**

**Prayers for 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, Connor Mannix, & Matthew Tigchelaar.

**Those unable to travel about:** Gail Hansen, Paul Pedersen, & Kenneth Selzer, Bonnie Terkelsen.

**Those in need of pain relief & healing:** Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Don Cathey, Gaye Cissel, Valarie Cooper, Margaret Fletcher, Kristen Gibson, Ed Gomez, Kay Jensen, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Diane & Darel Mehrten, Marcus Miranda, Velia Miranda, Betty Moore, Laura Nielsen, Gloria Payne, Lance Petersen, Patti Price, Bob Reynolds, Richard Smith, Rebecca Stempniak, & Keitt Wilson.

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
  1st Time Guest     2nd Time or Regular Attender     Member    I came as a guest of \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

## **This Week at Immanuel**

### **Today:**

9:30AM Sunday School for all ages  
10:30AM Worship & Communion  
11:30AM Fellowship Time Outside  
12:00PM Ummata!

### **Monday:**

7:00PM NA meet in Social Hall

### **Tuesday:**

10:00AM Women's Bible Study in Library  
6:00PM Ummata

### **Thursday**

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

### **Friday**

### **Next Sunday:**

10:30AM Worship & Communion  
11:30AM Fellowship Time Outside  
11:45AM Congregational Prayer

### **Worship Assistants This Week:**

**Ushers:** Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

**Greeters:** All of Immanuel

**Sound & Technology:** Allys, Fred & Gina

**Scripture Reader:** Gina Cogan

**Fellowship Servers:** John Jensen in celebration of Carl's 95th birthday on the 16th!

**Council Lock Up in July:** Pat Griffin

### **Worship Assistants Next Week:**

**Ushers:** Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

**Greeters:** All of Immanuel

**Sound & Technology:** Allys, Fred & Gina

**Scripture Reader:** Gina Cogan

**Fellowship Servers:** Phil & Susie Tews in celebration of their 45th Wedding Anniversary on the 17th!

*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, subscription, and online giving!

Please  check the appropriate box and write your message in the space below.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I want to learn more about faith.                       | <input type="checkbox"/> I want to learn more about baptism        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I want to receive the monthly newsletter ("The Chimes") | <input type="checkbox"/> I want to become a member of Immanuel     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am receiving communion today                          | <input type="checkbox"/> I want a visit from the visitation pastor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I want to speak with the parish nurse                   | <input type="checkbox"/> I want to speak with the pastor           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have a message for (circle:) the office / the pastor  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have a prayer request: _____                          |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have hymn suggestions: _____                          |  |