

# Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

**July 23, 2023**

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost



5955 S Elm Ave.

Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706

Office: (559)237-7909

ImmanuelEaston.com

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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**

**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**

**“For I Am Convinced”**

Praise Band

For I am convinced that neither death  
Nor life nor angels nor principalities  
Nor things present nor things to come  
Nor powers nor height nor depth  
Nor any other created thing  
Shall be able to separate us  
From the love of God  
Which is in Christ Jesus our Lord

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**“This Little Light Of Mine”**

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine let it shine let it shine

Hide it under a bushel no, I'm gonna let it shine  
Hide it under a bushel no, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine let it shine let it shine

Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine  
Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine let it shine let it shine

Let it shine till Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine till Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine let it shine let it shine

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

### **Prayer of The Day**

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Please be seated*

### **Reading of the Word**

#### **The First Reading**

#### **Isaiah 44:6-8**

6Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. 7Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. 8Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and

declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one. Reader: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 86: 11-17**

11 Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

**12 I give thanks to you, O LORD my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.**

13 For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

**14 O God, the insolent rise up against me; a band of ruffians seeks my life, and they do not set you before them.**

15 But you, O LORD, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

**16 Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your serving girl.**

17 Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

**The Second Reading**

**Romans 8:12-25**

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — 13 for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 it is that very

Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. 18I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; 20for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; 23and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. 24For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? 25But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Reader: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel*

**The Gospel**

**Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

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

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

24He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; 25but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. 26So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 27And the slaves of the householder came and said to him,

'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' 28He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' 29But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"36Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." 37He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, 39and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. 41The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, 42and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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    “How Deep The Father’s Love For Us ”**

*Praise Band*

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts no pow’r no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

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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



bles-sing. 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 the names of those we pray for this week.*

## **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 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 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.

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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

## “Be Thou My Vision”

*Praise Band*

Be Thou my Vision O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

Be Thou my Wisdom and Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

High King of heaven my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys bright heaven's Sun  
Heart of my own heart whatever befall  
Still be my Vision O Ruler of all

## Be Thou my Vision

CCLI Song # 7056332 Eleanor Henrietta Hull | Mary Elizabeth Byrne | Russell Mauldin  
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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*

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The Flowers on the altar this morning are provided by Wayne and Eva Orum for glory and honor to God and in celebration of their daughter, Allison's birthday.

**Thank you very much for the Praise Band for leading music for us this morning! We appreciate your time and talents.**

**Thank you to Becky Vagim, who is the pianist for St. Jude's Catholic Church, for filling in as pianist today. We appreciate your time.**

**Prayer focus this week on praising God through Jesus.** 1 Peter 4:11 NIV. If anyone speaks they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

**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 our next meeting on July 25th are: Hebrews 7, Genesis 14:18-20, and Psalm 110.**

**Men's Bible Study** gathers from **6:00-7:00AM** on **Thursday mornings** in the **Social Hall**. All men are welcome and each first time attendee receives a new Bible. Invite your friends for breakfast and a quick hour of study.

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

**The August Chimes deadline is tomorrow**, please turn in your articles to the church via email or place them in the office secretary box across from the men's restroom in the church entryway.

**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!**

**Thank you to everyone who made Ummata possible this summer.**

**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  
11:45AM Congregational Prayer

### Monday:

10:00AM **August Chimes Submissions Due**  
7:00PM NA meet in Social Hall

### Tuesday:

10:00AM Women's Bible Study in Library

### Thursday

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

### Next Sunday:

9:30AM Sunday School in Grace Hall  
10:30AM Worship & Communion  
11:30AM Fellowship Time Outside

### Worship Assistants This Week:

**Ushers:** Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

**Greeters:** All of Immanuel

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

**Scripture Reader:** Gina Cogan

**Fellowship Servers:**

**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:**

*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: _____                          |  |