

WELCOME TO IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS
CHRIST SINCE 1888

SEPTEMBER 3, 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

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

Ring 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

“Rock Of Ages”

Lutheran Book of Worship page 327

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure;
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

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

Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to thee for dress;
Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee.

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of The Day

God of all creation, you reach out to call people of all nations to your kingdom. As you gather disciples from near and far, count us also among those who boldly confess your Son Jesus Christ as Lord.

Please be seated

Reading of the Word

The First Reading

Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain

unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. ¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 26:1-8

1 Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

2 Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and mind.

3 For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.

4 I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;

5 I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked.

6 I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O LORD,

7 singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

8 O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.

The Second Reading

Romans 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

The Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

21From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. 22And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." 23But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." 24Then Jesus told his disciples,

"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. 26For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? 27For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. 28Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord

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 “Just As I Am Without One Plea”

Lutheran Book of Worship Page 296

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

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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.

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 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.

“Leaning On The Everlasting Arms”

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

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of Earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

Turn your thoughts upon Jesus
Think deep of His comforting love
And the thought of sin and of self and strife
Will be lost in that rapture above

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of Earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace
And the things of Earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

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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

- **Prayer focus this week on** the labors we are given. Colossians 3:23/24 NIV. Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the LORD, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the LORD as a reward. It is the LORD Christ you are serving.
- **Thank you to all the blood donors last Sunday!** The blood center collected 16 pints of much needed blood!
- **Thank you to the all that helped make the Country Gospel Service and the delicious Potluck Lunch so much fun last week!**
- **Women you and your friends are invited to a Bible Study led by Pastor Taylor on Tuesday mornings** from 10:00-11:00AM in the church library. The weekly readings for the next meeting is Hebrews 12, John 14:1-7, Luke 2:46-55. September 19th and 26th there will be no Bible Study and the group will resume on October 3rd.
- **Assistance is sometimes needed with the service on Sunday mornings.** If you like Facebook, computers and microphones please call the church office. Fellowship servers and altar flowers are needed next Sunday. Sign-up sheets are on the gold bulletin board. The Volunteer board has lots of opportunities this month!
- **All women are invited to a Bible Study that meets in the church library on Tuesday mornings at 10:00am.** This Tuesday Pastor Taylor will lead the discussion on Hebrews 12, John 14:1-7, and Luke 2:46-55. On September 12th we will discuss Hebrews 13 and Matthew 5:1-12. The study will take a break for the weeks of September 19th and 26th and meet again on Tuesday, October 3rd.
- **Services for Diane Mehrten** will be at Immanuel on **October 7th** at 11:00am.

- **The October Chimes Deadline** will be on September 15th. No late articles this month as the office will be busy preparing for the Caruthers Fair!
- **Would you like to help with Immanuel's food booth at the Caruthers Fair?** If so check out the sign up table after church today!
- **Save the Dates for Family Camp 2024: June 7-14th** at Logger's Flat Group Campground near Hume Lake!
- **Easton Community Men's Bible Study meet in the Social Hall every Thursday morning at 6:00AM** for breakfast and discussion about Bible verses. Phil Tews invites all men to join them for breakfast! Bring a friend.
- **Easton Community Water Meeting from 6:30-8:00PM on Tuesday October 3rd in the Social Hall.** The meeting is hosted by Self Help Enterprises. The goal for this meeting is to get a better understanding of what the people of Easton want from their water. Everyone is invited to the meeting.
- **See the back page of the September Chimes** for the entertainment schedule for the Caruthers Fair. We hope all that are able can come support our booth and enjoy the entertainment at the fair.

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: Gordon Bennetts, Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Don Cathey, Gaye Cissel, Margaret Fletcher, Kristen Gibson, Ed Gomez, Pat Griffin, Jan Kersgaard, Kay Jensen, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Darel Mehrten, Marie Meneses, Marcus Miranda, Ilean Nugent, Gloria Payne, Patti Price, Bob Reynolds, Rebecca Stempniak, Pastor Taylor Stempniak & Keitt Wilson.

For those morning the loss of loved ones:
The family of Diane Mehrten.

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

Monday: Labor Day

7:00PM NA meet in Grace Hall

Tuesday

10:00AM Women's Bible Study in Library

Wednesday

12:25PM FCA Lunch

Thursday

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

Friday

Next Sunday:

No Sunday School
10:30AM Worship & Communion
11:30AM Fellowship Time Outside

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen,

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Victoria, Betty, John,

Scripture Reader: Gina Cogan

Fellowship Servers: Laurel Jacobsen & Friends

Altar Ware: Salwasser Family

Council Lock Up for August: Carol Bennetts

Worship Assistants Next Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Allys, Betty, John

Scripture Reader: Gina Cogan

Fellowship Servers: Reynolds family

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: _____ | |