

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

October 08, 2023



5955 S Elm Ave.

Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706

Office: (559)237-7909

ImmanuelEaston.com

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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

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 “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

Lutheran Book of Worship page 293

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.**

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

His oath, his covenant, his blood
Sustain me in the raging flood;
When all supports are washed away,
He then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in him be found,
Clothed in his righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

Words & Music Public Domain Mote & BradleyText Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of The Day

God of love, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them; keep us from those things that harm us; and guide us in the way of salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please be seated

Reading of the Word

The First Reading

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

1Then God spoke all these words:2I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; 3you shall have no other gods before me.4You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 7You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.8Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. 9Six days you shall labor and do all your work. 12Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.13You shall not murder.14You shall not commit adultery.15You shall not steal.16You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.17You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's

wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.¹⁸When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, ¹⁹and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." ²⁰Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

All: Thanks be to God

The Responsive Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

Please read the bold print verses responsively.

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

7For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

The Second Reading

Philippians 3:4-14

4even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh. If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: 5circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 7Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. 8More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. 10I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, 11if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. 12Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

The Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew the twenty-first chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

33Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. 34When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. 35But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. 36Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. 37Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' 38But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' 39So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. 40Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" 41They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." 42Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? 43Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. 44The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." 45When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. 46They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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 “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

Lutheran Book of Worship page 410

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.

May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
And gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give.

Hearts still are bruised and dead, and homes are bare and cold,
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled are straying from the fold.

To comfort and to bless, to find a balm for woe,
To tend those lost in loneliness, is angels' work below.

The captive to release, the lost to God to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace-- it is a Christ like thing.

And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.

Words & Music Public Domain Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

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.

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow, of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be

Chorus

**Great is Thy faithfulness. Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning, new mercies I see
All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me**

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars, in their courses above
Join with all nature, in manifold witness, to Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love *Chorus*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence, to cheer and to guide
Strength for today, and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside *Chorus*

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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

“Change My Heart Oh God”

Led by Rich & Allys Kahn

Change my heart oh God
Make it ever true
Change my heart oh God
May I be like You

You are the potter
I am the clay
Mold me and make me
This is what I pray

repeat from the top

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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

The Flowers on the altar this morning are presented by the **Mehrten Family** and for glory and honor to God and in memory of Diane and by **Sandee Jensen** for glory and honor to God and in celebration of her daughter, Gina Cogan's birthday.

Prayer focus this week on trusting God. Psalms 112:7 NIV. They have no fear of bad news, their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

This morning after fellowship time we invite everyone to gather in the sanctuary for congregational prayer. A time to sit and pray for your needs or pray for others, pray for our congregation or our country there are no rules. We ask that when you are finished praying you say, "Lord in your mercy." The others are asked to respond with, "Hear our prayer". This is a simple time to pray together with your church family. If you would like to pray within your heart and not out loud that's perfect too. About 15 minutes into fellowship time the bell will ring as a signal that congregational prayer is about to begin. Everyone is asked to quietly gather in the sanctuary for prayer together.

The Church Council meeting has been moved to October 24th this month.

The November Chimes Deadline has been moved to **October 25th.**

Sign up Today on the Gold Bulletin Board for the Fellowship Luncheon on Thursday, October 26th at noon in the Social Hall.

For the month of October, Immanuel will be collecting coats for the Fresno Mission. Please place your clean, in good condition or new coat in the box located in the church entryway. The Fresno Mission is collaborating with the Central California Food Bank to offer a warm meal to families in need. The event will take place at the recently renovated City Center Campus where community leaders will personally serve a steak meal to those in need on November 18th. Additionally, each family will receive a coat and a week's worth of food to take home. If you would like to help, consider donating a coat or getting involved. **Call: 268-0839 or Log on to fresnomission.org/onetablefresno for information on how you can help.**

Women's Bible Study will meet this Tuesday morning. 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.

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.

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

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

Immanuel will begin serving FCA lunches on Wednesday, November 29th. Please see Ericka Gardner if you would like to help with this ministry

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: Carol Bennetts, Gordon Bennetts, Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Gaye Cissel, Kristen Gibson, Ed Gomez, Pat Griffin, Jan Kersgaard, Kay Jensen, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Marie Meneses, Marcus Miranda, Betty Moore, Gloria Payne, Patti Price, Bob Reynolds, Rebecca Stempniak, & Keitt Wilson.

For those morning the loss of loved ones: The families of Diane Mehrten & Donnie Cathey.

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 _____ 1st

Names / ages of Children living at home _____

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:

7:00PM NA meet in Grace Hall

Tuesday

10:00AM Women's Bible Study in Library

Wednesday

12:25PM FCA Lunch for WUHS students

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,

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Fred & Gina & Allys

Scripture Reader: Alex Gardner

Fellowship Servers: Sandee Jensen

Council Lock Up for October: Allys Kahn

Worship Assistants Next Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Fred & Gina & Allys

Scripture Reader: Mike Nielsen

Fellowship Servers: Mike & Laura Nielsen

*Sign up to volunteer for scripture reading, altar flowers
and fellowship service on the gold 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.

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