

# Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

October 15, 2023



5955 S Elm Ave.

Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706

Office: (559)237-7909

ImmanuelEaston.com

[office@immanueleaston.com](mailto:office@immanueleaston.com)

Pastor Taylor Stempniak: [ptmarie96@gmail.com](mailto: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 & Announcements**

John Jensen

**Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness**

Pastor Steve

*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                    “Take My Life That I May Be”**

Take my life, that I may be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing  
always, only, for my King;  
take my lips and let them be  
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold,  
not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect and use  
ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

Take my will and make it thine,  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own,  
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.  
Words & Music Public Domain

P: The Lord be with you.

Pastor Steve

**C: And also with you.**

### **Prayer of The Day**

Our Lord Jesus, you have endured the doubts and foolish questions of every generation. Forgive us for trying to be judge over you, and grant us the confident faith to acknowledge you as Lord.

*Please be seated*

### **Reading of the Word**

Mike Nielsen

### **The First Reading**

**Isaiah 25:1-9**

1 O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. 2 For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. 3 Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. 4 For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like

a winter rainstorm, 5the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. 6On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. 7And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; 8he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. 9It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**The Responsive Reading**

**Psalms 23**

*Please read the bold print verses responsively.*

1The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**2He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

3he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**4Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff — they comfort me.**

5You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

## **The Second Reading**

## **Philippians 4:1-9**

1Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. 2I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. 3Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. 4Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Reader: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel*

## **The Gospel**

## **Matthew 22:1-14**

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

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

1Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 2"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son.

3He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. 4Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' 5But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, 6while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. 7The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. 8Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. 9Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' 10Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.11"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, 12and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. 13Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14For many are called, but few are chosen."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

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

*You may be seated.*

**The Children's Message**

Laurel Jacobsen

*Children are invited up to the altar with Miss. Laurel.*

**Homily**

Pastor Steve Carlson

*Please stand for the hymn of the day.*



**Hymn of the Day “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”**

Celebration Hymnal page 694

The Lord's my Shepherd I'll not want  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by

My soul He doth restore again  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness  
E'en for His own name's sake

Yea though I walk in death's dark vale  
Yet will I fear no ill  
For Thou art with me and Thy rod  
And staff me comfort still

My table Thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint  
And my cup overflows

Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me  
And in God's house for evermore  
My dwelling place shall be

Words & Music Public Domain  
William Whittingham and others based on Psalm 23 Music Jessie S. Irvine; arranged by David Grant

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

**Pastor Steve**

**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 passed 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.

*Augsburg Fortress copyright under Sundays and Seasons*

## Offertory Prayer

Pastor Steve

*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

Gina Cogan

*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*

CCLI Song # 18723 Thomas Obediah Chisholm | William Marion Runyan Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain  
For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License # 1825563

**Post Communion Blessing**

Pastor Steve Carlson

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.

Copyright is administered by Augsburg Fortress, Sundays and Seasons. Subscriber# sb132872

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Pastor Steve Carlson

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 Steve Carlson

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

## “Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us”

*Lutheran Book of Worship page 481*

Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
much we need your tender care.  
In your pleasant pastures feed us,  
for our use your fold prepare.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us; we are yours.

We are yours; in love befriend us,  
be the guardian of our way;  
keep your flock, from sin defend us,  
seek us when we go astray.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear us children when we pray.

You have promised to receive us,  
poor and sinful though we be;  
you have mercy to relieve us,  
grace to cleanse, and pow’r to free.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
early let us turn to you.

Early let us seek your favor,  
early let us do your will;  
blessed Lord and only Savior,  
with your love our spirits fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us, love us still.

Text: Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779-1847 Words & Music Public Domain



**Dismissal**

Pastor Steve Carlson

*P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!*

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

**Postlude**

Laurel Jacobsen

Today's service is reprinted by permission under our Church Copyright License through CCLI Sundays and Seasons v.20210119.1257  
Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. One License Copyright number 730424-A

## *Announcements*

**The Flowers on the altar this morning** are presented by the Phil & Susie Tews for glory and honor to God and in celebration of their granddaughter, Johni Lynn's 16th birthday!

**Prayer focus this week on trusting God.** Psalms 84:12 NIV. LORD almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you.

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

**Women's Bible Study will not meet this Tuesday morning. Starting October 24th at the new time: 9:00a.m. in the church library we will begin the book titled: "Lord Teach Us" by William H. Willimon and Stanley Hauerwas. 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 Church Council meeting** has been moved to October 24th this month. **Packets are ready today, please pick them up** in the church entryway.

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

**“Tea With Taylor”** is hosted by Easton Presbyterian Women’s Ministry. Immanuel’s wonderful Pastor Taylor Stempniak will be the guest speaker at their gathering from 9:30am - 11:30am on Saturday morning, November 4th. Tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased ahead of time from Victoria Salwasser. There is also a sign-up sheet if you would like to pay at the door.

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

**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](http://fresnomission.org/onetablefresno) for information on how you can help.**

**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!

**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, Sophie Brewer, 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
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:**

7:00PM NA meet in Grace Hall

### **Tuesday**

Women's Bible Study resumes next Tuesday, Oct. 24th at 9am

### **Wednesday**

12:25PM FCA Lunch for WUHS students

### **Thursday**

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

### **Saturday**

9:00AM *Godly Grounds* the Women's Field trip: Kuppa Joy for devotions & Forestiere Underground Gardens for amazement.

### **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:** Mike Nielsen

**Fellowship Servers:** Mike & Laura Nielsen

**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:** \_\_\_\_\_

*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