

# Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

November 19, 2023



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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**

**“People Need The Lord”**

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**

**“Here I Am Lord”**

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

***Refrain***

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

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

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

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

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P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**A: And also with you.**

### **Prayer of The Day**

Stir up, O Lord, the will of your faithful people to seek more eagerly the help you offer, that, at the last, they may enjoy the fruit of salvation; through our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Please be seated*

### **Reading of the Word**

#### **The First Reading**

**Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. <sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest

complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." <sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. <sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, <sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. <sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. <sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

R: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**The Responsive Reading**

**Psalms 90:1-12**

*Page 258 of the Lutheran Book of Worship*

*Please read the bold print verses responsively.*

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have been our refuge  
from one generation to another.

**<sup>2</sup>Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born,  
from age to age you are God.**

<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to the dust and say,

“Turn back, O children of earth.”

<sup>4</sup>**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past  
and like a watch in the night;**

<sup>5</sup>you sweep them away like a dream,  
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

<sup>6</sup>**in the morning it is green and flourishes;  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

<sup>7</sup>For we are consumed by your anger;  
we are afraid because of your wrath.

<sup>8</sup>**Our iniquities you have set before you,  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

<sup>9</sup>When you are angry, all our days are gone;  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

<sup>10</sup>**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength<sup>1</sup> even  
eighty;**

**yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away  
quickly and we are gone.**

<sup>11</sup>Who regards the power of your wrath?  
Who rightly fears your indignation?

<sup>12</sup>**So teach us to number our days  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

## **The Second Reading**

## **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

1Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. 2For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a

thief; 5for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; 7for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel*

**The Gospel**

**Matthew 25:14-30**

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

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

Jesus said to the disciples:] 14“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. 17In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. 19After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ 21His master said to



him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ 22And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ 23His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ 24Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; 25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ 26But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 27Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

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

### “The Summons ”

Will you come and follow Me  
If I but call your name  
Will you go where you don't know  
And never be the same  
Will you let My love be shown  
Will you let My name be known  
Will you let My life be grown  
In you and you in Me

#### Verse 2

Will you leave yourself behind  
If I but call your name  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
And never be the same  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
Should your life attract or scare  
Will you let Me answer prayer  
In you and you in Me

#### Verse 3

Will you let the blinded see  
If I but call your name  
Will you set the prisoners free  
And never be the same  
Will you kiss the leper clean  
And do such as this unseen  
And admit to what I mean  
In you and you in Me

#### Verse 4

Will you love the you, you hide  
If I but call your name  
Will you quell the fear inside  
And never be the same  
Will you use the faith you've found  
To reshape the world around  
Through My sight and touch and sound  
In you and you in Me

#### Verse 5

Lord Your summons echoes true  
When You but call my name  
Let me turn and follow You  
And never be the same  
In Your company I'll go  
Where Your love and footsteps show  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
In You and You in me

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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 Music**

Laurel Jacobsen

## 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.

## **"Blessed Assurance"**

## **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            “Go, My Children, With My Blessing”**

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
    In my love’s baptismal river  
    I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
    Here you heard my dear Son’s story,  
    here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
    Here my Spirit’s power filled you,  
    here his tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.  
I the Lord will smile upon you, and give you peace.  
    I the Lord will be your Father,  
    Savior, Comforter and Brother.  
Go, my children, I will keep you, and give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919 © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda Covered by One License and CCLI Song Select.

**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 Mike Nielsen for glory and honor to God and in celebration of Laura's 60th Birthday!

**We will gather today for our monthly congregational prayer about 15 minutes after Fellowship Time starts.** When the bell rings, gather back to the front of the sanctuary for prayer time. Everyone is welcome for

**Prayer focus this week on Thanksgiving. Psalms 100:4 NIV.** Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise, give thanks to him and praise his name.

**Aprons fundraiser for the Social Hall!** Margaret Fletcher has been busy sewing aprons to help us raise money for our Social Hall Renovation project! The adorable aprons are hanging in the church entryway on the coat rack. Spruce up your attire while cooking and baking this holiday season and choose a favorite. Please leave a donation for the hall in the offering plate marked Aprons for the Hall.

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

**Save The Date: Dec. 3rd after church we are planning a caravan to Hillcrest Tree Farm in Reedley.** Enjoy the train ride around the farm, have lunch at a food truck, shop in the gift shop, and/or buy your own Christmas tree. Mostly cash only at food truck vendors. See their website: [hillcrestreedley.com](http://hillcrestreedley.com). Those who want to go will drive out these after church that Sunday.

**December 10th at 9:30 am will be a Christmas Craft Day in Grace Hall for all Children!** Adult volunteer helpers are needed contact Laura Nielsen.

**There will be a meeting Children's Sunday School Meeting** after Church in the library on **Sunday, December 10th** for all who would like to volunteer with our new children's Sunday School program. Please come to the meeting if you would like to help with Sunday School for kids.

**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, Joy Bratton, Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Gaye Cissel, Steve Fletcher, Kristen Gibson, Ed Gomez, Pat Griffin, Josh Hammers, Jim Hansen, Jan Kersgaard, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Marcus Miranda, Betty Moore, Gloria Payne, Larry Pickens, Patti Price, Bob Reynolds, Janice Robinson, Rebecca Stempniak, & Keitt Wilson.

**For those morning the loss of loved ones:** The family of Verna Koslan.

**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**

**9:00AM** Women's Bible Study in Library

### **Wednesday**

**7:00PM Thanksgiving Eve Service**

### **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 & Lee & Allys

**Scripture Reader:** Carol Bennetts

**Fellowship Servers:** Salwasser Family

**Council Lock Up for November:** Kristi Hollenbeck

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

**Ushers:** Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

**Greeters:** All of Immanuel

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

**Scripture Reader:** Terry Gardner

**Fellowship Servers:** \_\_\_\_\_



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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