

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

November 26, 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

“Crown Him With Many Crowns”

Lutheran Book of Worship page 170

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.

Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.

Crown him the virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now his brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of love—
Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their burning eyes
At mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died, eternal life to bring,
And lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace,
Whose pow'r a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
Absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end,
And round his piercèd feet
Fair flow'rs of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,
The potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.

All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of The Day

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things to your beloved Son, whom you anointed priest forever and king of all creation: Grant that all people of the Earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united under the glorious and gentle rule of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Please be seated

Reading of the Word

The First Reading

Ezekiel: 34:11-16, 20-24

11For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. 12As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. 20Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between

sheep and sheep.23I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

R: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

The Responsive Reading

Psalms 65:1-13

¹Come, let us sing [|] to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of [|] our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence [|] with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the [|] LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, [|] are a great God,
and a great ruler a- [|] bove all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns [|] of the earth;
the heights of the hills are [|] also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, [|] for you made it,
and your hands have molded [|] the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship [|] and bow down,
let us kneel before the [|] LORD our maker.**

^{7a}For the LORD [|] is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep [|] of God's hand.

Please read the bold print verses responsively.

The Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

15I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16I do not cease to give thanks for you as I

remember you in my prayers. 17I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, 23which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

The Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;

35for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ 37Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? 39And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ 40And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ 41Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; 42for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ 44Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ 45Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ 46And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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 King Of Glory Comes”

Have you heard the latest word
About the man of Galilee
Have you heard about the things
That he’s doing
Turned the water into wine
Healed the leper cured the blind
Have you heard about the darlings things
That he’s been saying to the Pharisees
I hear they want to capture him and kill him
I hear he is the King to come

Have you heard the latest word
About the man of Galilee
Have you heard about the things
That he’s saying
Teaching of the things above
God is mercy truth and love
Saying that his coming is
Fulfilling words of Moses
And of Abraham
I hear that he may be the true Messiah
I hear he is the King to come
What’s this coming down the street
A royal procession

The king of glory comes
Jerusalem hosanna

The day of triumph comes
Hosanna in the highest
Behold he comes
The holy Lamb of God
Oh blest is he who comes
In the name of the Lord

Oh blest is he who comes
In the name of the Lord
Hosanna

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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 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

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 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

“King Of Kings”

King of kings and Lord of lords

Glory hallelujah

King of kings and Lord of lords

Glory hallelujah

Jesus Prince of Peace

Glory hallelujah

Jesus Prince of Peace

Glory hallelujah *Repeat*

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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 Dean & Terry Gardner for glory and honor to God.

Prayer focus this week on thanksgiving. 1 Chronicles 16:34 NIV. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Christmas Choir Practice starts today after church. Join us in the sanctuary following worship if you would like to sing in the Christmas Choir this year.

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 box or in the offering plate if writing a check memo Aprons for the Hall.

Immanuel will begin serving FCA lunches this 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. (6943 S Reed Ave, Reedley, CA 93654) 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. 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, Pastor Taylor 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 Choir Practice in the Sanctuary

Monday:

7:00PM NA meet in Grace Hall

Tuesday

9:00AM Women's Bible Study in Library

Wednesday

12:00PM Immanuel serves FCA Lunch

Thursday

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

Friday

12:00PM Easton Food Distribution at
Easton Presbyterian Church

Next Sunday:

9:40AM Choir Practice
9:30AM Sunday School in Grace Hall
10:30AM Worship & Communion
11:30AM Fellowship Time Outside
12:00PM Hillcrest Farm in Reedley

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen,

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Fred & Lee & Allys

Scripture Reader: Terry Gardner

Fellowship Servers: _____

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: Fred Cogan

Fellowship Servers: Mike & Laura Nielsen

Altar Ware: Salwasser Family

Council Lock Up: Daniel Hartwig

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



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