

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

**Proclaiming the Good News of
Jesus Christ since 1888**

February 11, 2024



5955 S Elm Ave.
Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706
Office: (559)237-7909
ImmanuelEaston.com
office@immanueleaston.com
Pastor Taylor Stempniak: ptmarie96@gmail.com

Sunday Schedule:
Sunday School 9:30am
Worship 10:30am

Welcome! Wherever you are; whether at home and on-line, or joining us in our beautiful sanctuary, we welcome you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ! We are united as a people of God in worship as a Body of Christ, the Church. May God grant you safety and protection during these unprecedented times. Immanuel follows the current Centers for Disease Control Guidelines during the pandemic and they recommend that wearing a mask at all indoor gatherings is optional. Please share our worship opportunities with your family and friends and those who don't know the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Immanuel is a member of the North American Lutheran Church whose Core Values are: Christ-Centered, Mission-Driven, Traditionally-Grounded, and Congregationally-Focused.

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday and other special occasions of the church year. If you have received instruction concerning the Lord's Supper, you are welcome to receive this sacrament here. If you would like to learn about either baptism or communion, please speak with the pastor following the service or check the box on the worship registration form to schedule an appointment. Only non-alcoholic wine is used in communion at Immanuel.

Moms and Dads, we love children and we welcome children to worship with you and the whole congregation. If you so desire, we do have a nursery – the room with the large window next to the Library at the back of the sanctuary. In there is a rocking chair, toys, as well as a speaker and large window so you can see and hear the service. Your kids may enjoy the activity bags on the rack at the back of the church.

To learn more about Immanuel please be sure to fill out the worship registration slip on the back page of your bulletin and place it in the offering bag as you exit the sanctuary or fill out the guest registry located in the church entry.

Restroom facilities are located in the church entry (the narthex). When walking out of the sanctuary take a left and they are at the end of the short hallway.

Join us outdoors immediately following our worship service where we can greet you more personally.

Order of Worship

Prelude

Laurel Jacobsen

Ring the Bell and Welcome

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness (*Matthew 28:19; 1 John 1:8-10*)

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 “How Good Lord To Be Here”

Lutheran Book of Worship page 89

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Apostolic Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:14)

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

All: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

Reading of the Word

The First Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12

1Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 2Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As

the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. 3The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.” 4Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. 5The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”6Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. 7Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 8Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. 9When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” 10He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” 11As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. 12Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

The Responsive Readings

Psalm 50:1-6

Please read responsively the bold print verses.

1The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

2Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

3Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him.

4He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

5"Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"

6The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.

The Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

3Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. 6For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel

The Gospel

Mark 9:1-13

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Mark the ninth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

1And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power." 2Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, 3and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. 4And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. 5Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 6He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. 7Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved listen to him!" 8Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus. 9As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. 10So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean. 11Then they asked him, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" 12He said to them, "Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things. How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt? 13But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him."

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 as you are able for the hymn of the day.

Hymn of the Day “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Lutheran Book of Worship page 315

Words & Music public domain

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.

Sharing of the Peace *(John 20:19-21)*

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

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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

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.

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 (2 Timothy 4:22, Colossians 3:1, Psalm 136)

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus (Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9)

Lutheran Book of Worship front section page 89

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might:
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest

Words of Institution

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20)

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

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 *(Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)*

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 Hymn

“Lamb of God” (John 1:29)

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.

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.

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 *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

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

“Here I Am To Worship”

Verse 1

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus

**So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me**

Verse 2

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor *Chorus*

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross *Chorus (2 times)*

Dismissal (*Matthew 5:16, Philippians 2:4, Romans 12:1, John 12:26, Matthew 28:16-20*)

P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

All: 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 Betty Moore for glory and honor to God and in celebration of Bruce and Betty's wedding anniversary.

Prayer focus this week on what love is. 1Corinthians 13:4 NIV. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

Women's Bible Study begins their study on the book of Exodus at 9:00AM this Tuesday in the church library.

SIGN UP TODAY! On February 29th everyone is invited for the congregational Birthday Dinner to celebrate our Pastor's 7th actual on the day birthday! The party will start at 6:00PM in our Social Hall. Please see Mark Salwasser for more information.

The next Fellowship Luncheon will be on **Thursday, February 22nd** at noon in the Social Hall. Sign up today and invite your friends to join us for nice meal.

Congregational Prayer time is after worship service in the sanctuary. Join us for a time set aside for the prayers of our people.

The Ummata team would like to invite you to have our first intergenerational event on March 3rd after church.

We will start the event with a lovely lunch and then enjoy a speaker. After that, we will start work on our service projects. The projects are free flow and you are welcome to help as you feel led. A couple of stations will be packing up food for people in need. A group will be making tie blankets for the animal shelters. More information to follow for other stations. After the projects, we will pray for our blessings. Then we sing some songs and enjoy dessert. After that, we can all head home for our Sunday nap.

In addition to the activities at church on March 3 which don't require you to bring anything, we are trying something new. We want to collect food for San Juan Baptista's food pantry. This church is new to the NALC in Santa Maria. They are a Lutheran Church whose missionary field are the migrant farm workers in that area. They need canned food and anything we can bring would help. We will start collecting this week and will collect until March 10th. If you feel called this church is doing amazing work and this is a great chance for us to help their mission.

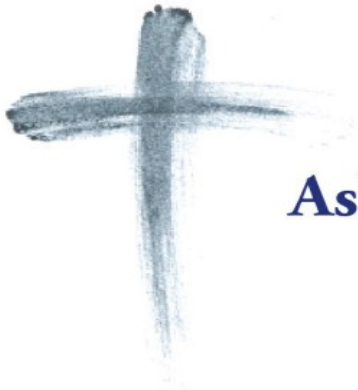
Lastly, we are making shirts for our Ummata events. They will be used at this and future events. These shirts are \$15 each with a household max of \$50. We need sizes by February 11. You can pay then or when you receive your shirt. Any questions or to sign up you can email, call, or text the church office or me, Kristi Hollenbeck (559)974-4408 kristinakhollenbeck@gmail.com.

FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
5955 S ELM AVE,
EASTON CA 93706

6:30PM
FEBRUARY
13, 2024



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

Immanuel's Ash Wednesday Service begins at 7:00PM this Wednesday.

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: Bobbie Beshears, Fred Bologna, Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Emily, Gaye Cissel, Steve Fletcher, Kristen Gibson, Pat Griffin, Jan Kersgaard, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Carol Martin, Marcus Miranda, Joann Ortega, Gloria Payne, Larry Pickens, Patti Price, David Stidham, Pastor Amy Schifren, Rebecca Stempniak, & Keitt Wilson.

For those morning the loss of loved ones.

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 Time

Monday:

7:00PM NA meet in Grace Hall

Tuesday

9:00AM Women's Bible Study in library.
6:30PM Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper in Social Hall

Wednesday

12:25PM FCA Lunch
7:00PM Ash Wednesday Service in Sanctuary

Thursday

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

Next Sunday:

9:30AM Sunday School in Grace Hall
10:30AM Worship
11:30AM Fellowship Time Outside

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Allys, Lee, Fred

Scripture Reader: Terry Gardner

Fellowship Servers: Salwasser's Super Bowl Pre-Party

Council Lock Up for February: Mike Moser

Worship Assistants Next Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Allys, Lee,

Scripture Reader: Terry Gardner

Fellowship Servers: Lee Terkelsen



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Please check the appropriate box and write your message in the space below.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I want to learn more about faith. | <input type="checkbox"/> I want to learn more about baptism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I want to receive the monthly newsletter ("The Chimes") | <input type="checkbox"/> I want to become a member of Immanuel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am receiving communion today | <input type="checkbox"/> I want a visit from the visitation pastor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I want to speak with the parish nurse | <input type="checkbox"/> I want to speak with the pastor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have a message for (circle:) the office / the pastor | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have a prayer request: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have hymn suggestions: _____ | |