

# *Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church*

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

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

**March 10, 2024**



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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**

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: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

**All: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.**

**All: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

Verse 1

Every promise we can make  
Every prayer and step of faith  
Every difference we will make  
Is only by His grace  
Every mountain we will climb  
Every ray of hope we shine  
Every blessing left behind  
Is only by His grace

***Chorus***

**Grace alone which God supplies  
Strength unknown He will provide  
Christ in us our Cornerstone  
We will go forth in grace alone**

Verse 2

Every soul we long to reach  
Every heart we hope to teach  
Everywhere we share His peace  
Is only by His grace  
Every loving word we say  
Every tear we wipe away  
Every sorrow turned to praise  
Is only by His Grace ***(Chorus 2X)***

**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**

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, 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**

**First Reading:**

**Numbers 21:4-9**

*Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.*

4From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. 5The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” 6Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. 7The

people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. 8And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” 9So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**The Responsive Readings**

**Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**

*Please read responsively the bold print verses.*

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

**2Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble**  
3and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

**17Some were sick through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities endured affliction;**

18they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death.

**19Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress;**

20he sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction.

**21Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.**

22And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

## **The Second Reading**

**Ephesians 2:1-10**

*While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.*

1You were dead through the trespasses and sins 2in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. 3All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. 4But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us 5even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—6and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—9not the result of works, so that no one may boast. 10For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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**

**John 3:14-21**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint John the third chapter.



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

*To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.*

[Jesus said:] 14“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 17“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. 19And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. 20For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. 21But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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

## “Old Rugged Cross”

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross  
The emblem of suffering and shame  
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain

### *Chorus*

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross  
Till my trophies at last I lay down  
I will cling to the old rugged cross  
And exchange it some day for a crown**

O the old rugged cross so despised by the world  
Has a wondrous attraction for me  
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above  
To bear it to dark Calvary

In the old rugged cross stained with blood so divine  
A wondrous beauty I see  
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died  
To pardon and sanctify me

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true  
Its shame and reproach gladly bear  
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away  
Where His glory forever I'll share

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## **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 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.*

*Please stand and sing as the gifts are brought forward.*

## Offertory Response

### **“Create In Me A Clean Heart”**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your Spirit.

## 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. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. 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.**

*Please be seated.*

## **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 Canticle**

Pastor: Lord, now you let your servant go in peace;

**All: Your word has been fulfilled.**

Pastor: My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people.

**All: A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

Pastor: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

**All: Amen.**

## **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**            **“Just As I Am Without One Pea”**

*Lutheran Book of Worship page 296*

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**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 Brad and Ericka Gardner for glory and honor to God and in celebration of their 27th wedding anniversary and their daughter, Alex's 25th birthday last week.**

**Prayer focus on new things. Isaiah 43:19 NIV.** See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up. Do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

**Women's Bible Study begins their study on the book of Exodus at 9:00AM this Tuesday in the church library. Pastor Taylor invites all women to attend.**

**The next Fellowship Luncheon will be on Maundy Thursday, March 28th, at noon in the Social Hall. Sign up today and invite your friends to join us for nice meal.**

**Immanuel's Easter Choir Practice is after worship today after worship.** Each Sunday after church there will be a choir practice for performances on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

**The Easton Community Choir will practice THIS WEDNESDAY at 7:45PM, and every Wednesday in March, at Easton Presbyterian Church (next door). Choir members must attend 3 of the 4 practices. See Fran Hansen for more information.**

**April Chimes article deadline will be March 26th.** Please email or place your submissions in the office secretary box in the church entryway across from the men's restroom door no later than tomorrow at 11:00AM.

**Please sign up today and come pray with us on March 17!** Join us for a Corned Beef and Cabbage lunch in the fireside room at Easton Presbyterian Church. There will be leaders from Young Life joining us for lunch and discussing the opportunities to bring Young Life to Easton. Bring your questions. **Dear Lord, guide us in Your grace as we come seeking Your wisdom and heart! Amen. Gathering today following worship, ~12:00PM, EPC Fireside Rm to pray. Sunday, March 17**

**This Wednesday is our fourth Soup Supper for the Lenten season.** It's a potluck style soup and salad dinner. We have groups of folks listed under Circles in the back of the directory. If you are listed under **Circle D** it is your opportunity to set up at 6:00PM and clean up at 7:30PM. Everyone is welcome to help but we hoped to have Circle D make sure it's done. Many hands make for light work and if everyone takes their soup pot or salad bowl home it's that much easier. These Lenten gatherings are great opportunities to invite your friends to dinner, especially if you have friends that drive at night and you don't.

**The Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood Drive is March 24th** from 9:00AM-Noon. Please sign up today on the Gold Bulletin Board.

**2024 Directory Correction:** Matthew and Allison Nielsen's new address is: 1540 Bonita Pl. San Maguel, CA 93451.

**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, Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Emily, Gaye Cissel, Steve Fletcher, Kristen Gibson, Ken Goff, Liz Harrison, Jan Kersgaard, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Carol Martin, Randy McFarland, Marcus Miranda, Joann Ortega, Gloria Payne, John Pistorich, Larry Pickens, Patti Price, David Stidham, Pastor Amy Schifren, Rebecca Stempniak, & Keitt Wilson.

**For those mourning the loss of loved ones.** The Lairson & Hansen families.

**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 _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Time Guest <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Time or Regular Attender <input type="checkbox"/> 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 Choir Practice  
Congregational Prayer following worship

## **Monday:**

7:00PM NA meet in Grace Hall

## **Tuesday**

9:00AM Women's Bible Study in library.

## **Wednesday**

12:25PM FCA Lunch  
6:30PM Soup Supper in Social Hall  
7:00PM Lenten Worship in Sanctuary

## **Thursday**

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

## **Friday**

## **Next Sunday:**

9:30AM Sunday School in Grace Hall  
10:30AM Worship  
11:30AM Fellowship Time Outside  
11:45AM Choir Practice  
11:55AM Lunch and Young Life Discussions at the Easton Presbyterian fireside room.

## **Worship Assistants This Week:**

**Ushers:** Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

**Greeters:** All of Immanuel

**Sound & Technology:** Allys,

**Scripture Reader:** Alex Gardner

**Fellowship Servers:** Mike & Laura Nielsen

**Council Lock Up in March:** Stacy Avedisian

## **Worship Assistants Next Week:**

**Ushers:** Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

**Greeters:** All of Immanuel

**Sound & Technology:** Allys,

**Scripture Reader:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fellowship Servers:** Reynolds & Bennetts



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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: _____                          |  |