

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

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

March 17, 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: 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.

Opening Hymn

“House of Miracles”

Praise Band

This is a house of worship
This is a place of praise
Where every demon trembles
Where we proclaim Your name

Verse 2

This is a house of healing
Our hearts are full of faith
You have our full attention
You have the final say

Chorus

**Come alive in the name of Jesus
Come alive in the name of Jesus
This is a house of miracles
We bring everything to the feet of Jesus
Everything in the name of Jesus
This is a house of miracles**

Verse 3

There's resurrection power
Your blood runs through our veins
Your Kingdom triumphs over
Even the coldest grave ***Chorus***

Bridge

I still believe You're moving
I still believe You're speaking
God I believe You're working
All things for good

I fix my eyes on Heaven
God I receive Your vision
God I believe You're working
All things for good

Chorus

**Come alive in the name of Jesus
Come alive in the name of Jesus
This is a house of miracles
We bring everything to the feet of Jesus
Everything in the name of Jesus
This is a house of miracles**

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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

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, 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

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

The Responsive Readings

Psalm 51:1-12

Please read responsively the bold print verses.

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

²**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

⁶You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

¹¹Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

The Second Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; ⁶as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.” ⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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 12:20-33

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

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

“This Is My Father’s World”

Lutheran Book of Worship Page 554

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 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

“Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer”

Lutheran Book of Worship page 343

Words & Music Public Domain

Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
Hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore,
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
Where the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
Shield me with your mighty arm,
Shield me with your mighty arm.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.
Words and Music, Public Domain, Sundays and Seasons

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 the Bennetts & Reynolds Families for glory and honor to God.

Prayer Focus on the King coming. Zechariah 9:9 NIV. Rejoice greatly, daughter Zion! Shout daughter Jerusalem! See your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt the foal of a donkey.

Please come and pray with us this morning at Easton Presbyterian church. Lunch is provided. There will be leaders from Young Life joining us 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, at the EPC Fireside Room. See Victoria if you would like to go with her.**

Women's Bible Study will not meet this Tuesday. All women are invited to will gather in the church library at 9:00AM on March 26th and review the book of Exodus, chapters 20:18 through chapter 24.

Immanuel begins serving lunch to Fellowship of Christian Athletes this Wednesday! If you would like to help by donating Chocolate Chip Cookies with no nuts for the kid's, please bring them to the church by 10:00AM **this Tuesday.** Please mark the total number cookies in the bags to make it easier to count. Each Wednesday we serve approximately 260 cookies. If you would like to help with lunch preparation or have any questions, contact Ericka Gardner.

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

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 on Wednesday, March 26th. Please email or place your submissions in the office secretary box in the church entryway across from the men's restroom door.

This Wednesday is our final 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 E** 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 E 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.

2024 Directory Correction: Matthew and Allison Nielsen's new address is: 1540 Bonita Pl. San Miguel, CA 93451. (Please note the spelling correction from last week). Please let the church office know of any corrections needed in the 2024 directory.

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, Janice Cox, Steve Fletcher, Kristen Gibson, Ken Goff, Liz Harrison, Jan Kersgaard, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Carol Martin, Randy McFarland, Marcus Miranda, Velia 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 _____

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 Choir Practice
Youth Prayer lunch at Easton Pres.

Monday:

7:00PM NA meet in Grace Hall

Tuesday

No Women's Bible Study today

Wednesday

12:25PM Immanuel serves 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

Next Sunday: Palm Sunday

9:30AM Sunday School in Grace Hall
10:30AM Worship
11:30AM Fellowship Time Outside
11:45AM Choir Practice

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Allys,

Scripture Reader: Laurel Jacobsen

Fellowship Servers: Reynolds & Bennetts

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: Alex Gardner

Fellowship Servers: Reynolds & Bennetts



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giving!

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: _____ | |