

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

A Mission of the North American Lutheran Church

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

April 14, 2024



5955 S Elm Ave.

Easton (Fresno), CA. 93706

Office: (559)237-7909

Immanueleaston.com

office@immanueleaston.com

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Email: ptmarie96@gmail.com

Sunday Schedule:

Sunday School 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

Welcome to Immanuel!

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!

Founded in 1888, Immanuel is a family friendly congregation with worshipers coming from throughout Fresno County. We offer a variety of ministry opportunities for you to be involved in from Bible studies to service projects and social events. At the visitor's kiosk in the church entry are many books and pamphlets about our Lutheran faith and opportunities at Immanuel to share and learn more about Christianity.

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday as well as other special occasions of the church year. You are welcome to receive this sacrament here. If you would like to learn more about either baptism or communion, please speak with the pastor and 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. Older 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 plate 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 for a snack and a cup of coffee or juice immediately following our worship service where we can greet you more personally.



Order of Worship

Prelude

Laurel Jacobsen

Ringing the Bell and Welcome

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Please stand as you are able for the opening hymn.

Opening Hymn “How Deep Is Our Father’s Love For Us”

CCLI Song # 1558110 Stuart Townend © 1995 Thankyou Music For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#).
All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1825563

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything
No gifts no pow'r no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

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

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of 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.

The First Lesson:

Acts 3:12-19

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsive Readings

Psalm 4

Congregation, please read responsively the bold print verses.

1Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

2How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

3But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.

4When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

5Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

6There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"

7You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.

8I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

The Second Lesson

1 John 3:1-7

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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 Lesson

Luke 24:36b-48

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Mark the 24th chapter

All: Glory to you, O Lord

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

36b Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” 37 They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. 38 He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” 40 And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41 While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate in their presence. 44 Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46 and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated

The Children's Message

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Children are invited up to the altar with Pastor Taylor.

The Homily

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Please stand as you are able for the hymn of the day.

Hymn of The Day

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Lutheran Book of Worship Page 212

Streamed and performed with permission through One License Copyright Song # 84125

Confession of Faith

Pastor: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed

Confession of Faith – Nicene Creed

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake, He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right Hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His

Kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in One holy, Christian, and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

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

P: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Let us Share God's Peace with one another.

Please Be Seated.

Collection of the Offering

Offerings may be placed in the plate as it is passed along with the worship registration slips found at the back of the bulletin. There is a QR code printed on the back page for those wishing to donate online.

Please stand and sing as the offerings are brought forward.

Offering 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.

Pastor: Lord in Your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Holy Communion

Today we will celebrate communion at the altar rail. The Pastor will invite you to kneel as you are able at the rail, communion will be served by placing the bread the body of Christ, in your hand, and pouring the blood of Christ, the wine in the cup. Clean cups are upside down on the rail. Please leave your used communion cup right side up on the rail as you are blessed and leave.

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.

Communion Distribution

Pastor: The body of Christ, given for you.

Pastor: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Communion

The Pastor will invite you to kneel as you are able at the rail, communion will be served by placing the bread the body of Christ, in your hand, and pouring the blood of Christ, the wine in the cup. Clean cups are upside down on the rail. Please leave your used communion cup right side up on the rail as you are blessed and leave.

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

“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

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

“Ancient Words”

CCLI Song # 2986399 Lynn DeShazo © 2001 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)
For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1825563

Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart
O let the ancient words impart

Words of life words of hope
Give us strength help us cope
In this world where'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us home

Chorus

**Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart**

Holy words of our faith
Handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice
O heed the faithful words of Christ

Chorus

Martyr's blood stains each page
They have died for this faith
Hear them cry through the years
Heed these words and hold them dear

Chorus

We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart
O let the ancient words impart

Dismissal

P.: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God! Sing: Amen, Amen, Amen

Postlude

Today's service is reprinted by permission under our Church Copyright License through CCLI, One License, Sundays and Seasons Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Announcements

This week's prayer focus on seeking the fruits of the Spirit.

Galatians 5: 22,23 NIV. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such there is no law.

Immanuel Library is filled with wonderful books highlighting Easter! Check them out and enjoy!

Community Bible Study on Wednesdays: Folks of all ages are welcome to join us **in Grace Hall** for a community Bible study on Wednesdays. We'll be offering this study at two separate times-- **10:30-11:30 am** and **7:00-8:00 pm**. Each week, we'll take a look at the readings for the following Sunday and how they interact with each other, the big questions they raise, and what insights might be there. If you'd like to read the texts before joining us, you can find a schedule below, but you're welcome to come even if you don't have a chance to read the texts beforehand.

April 17: Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23, 1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18

April 24: Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8

May 1: Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-17

Immanuel is serving FCA lunches for the month of April. Donated Chocolate Chip Cookies without nuts are appreciated. Please bring them to the social hall by Tuesday of each week and mark the total of cookies on your package. Please notify Ericka Gardner if you are able to help.

Men's Bible Study meet every Thursday, at 6:00AM in the Social Hall! All first time attendees get a brand new Bible. The morning starts out with a hearty breakfast and great discussion led by Phil Tews. For more information, see Phil Tews or call the church office.

Women's Bible study meet on Tuesday mornings at 9:00am in the church library right next to the nursery. Kids are welcome too! Pastor Taylor leads the study on the book of Exodus. We will be discussing **Chapters 32-34**. Please join us if you would like to be a part of this small group of women who pray together each week.

Daily Devotionals are available for you to pick up in the church entryway under the blue bulletin board. Pick yours up today. There are two types to choose from "Our Daily Bread" and "Portals of Prayer".

Immanuel Fellowship Luncheons are the 4th Thursday of every month at Noon in the Social Hall. Bring your friends to lunch at Immanuel. It's fun and a great way to get out of the house and enjoy a meal with friends. Invite your friends and neighbors, it's a great way to bring folks to church. Free will offerings are taken to cover the cost of the meal. Would you like to help with this ministry? Call Gina Cogan or the church office for more information. **The next lunch is April 27th! Sign up today on the Gold Bulletin Board.**

Family Camp at Logger Flat Group Campground in the Sequoia National Forrest is June 7-14th! The campground is near Hume Lake and Immanuel has it rented for the week. Come when you can and leave when you must. Pack up and come for the weekend or pack up for a few days' mid-week or come and stay all week. The choice is yours the venue is beautiful. Bring your food and shelter.

Do you have some thoughts or ideas that you would like to share with your church family? The monthly newsletter is the best place to do that! **Please submit your articles for the May edition of the Chimes by Tuesday, April 23rd** at 8:00AM. Email, hard copies or even a phone call to our church secretary can make that happen. Thank you all for your submissions.

Women's Event Planned for May 18 at 10:00AM in Grace Hall! It's a Paint Event! Vashie Miller will help us to paint a sign, you might want to choose one for the upcoming holidays or spring/summer season. You get to choose the picture you will learn how to paint! She will supply everything we need, and we will use stencils so the finished projects will look great. Being an artist is NOT required. We just paint inside the lines. The cost for the day of learning and the priceless piece of art you create and take home is \$25.00. We will have pictures of the options available soon, so you can make your selections. Many of us participated in the fall/winter paint event and we all had a great time. **Sign-up today on the Gold Bulletin Board in the church entry way. Please invite your friends, the more the merrier!** If you have other ideas for events, or if you have suggestions for this one, please let one of the members from the women's board know. (Women's Board = Marcia, Jackie, Kristi and Betty) Lunch will be provided!

Save The Date: Memorial Weekend. Saturday, May 25th at 7:30AM at the Washington Colony Cemetery, help is needed to put up crosses and flags to decorate our local cemetery. **Monday, May 27th at 10:00 AM** is the annual Memorial Day Service at the Cemetery. Please bring your own chair.

The Flowers on the altar this morning are presented by the Marie Salwasser for glory and honor to God.

Prayers of 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, & Matthew Tigchelaar.

Those unable to travel about: Gail Hansen, Paul Pedersen, & Bonnie Terkelsen.

Those in need of pain relief & healing: Bobbie Beshears, Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Gaye Cissel, Janice Cox, Steve Fletcher, Ken Goff, Liz Harrison, Jan Kersgaard, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Carol Martin, Bruce McElhoe, Randy McFarland, Marcus Miranda, Velia Miranda, Joann Ortega, Gloria Payne, John Pectorich, Larry Pickens, Patti Price, David Stidham, Pastor Amy Schifren, Rebecca Stempniak, & Keitt Wilson.

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 me _____	
<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 in Grace Hall

10:30AM Worship & Communion

11:45AM Fellowship Time

Monday:

7:00PM NA in Grace Hall

Tuesday:

9:00AM Women's Bible Study

6:30PM Council Meeting in Grace Hall

Wednesday

10:30AM Bible Study in Grace Hall

12:00PM FCA Lunch for WUHS Students

7:00PM Bible Study in Grace Hall

Thursday

6:00AM Men's Bible Study

Friday

Next Sunday:

9:30AM Sunday School in Grace Hall

10:30AM Worship & Communion

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Allys, Gina

Scripture Reader: Gina Cogan

Fellowship Servers: Mike & Laura Nielsen

Council Lock Up in April: Sharon Reynolds

Worship Assistants Next Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Gina, Allys

Scripture Reader: Gina Cogan

Fellowship Servers: Lee Terkelsen

Sign up to volunteer for scripture reading, altar flowers and fellowship service on the gold bulletin board.



Scan our QR code for links to our website, calendar texts subscription, and online giving!

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

I want to learn more about faith. I want to learn more about baptism

I want to receive the monthly newsletter ("The Chimes") I want to become a member of Immanuel

I am receiving communion today I want a visit from the visitation pastor

I want to speak with the parish nurse I want to speak with the pastor

I have a message for (circle:) the office / the pastor

I have a prayer request: _____

I have hymn suggestions: _____