

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church

A Mission of the North American Lutheran Church

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1888

April 21, 2024



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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

Ring the Bell and Welcome

Pastor Taylor Stempniak

Please stand as you are able for the opening hymn.

Opening Hymn

“The Lord’s My Shepherd”

Lutheran Book of Worship page 451

Words & Music are Public Domain

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 Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

The First Lesson:

Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today’s reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus’ name to the religious authorities.

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’ ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsive Prayer

Psalm 23

Congregation, please read responsively the bold print verses.

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint

my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Second Lesson

1 John 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

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

John 10:11-18

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to St. John 10th chapter

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

All: Glory to you, O Lord

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

“Have No Fear Little Flock”

Lutheran Book of Worship Page 476

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jilson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4 Text © 1973 Concordia Publishing House Duplication with permission & valid license from copyright administrator, One License # 19199

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

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.

Communion Distribution

Pastor: The body of Christ, given for you.

Pastor: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

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.

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

“Sanctuary”

Lord prepare me To be a sanctuary
Pure and holy Tried and true
With thanksgiving I'll be a living
Sanctuary for You

Repeat

CCLI Song # 24140 John W. Thompson | Randy Scruggs © 1982 Full Armor Publishing Company; Whole Armor Publishing Company For use solely with the SongSelect® www.ccli.com Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1825563

Dismissal

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

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

Postlude

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Announcements

This week's prayer focus on prayers. Romans 12:12 NIV. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

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 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 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 This Thursday, April 25th! Sign up today on the Gold Bulletin Board.**

Immanuel is serving FCA lunches for the month of April. Thank you for all the cookie donations! We have plenty for our last week!

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.

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".

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.

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.

May Day at Washington Union Stadium is on May 4th at 5:00PM.

Would you like to help host a booth for Immanuel? Last year we had a “Country Store Booth” We sold hand made craft items, plants, art, baked goods, canned jams and jellies. We raised \$1,551.09 for the social hall refurbishment fund. The booth consists of two plastic 8 foot tables and two electrical outlets. The time commitment is about 4 hours to set up and take down. There is no cost to host a booth it’s a community service hosted by the Easton Lions Club. There are already 8 booths selling snacks and one craft booth registered to be at the May Day Event. Immanuel could host any type of booth we would like. **If there is anyone in the congregation interested in doing this please call the church office, the deadline to register for a booth is May 1st.**

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!

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 35-40**. Please join us if you would like to be a part of this small group of women who pray together each week. We will not meet on May 7th.

There will be a New Women's Book Study Starting May 14th at 9:00AM in the church library! Pastor Taylor will lead us through "The Supper of the Lamb" by Robert Farrar Capon who was an American Episcopal priest, chef, and author. He writes this book with wit and charm and according to the New York Times Book Review: "*The Supper of the Lamb* is awesomely funny, wise, beautiful, moving, and preposterous." "From a passionate and talented chef who also happens to be an Episcopalian priest comes this surprising and thought-provoking treatise on everything from prayer to poetry to puff pastry. In this book he talks about festal and ferial cooking, emerging as an inspirational voice extolling the benefits and wonders of old-fashioned home cooking in a world of fast food and prepackaged cuisine." Join us as we embark on this fun new book.

The Flowers on the altar this morning are presented by the Robert & Kaylee Hollenbeck for glory and honor to God and in celebration of Carter's and Grandma Marilyn's birthdays.

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, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Carol Martin, Bruce McElhoe, Randy McFarland, Marcus Miranda, Velia Miranda, Joann Ortega, Gloria Payne, John Pestorich, Larry Pickens, Patti Price, David Stidham, Pastor Amy Schifren, Rebecca Stempniak, Allison Terrones & Keitt Wilson.

For those morning the loss of loved ones: The family of Jan Kersgaard.

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 Outside

Monday:

7:00PM NA in Grace Hall

Tuesday:

9:00AM Women's Bible Study

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

12:00PM Fellowship Lunch

Friday

Next Sunday:

9:30AM Sunday School in Grace Hall

10:30AM Worship & Communion

11:45AM Fellowship Time Outside

Worship Assistants This Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Allys, Gina, Debbie

Scripture Reader: Gina Cogan

Fellowship Servers: Lee Terkelsen in celebration of his mother, Bonnie's 97th birthday last Friday

Council Lock Up in April: Sharon Reynolds

Worship Assistants Next Week:

Ushers: Lee Terkelsen, Randy McFarland

Greeters: All of Immanuel

Sound & Technology: Gina, Allys, Debbie

Scripture Reader: Gina Cogan

Fellowship Servers: Sharon & John Reynolds

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: _____