



At Immanuel, our mission is focused on our Four Branches of Ministry. Staff, volunteer, and financial resources are allocated under one of the four branches to tell the story of our purpose and impact. Your gifts of time, talent and treasure are used to support these ministries.

Offering is an act of worship, an instance in which we are invited to give away something we value—our time, talent and treasure—as a sacrifice and expression of love for God. Much more than “paying bills,” these gifts are simple and clear acts of devotion to God.



**Welcome to Worship at Immanuel
Advent 4
December 22, 2024 10 am**



“Hope is worth the risk”

Images and Words Adapted from A Sanctified Art

Gathering

Call to Worship & Lighting the Advent Wreath

Song: “Awake, Awake” (Hermanson)

Confession and Forgiveness

Song: “Magnificat” (Holden Village Prayer)

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

The Word

Readings:

Micah 5:2-5a

Psalm: Luke 1:45-55

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Children’s Message

Sermon Pastor Molly

Song of the Day: “All Earth is Hopeful” (ELW 266)

Affirmation of Faith

Prayers of the People “Come Now O Prince of Peace” (ELW 247, v. 1)

Sharing of the Peace

Offering & Song “He Came Down” (ELW 253)

Offering Prayer

The Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy “You are Holy” (ELW 525)

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

The Lord’s Prayer (spoken, modern)

Communion & Songs: “Come thou Long Expected Jesus” (ELW 254)

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (ELW 257)

Post-Communion Blessing

Prayer After Communion

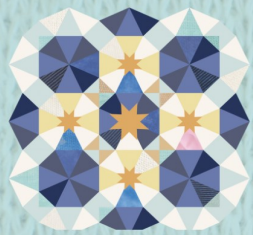
The Sending

Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Sending Song “Sing O Heavens” (Hermanson)

Dismissal



Christmas at Immanuel

Christmas Eve Worship

3:00 p.m. Children & Family Worship (30-45 min)

5:00 p.m. Band, Holy Communion, Candlelight

8:00 p.m. Organ, Holy Communion, Candlelight

Sunday Worship December 29 at 10:00 a.m.

All services in person and online.



Welcome to Immanuel!

Are you visiting? Please fill out a yellow card from the pew racks and place it in the offering plate so we can reach out to you. The purple pew cards are for electronic givers to place in the offering to show that giving is an act of worship.

Communion

While the meal of the baptized, Christ is the host and welcomes all. The promise “given and shed for you” requires a simple trusting heart. Those not receiving may come up for a blessing. White grape juice and gluten/dairy free bread is available. Please contact the pastors for further conversation about Baptism and Communion.

Worship Assistance

Assisted listening devices, earphones, and reading glasses are available. Ask an usher for assistance.

Children

We welcome children of all ages to our services. Busy Bags for are available from the ushers. Toys are in the family area by the Luther Wall. Children may bring their offering forward to place in the little white church by the altar.

Announcements

End of the Year Gifts Please remember if you are giving a year end gift using your credit card, it must be done by 3 pm central time on December 26th to be credited for 2024. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Yoga at Immanuel Kim Butler will lead a beginning/gentle yoga class at Immanuel on Tuesdays, January 7—February 5, 9:45-10:30 am. Please contact Kim with questions 406-360-7612. Thank you!

January Book Study Join us January 8, 15, 22 to explore Brian McLaren’s book “Do I Stay Christian” in person & Zoom 7-8:30 pm. Books at church (\$17). Scholarships available.



ImmanuelLutheran
CHURCH

Welcome Statement

Immanuel Lutheran Church is committed to seeing Christ in everyone. We are rooted and united in Christ. We grow by acknowledging and embracing our differences. We celebrate our human family’s diversity of sexuality, gender identity, marital status, race, ethnicity, age, faith story, economic status, physical and mental ability, education, and the many other identities that make our community beautiful. All people are invited to grow with us toward greater love, understanding, and mutual respect - seeing Christ in everyone.

Immanuel is a Reconciling Works Congregation

We advocate for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual/aromantic (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their Church, congregations, and community.

Now Hiring Immanuel is looking for a part-time bookkeeper. The hours are flexible and average around 10-15 per month.

VBS Registration is now open sign up via the Immanuel website. June 16-19, 2025 9:30 am—12:30 pm at Immanuel. Sponsored by Missoula ELCA Lutheran Churches & UCC.

Share the love of Christ with all!

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Advent & Christmas 2024



Advent is a season of endings and beginnings. Christ comes in the holy birth and in the fullness of time. The old ways of sin and death have ended; we live and love in new ways. Yet, we feel the weight of many things coming to an end. “Words for the Beginning” will offer blessings we need to hear again and again. We hear scriptures often used in weddings, ordination services, or baptisms. We invite you to enter this Advent season as if you are entering a sacred new chapter, holding fast to the reminders that will bolster you for the journey ahead.

Advent 4: Hope is Worth the Risk

Matthew 1:18-25 | Luke 1:46-55

This traditional quilt square design is called "birds in the air." Sometimes when we take a risk, hope takes flight. It may feel like you're falling, but you'll find that, in God's embrace, you are flying.



Hope is vulnerable and can feel like a tremendous risk, especially if you’ve experienced loss or trauma. But Mary shows us a resilient hope that takes risks—she risks her body to bear a son who will become the hope of her people. Similarly, Joseph makes a risky choice to stay with Mary; dismissing her quietly would have kept him safe. But instead, he chooses hope. He chooses to trust the angel, and it makes all the difference. It can feel safer and easier to be a cynic, but the world doesn’t need more cynics. It needs people who say, “It can be better” and make it so.

Christmas Eve Worship December 24

3:00 p.m. Children & Family Worship
with Communion (30-45 min)

5:00 p.m. Band, Holy Communion, Candlelight

8:00 p.m. Organ, Holy Communion, Candlelight

Sunday Worship December 29—10 a.m.

Community Advent Activities

**Contemplative Worship
at Atonement (Drop in)**
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., M-F

**John Floridis Holiday
Concert for MIC**
at First United Methodist
December 22 at 4:00 p.m.