

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. Children of all ages commune at Immanuel. Who more than a child has a “simple believing heart?” We offer instruction in Holy Communion for everyone age 2 & beyond. Those not communing may come forward to receive a blessing. After receiving, you may kneel at the altar to pray. White grape juice and gluten/dairy free bread is available. 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 in worship. We expect noise and distraction! Busy Bags and 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

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Faith Family Gathering: 10/25 at 4:00-6:15 p.m. Songs, games, peer learning, family connect, dinner. Anyone with kids pre-k and older is welcome.

Fellowship Treats Thank you to all who help host and provide treats for Fellowship. We rely on the generous contributions of congregation members to help make our Fellowship Hour successful! Thank you!

Emmaus Campus Ministry: 538 University Ave. Wednesdays at 6:30 - community dinner, fellowship, ritual, guest speakers. **Bingo Fundraiser:** 10/11, 3-6 p.m. at ZACC (216 Main St.) Tickets online or at door: www.emmausmontana.org. Sponsors and prizes needed, please contact office@emmausmontana.org.



Share the love of Christ with all!
Pastor Molly Sasser-Goehner
830 South Avenue West
Missoula MT 59801 406-549-0736

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, gender expression, marital status, race, ethnicity, age, faith story, economic status, physical and mental ability, education, and the many other identities that make our community beautiful. We commit ourselves to embracing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care.

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.

Please join us for refreshments after worship.

For prayer requests, visitation or a ride to church please contact the church office (406-549-0736).

Family Housing Initiative:

Sign up for small group on-line

10/13 at noon with Men’s Bible Study
10/20 at 7:00 p.m.
10/21 at noon
10/25 at 4:30 p.m. with FFG parents
10/27 at 10:00 a.m. with Service Team

Large Group Gatherings for All

10/24 at 11:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall - Review of feedback and questions to date with answers provided
11/22 at 11:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall - Comprehensive Report of Responses from the Engagement Sessions with Technical Team

Boy Scouts Popcorn from Liam Stadler for Pack 4904 to fund uniforms, equipment, and activities. Liam will be at church in uniform through October 18th. In-person orders will be delivered. Buy online with home delivery at <https://www.prpopcornstore.com/?sid=57Q098>

Welcome to Worship at Immanuel

Honoring Indigenous People’s Day

Guests: Loren BirdRattler / Lamar Renville / Will Harjo CrazyBrave

October 11, 2026 10:00 am

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus’ parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

Welcome

Invocation

Land Acknowledgement

Refrain “Christ Our Peace”

Song “Many and Great, O God” (#837) [Lamar will sing in Dakota, then all in English]

Apostolic Greeting

Prayer of the Day

Readings

Isaiah25:1, 4, 6-8

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Children’s Message

Guest Speaker Loren Bird Rattler, Blackfeet Nation
Advisor for Montana Synod Racial Justice Task Force

Song of the Day “All My Relatives” (DRM)

Apostle’s Creed

Prayers of the People

Passing of the Peace

Offering Ministry Moment: Pastor Melanie Martin Dent
Montana Racial Justice Task Force

Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer / Words of Institution

Acclamation

The Lord’s Prayer [First Nations Version (FNV)]

Communion Song “All Who Are Thirsty” (Brown)
“Let Streams of Living Justice (#710)

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Announcements

Blessing & Benediction

Choir Anthem “Go Now With God” (DRM)

Dismissal

Indigenous Day Worship October 11 at 10:00 a.m.

Loren BirdRattler, Blackfeet Nation

BirdRattler coordinated the country's first in-house Indigenous agricultural resource management plan, the Blackfeet Agriculture Resource Management Plan, and is a former MSU Katz Endowed Chair in Native American Studies. He has more than 20 years of experience in Washington, D.C., and Indian Country as a strategic planner, policy developer, project manager, and organizational developer. BirdRattler has addressed the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the U.N. General Assembly.

Lamar Renville, Dakota

Renville served as Teacher of Dakota Language and Culture at Bdote Learning Center, the world's first Dakota language immersion school. Renville was hired by the MN Humanities Center to write a children's educational biography of a Dakota Leader to be published in 2027. He did voiceovers for the Owanmiamni project. He is certified by the Standing Rock Tribal Council with Eminent Scholar credentials to teach Native Language and Culture in seven states. He is trained in the Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling Institute, and teaches students on-line.

William Harjo CrazyBrave, Nvce Mvskoke

Dr. William Harjo Crazy Brave is a scholar, author, and educator whose work connects Indigenous knowledge, linguistics, and cognitive systems. A graduate of Dartmouth College and Stanford University, he has taught at Dartmouth, Stanford, and MSU. His work focuses on language revitalization, Indigenous relational intelligence, and their implications for artificial intelligence. Based in Missoula, Montana, his forthcoming book, *Failure State: An Indigenous Life Among Thinking Machines*, explores the intersection of Indigenous knowledge, language, and the ecology of the mind.

Native Lanugage Initiative in MT Prisons

Birdrattler, Renville, and Harjo-Crazy Brave, are launching a pilot program to several Native languages in Montana prisons. This initiative grew from the work of the Montana Synod Racial Justice Task Force. Its goal is to develop a model that can be adapted for use in other prisons across Turtle Island. Learning language gives an opportunity to reconnect with their tribal identity, culture, history, lifeways, and spirituality. It encourages introspection and moral development while providing useful, marketable skills. Upon returning to their communities, participants may find respected roles in leadership and cultural education. These opportunities can help reduce recidivism and support others in developing the knowledge, skills, and practices needed to pursue healthy, lawful, and meaningful lives.

Apology to the Tribes

Adopted by the Montana Synod Assembly, June 6, 2010

Recognizing the long history of injustice towards the Indigenous Tribal Peoples of the United States, we, the Montana Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, express our profound sorrow and repentance for the grief and pain suffered in the past and in the present. For too long, we have remained silent, ignored the violence perpetrated against the Tribes, ignored the violation of treaties, and ignored the tragic aftermath that haunts the original peoples of the land.

We ask for forgiveness, forgiveness for what we have done and have failed to do.

As a sign of our repentance and a desire to be reconciled, we pledge to walk with our brothers and sisters of the Tribal Nations. We offer our support for the honoring of treaty rights, the healing of lives torn asunder by forced cultural changes, loss of language, racism and poverty. We will stand with The Tribes in honoring the sacred sites and ceremonies. Let it be known to all the Tribes that our door is open to you and we are here to listen and to work for a better tomorrow for all of the Creator's people.

ELCA Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery

In the 15th Century, popes issued decrees that extended to European leaders the right to colonize, convert, and conquer any lands that were not already ruled by Christians. This became the "Doctrine of Discovery." It was rooted in the thinking that Christianity must be forced, coerced and stand alone as the global understanding of God in the world. The history of indigenous people in the Americas, as well as on all populated continents, is tragic. The acts of violence, displacement, and systematic cultural genocide are something that must be acknowledged and revisited in order to arrive at a new consideration of love and cooperation; respect and dignity; integrity and justice.

In August of 2016 the ELCA Churchwide Assembly voted overwhelmingly to adopt a Resolution on the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, following the lead of many Synods (including the Montana Synod) who had voted on similar resolutions. The Resolution asked the church to repudiate clearly the doctrine of discovery as an example of the "improper mixing of the power of the church and the power of the sword" (Augsburg Confession, Article XXVIII, Latin text).

Since then, the ELCA has established a Task Force to implement the Repudiation. It has created ub-committees on Indian Boarding Schools, Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, Advocacy, Settler Colonialism, Resource Development and more. Today, the MT Synod Racial Justice Task force is committed to this work and continues to provide education and outreach toward the goals of reconciliation and healing.