



Season of Creation:
Creation Belongs to God
September 3, 2023

3125 5th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT (406) 315-1203

www.newhopegf.org

Our mission: to share our faith in Christ by serving all with respectful compassion.

GATHERING

Gathering Music: Aberystwyth

arr. Raymond H. Haan

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: Solemn March

W. A. Mozart

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives. **C: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

C: Have mercy, O God, against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us new hearts and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.

L: As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

C: Blessed be God forever.

Gathering Song: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ELW #836

1. Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
2. All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.
3. Thou are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest.
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise: Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven (v. 1, 3, 4 only) ELW #864

1. Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; joyfully your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore God's praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praises everlasting ring!
3. Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish, blows the wind and it is gone;

But, as mortals rise and perish, God endures unchanging on.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the great Eternal One!

4. Angels sing in adoration, in God's presence, face to face.
Sun and moon and all creation, all who dwell in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

L: Let us all pray... **C: Holy God, every aspect of creation belongs to you. What you have made out of your love and power is beyond our comprehension. Guide us into deeper understanding of your beloved handiwork and our place in it. All blessing, honor, and glory is yours, Holy Parent, Holy Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

1st Reading: Job 38:1-18

L: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 19:1-8, 14

L: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

C: One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

L: Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

C: their sound has gone out into all the lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

L: It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

C: It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

L: The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

C: The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

L: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

2nd Reading: Revelation 4:1-2, 6b-11

L: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

ACS p. 33

Gospel: John 1:1-5 **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Time

Sermon

Pastor Tammy Bull

Hymn of the Day: This is My Father's World

ELW #824

1. This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.
2. This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise
The morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me everywhere.

3. This is my Father's world. Oh, let me not forget
That, though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let the heavens ring; God reigns, let the earth be glad!

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

ACS p. 17

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People (petitions end... "Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.**")

Sharing the Peace of Christ

L: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

Offering: (At this time we bring our gifts and offerings to God as an act of thankfulness and worship. Following the command of Jesus, we care for people in our congregation, our community, and the world in his name. One of the ways we do this is partnership with the Changing Climate Task Force of the Montana Synod of the ELCA. We appreciate your faithfulness in making regular contributions of your time, energy, prayers, and money to this work! If you are worshiping with us as a guest on-line or in-person, we invite you to join us in caring for God's people and God's world! As the music plays, please take a moment to reflect on God's goodness, and consider what your gift of thanksgiving and worship might be.)

Offertory Music: Antiphon

Gordon Young

Offering Response: We Plow the Fields and Scatter (v. 2 only)

ELW #681

2. You only are the maker of all things near and far.
You paint the wayside flower, you light the evening star.
The winds and waves obey you, by you the birds are fed;
Much more to us, your children, you give our daily bread.
All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above.
We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

Offertory Prayer: **C: God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution and Lord's Prayer

P: In the night in which he [...] Let us pray with confidence the prayer Jesus taught:

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.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Be Known to Us

ACS p. 40

Hymn during Communion: O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts ELW #658

1. O Jesus, joy of loving hearts, the fount of life, the light of all:
From ev'ry bliss that earth imparts We turn, unfilled, to hear your call.
2. We taste you, ever-living bread, and long to feast upon you still;
We drink of you, the fountain-head; our thirsting souls from you we fill.
3. For you our restless spirits yearn, where'er our changing lot is cast;
Glad when your smile on us your turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
4. O Jesus, ever with us stay! Make all our moments fair and bright!
Oh, chase the night of sin away! Shed o'er the world your holy light.

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen us, unite us, and keep us in his grace. **C: Amen.**

L: Let us all pray... **C: O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace. **C: Amen.**

Sending Song: All Creatures, Worship God Most High! ELW #835

1. All creatures worship God most high! Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright; sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and grain:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear, make music for your Lord to hear:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong; drive far the shadows, join the throng:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, so rich in care, praise God in colors bright and rare:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
4. All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ bears your burdens and your fears; still make your song amid the tears:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5. And you, most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6. O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

L: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Glory to God on High

George Blake

Accompanist: James Rickley Cantor: Gaynell Tempel

Reader: Dee Wood

Fellowship: Glen & Leanna Coulter

ANNOUNCEMENTS for week of Sept 3.

- The church office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 4 in observance of Labor Day.
- *Church and Civic Life* adult study begins Wed., Sept. 6th at 7 pm in the Library.
- Hand bell choir rehearsals resume Thu., Sept. 7th at 5:40 pm; choir at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary.
- NRIT Worship & Art workshop 10 am – 3:30 pm on Sat., Sept. 9th at New Hope.
- Rally Sunday is next Sunday, Sept. 10th.
- WOW! children's Bible time is Wed., Sept. 13th from 6-7 pm in the Social Hall.

Keeping in Prayer... Carl & Harley, Marilyn, Angie, Ray Dawes, Ron Coons, Dorothy Sowa, Noah, Dorothy Roseth, Elaine Rice, Jerry Harrison, Toni Sperle, Steven, Megan, Walt & Sandy, Scott, Haley Tempel.

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