



Season of Creation:  
God Delights in Creation  
September 10, 2023

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[www.newhopegf.org](http://www.newhopegf.org)

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

## GATHERING

Gathering Music: Blessings

arr. Shelton Ridge Love

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: Let All Things Now Living/Now Thank We All Our God

L.A. Larson

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: Morning Has Broken

ELW 556

1. Morning has broken like the first morning;  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dew-fall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden  
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,  
Born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,  
God's re-creation of the new day!

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: God our salvation, every part of creation is known to you – from the smallest feathers and scales to the tallest buttes and mountains. No part of what you have made escapes your care. Teach us to set aside our worries and to embrace the fullness of life in Christ, caring for others and the world that you have made. With the rivers and streams, we pour forth praise for you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

### WORD

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

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

Psalm 65

L: You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be fulfilled.

**C: To you, the one who answers prayer, to you all flesh shall come.**

L: Our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out our transgressions.

**C: Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**

L: Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, o hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

**C: You make firm the mountains by your power; you are girded about with might.**

L: You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

**C: Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

L: You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

**C: You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

L: You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

**C: May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.**

L: May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;

**C: let them shout for joy and sing.**

Choir Anthem

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

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

Gospel Acclamation

ACS p. 33

Gospel: Matthew 6:24-33 **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: Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom

ACS #1064

1. Earth is full of wit and wisdom, sounding God's delighted laugh,  
From the tiny roly-poly to the tree-top-tall giraffe.  
All creation sings in wonder; even rocks and trees rejoice  
As they join the ringing chorus: echoes of our Maker's voice.
2. Earth is full of wit and wisdom, woven into harmony.  
Ev'ry creature has a purpose, ev'ry flow'r and bumblebee.  
Spider, human, redwood, gecko, monkey, chicken, mouse, and snake  
Live within a single fabric: cloth that only God could make.
3. Earth is full of wit and wisdom: penguin, platypus and snail,  
Cactus, sea slug, oak and algae, from the microbe to the whale.  
In this great and strange creation, with a breath God give us birth:  
Born of soil to live as stewards, called to love and serve the earth.

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 through the work of 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: Andante

arr. James Mansfield

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: Let All Things Now Living

ELW #881

1. Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
to God the creator triumphantly raise,  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
who still guides us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,

- as forward we travel from light into light.
2. God rules all the forces: the stars in their courses  
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration a song let us raise  
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

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

Postlude: Praise God with a Mighty Voice

Lani Smith

Accompanist: James Rickley Cantor: Victoria Bull

Reader: Fellowship:

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS for week of September 10.**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Monday Night Quilters will meet on Monday, Sept. 11 from 6-8 pm in the Social Hall.
- WOW program for families with children pre-school through grade 6 is Wed., Sept. 13 from 6-7 pm in the Fireside Room. Join us for a simple meal, Bible story, and an activity. (Weather permitting, we will be outside for part or all of this time.)
- *Church and Civic Life* adult study is Wed., Sept. 13 at 7 pm in the Library.
- GF Jazz Band rehearses in the Social Hall on Wed., Sept. 13 at 7 pm.
- Hand bell choir rehearsals Thursday at 5:40 pm; choir at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary.
- WOW! children's Bible time is Wed., Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 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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