



18th Sunday after Pentecost October 1, 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: *Aurelia* Samuel Wesley arr. P.G. Bunjes & D. Paxton

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: *A Time for Prayer*

David Paxton

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: God is Here!

ELW #526

1. God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.
2. Here are symbols to remind us of our life-long need of grace;
Here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
Here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

3. Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
What it means in daily living to believe and to adore.
4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt,
Keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

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 of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

1st Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

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

Psalm 25:1-9

L: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

C: My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

L: Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

C: Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.

L: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

C: Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

L: Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;

C: remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

L: You are gracious and upright, O Lord, therefore you teach sinners in your way.

C: You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

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

Gospel Acclamation

ACS p. 33

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

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: O Jesus, I Have Promised

ELW #810

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
Remain forever near me, my master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.
2. Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near.
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
But, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.
3. Oh, let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.
Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
Now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you
That where you are in glory your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
Oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

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 outdoor camping ministries such as Flathead Lutheran Bible
Camp. We appreciate the faithfulness of our members 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: *A Quiet Reflection*

David M. Lasky

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 Living Bread From Heaven

ELW # 542

1. O living Bread from heaven, how well you feed your guest!
The gifts that you have given have filled my heart with rest.
O wondrous food of blessing! O cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing, in thankful song o'erflows!
2. My Savior, you have led me within your holiest place,
And here yourself have fed me with treasures of your grace;
For you have freely given what earth could never buy,
the bread of life from heaven, that now I shall not die.

3. You gave me all I wanted; this food can death destroy.
And you have freely granted the cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit the favor you have shown,
and all my soul and spirit bow down before your throne.
4. Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened with heav'nly food, while here
my course on earth is lengthened, to serve you, free from fear;
and bring me home to praise you where none can peace destroy,
where I will ever raise you glad songs in endless joy.

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: To Be Your Presence

ELW #546

1. To be your presence is our mission here,
to show compassion's face and list'ning ear,
to be your heart of mercy ever near - Alleluia!
2. To be your presence is our mission bold,
to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,
to be your hands of justice, right uphold - Alleluia!
3. To be your presence is our mission blest,
to speak for all the broken and oppressed,
to be your voice of hope, your love expressed - Alleluia!
4. We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,
to serve your people is our call and choice,
and in this mission we, the church, rejoice - Alleluia!

L: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Go Forth With Knowledge*

R. S. Koury

Accompanist: James Rickley, organ

Cantor: Gaynell Tempel

Reader:

Fellowship:

ANNOUNCEMENTS for week of October 1:

- 1st Monday Night Quilters meet from 6-8 pm in the Social Hall – Monday, Oct. 2
- *Church & Civic Life* study continues Wed. 7 pm in the Library
- GF Jazz Band rehearses 7-9 pm in the Social Hall – Wednesday
- Handbells rehearse at 5:40 pm and choir at 6:30 on Thursday in the Sanctuary
- GF Community Band rehearses Thursday from 7-9 pm in the Fireside Room

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