



# Consecration Sunday November 12, 2023

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Great Falls, MT [www.newhopegf.org](http://www.newhopegf.org)

*A congregation of the Montana Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Our mission: Sharing our faith in Christ by serving all with respectful compassion.*

## GATHERING

Gathering Music: *Wachet Auf*

Philipp Nicolai

Words of Welcome

Prelude: *Wachet Auf* P. Nicolai

arr. Grimoaldo Macchia

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, (+) one God: who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives. **Amen.**

P: 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 a new heart 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.**

P: 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 Hymn: When Long Before Time

ELW #861

1. When long before time and the worlds were begun,  
when there was no earth and no sky and no sun,  
and all was deep silence and night reigned supreme,  
and even our Maker had only a dream -

2. The silence was broken when God sang the Song,  
and light pierced the darkness and rhythm began,  
and with its first birth-cries creation was born,  
and creaturely voices sang praise to the morn.
3. The sounds of the creatures were one with their Lord's,  
their harmonies sweet and befitting the Word;  
the Singer was pleased as the earth sang the Song,  
the choir of the creatures re-echoed it long.
4. Though down through the ages the Song disappeared,  
its harmonies broken and almost unheard,  
the Singer comes to us to sing it again,  
our God-is-with-us in the world now as then.
5. The Light has returned as it came once before,  
the Song of the Lord is our own song once more,  
so let us all sing with one heart and one voice  
the Song of the Singer in whom we rejoice.
6. To you, God the Singer, our voices we raise,  
to you, Song Incarnate, we give all our praise,  
to you, Holy Spirit, our life and our breath,  
be glory forever, through life and through death.

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: Blessing and Honor

ELW #854

1. Blessing and honor and glory and pow'r,  
wisdom and riches and strength evermore,  
be to the Lamb who our battle has won,  
whose are the kingdom, the crown, and the throne;  
whose are the kingdom, the crown and the throne!
2. Let all the heavens sound forth Jesus' name;  
let all the earth sing his glory and fame.  
Ocean and mountain, stream, forest, and flow'r  
echo his praises and tell of his pow'r; echo his praises and tell of his pow'r.

3. Ever ascending the song and the joy,  
ever descending the love from on high;  
blessing and honor and glory and praise –  
this is the theme of the hymns that we raise;  
this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.

4. Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb!  
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;  
sing we the song of the Lamb who was slain,  
dying in weakness and rising to reign;  
dying in weakness and rising to reign!

L: Let us all pray: **O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Amos 5:18-24

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

Choir Anthem: *God's Work, Our Hands*

Wold/Johnson

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

Gospel Acclamation

ACS p. 33

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:1-13 **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

Children's Time - Blessing of Quilts and Prayer Shawls

Sermon

Rev. Tammy Bull

1. Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying;  
awake, Jerusalem, at last.  
Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices:  
“Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.  
The bridegroom comes! Awake; your lamps with gladness take!” Alleluia!  
Rise and prepare the feast to share;  
go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.
2. Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing.  
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.  
Her dear friend comes down, all glorious,  
the strong in grace, in truth victorious:  
her star is ris’n; her light is come.  
Now come, O Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God’s own Son. Sing hosanna!  
Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,  
and follow to the banquet hall.
3. Gloria! Let heav’n adore you! Let saints and angels sing before you,  
with harp and cymbal’s clearest tone.  
Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming, lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming,  
with angel choirs around your throne.  
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thund’ring might of such glory.  
There we will go: what joy we’ll know!  
There sweet delight will ever flow.

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith using the words of the  
Apostles’ Creed. (ELW p.104)

**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 with: Hear us, O God... **your mercy is great.**)

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

## **MEAL**

**The Offering** (At this time we bring our gifts and offerings to God in gratitude and joy. Following the command of Jesus, we care for people in our congregation, our community, and the world in his name. On this Consecration Sunday, as an act of thankfulness and worship, we invite those present to bring forward your offerings, gifts, and estimates of giving for 2024.)

Offertory: *Flute Melody*

Ellen Jane Lorenz

Offering Response: We Give Thee But Thine Own

ELW #686

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

Offertory Prayer: **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

**C: 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: As the Grains of Wheat

ELW #465

1. In this feast of love, in this feast of love,  
Lord, you share your blood and body, Jesus, Lamb of God.
2. In this bread and wine, in this bread and wine,  
You have promised, Lord, to be with us, Lamb... of God divine.
3. Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us peace, O Lord;  
Fill us with the joy of your Spirit, ever-living Word.

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

P: Let us all pray... **C: Living God, as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **SENDING**

L: God, the Source of glory... God, the Word of life... God, the Spirit of truth...  
(+) bless you all, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Sending Song: Let Streams of Living Justice

ELW #710

1. Let streams of living justice flow down upon the earth;  
Give freedom's light to captives, let all the poor have worth.  
The hungry's hands are pleading, the workers claim their rights,  
The mourners long for laughter, the blinded seek for sight.  
Make liberty a beacon, strike down the iron pow'r;  
Abolish ancient vengeance: proclaim your people's hour.

2. For healing of the nations, for peace that will not end,  
For love that makes us lovers, God grant us grace to mend.  
Weave our varied gifts together; knit our lives as they are spun;  
On your loom of time enroll us till our thread of life is run.  
O great weaver of our fabric, bind church and world in one;  
Dye our texture with your radiance, light our colors with your sun.
3. Your city's built to music; we are the stones you seek;  
Your harmony is language; we are the words you speak.  
Our faith we find in service; our hope in others' dreams,  
Our love in hand of neighbor; our homeland brightly gleams.  
Inscribe our hearts with justice; your way – the path untried;  
Your truth – the heart of stranger; your life – the Crucified.

L: Go in peace. Share the good news. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: *Wachet Auf*

arr. Dennis Eliot

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Accompanist: James Rickley, organ  
Reader: Dee Wood

Cantor: Gaynell Tempel  
Fellowship: Glen & Leanna Coulter

**Keeping in prayer...** Sandy Kirkegaard, Carrie Dawes, Rick May, and the Thielman family as they grieve loved ones; Beth, Helen, Doris, Jim, Don & Donna, Rick & Karen, Ann, Jennifer, Diana, Rose, Deanna, Amy, Crystal, Ted, Carl & Harley, Marilyn, Angie, Ron, Dorothy, Noah, Elaine, Dorothy, Jerry, Toni, Steven, Megan, Scott, Haley, Judi, Esther, Reta, Sharron.

**Announcements for the week of November 12:**

- Today: Potluck following the worship service
- Mon., 11/13: FELC Church Council – 6 pm at the Steinhaus
- Wed., 11/15: Adult study on the Small Catechism concludes – 7 pm Library
  - GF Community Jazz Band rehearses 7 pm in the Sanctuary
- Thu., 11/16: R.O.M.E.O. men’s lunch group meets at 11:30 am – Fireside Rm
  - Handbells rehearse at 5:40 pm in the Fireside Room
  - GF Community Band rehearses at 7 pm in the Sanctuary
- GF Community Jazz Band Concert – 7 pm in the Sanctuary
- NEXT SUNDAY – Exec. Team meets after worship; Confirmation from 1-3 pm in the Library; GF Community Band Concert at 6 pm in the Sanctuary

Please bring gift cards and donations for the 2023 New Hope Giving Tree by next Sunday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>

New Members will be received during worship on Sunday, Dec. 3.

**Worship Texts for Next Sunday:** Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-8; 1 Thess. 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30