



# 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost November 19, 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: *Hyfrydol* Rowland H. Prichard arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

Words of Welcome

Prelude: *O Worship the King* arr. Sandra Eithun

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: The Night You Gave Us, God, Has Ended

ACS #994

1. The night you gave us, God, has ended, the darkness hails the sun's bright rays; as shadows flee and earth awakens, we rise again to sing your praise.
2. We thank you for each glorious sunrise that paints the earth a golden hue; each day your grace grants new beginnings, the chance to start again anew.
3. Bless those who work in hours of darkness, who serve and toil while others sleep; Their lives of caring and protecting reflect your love so strong and deep.
4. We pray for energy and passion to live our lives each day for you; may all around us sense your presence in all we say and all we do.
5. We praise you, God, for nature's rhythms, for dark and daylight, stars and sun; your whole creation sings your glory, O Trinity, most Holy One.

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: **Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

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

Psalm: 90:1-8

L: Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

**C: Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.**

L: You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."

**C: For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;**

L: You sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:

**C: In the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

L: For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.

**C: Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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

Gospel Acclamation

ACS p. 33

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30 **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

Children's Time

Sermon

Rev. Tammy Bull

1. Lord of light, your name outshining all the stars and suns of space,  
use our talents in your kingdom as the servants of your grace;  
use us to fulfill your purpose in the gift of Christ your Son.

REFRAIN: Father, as in highest heaven, so on earth your will be done.

2. By the toil of faithful workers in some far outlying field,  
by the courage where the radiance of the cross is still revealed,  
by the victories of meekness, through reproach and suff'ring won: (refrain)

3. Grant that knowledge, still increasing, at your feet may lowly kneel;  
with your grace our triumphs hallow, with your charity our zeal;  
lift the nations from the shadows to the gladness of the sun: (refrain)

4. By the prayers of faithful watchers, never silent day or night;  
by the cross of Jesus, bringing peace to all and healing light;  
by the love that passes knowledge, making all your children one: (refrain)

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. In response to God's love, we care for others in the name of Jesus. We do this, in part, by sharing God's gift of music in our worship, and by sharing our facility with music groups in our community. We appreciate your gifts of time, money, energy, and prayers to this work! If you are our guest today - either in person or online – we invite you to join us in caring for God's people and God's world!)

Offertory: *Modal*

Alec Rowley

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

Refrain:

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to  
become our bread;

so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.

1. As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,  
may we share the presence of your love. (refrain)
2. Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come  
when all creation shares this feast with you. (refrain)

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: Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

1. Lord of glory, you have bought us with your lifeblood as the price,  
never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice;  
and with that have freely given blessings countless as the sand  
to the unthankful and the evil with your own unsparing hand.
2. Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you gladly, freely, of your own.  
With the sunshine of your goodness melt our thankless hearts of stone  
till our cold and selfish natures, warmed by you, at length believe  
that more happy and more blessed 'tis to give than to receive.

3. Wondrous honor you have given to our humblest charity  
in your own mysterious sentence, “You have done it all to me.”  
Naked, sick, in prison, hungry – in the least, your face we view,  
saying by your poor and needy, “Give as I have giv’n to you.”
4. Lord of glory, you have bought us with your lifeblood as the price,  
never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust you boldly, hope, to stay our souls on you:  
but, oh, best of all your graces, with your love our love renew.

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

Postlude: *Toccata per ogni Modi*

Georg A. Sorge

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Accompanist: James Rickley, organ      Cantor: Victoria Bull  
Reader:      Fellowship:

**Keeping in prayer...** Sandy Kirkegaard, Carrie Dawes, Rick May, and the Thielman family as they grieve loved ones; Brian, Kathy's friend, Barb Valentine, Beth, Helen, Doris, Jim, Don & Donna, Rick & Karen, Ann, Jennifer, Diana, Rose, Deana, Amy, 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 19:**

- Today: Exec. Team meets today after worship  
Confirmation from 1-3 pm in the Library  
GF Community Band concert – 6 pm in the Sanctuary
- Tues., 11/21: NHLC Church Council – 7 pm in the Library
- Thu., 11/23: Thanksgiving Day – Church office closed; no activities
- Fri., 11/24: Church office closed
- NEXT SUNDAY (11/26) – Hanging of the Greens after worship

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Giving Tree project!

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

**Worship Texts for Next Sunday:** Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 95:1-7a; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46