



Baptism of Our Lord

January 7, 2024

3125 5th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT (406) 315-1203
www.newhopegf.org Rev. Tammy Bull, Pastor

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

GATHERING

Gathering Music: *Marches des Rois Mages*

Dubois

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: *How Lovely Shines the Morning Star*

Nicolai/Praetorius

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God: the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **C: Amen.**

L: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

L: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden.

C: In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock.

L: When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

C: At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

L: We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

C: Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

L: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song: Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

ELW #304

1. Christ, when for us you were baptized, God's Spirit on you came,
As peaceful as a dove, and yet as urgent as a flame, as urgent a flame.
2. God called you, "My beloved Son"; you are God's servant true,
Sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n, God's holy will to do, God's holy will to do.
3. Straight-way and steadfast until death you then obeyed the call
To serve with free and willing heart, to give your life for all, to give your life for all.
4. Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord; your cross on us be signed,
That likewise in God's service we may perfect freedom find,
may perfect freedom find.

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.**

Kyrie

ACS p. 31

Glory to You, God

ACS p. 31

L: We pray together the Prayer of the Day...

C: Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

1st Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

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

Responsive reading of Psalm 29

L: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

C: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

L: The voice of the Lord is over the waters;

the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.

C: The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

L: The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

C: He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

L: The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

**C: The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

L: The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare;

C: and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

L: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

C: May the Lord give strength to his people!

May the Lord bless his people with peace!

2nd Reading: Acts 19:1-7

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

Gospel Acclamation

ACS p. 33

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11 **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

Children's Time

Sermon

Rev. Tammy Bull

Hymn of the Day: Down Galilee's Slow Roadways

ACS #916

1. Down Galilee's slow roadways a stranger traveled on
from Nazareth to Jordan to be baptized by John.
He went down to the waters like soldier, scribe, and slave,
but there within the river the sign was birth and grave.
2. Arising from the river he way the heavens torn;
it seemed the sky so open revealed the Spirit's form.
The holy dove descended amid a glorious voice:
"You are my own beloved, my child, my heart, my choice."
3. We too have found a roadway; it led us to this place.
We all have had to travel in search of hope and grace.
But now beside this water again a voice is heard.
"You are my own, my chosen, beloved of your Lord."

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith...

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 (each petition ends... "Hear us O God... **your mercy is great.**")

Sharing the Peace of Christ

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

MEAL

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 proclaiming God's word and administering the sacraments. 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 Music: *Verset – Choral*

Dubois

Offering Response: God Bless to Us Our Bread

ACS #1056

God bless to us our bread, and give bread to those who are hungry, and hunger for justice to those who are fed. God bless to us our bread.

Offertory Prayer: **C: Abiding God, under the cover of winter's darkness, you bring forth life. Nourish us with earth's bounty, that we may freely share the gifts you have first given us, through the one who gives his life for the world, Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. 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 was betrayed, [...] 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 Communion

Be Known to Us

ACS p. 40

Hymn during Communion: The Rice of Life

ACS #965

[In many Asian cultures rice, not bread, is the staple food. During the season of Epiphany we celebrate Jesus' revelation to the Wise Ones from the East - and to the whole world. This hymn reminds us that the words and images we use for Jesus may differ by culture and place.]

1. The rice of life from heaven came to bring true life from God above.
Receive this gift; God's mercy claim; in joy and pain give thanks for love.
2. True rice the hungry world has fed, the rice required for life below.
Provide this gift; God's mercy spread; in weakness God's compassion show.
3. The rice of God for all is meant; no one who comes is turned away.
Believe in Christ whom God has sent; in humble trust God's will obey.
4. The living rice, for all a sigh, came down eternal life to give.
Abide in Christ, the living vine; in Christ, with people, die and live.

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: We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING

L: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in (+) Christ Jesus. **C: Amen.**

Sending Song: We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

ELW #451

1. We are baptized in Christ Jesus, we are baptized in his death;
that as Christ is raised victorious, we might live a brand-new life.
And if we have been united in a dreadful death like his,
we will all be reunited, for he lives.
2. In the water and the witness, in the breaking of the bread,
in the waiting arms of Jesus who is risen from the dead,
God has made a new beginning from the ashes of our past;
in the losing and the winning we hold fast.
3. Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,
glory to the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one;
as it was in the beginning, glory now resounds again
in a song that has no ending... A-men.

L: Go in peace. Christ is your light. **C: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: *Toccata in G*

Dubois

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Keeping in Prayer... James & Clare, Eloise Moorhead, Lilith, Chris Bender, Dawn, Doris, Brian, Kathy's friend, Beth, Doris, Jim, Arnie Depping, Larry & Peggy Johnson, Rachel, Don & Donna, Ann, Jennifer, Diana, Rose Ulery, Amy, Ted, Carl & Harley, Marilyn, Angie, Dorothy Sowa, Sandy Kirkegaard, Noah, Elaine Rice, Dorothy Roseth, Jerry, Toni Sperle, Steven, Megan, Scott, Haley, Judi Jonas, Esther Bender, Reta, Sharron.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Confirmation class meets TODAY from 1-3 pm at New Hope.
- 1st Monday Night Quilters meet tomorrow (1/8) from 6-8 pm – Social Hall.
- GF Community Band rehearsals resume, Thur. 7 pm in the Fireside Room.
- Executive Committee meets next Sunday, 1/14 following worship.
- **The ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION** is Sunday, January 28, 2024 at 11:00 am following the worship service. A potluck meal to follow.

Worship texts for next Sunday: 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

Thanks to our worship assistants!

Accompanist: James Rickley

Reader: Dona Shehan

Communion Assistant: Dona Shehan

Cantor: Victoria Bull

Fellowship: Dona Shehan