



5th Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

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

*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:

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Words of Welcome

Handbell Prelude:

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.

Opening Hymn: 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: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: The grace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

ELW p.138

This is the Feast

ELW p.140

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. (refrain)
2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. (refrain)
3. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (refrain)
4. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. (refrain)

L: Let us all pray: **C: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through 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: Acts 8:26-40

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

A responsive reading of Psalm 22:25-31

L: From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

C: The poor shall eat and be satisfied. Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!

L: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

C: For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.

L: Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

C: all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

L: Their descendants shall serve the Lord, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

C: They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to they, "The Lord has acted!"

2nd Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation:

ELW p.142

Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: John 15:1-8

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Time

Hymn: We Know That Christ Is Raised

ELW #449

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
And our despair he turned to blazing joy. Hal-le-lu-jah!
2. We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,
As living members of our Savior Christ. Hal-le-lu-jah!
3. The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Hal-le-lu-jah!
4. A new creation comes to life and grows
As Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing: Hal-le-lu-jah!

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith using the words of the
Nicene Creed.

ELW p.104

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us, and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

P: Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation. (petitions end: "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. One of the ways we do this is through support of the Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp outdoor ministry. We appreciate your gifts of time, money, energy, and prayer 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:

Offertory Response: Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God ELW #186
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free spirit.

Offertory Prayer: **C: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord. 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.

P: It is indeed right, [...] we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW p.144

Eucharistic Prayer L: You are indeed holy, [...] now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Now, Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

Jesus said, "I am the true vine. Abide in me as I abide in you."

Lamb of God

ELW p.146

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Grant us peace, grant us peace.

Hymn during Communion: Now We Join in Celebration

ELW #462

1. Now we join in celebration at our Savior's invitation,
Dressed no more in spirit somber, clothed instead in joy and wonder;
For the Lord of all existence, putting off divine transcendence,
Stoops again in love to meet us, with his very life to feed us.
2. Lord, as round this feast we gather, fill our hearts with holy rapture!
For this bread and cup of blessing are for us the sure possessing
Of your loving deed on Calv'ry, of your living self, our vict'ry,
Pledge of your unfailing presence, foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.
3. Lord, we share in this communion as one fam'ly of God's children,
Reconciled through you, our brother, one in you with God our Father.
Give us grace to live for others, serving all, both friends and strangers,
Seeking justice, love, and mercy till you come in final glory.

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

P: Let us all pray... **C: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

L: May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy! Almighty God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever! **C: Amen.**

Hymn: Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

ELW #452

1. Awake, O sleeper, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
So learn his love, its length and breadth, its fullness, depth, and height.
2. To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear release,
To give the Spirit's unity, the very bond of peace.
3. There is one body and one hope, one Spirit and one call,
One Lord, one faith, and one baptism, one God who made us all.
4. Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
With kind and gentle hearts forgive as God in Christ forgave.
5. For us Christ lived, for us he died, and conquered in the strife.
Awake, arise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

L: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Postlude:

Musician: James Rickley **Cantor:** Jodie Tooley **Reader:** Donna Winters

Communion Assistant: **Acolyte:** Jera Anderson

Fellowship: Donna Winters

Streaming Team: Neil White, Allan Tooley, Bruce Bull



Announcements for the week of April 14:

- Pre-Cinco De Mayo celebration is Saturday, May 4 from 6-8 in the Social Hall.
- Next Sunday: All-Comers' Choir sings. Rehearsal is at 9:15 am before worship.
- Next Sunday: Confirmation is from 1-3 pm in the Library.

Keeping in Prayer... Holly; Rick; Ann; Wayne; Alice; Aaron; Rachelle; Ron; Ace; Alashanee; Wyatt; Beckett; Tim; Alex; Ike & MaryAnn; Arvin; Elizabeth & John; Hy & Becky; Chris; Beth; Dawn; Brian; Arnie; Peggy & Larry; Rachel; Don & Donna; Rose; Ann & Ted; Carl & Harley; Sandy; Noah; Elaine; Dorothy; Jerry; Toni; Steven; Scott; Haley; Esther; Reta

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