



6th Sunday of Easter

May 5, 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: Praeludium, First Cello Suite

J.S. Bach

Jennifer Smith, viola

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Words of Welcome

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.**

1. O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
And sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,
At blessings without number and mercies without end:
We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
We honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.
2. The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die,
Its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;
But hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown –
Though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:
For Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free,
And we through him are given the final victory.
3. Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
That we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
We'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
To marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
And make a joyful duty our sacrifice of 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 have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

1st Reading: Acts 10:44-48

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Choir Anthem: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

arr. W. B. Roberts

Jennifer Smith, violin

2nd Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

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 15:9-17

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

Hymn: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW #367

1. Now all the vault of heav'n resounds in praise of love that still abounds:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory here:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. Eternal is the gift he brings, therefore our heart with rapture sings:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Now still he comes to give us life and by his presence stills all strife.

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through your triumph:
Grant grace sufficient for life's day that by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
4. Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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 the work of the Congregational Life team, planning intergenerational events that welcome God's children of all ages. 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: On the Wind of Spirit

Mark Hayes

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: Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW #389

1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

2. Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
But saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.
3. In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.
4. Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
And find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
5. Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and ev'ry age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

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: Amen

Mark Hayes

Musician: James Rickley, piano

Cantor: Victoria Bull

Reader: Julie Haviland

Fellowship: Ray & Michelle Yoder

Streaming Team: Allan Tooley, Neil White, Bruce Bull

THANK YOU... to Delores Goodover for 14 years of faithful service directing the choir and hand bell ringers!

THANK YOU... to the Congregational Life team for hosting the pre-Cinco de Mayo event last evening!

THANK YOU... to Jennifer Smith for special music today!



Announcements for the week of May 5:

- Confirmation meets TODAY from 1-3 pm in the Library
- 1st Monday Night Quilters meet tomorrow (5/6) from 6-8 pm – Social Hall

Keeping in Prayer... Barbara; 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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