



Week 2 – Season of Creation

September 15, 2024 – 10:00 am

New Hope Lutheran Church

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: *Morning Has Broken/Shall We Gather*

arr. Michael Hassel

Words of Welcome

Prelude: *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

arr. Michael Hassel

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the creator of wind and rain, field and ocean, the bread of life coming down from above, the power at work within us and this world. **C: Amen.**

L: Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin. *(a brief silence is kept for reflection)*

L: God and Father of all,

C: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have told lies, said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action was needed. In your mercy, O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and heal us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new! In Christ, + you are a new creation: your sins are taken away and you are made new. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. **C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: Morning Has Broken

ELW #556

1. Morning has broken like the first morning;
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dew-fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!

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

1. Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth; yours is the promise, the blessing the birth.
Ours the rejoicing for Word given frame; ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done; yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.
2. Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth; yours the hosannas, the dying, rebirth.
Ours the rejoicing for nature reclaimed; ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done; yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.
3. Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth; yours the anointing, the radiant worth.
Ours the rejoicing for spirits aflame; ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done; yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.

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

C: Sovereign of the universe, your first covenant of mercy was with every living creature. When your beloved Son came among us, the waters of the river welcomed him, the heavens opened to greet his arrival, the animals of the wilderness drew near as his companions. May we, who are washed into new life through baptism seek the way of your new creation: the way of justice and care, mercy and peace for all living things; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

1st Reading: Genesis 1:20-25

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive reading from Psalm 104

L: How manifold are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

C: Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.

L: There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

C: All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

L: You give it to them; they gather it;

C: you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

L: When you hide your face, they are terrified;

C: when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

L: You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;

C: and so you renew the face of the earth.

Gospel Acclamation

ACS p. 33

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:25-34

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom

ACS #1064

1. Earth is full of wit and wisdom, sounding God's delighted laugh,
From the tiny roly-poly to the tree-top-tall giraffe.
All creation sings in wonder; Even rocks and trees rejoice
As they join the ringing chorus: echoes of our Maker's voice.
2. Earth is full of wit and wisdom, woven into harmony.
Ev'ry creature has a purpose, ev'ry flow'r and bumblebee.
Spider, human, redwood, gecko, monkey, chicken, mouse, and snake
Live within a single fabric: cloth that only God could make.
3. Earth is full of wit and wisdom: penguin, platypus and snail,
Cactus, sea slug, oak and algae, from the microbe to the whale.
In this great and strange creation, with a breath God give us birth:
Born of soil to live as stewards, called to love and serve the earth.

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we confess our faith using the words of the
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 (petitions end: "Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.**")

Sharing the Peace of Christ

L: The peace of Christ be with you always. **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 congregational efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle material goods and nature's resources. We appreciate your gifts of time, energy, money, and prayers to this work! If you are our guest today – either on person or online – we invite you to join us in caring for God's people and God's world!)*

Offertory: *This Is My Father's World*

arr. Michael Hassel

Offering Response: Let Justice Flow Like Streams (v. 2 only)

ELW #717

2. Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
An ever-flowing stream of faith translated into deed.

Offertory Prayer: **C: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: 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

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Jesus said, "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus

ACS p. 40

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia.

Hymn during Communion: I Come With Joy

ELW #482

1. I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free,
The life of Jesus to recall in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
2. I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
The new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.
3. As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.
4. The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
Is in such friendship better known, alive among us here, alive among us here.
5. Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
We'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.

L: 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: Wise and generous God, we thank you that at this holy table you have fed us again with the food of everlasting life. Send us with your blessing to seek the good of our neighbor and call others to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

L: Almighty and merciful God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you this day and forevermore. **C: Amen.**

Sending 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: Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: *Holy Manna/Earth and All Stars*

arr. Michael Hassel

Accompanist: James Rickley

Cantor: Gaynell Tempel

Reader: Ron Coons

Communion Assistant:

Fellowship: Glen & Leanna Coulter

Acolyte: Jory Burkstrand



Announcements for Week of September 15:

- Executive Team meets today after worship in the Library
- Church Council meets Tues. (9/17) at 7 pm in the Fireside Room
- Word on Wednesday (aka WOW!) for children pre-K through grade 5 will meet Wednesday from 6-7 pm for a simple meal, bible story, and activity.
- Pilgrim's Progress adult book study meets Wed. (9/18) from 7-8:30 pm - Library
- R.O.M.E.O. men's lunch group meets Thurs. (9/19) at 11:30 am in the Fireside Rm
- GF Community Band resumes rehearses Thursday (9/19) at 7 pm – Fireside Room

Keeping in Prayer... Debra; Pat; Danny; Triston; Fred; Bob & Andie; MaryAnn; Carl & Harley; Ann; Rachelle; Ace; Arvin; Elizabeth & John; Hy & Becky; Beth; Brian; Arnie; Peggy & Larry; Don & Donna; Sandy; Noah; Dorothy; Jerry; Toni; Steven; Scott; Haley; Esther; Reta, Elaine.

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