



The Nicene Creed: God Rules the Universe January 12, 2025

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: *Festival*

Martin Ellis

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: *Salzburg, 1678*

Jakob Hintze/ arr. Karen Beaumont

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. This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.
2. This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me everywhere.
3. This is my Father's world. Oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let the heavens ring; God reigns, let the earth be glad!

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.**

Glory to You, God

ACS p. 31

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

C: Father of compassion, renew our faith in you and bind us together through your love, so that we can recognize each other as your children, and come together as one. We praise you through Jesus Christ, your only-begotten Son, in the communion of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

WORD

1st Reading: Isaiah 63:15-17

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

Responsive Reading from Psalm 139: 1-3, 13, 23, 24b

L: Lord, you have searched me out; O Lord, you have known me.

C: You know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

L: You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways.

C: For you yourself created my inmost parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

L: Search me out, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my restless thoughts.

C: Lead me in the way that is everlasting.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:5-6

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

Gospel: John 11:17-27

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: My God, How Wonderful Thou Art

ELW #863

1. My God, how wonderful thou art, thy majesty how bright!
How beautiful thy mercy seat in depths of burning light!
2. How wonderful, how beautiful the sight of thee must be –
Thine endless wisdom, boundless pow'r, and awesome purity!
3. No earthly father loves like thee; no mother, e'er so mild,
Bears and forbears as thou hast done with me, thy sinful child.
4. Yet I may love thee too, O Lord, almighty as thou art,
For thou hast stooped to ask of me the love of my poor heart.
5. My God, how wonderful thou art, thou everlasting friend!
On thee I stay my trusting heart till faith in vision end.

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

Nicene Creed

ACS p. 17

C: 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, 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; and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and was made human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried. On the third day he rose from the dead in accordance with the scriptures.

He ascended to 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. 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 confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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, through partnerships with other Christians in our local community and as a member denomination of the World Council of Churches. 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: *Trust and Obey*

Daniel B. Towner/arr. Marianne Kim

Offering Response: Create in Me

ELW #186

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 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.

Words of Institution and Lord's Prayer

P: In the night [...] Let us pray with confidence the prayer Jesus taught:

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 Communion

Be Known to Us

ACS p. 40

Hymn during Communion: Rise, O Sun of Righteousness

ELW #657

1. Rise, O Sun of righteousness; with your might creation bless.
Shine upon your church today, showing all your gentle way.

Refrain: Have mercy, Lord.

2. Rouse our hearts from slumber deep; may your word within us leap.
Give us voices to proclaim praises to your holy name. (refrain)
3. Gather in your scattered flock; give us water from the rock.
Bless the unity we share in our shepherd's loving care. (refrain)
4. Burst the bars of stubborn pride; make the heav'nly pathway wide.
Raise us up from sin and death with your Spirit's living breath. (refrain)
5. Honor, praise, and glory be to the holy Trinity!
May your gracious will be done: make us one, as you are one. (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.**

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: 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. Christ is your light. **C: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: *Salvation*, 1816

attr. R. Boyd/ arr. David Lasky

Accompanist: James Rickley

Cantor: Victoria Bull

Reader: Julie Haviland

Fellowship:

Communion Assistant:



ANNOUNCEMENTS for the Week of January 12:

Mon. 1/13: *Money Generosity* webinar 5-6 pm at the church.

Wed. 1/15: Confirmation Class from 2:30 – 3:30 pm in the sanctuary.

WOW! children's ministry meets from 6-7 pm in the Social Hall.

Thu. 1/16: Personnel Team meets at 10 am in the Pastor's office.

R.O.M.E.O. men's lunch group meets at 11:30 am in the Social Hall

GF Community Band rehearsals resume in the Fireside Room 7 pm

Keeping in Prayer... Mari and family following the deaths of her parents; Bud & Linda; Susan; Jane; Barbara & Jerry; Sumner; Carrie; Jim; Sue; Dee; Lois & Frank; Rebecca; Danny; Triston; MaryAnn; Carl & Harley; Ann; Arvin; Beth; Arnie; Peggy & Larry; Sandy; Noah; Dorothy; Toni; Scott; Haley; Esther; Reta; Elaine.

The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, January 26th in the Social Hall following the worship service. Voting members must be on record as having communed and financially contributed to New Hope's ministry during the current/previous year. A potluck meal will follow the meeting.

January Special Offering benefits ELCA World Hunger Relief.

THANK YOU... to everyone who assisted with the removal of the pews yesterday!

THANK YOU... to the Congregational Life team for hosting the Game Night!

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