



3rd Sunday of Easter

April 14, 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: *How Firm a Foundation*

arr. Gilbert M. Martin

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

Words of Welcome

Handbell Prelude: *O Worship the King*

arr. Sandra Eithun

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: Christ the Lord is Risen Today!

ELW #373

1. "Christ the Lord is ris'n today!" All on earth with angels say;
raise your joys and triumphs high; sing, O heav'ns; and earth reply.
2. Love's redeeming work is done, fought the fight, the battle won.
Lo! The sun's eclipse is o'er. Lo! He sets in blood no more.
3. Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids his rise; Christ has opened paradise.
4. Lives again our glorious king! Where, O death, is now your sting?
Once he died our souls to save; where your victory, O grave?
5. Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to thee by both be giv'n.
Thee we greet triumphant now: hail, the resurrection, thou!
6. King of glory, soul of bliss, everlasting life is this:
thee to know, thy pow'r to prove, thus to sing, and thus to love!

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: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of 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: Acts 3:12-19

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

A responsive reading of Psalm 4

L: Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

C: "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"

L: Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; the Lord will hear me when I call.

C: Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

L: Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

C: Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?" Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.

L: You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

C: In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure.

2nd Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

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: Luke 24:36b-48

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Time

Sermon

Rev. Tammy Bull

Hymn: Day of Arising

ELW #374

1. Day of arising, Christ on the roadway, unknown companion walks... with his own.
When they invite him, as fades the first day,
and bread is bro-ken, Christ is made known.

2. When we are walking, doubtful and dreading,
blinded by sadness, slow-ness of heart.
Yet Christ walks with us, ever awaiting our invitation: Stay, do not part.
3. Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken.
This is Christ's promise, this... is Christ's sign:
When the church gathers, when bread is broken,
there Christ is with... us in bread and wine.
4. Christ, our companion, hope for the journey,
bread of compas-sion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning
that all crea-tion with you may rise.

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 by being good stewards of this facility so that we can offer safety and hospitality to all who enter here. 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: *Pavane*

William Byrd/Dennis Eliot

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: Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

ELW #535

Refrain: Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness.
Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness.
(repeat)

1. Christ the Lord, to us said: I am wine, I am bread.
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger.
Christ the Lord, to us said: I am wine, I am bread.
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger. (refrain with repeat)
2. Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,
Strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joyful gospel.
Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,
Strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joyful gospel. (refrain with repeat)

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: *Overture to "King Arthur" – Suite #1*

H. Purcell/ Dennis Eliot

Musician: James Rickley **Cantor:** Victoria Bull **Reader:** Dee Wood

Communion Assistant: **Fellowship:**

Streaming Team: Neil White, Bruce Bull



Announcements for the week of April 14:

- Executive Committee meets TODAY following the worship service.
- Church Council meets Tuesday, 4/16 at 7 pm in the Fireside Room.

Keeping in Prayer... Alex & Courtney as they begin their married life together; Ann; Wayne; Alice; Aaron; Peggy; 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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