



The Nicene Creed: Creation as God's Work January 19, 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: *Song to the Trinity*

arr. Robert J. Hughes

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: *A Morning Song*

Hall M. Macklin

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.

Gathering Song: 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.**

Glory to You, God

ACS p. 31

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

C: Lord God, Father of lights, strengthen our hearts in expectation and hope as we work for unity and together seek the harmony of all creation. Let us be burning lamps, until the day of the coming of your Son in glory, with all his saints in the everlasting kingdom. Blessed are you, now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

WORD

1st Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

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

Responsive Reading from Psalm 148:1,3,9-14

L: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

C: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

L: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

C: wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;

L: sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

C: young men and maidens, old and young together.

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

C: The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!

2nd Reading: Romans 8:19-23

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

Gospel Acclamation

ACS p. 33

Gospel: John 2:1-11

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: God Bestows on Every Sense

ACS #1069

1. God bestows on ev'ry sense beauty as hope's evidence:
Signs of what the earth will be just beyond what we can see.
2. Catch a fleeting glimpse of grace in an unexpected place:
Just a taste, the smallest crumb of the banquet yet to come.
3. Vibrant pictures in our dreams, brushed with crystal color schemes,
Vanish from a waking mind, leaving just a trace behind.
4. In a burnt and blackened field broken ground begins to yield
Tiny, fragile sprouts of green: hints of forests yet unseen.
5. God makes all creation new, turning back what people do,
Building up what we destroy, singing sorrow into joy.

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: *A Sound of Bells*

Carl Simone

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

Postlude: *Fanfare and March*

Henry Purcell/ arr. George Blake

Accompanist: James Rickley

Cantor: Gaynell Tempel

Reader: Melanie Jensen

Fellowship: Carol & Marv Strom

Communion Assistant: Ron Coons



ANNOUNCEMENTS for the Week of January 19:

TODAY: Executive Committee meets after worship in the Library

Mon. 1/20: Carpet installation begins in the sanctuary

Tues. 1/21: Church Council meets at 7 pm in the Fireside Room

Wed. 1/22: 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. 1/23: Helping Hands board meeting – 6:30 pm at Helping Hands

GF Community Band rehearses at 7 pm in the Fireside Room

Keeping in Prayer... 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 next 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.

Donations to aid victims of the Los Angeles Wildfires can be made at:
elca.org/wildfires.

Draft edits for the *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust Reconsideration* – are available at elca.org. Scroll down and click on the tab for more information, or offer feedback.

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