



4th Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

3125 5th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT (406) 315-1203 www.newhopegf.org
Rev. Tammy Bull, Pastor

Our mission: Sharing our faith in Christ by serving all with respectful compassion.

GATHERING

Gathering Music: *Chorale & Variations on O Sacred Head* Johann Pachelbel

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: *Fugue in C Major* Johann Pachelbel

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God: who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **C: Amen.**

L: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

L: Compassionate One,

C: You are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

L: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **C: Amen.**

Gathering Song: Our Father, We Have Wandered

ELW #606

1. Our Father, we have wandered and hidden from your face;
In foolishness have squandered your legacy of grace.
But now, in exile dwelling, we rise with fear and shame,
As, distant but compelling, we hear you call our name.

2. And now at length discerning the evil that we do,
Behold us, Lord, returning with hope and trust to you.
In haste you come to meet us and home rejoicing bring,
In gladness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
3. O Lord of all the living, both banished and restored,
Compassionate, forgiving, and ever-caring Lord,
Grant now that our transgressing, our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing, in pardon, and in peace.

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

ELW p. 184

Refrain: Kyrie... eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie... eleison, ev'ry day.

1. For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. (refrain)
2. That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
That we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. (refrain)
3. For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
For life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. (refrain)
4. For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
That you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. (refrain)

L: We pray together the Prayer of the Day:

C: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through 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: Joshua 5:9-12

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

Responsive Reading of Psalm 32

L: Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

C: Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!

L: While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

C: For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

L: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

C: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

L: Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

C: You are my hiding place; you preserve me from trouble; your surround me with shouts of deliverance.

L: "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

C: Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

L: Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

C: Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

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

Lenten Response:

ELW p. 189

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your Word.
Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Gospel Reading: Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32
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 of the Day: Build a Longer Table

ACS #1062

1. Build a longer table, not a higher wall,
feeding those who hunger, making room for all.
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,
Christ breaks walls to pieces, false divisions end.
2. Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;
Where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.
For any place where justice is denied,
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.
3. Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.
When we embrace compassion more than fear,
Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.
4. When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.
So must our tables welcome those who roam,
None can be excluded; all must find a home.

Apostles' Creed

ELW p. 105

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 the Lord be with you always. **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 our local partnerships with the Helping Hands food ministry, and Family Promise of Great Falls. 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: *Christe, der du bist Tag und licht* Martin Luther/ arr. J. Pachelbel

Offering Response: Spirit, Open My Heart (refrain only) ACS #1043

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving. Spirit, open my heart.

Offertory Prayer: **C: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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.

L: It is indeed right... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW p. 190

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution and Lord's Prayer

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

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

Lamb of God

ELW p.191

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, Lamb of God.

Hymn during Communion: Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

ELW #488

1. Soul, adorn yourself with gladness, leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
Come into the daylight's splendor, there with joy your praises render.
Bless the one whose grace unbounded this amazing banquet founded;
Christ, though heav'nly, high, and holy, deigns to dwell with you most lowly.
2. Hasten as a bride to meet him, eagerly and gladly greet him.
There he stands already knocking; quickly, now, your gate unlocking,
Open wide the fast-closed portal, saying to the Lord immortal:
"Come, and leave your loved one never; Dwell within my heart forever."
3. Now in faith I humbly ponder over this surpassing wonder
That the bread of life is boundless though the souls it feeds are countless;
With the choicest wine of heaven Christ's own blood to us is given.
Oh, most glorious consolation, pledge and seal of my salvation.

4. Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, truest friend, and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding, joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before you, love incarnate, I adore you;
Worthily let me receive you, and, so favored, never leave you.

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: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

L: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Sending Song: My Life Flows On in Endless Song ELW #763

1. My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
REFRAIN: No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?
2. Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? (refrain)
3. What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. (ref)
4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing! (refrain)

L: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **C: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: *The Celebrated Canon in D Major*

Johann Pachelbel



ANNOUNCEMENTS for the Week of March 30:

- Wed. 4/2: Lent Soup Supper and worship. Soup at 6 pm; worship from 6:30 – 7:15 pm in the Social Hall.
- Thu. 4/3: GF Community Band rehearses 7 pm in the Sanctuary
- Sat. 4/4: 1st Communion Instruction – 10 am – Noon in the Social Hall

Keeping in Prayer... Bruce & family; Ron; Larry; Jeff & family; Tommi; Pam; Christina; Chase; Mari; Beth; Connor; Kameron & family; Carol; Bud & Linda; Susan; Jane; Barbara & Jerry; Sumner; Sue; Dee; Triston; MaryAnn; Carl & Harley; Ann; Arvin; Beth; Arnie; Peggy & Larry; Sandy; Dorothy; Toni; Scott; Haley; Esther; Reta; Elaine.

Lent Mid-week Soup Suppers – Next week (4/9) is our last Soup Supper/Worship.

32nd St. from 5th Ave. S. to Central Ave. will remain closed through April 30.

Accompanist: James Rickley

Cantor: Rob Wilbur

Acolyte:

Reader:

Communion Asst:

Fellowship: Coulters

Altar Care: Gaynell Tempel & Michelle Yoder

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