



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER/CONFIRMATION

MAY 15, 2022

9:30 AM



Bethel Lutheran Church
1009 18th Avenue SW
Great Falls, MT 59404
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Pastor Jessie Obrecht

A congregation of the Montana Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Large print bulletins are available, please see the ushers for a copy.

As we gather for worship and prepare our hearts, we would ask that you please silence your cell phones for the duration of the service.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

ELW 732 I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.

For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:
through the earth,
through the city,
through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.
Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.
You open the gate of righteousness
and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.
You call us forth and send us out.
In lush and barren places, you are with us.
You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,

be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever.
Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE

Dakota Road Kyrie Eleison

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!*

Kyrie Eleison on our world and on our way.

Kyrie Eleison ev'ry day.

*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!*

Kyrie Eleison on our world and on our way.

Kyrie Eleison ev'ry day.

*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!*

Kyrie Eleison on our world and on our way.

Kyrie Eleison ev'ry day.

*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!*

Kyrie Eleison on our world and on our way.

Kyrie Eleison ev'ry day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord God,
**you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing.
Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love,
that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and
peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

JUBILATE CHOIR

Canticle of the Turning

FIRST READING: ACTS 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.

**Praise the LORD, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,
**who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;
fire and hail, snow and fog,

tempestuous wind, doing God's will;

mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

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

sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,

princes and all rulers of the world;

young men and maidens, old and young together.

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

whose name only is exalted,

whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

**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!**

SECOND READING: REVELATION 21:1-6

John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Dakota Road Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia, I am the light of the world. Alleluia, alleluia, I am the light of the world.

P: Those who follow me will not walk in darkness, those who follow me will have the light of life.

Alleluia, alleluia, I am the light of the world. Alleluia, alleluia, I am the light of the world.

The holy gospel according to John the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: JOHN 13:31-35

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

FAITH STATEMENTS

We will sing ELW 456 Baptized in Water between faith statements.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Loose Sheet They'll Know We are Christians By Our Love

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

These young adults have been instructed in the Christian faith and desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism.

(Come forward as your name is read and stand facing the altar.)

**Emerson Michael Hamma, Taylah Morgan Jaques,
Ainsley Lynn Kubas, Austin William Kupfner,
Hailey Marie Marr, Kian Michael Ryan**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin,
and confess the faith of the Church.

Do you renounce the devil, and all the forces that defy God?
I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
I renounce them.

I invite the congregation to stand and join our confirmands in
professing their faith.

Do you believe in God?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of 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 again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

People of God, do you promise to support these young adults,
and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray. Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these men and women your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen**

Father in heaven, for Jesus 'sake, stir up in
(Emerson, Taylah, Ainsley, Austin, Hailey, Kian)
the gift of your Holy Spirit;
confirm his/her faith; guide his/her life;
empower him/her in his/her serving,
give him/her patience in suffering,
and bring him/her to everlasting life. **Amen**

Let us pray. Almighty God,
**we thank you for what you have done
and will continue to do with our daughters and sons.
Walk with them in life, and keep them from danger.
Order their steps and guide their feet
while they run the race of faith.
May the good works that you have begun in them
be brought to completion at the day of Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING/ OFFERTORY

Dakota Road LH 135 Everybody's Got Something to Offer

Everybody's got something to offer young and old the prince and the pauper, everybody's got something to offer in the name of the Lord.

1. *To the lost and lowly ones the message it is clear, we have all got a gift to give, our hands, our hearts, our tears.*

Everybody's got something to offer young and old the prince and the pauper, everybody's got something to offer in the name of the Lord.

2.. *To believers gathered here the message it is true, we have all got a gift to give in all we say and do.*

Everybody's got something to offer young and old the prince and the pauper, everybody's got something to offer in the name of the Lord.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray Living God,
**you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together
in your peaceable reign,
and you welcome us all at your table.
Reach out to us through this meal,
and show us your wounded and risen body,
that we may be nourished and believe
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and ...,and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Dakota Road LH 136 Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy tender, gentle God. Heaven and earth of full of You. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in Your name.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus first taught us:

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

The Lord's Table is open to believers of all Christian traditions. We believe that Christ comes to us in the bread and cup for the forgiveness of sins and new life. Gluten free wafers are available, please let your server know. Choice of red wine and white grape juice offered.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

BOB 53 Feed Us Now [x2]

ELW 491 Come Let Us Eat

BOB 213 Potter's Hand

BOB 46 Do This In Remembrance of Me [x2]

BOB 41 Come to the Table [x2]

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen

SENDING HYMN

ELW 538

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
Thanks be to God.
And all God's children said: **Amen.**

SERVING TODAY

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Accompanist | Connie Titcomb, piano |
| Lay Assistant | Ryan Gilbertson |
| Readers | Tyler Grosenick, Allison Marr, TBD |
| Usher s | Johnna Lightbourne and Maya Stringer |
| Tech | Kaleb Stringer |
| Children's Church | Ava Fossen and Abbie Virts |
| Counters | Tim Lightbourne and Dena Wagner-Fossen |

Flowers are given by The Hurin Family in memory of their son and brother, Lincoln Andrew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today at Bethel we celebrate the Fifth Sunday of Easter.

Today is **Confirmation Sunday**, congratulations to our confirmands: **Emerson Hamma, Taylah Jaques, Ainsley Kubas, Austin Kupfner, Hailey Marr, and Kian Ryan**. Join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for a reception in their honor.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday 5/17

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast Zoom & in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am

Wednesday 5/18

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am

Friday 5/20

- Bethel office is closed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 5/22

- Worship led by Pastor Jessie, in-person & live stream 9:30 am.

Tuesday 5/24

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast Zoom & in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am

Wednesday 5/25

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am

Friday 5/27

- Bethel office is closed.

Saturday 5/28

- Close Knit Crafters meet in the Fellowship Hall 9:00 am.

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Worship Songs: *I Was There To Hear Your Borne Cry, Baptized In Water, and The Lord Now Sends Us Forth* used with permission under One License #A704354. *They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love* used with permission under CCLI #556986.