

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA    LEWISTOWN, MONTANA**  
**May 10, 2020                      Pastor Lynne Ogren**

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**MINISTRY OF ZION**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

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.

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.  
Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG *Jesus, We Are Gathered: Jesu, tawa pano* (ELW 529)



Je - su, ta - wa pa - no, Je - su, ta - wa pa - no,  
Je - sus, we are gath-ered, Je - sus, we are gath-ered,



Je - su, ta - wa pa - no, ta - wa pa - no mu zi - ta re - nyu.  
Je - sus, we are gath-ered, we are gath-ered, Lord Je - sus, for you.

Text: Patrick Matsikenyiri

Music: JESU, TAWA PANO, Patrick Matsikenyiri

Text and music © 1990, 1996 General Board of Global Ministries, GBG Musik, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10115.

All rights reserved.

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.*

A reading from 1 Peter.

<sup>19</sup>It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup>"He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY *Shepherd Me, O God* (ELW 780)

*Refrain*  
All

Shep- herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from  
death in - to life. life.

1 God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,  
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,  
I walk by the quiet waters of peace. *Refrain*

2 Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,  
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,  
my spirit shall sing the music of your name. *Refrain*

3 Though I should wander the valley of death,  
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,  
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. *Refrain*

4 You have set me a banquet of love  
in the face of hatred,  
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold. *Refrain*

5 Surely your kindness and mercy follow me  
all the days of my life;  
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. *Refrain*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Shepherding God, we thank you for those in your church who serve as your guiding voice for your people. Help us to listen for your voice and follow you on the paths that lead to life. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Creating God, we praise you for those who maintain and operate farm equipment, for those who plant and harvest crops, for local farmers' markets, and for those involved in agriculture of any kind. Strengthen their hands as they feed the world. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Guiding God, grant wisdom to the leaders of nations, states, and communities in this time of pandemic as they make decision for the good of all. Bless the efforts of scientists and physicians as they seek treatment and a vaccine. Bring healing to all who are afflicted and comfort to those who mourn the loss of those they love. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those who walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and overwhelmed with suffering especially the overworked and the unemployed, the sick and the dying, and those whose homes are not safe. Send your Spirit of comfort, courage, and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and feeding ministries, especially our local Community Cupboard and the Council on Aging. May none of our neighbors lack for basic needs.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **THANKSGIVING**

*We give thanks to God for every good gift.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

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 Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

## **AN INVITATION TO SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

*Spiritual communion is a personal devotion that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

Jesus, our savior and friend, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion and truly present to us here and now. Since we cannot now receive you in the bread and wine, we remember and trust your words, “This is my body; this is my blood—given for you.” We love you and ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. As though you have already come, we embrace you and unite ourselves entirely to you. Keep all of us strong in faith, hope and love until we can meet at your table again. Amen.

## **LORD’S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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.**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **BLESSING**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead  
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,  
and turn your mourning into dancing.  
Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* (ELW 543)**



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.  
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional  
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Liturgy texts from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress, liturgy license SAS007700.  
All rights reserved. Hymns reprinted with permission under OneLicense.net A-725307.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion was written by Saint Alphonsus Liguori (1696–1787) a Catholic Bishop who wrote the popular Lenten Devotional "The Way of the Cross". Pastor Lynne Ogren edited it from an individual to a corporate prayer.

Zion Lutheran Church, ELCA  
PO Box 147 604 W. Evelyn St.  
Lewistown, MT 59457  
406-538-5082

Email: [zionelca@midrivers.com](mailto:zionelca@midrivers.com)

Our online services are available at: [www.zionlewisownelca.com](http://www.zionlewisownelca.com) under the Worship tab.