

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

***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**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

*GATHERING SONG -

Gather Us In

(ELW 532, verses 3 & 4)



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Holy One, whose extravagant love saturates our lives, we thank you for all the ways that your grace overflows in our community. As streams of praise well up in our hearts, nurture within us the courage to reject the mentality of scarcity and live with confidence in the abundance of your mercy. Pour out the Spirit of wisdom and understanding upon us, so that we may love and serve you, transforming ourselves and the world with your justice and compassion.

Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: PSALM: Psalm 85:8-13

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land. R

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

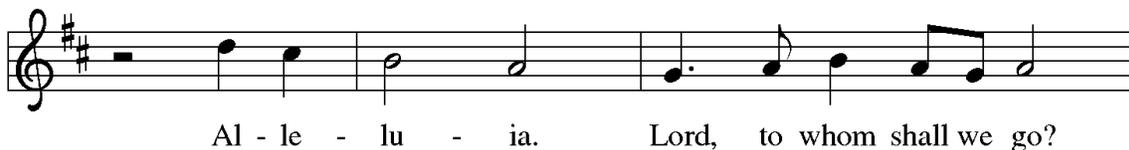
In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



***GOSPEL: GOSPEL: Mark 6:14-29**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist's martyrdom. Like John, Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation.

¹⁴King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb. The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY - *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens* (ELW 771,
Verses 1 & 3)



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;
known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;
probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,
May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um-phant hour.
great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

Text: Catherine Cameron, b. 1927
Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835
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***APOSTLE'S CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 INTERCESSION**

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

Holy parent, you welcome your people into one family and gather all things to yourself. Bestow your grace upon your beloved church, lavish your wisdom upon us, and redeem us from our faults, that by our witness all might praise your glory. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Awesome Creator, you steadfastly tend to the smallest of seeds and the mightiest of sycamore trees. Spring up green growth from the earth, nourish the growth of fruit, grain, and other crops, and bless the work of farmers and laborers. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of the oppressed, turn the ears of those who are in power to the voices of prophets in our own day. Protect those who speak difficult truths when it is risky to do so. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of strength, you are near to those who endure difficulty. Comfort all who are survivors of violence, guard the refugee and the immigrant, and protect all those who are victims of prejudice and discrimination. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of love, we pray for this holy house and all those who worship here. We pray especially for those whose efforts behind the scenes often go unnoticed; for the custodian(s) and maintenance workers, for our office staff (*other positions may be named*), and for all of our volunteers. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We thank you, God, for the saints, martyrs, and prophets who have died in the faith. We remember those in this community who have recently died (*especially*). United with them as God's children, assure us that we are yours forever. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.
Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, (like waving from your location) and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

You may share your offering as you leave today on give online through our

<https://firstlutheransandpoint.breezechms.com/give/online>.

The offering plates are near the exit doors.

Also, for those worshiping with us from home, please prepare a form of bread and wine/ grape juice as we turn to gather now, around God's table of grace.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

The presiding minister continues, using one of the following or another appropriate form.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

***LORD’S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

Communion will be served at one station. The lectern side will start by coming forward by the center aisle. The wine and grape juice (white) will be served in pre-poured glasses. A bowl is near the outside aisle to collect empty glasses.

Please give the next family unit six feet as you make your way forward.

COMMUNION

The gifts are given as the following promise is spoken,

“The body of Christ given for you.”

“The blood of Christ shed for you.”

*You may respond. **Amen.***

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

*BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

*SENDING SONG *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* (ELW 674)



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are a new creation.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP NOTES:

Cover Image by Pastor Lori Morton of Ephesians 1:3-13 using WordArt.com

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Worship Series and Prayer of the Day from 2012 Worship Design Studio “Tending the New Creation”

Scripture text from the NRSV (New Revised Standard Version, sundaysandseasons.com)

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Worship Team:

Piano - Colleen Culwell

Pastors - Lori Morton and Steve Neuder

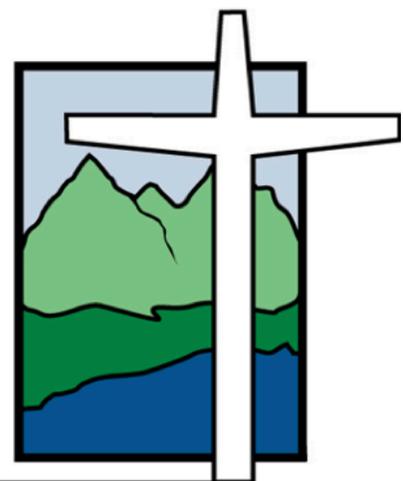
AV/Tech - Scott Youngren and Don Farnham

Office Contact Information: T & Th 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

208-263-2048

office@firstlutheransandpoint.org

***First
Lutheran
Church***



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Prayers - Gene Dillon, Mary Laker, David Hollyer, Frances Cavagnaro, Dar Cogswell, Carrie Cummings, Alyssa Grant, Allyson Kemp, Dan Burt, Betty Mitchell, Christi Paulsen, Royce Howell, Libby DeLong, George Marker, Lynn Franck, Chris Ingham; Randy Petersen; Charles Shobe Sr., Nicky Schripsema; Wendi Lies; Gerda Burke; Kara Schripsema; Trey Haberlock; Tom Taylor; Hunter Taylor; Eugene Kurwicki; Mike Shobe; Marguerite Suttmeier, Sylvia Greenwood; Janet Merrill, and those on your hearts and minds today.

Luther Park residents, their families, and staff. Especially upon the death of long-time resident, Virginia Farwell.

The growth in Bonner County, summer tourist season, summer time events and activities; may we find ways to be good stewards of our resources and interactions with visitors and residents as we travel, play, rest, and work together.

The extreme temperatures and all life unable to find relief from this drought. Fire response teams to wildfires across the country and into Canada.

Making Prayer Requests -

If you have a prayer request, please fill out the Prayer Request Form (paper forms available on the usher's table or you can fill it out online on our website <https://www.firstlutheransandpoint.org/prayer.html>). Turn paper forms into the pastors or fold and place in the offering plates and they will be shared according to your wishes.

Fellowship: For those who would like to connect after the service, gather around the picnic table outside the front left sanctuary exit door (sheltered entrance outside offices). If you would like to help coordinate or host the coffee, juice, water, and light goodies, please let Jim Carlson know. We are no longer using the monthly work groups, so we need volunteers to offer refreshments for this fellowship time.

Nurturing Faith:

Adult Forum - 10:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall: Sabbath Bible Study - offered by Baylor University "Christian Reflection" online resources. Articles for the study will be printed and handed out each week or you can find them online for your own study. This week is "The Eighth Day". We will begin the conversation as soon as fellowship winds down.

Council: The next Council Meeting is July 14 at 6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Hymn Sing: August 8th at 9:00 a.m. outside on the front lawn. Have a favorite hymn you'd like to sing, please let Pastor Lori know by July 18th.

Covid - 19 Protocols:

Please see the July 2021 Messenger for full details. While restrictions for individuals have been lifted - especially for those who are vaccinated - Panhandle Health does ask organizations gathering groups of people together from different households to use caution while inside. Therefore, we are practicing the following protocols for groups gatherings:

- 6' spacing between family/ friend groups while seated or standing inside. (None of us likes the blue tape in the sanctuary, so if you have a better idea for insuring distancing between non-related groups, please share with Council).
- Masks are optional for vaccinated individuals; masks recommended for unvaccinated.
- Communion is being served with washed / sanitized hands and masks worn by pastors.
- Use Hand sanitizer or wash hands upon entry for all congregants.
- All extended fellowship is conducted outside.
- Please respect everyone's choices and desire to be healthy and to feel safe while worshiping together.
- With greater freedom, comes greater responsibility to caretake each other in the form that if you do not feel well or have symptoms of illness, we welcome you to worship with us online instead of in-person.
- We are singing a few verses of the hymns (the CDC names this as a high risk behavior in larger groups of people from differing households, who are not wearing masks). But, our worship is planned to be shorter than an hour and windows are opened for ventilation to mitigate the risk.
- Groups may request use of the fellowship hall, following these practices and are required to clean surfaces after use.