

*Please rise in body or spirit.

April 5, 2025

We Gather in Christ

PRELUDE

Come into His Presence with We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise Rusty Bender, piano arr. Carl Seal

WELCOME

MOMENT OF SILENCE

God of hope and promise, we come before you, trusting in your vision for our lives. Help us to see beyond the challenges of today and live into the hope you offer through Christ. May your presence awaken within us a deeper faith, rooted in the hope of your eternal love. Prepare our hearts and minds to receive your Word, that we may grow in hope and be transformed by your grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, all who seek to grow in the Lord.

We come, desiring to be rooted in God's Word.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,

who delight in his ways and meditate on his law.

They are like trees planted by streams of water,

bearing fruit in season, their leaves do not wither.

Come, let us worship the God who nourishes us and causes us to flourish.

Praise be to the God of life and abundance. Amen.

%HYMN

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!

Refrain: In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme, empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream! (**Refrain**)

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide, as we in mission magnify the Crucified! (**Refrain**)

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long! (**Refrain**)

*CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Gracious God, we confess that we have not always been rooted in your Word. We have allowed the distractions of life to pull us away from your presence. We have followed paths that do not lead to you, and we have failed to bear the fruit you desire. Forgive us, Lord, for the times we have chosen our own way over yours. Nourish our hearts with your grace, and help us to delight in your law, that we might grow in faith and bear fruit for your kingdom. Root us again in your love and renew our hope in you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Word

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 17:7-8

Psalm 1:1-3

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rooted in Hope, Flourishing in Faith

Corday Goddard

%HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.

She is his new creation by water and the word.

From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth, her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won: O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

The Sacrament of Communion

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION MUSIC

I Come to the Cross White As Snow

Rusty Bender, piano

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Responding to the Word

OFFERING MESSAGE

OFFERTORY

Give Thanks

arr. Henry Smith

arr. Somma/Batstone

arr. Olguin

Rusty Bender, piano

♦RESPONSE

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CELEBRATION OF LIFE & REMEMBRANCE

Bismarck: Elder Clayton Carlson, Deacon Marjorie Kahl, Elder Myra Larson, Elder Geraldine Morrison

Casselton: Deacon DuWayne Ellison, Elder Lucille Kingsley, Deacon Joseph VanLaere

Fargo: Elder Lori Billings, Elder Jean Hamblet, Deacon Fraser Harrison, Elder John Hastings, Elder Vicki Laraway, Elder John Q. Paulsen, Elder Kathy Rosendahl

Grandin: Elder Myrna Mettler, Elder Robert Mettler

Hallock: Elder Craig Pearson, Elder Pat Wise

Hamilton: Elder Allen M. Robinson

Jamestown: Elder Harriet Eddy, Elder Richard Nelson, Elder David Nething

Langdon: Elder Della Crockett, Elder Helen Saxlund

Park Center-Walhalla: Elder Odella Dalzell

Rolla / St. John: Elder Forda Marcil, Elder Ruby Nelson

Bearing the Word into the World

%HYMN

Live into Hope

Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed. The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity, removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be, the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.

Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed. God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Majesty
Rusty Bender, piano

arr. Jack W. Hayford



Thank you to Corday Goddard for leading us in worship this morning and to Elders Brian McClure and Bruce Maylath for assisting. Special thanks to our musician, Rusty Bender, and The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey for presiding over communion.