



The Holy Eucharist – Eucharistic Prayer B

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026 • 8 a.m.

HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people's responses are in bold.

This type of note, offering directions about the service, is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red)—referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

The Word of God

THE ENTRANCE RITE

WELCOME

We acknowledge that our worship is taking place in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing as able, the Presider says

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

This prayer was an English rendering of a Latin prayer that began the liturgy in the medieval church before the Reformation. It remains a distinctive part of Episcopal worship to this day.

The Presider may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE • THE GLORIA

The Gloria, or some other song of praise, centers the service on the God we gather to praise in our worship.

All say in unison.

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,**

**we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The People are seated for the lessons.

THE FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The People remain seated.

THE PSALM

The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another.

Reader Our response to the first reading is a portion of Psalm 31, found in the service leaflet. Please pray it with me.

PSALM: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.
²Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.
³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
⁴Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.
⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O LORD, O God of truth.
¹⁵My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
¹⁶Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your lovingkindness save me.

THE SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

The people sit.

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸and

“A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people,

but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus told his disciples,] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier

The People stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

The word “creed” comes from the Latin “credo” for “I believe.” First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and confirmed in 381 AD, the Nicene Creed is said at the Holy Eucharist and reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: the Holy Trinity.

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church—the Body of Christ.

The People stand, sit, or kneel as they are able.

Intercessor The Prayers of the People today are guided by Form 6, found on page 392 of the Book of Common Prayer and in the service leaflet. Please pray them with me.

In Easter hope and in peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the sustainable, just, and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the right action, peace, and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop, and Marty Stebbins, our Bishop; for our priests, deacons, and lay leaders at Holy Spirit and across the Diocese; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in God's Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

We pray for all who are on our hearts, for our sick, and for those who cannot be with us. Today we pray for:

Joan Chaussee	Marleigh Flanigan	Dan
Monica Roscoe and Family	Bob Simons	Sullivan
Nancy Callen	Robert and Christine Hadlow	Graham
Kathy Adams	Laura and Cannon	Linda T.
Paula and family	Christina Errebo	Lynne
Michael Ayers and family	Ann Rennie	Paula
Family and friends of the Ruybalid family	Diana Plyley	Sam
Peter and Malcolm Smith	Chris Tweeten	Wanda
Linda Peavey	Janel	Greg
Nancy Guthrie	Moe	Mary
Gary Swartz	Donna Brummett	Peg
Mark Dvarishkis and family	For the Ruybalid family in the midst of a life transition	
Patty and Geoffrey Harp		
The staff and patients of Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza City		
Our immigrant and refugee neighbors		
Our neighbors needing shelter beyond what the Poverello and Meadlowlark can offer, and all neighbors who have lost their safe shelter to war zones		

The People may add their own petitions

We also pray to share your hope with those who are sick, in prison, oppressed, addicted, suicidal, fearful, or without enough food, shelter, or sense of community.

And in silence or aloud, we pray for the other people or oppressions we lift to you now.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We raise our alleluias, and we thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Lord of all, we pray for those who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. We pray especially for those lost to violence, disease, or destruction, and for any others you may wish to remember, silently or aloud.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Presider stands and says

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

All stand as able.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

THE OFFERTORY

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give.

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

All are invited to make a gift to support Holy Spirit's ministry of sharing God's love with our community and the world by texting HOLYSPIRITGIVE to (833) 714-3270 or by visiting <http://holyspiritmissoula.org/give/>. You

may also put your gift in the offering plate or by scanning the QR code below to give to the General Fund:



The altar is prepared for Holy Communion

DOXOLOGY

All say in unison as the Offering is received and blessed

All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning “Lift up your hearts.”

SURSUM CORDA

The People remain standing.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel.

We recall God's acts of salvation history. The presider says the "Words of Institution" that Jesus said at the Last Supper. During the prayer, the Holy Spirit is invoked to bless and sanctify the gifts of bread and wine.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

The Great Amen is when the congregation with a unified great voice concurs with all that the presider has prayed. It is the only "Amen" in all capitals found in the Book of Common Prayer, signifying the greatness of the congregation's response.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.
A period of silence is kept. Then may be said*

FRACTION ANTHEM

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and respond to receiving Communion by saying "Amen." Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister. Receiving the bread only is full participation in the Eucharist. Wine is also available, and you may drink from the common cup or dip your wafer in the intinction cup. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please indicate your choice by crossing your hands across your chest. Those who wish to have Holy Communion brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.

PRAYER FOR SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

When this prayer is needed, the Celebrant and People say

In the name of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood. We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

DISMISSAL

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, may dismiss the people with these words

Let us go forth with the love of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving, by the people of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church.



Participants in the Service

<i>Presider, Preacher and Celebrant</i>	<i>The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier</i>
<i>Lector/Lay Eucharistic Minister</i>	<i>Michael Irwin</i>
<i>Usher</i>	<i>Greg Scarff</i>
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	<i>Margaret and Kevin Borg</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Lori Cordis, Bev Maas</i>

WE WELCOME THOSE NEW TO OUR WORSHIP!

Newcomers and guests are always welcome at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church. Our service today uses the service leaflet, and a service leaflet is also available online. The QR code to access the bulletin page of the website is available in the pews. Just scan it with the camera on your phone. We hope you will take a moment to complete the blue Visitor's Card found in the pew and place it in the offertory plate as it passes.

JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR TODAY

Join us for coffee and a cookie in the Guild Room following the 8 a.m. service today. Our thanks to Margaret and Kevin Borg for setting up the coffee.

COME TO OUR FOND FAREWELL ON MAY 31

Go with God. Bon voyage. Let the road rise to meet you.

We're just practicing for the very fond farewell we'll be making to our Co-Rectors, Terri Grotzinger and Gretchen Strohmaier. We hope you'll plan to attend a very special celebration after the 10:15 service on Sunday, May 31.

Also, please consider contributing, if you're able, to a thank you "purse" for Rev. Gretchen and Rev. Terri. It's anonymous and completely voluntary – and a very Episcopal way to say, "we wish you the best." To do so, put a check in the offertory plate marked "purse," send it to the office, or contribute via Pushpay.

No matter what, please join in on May 31 for cake, remembrances and appreciation as we say goodbye to two wonderful Holy Spirit leaders and send them on their way.

SPRING MARKET 2026 IS JUST HOURS AWAY!

These are the final days to gather all your donations for this year's Spring Market! (And, perhaps, some reusable grocery bags and sacks to donate for sale purchases.) **Bring your items beginning this Sunday, May 3, or on Monday and Tuesday, May 4 and 5 from 9am – 3pm.**

If you are unable to deliver your donations to the church, **Bev and Frank Sherman will come to your rescue!** Just give Bev a call at **(406) 544-0880** or email her at **beverleymt@bresnan.net** and help will be on its way.

What to Donate: your **best, clean, unbroken, and resalable** items: Women's and Men's Vintage and Boutique Clothing; Accessories and Jewelry; Home Décor; Glassware & Kitchen; Linens; Books (no manuals, encyclopedias, or tapes); Sport and Camping Equipment; Luggage; Pet Accessories; Gardening & Outdoor; Tools; Healthy Plants; and Small Furniture.

SPRING MARKET SIGN UP SUNDAY

We still need Market helpers! Please stop by the Spring Market Sign-Up Table in the Parish Hall on Sunday, May 3. Could you help furnish part of a lunch for our volunteers? Help sort donations? Greet shoppers on Market days? Come for clean-up on Saturday, May 9? (**Remember – early shopping privileges for all volunteers!**) Please be an active part in this year's Market however you can. Huge thank yous to each one of you who has already pledged your help!

ORGAN AND INSTRUMENTS RECITAL THIS AFTERNOON

The Missoula Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is hosting a free recital of music for organ and instruments at **3 pm on Sunday, May 3**, here at Holy Spirit. Community and student members will play music for trombone and organ, flute and organ, saxophone and organ, strings and organ, as well as other surprises! Our John Ellis Intern **Matthew Aguon** will be playing, as will **Nancy Cooper** and other community organists. The recital will be an hour long, and all are welcome! We hope to see you there.

TOUR OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN GARDENS — MAY 5

Please join Holy Spirit's Creation Care Ministry for a guided tour of Missoula's **Rocky Mountain Gardens at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5**. The gardens are located next to the Insectarium and Butterfly House at the Fairgrounds. Please park in the main lot on the east side of the building and gather at the main entrance.

Alexandra Brown, Program Development Director, will lead the tour. Many native plants will be in bloom, making this a wonderful opportunity to experience the gardens with an expert guide.

The tour is limited to **15 participants**, so reservations are required. Please sign up through the church office (office@holyspiritmissoula.org or (406) 542-2167) — space is limited.

WORKING FOR CREATION

May 6 • 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. • In the Church

Come hear **Terri Grotzinger** on Wednesday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m. as she reflects on her career with the U.S.

Forest Service. Terri will share stories from the field and explore how her work has shaped her understanding of Creation care, resilience, and the beauty of our shared landscapes.

Please note: **We will meet in the church** for this session, as the Parish Hall will be in use for Spring Market setup.

EXPLORE SPRING MIGRATION AT NINEPIPE ON MAY 23!

Join Holy Spirit's Creation Care Ministry for a morning of birdwatching **on Saturday, May 23**, at the beautiful **Ninepipe Fish & Wildlife Area** in the Mission Valley. This rich wetlands habitat attracts a wide variety of migrating waterfowl, shorebirds, and songbirds — a perfect chance to experience spring on the move.

We'll meet in the **church parking lot at 8:00 a.m.** and carpool to the refuge. We'll have bird books, some binoculars, and a spotting scope to share.

What to bring:

Lunch, water, and a camp chair if you'd like — facilities at the site are limited to an outhouse. After bird viewing, you're welcome to join optional side trips to the **Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana** or the **CSKT Bison Range** (both require an entrance fee).

Questions?

Contact **Warren Gartner** at 317-872-2431 or kwgartner@sbcglobal.net. Come enjoy the beauty of creation and a peaceful morning outdoors!

A REALLY SPECIAL ALMS SUNDAY – MAY 17

Beth Israel, a Jewish congregation in Jackson, MS, suffered a severe arson attack in January — the second in its history, following an attack by the Ku Klux Klan in the 1960s. In response, Jackson's faith community stepped in, including St. Philip's Episcopal Church across the street, which has long supported the synagogue and again opened its doors in solidarity.

This witness is inspiring. It reminds us of the freedom to worship that we all cherish, whatever our tradition. As Gretchen has said, we cannot allow hatred to have the last word. We stand with our brothers and sisters of faith, helping them get back on their feet and reminding them they are loved — including by this Episcopal community in Missoula.

A **special collection** will be taken on May 17 to help Beth Israel rebuild. You may contribute in the special offering basket at the back of the church that Sunday, through **Pushpay**, or online at holyspiritmissoula.org.

We invite you to join us on May 17 as we send our support to fellow Americans who also prize the ability to worship in freedom.

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT COMMUNITY CONCERNS EVENING ON MAY 20 AT 6:30 PM

Getting to Know our Neighbors to the North: The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Over the past thirty years Jim Taylor has worked in several capacities for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, including as the Managing Attorney of the Tribal Defenders Office (1996-2006), Managing Attorney of the Tribal Prosecutors Office (2019-2022), and Associate Attorney Justice on their Court of Appeals (2022-2025). In December of 2025 he was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals for the CSKT and currently serves in that capacity.

His talk, "Getting to Know our Neighbors to the North: The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes," will present a brief history of the Flathead Reservation, admittedly from the perspective of a non-member, but a non-member with significant contacts with the Tribes over the past three decades.

Be sure to join us May 20 to learn more about the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes with Vestry member Jim Taylor.

JOIN OUR WOMEN'S GROUP: LIVING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

Looking for a welcoming space to grow in your faith alongside other women? Join our **Practicalities of Faith** group, where meaningful conversation and genuine community await you. All women are invited—bring a friend and experience support and inspiration together.

The group, led by Julie Benson, will meet on the following dates in the Guild Room from 1-2:30 p.m.:

May 12

June 8, 15 & 29

Please come as you are available! Registration is not required.

MISSOULA FOOD BANK OPPORTUNITIES IN MAY

Lowell School Market - Wednesday, May 6th and 13th, 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm (1 volunteer still needed for each day)

The market runs from 2:30 to 5:30 every Wednesday in the Lowell Elementary cafeteria. Volunteers help with running the pantry (which consists of a few tables and coolers), giving and collecting intake forms, and "signing in" folks with the sign-in sheets to help the Food Bank know how many households are using the market weekly. At 5:30 pm, volunteers help with break down and clean up. Heads up, volunteers need complete a background check with Missoula County Public Schools to assist with school markets. The Food Bank will gladly cover this cost. Reach out to Kathy Berman via kathymberman@gmail.com to connect with the volunteer coordinator.

EmPower Pack Build – Wednesday, May 20 • 4:15 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

We're looking for **30 parishioners** to help with our next EmPower Pack Build on **Wednesday, May 20**. A sign-up sheet is available in the Parish Hall. Please arrive at the Missoula Food Bank (**1720 Wyoming St**) at **4:15 p.m.**, using either the front door or the parking-lot side door. We'll wrap up by **6:30 p.m.** This is a wonderful way to support local kids and families as the school year winds down.

May Donation Focus: "Picnic"

Our non-perishable donation theme for May is **Picnic**. Please consider donating items such as: Peanut butter and jelly; pretzels and chips; condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise); pickles; trail mix; granola bars; seed crackers; graham crackers; marshmallows; canned meats and fish (tuna, chicken, salmon, sardines); canned meals and legumes (chili, pork and beans, lentils, beans); nuts and seeds; nut butters (no added sugar welcome); jerky and meat sticks; low-sugar protein bars; shelf-stable or powdered milk; shelf-stable cheese snacks; olives; pantry add-ons (vinegar, dressings, broth); juice boxes; bottled or sparkling water; Kool-Aid; and unsweetened tea.

Your generosity helps keep our neighbors nourished — thank you for supporting the Food Bank in so many ways this spring.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Starting on Sunday, **May 31**, we will begin our summer worship schedule, having only **one service at 10:15 a.m.** on Sunday mornings. This schedule continues through August, and we'll return to two services (8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.) on **Sunday, September 13**, our Kick-off Sunday. The summer presents a wonderful opportunity to worship all together, share coffee hour, and get to know other members of your church family.

We're also looking forward to welcoming **Pastor Arne Bergland** to Holy Spirit for summer worship in June and July. Pastor Bergland will serve as our celebrant and interim clergy from **June 3–August 2**, offering a gentle breathing space between Gretchen and Terri's departures and before **Rev. Nate Darville** begins his ministry with us on **August 3**.

Arne's first Sunday with us will be **June 7**, the day of our parish **Summer Picnic**. Please plan to come to the 10:15 service and then join us for this first big parish event of the summer as we welcome the Berglands.

HOLY SPIRIT SUMMER PICNIC — JUNE 7 AT 12:30 P.M.

Meet Us at the Meadowlark Shelter at Fort Missoula

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 7, when we'll gather at the Meadowlark Shelter at Fort Missoula for our annual summer church picnic. Come enjoy delicious fried chicken (or lemon pepper or barbecue roasted chicken), great camaraderie, delightful accordion music, and all the potluck favorites our parish is known for.

Please bring a dish to share:

A–M: salad or side dish

N–Z: dessert

We'll provide plates, utensils, cold water, ice, canned beverages (no plastic bottles), and Holy Spirit's famous punch. Feel free to bring a lawn chair, serving utensils for your potluck item, lawn games, and your best summer stories.

We look forward to seeing everyone on June 7!

HOLY SPIRIT VESTRY

The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier, Co-Rector

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger (retired), Co-Rector

Molly Bowler, Senior Warden

Charlie Swannack, Junior Warden

Leslie McShane, Clerk of Vestry

James Wiley, Treasurer

Vestry Members, listed with the year their terms expire:

2026

Molly Bowler

Lance Collister

Glenn Hladek

Charlie Swannack

2027

Julie Benson

Keith Kuhn

Beverley Sherman

Jim Taylor

2028

Patti Beckley

Anne Geiger

Mary Beth Jourdonnais

Leslie McShane

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