



## The Holy Eucharist – Eucharistic Prayer B

The Seventh Sunday of Easter: Sunday after Ascension Day

May 17, 2026 • 8 a.m.

**HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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*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*

*Presider* 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.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

## **THE LESSONS**

*The People are seated for the lessons.*

### **THE FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14**

*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.

<sup>6</sup>When [the apostles] had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

*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 68, found in the service leaflet. Please pray it with me.

### **PSALM: Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36**

- <sup>1</sup>**Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; \***  
let those who hate him flee before him.
- <sup>2</sup>**Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; \***  
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- <sup>3</sup>**But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; \***  
let them also be merry and joyful.
- <sup>4</sup>**Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;**  
**exalt him who rides upon the heavens; \***  
**YAHWEH is his name, rejoice before him!**
- <sup>5</sup>**Father of orphans, defender of widows, \***  
**God in his holy habitation!**
- <sup>6</sup>**God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; \***  
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- <sup>7</sup>**O God, when you went forth before your people, \***  
when you marched through the wilderness,
- <sup>8</sup>**The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,**  
**at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, \***  
**at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**
- <sup>9</sup>**You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; \***  
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- <sup>10</sup>**Your people found their home in it; \***  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- <sup>33</sup>**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; \***  
sing praises to the Lord.
- <sup>34</sup>**He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; \***  
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- <sup>35</sup>**Ascribe power to God; \***  
his majesty is over Israel;  
his strength is in the skies.
- <sup>36</sup>**How wonderful is God in his holy places! \***  
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!  
Blessed be God!

### **THE SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

*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 remain seated.*

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter.

<sup>12</sup>Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

<sup>5:6</sup>Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. <sup>7</sup>Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. <sup>10</sup>And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup>To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand as able.*

#### **THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 17:1-11**

*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.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup>"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            **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.

Lord, may we make your name known to those whom you give us from the world.

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 Missoula Interfaith Collaborative, 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. Please pray silently for this group and take your leaflet home so you can pray for them individually during the week.

*Silence.*

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
Mark Dvarishkis and family	Donna Brummett	Peg
Madeleine Johnson	Patty and Geoffrey Harp	Quinn
Stanley Underwood		Joshua
For the Ruybalid family in the midst of a life transition		

The staff and patients of Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza City  
All who are suffering in war zones

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, you crossed every border between Divinity and humanity to make your home with us. Help us to welcome you in newcomers, migrants and refugees. Help us to be good stewards and peacemakers who live as your children. May we come to live in human solidarity and in hope. As we grow alongside the Rio Grande Borderland Ministries, give us courage to open the door to our neighbors and grace to build a society of justice.

We ask your blessing also on the ministry of Casa Maria in their work in Minneapolis as they provide food, clothing and advocacy for immigrants. Assist them as they live into God's beloved Community and work to ensure that all their neighbors are treated with dignity and respect.

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.***

Ever-present Lord, 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 we lift to you now, 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.*

*Celebrant*            The Lord be with you.

*People*                **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*            Lift up your hearts.

*People*                **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **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.

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After his glorious resurrection he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory.

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, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, 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>Leslie McShane</i>
<i>Usher</i>	<i>Lori Cordis</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Lori Cordis, Beverly 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.

### **A REALLY SPECIAL ALMS SUNDAY – SUPPORTING CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL**

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.

### **INVITATION TO NEWCOMERS – IT'S A PICNIC TO MEET PEOPLE AT HOLY SPIRIT**

In fact, it *is* a picnic. If you're new to Holy Spirit, come to a special "meet, greet and eat" at the parish picnic, set for Sunday, June 7.

We're gathering at 12:30 p.m. at the Meadowlark Shelter at Fort Missoula (the picnic shelter closest to Community Hospital on South Avenue). Look for the heaps of fried chicken and lots of Holy Spirit folks. We hope you'll join in with other newcomers to say hello, with hosts including Warren Gartner and Molly Bowler. This easy-going picnic is a great place to meet up with the Holy Spirit community.

Here's what to bring: last names **A-M = sides and salads; N-Z = dessert**. See you there!

### **HONORING NANCY TYRELL AT 90**

On Sunday, May 24, Nancy Tyrell and her family will host a coffee hour celebration for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday following the 10:15 a.m. service that day. We invite the parish to join in marking this joyful occasion with gratitude for Nancy's presence in our community.

### **MAY 31 – SAVE THE DATE!**

Plan to be part of our gala farewell to Rev. Terri and Rev. Gretchen after the 10:15 service on Sunday, May 31. Come with stories to share and enjoy music and memories about our two co-rectors. Terri heads toward actual and true retirement and Gretchen shifts to focus on her life as rector of St. Paul's in Hamilton. We'll send them with our love and thanks. Don't miss this special day.

You're also invited to be part of an Episcopal tradition – the making of a “purse” for clergy who are bringing years of parish service to a close. If you are able, please consider making a contribution to this special thank you gift. You can put a check in the offertory plate marked “purse,” send it to the office, or use Pushpay. Many thanks for considering this request.

### **SPRING MARKET: A MAGICAL SUCCESS!**

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Spring Market such a joyful and record-breaking event. With **\$11,357.47** in sales, long lines of happy shoppers, and beautifully displayed treasures of every kind, the Market was filled with energy, laughter, and goodwill.

Unsold items continued their good work in the community, going to the Missoula Children's Theater, the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes transitional housing program, Give Art to Missoula, and Missoula Thrift (part of Flathead Industries, supporting individuals with disabilities across Montana).

Special thanks to **Beverley Sherman** for her steady leadership, and to all who donated, sorted, priced, played music, and brought this magical event to life.

### **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.

### **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](mailto:kwgartner@sbcglobal.net). Come enjoy the beauty of creation and a peaceful morning outdoors!

## MISSOULA FOOD BANK OPPORTUNITIES IN MAY

### *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 OFFICE HOURS BEGIN MAY 22

From May 22 through September 4, the church office will be closed on Fridays. The church office will also be closed Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

## 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!

**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.:

**June 8, 15 & 29**

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

**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:

<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>
Molly Bowler	Julie Benson	Patti Beckley
Lance Collister	Keith Kuhn	Anne Geiger
Glenn Hladek	Beverley Sherman	Mary Beth Jourdonnais
Charlie Swannack	Jim Taylor	Leslie McShane

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