

Sunday, May 18, 2025  
Fifth Sunday of Easter  
9:00 AM RITE II



St. Peter's  
Episcopal  
Cathedral

511 N. Park Avenue  
Helena, MT 59601  
Mailing: PO Box 819  
Helena, MT 59624  
www.spchelena.org  
406.442.5175  
info@spchelena.org

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.**

*Please be seated.*

**THE FIRST READING**

**Acts 11:1-18**

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave

**SERVING TODAY**

**Officiating:** The Rev. Brenda McLellan  
**Organist:** John Goodwin  
**Lay Readers:** Bill Shropshire  
Patty Dean  
**LEM:** Aubrey Curtis  
Hope Stockwell  
**Crucifer:** Blake Phillips  
**Torchbearers:** Audrey and Vera Towery

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II**

**THE OPENING HYMN** *Gather Hymnal 539*  
*"Gather Us In"*

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**THE SALUTATION** *BCP 355*  
*Please stand, as you are able.*

**THE GLORIA** *Gather Hymnal 360*  
*"Praise to You O Christ our Savior"*

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**  
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,

them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

## **THE RESPONSE**

## **Psalm 148**

*Let us read together*

***1 Hallelujah!***

***Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights.***

***2 Praise him, all you angels of his;  
praise him, all his host.***

***3 Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you shining stars.***

***4 Praise him, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.***

***5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord;  
for he commanded, and they were created.***

***6 He made them stand fast for ever and  
ever;  
he gave them a law which shall not pass  
away.***

***7 Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;***

***8 Fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;***

***9 Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;***

***10 Wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and winged birds;***

***11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;***

***12 Young men and maidens,  
old and young together.***

***13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord,  
for his Name only is exalted,  
his splendor is over earth and heaven.***

***14 He has raised up strength for his people  
and praise for all his loyal servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who are near  
him.***

***Hallelujah!***

## **THE EPISTLE**

### **Revelation 21:1-6**

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them as their God;

they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

The Word of the Lord

***Thanks be to God***

**THE GOSPEL HYMN    *Gather Hymnal 533***  
***"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"***

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John

***Glory to you, Lord Christ***

## THE GOSPEL

### John 13:31-35

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

***Praise to you, Lord Christ***

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Brenda McLellan

## THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT **BCP 304**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*(By courtesy of Christina Brennan Lee)*

Let us, God's people, pray

Forever and Almighty Lord, infuse us with the willingness to live Your commandment to love family, friend, and stranger alike, using a basin and towel more often than lofty praise with weak intent.

O God at Home Among Us

***We begin and end in You***

Forever and Almighty Lord, guide us to be as Your voice in speaking and acting on behalf of all who suffer because of actions by those who govern, dictate, or control Your people on this earth, in this country, and in our community.

O God at Home Among Us

***We begin and end in You***

Forever and Almighty Lord, release from anguish all who are chronically ill in body, mind, or spirit, and refresh the stamina of all

who give support. Aloud or silently please add your petitions.

O God at Home Among Us

***We begin and end in You***

Forever and Almighty Lord, lift the hearts of the mournful as through You, death is no more and our dearest departed have now risen to new and unending Life in joy, free from tears and pain. We pray especially for Deacon Donna Gleaves, and comfort for family and friends. Aloud or silently please add your petitions.

O God at Home Among Us

***We begin and end in You***

Forever and Almighty Lord, we pause in this moment to offer You our other heartfelt thanksgivings, intercessions, petitions, and memorials, aloud or silently we add our petitions.

O God at Home Among Us

***We begin and end in You***

Forever and Almighty Lord, grant additional grace to all You have chosen to bring us Your Word and Sacraments. We pray especially for the clergy who serve our congregation and for all lay ministers who serve our parish and the wider community.

O God at Home Among Us

***We begin and end in You***

Glorified Christ, Son of God and Man, embolden us to be purposeful instruments of the continuous flow of Your limitless love. Guide our hearts to joyfully participate in the perpetual renewal of Your Creation, through our own repentance and love, that will lead us to unending life in You. ***Amen.***

## THE PEACE

**BCP 360**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please be seated.*

## PRAYER FOR A NEW DEAN

*Together*

***Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. Peter's Cathedral. Be with us and lead us as we seek the next Dean for our church. Enlighten with your grace the Search Committee. We ask for discernment, wisdom, and guidance. We pray for whom you guide to our parish, that they hear your calling and join our congregation swiftly, with joy in their hearts. We pray for the life of our parish, that we may joyfully continue to be strengthened in our mission to "Love God and Our Neighbor and Make Disciples for Christ." Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen***

## PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS

**BCP 830**

*Together*

***Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The ushers bring the offering to the altar during the singing of the Offertory hymn*

## THE OFFERTORY

***Gather Hymnal 599***

*"One Bread, One Body"*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### Eucharistic Prayer C

**BCP 369**

### THE SANCTUS

**BCP 371**

### THE CONSECRATION

**BCP 371**

*Please kneel or stand, as you are able.*

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**BCP 364**

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

**BCP 364**

## THE PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*The officiant offers a prayer for those live-streaming the liturgy.*

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen**

## THE COMMUNION HYMNS

### #1 1982 Hymnal 325

*"Let Us Break Bread Together on Our Knees"*

### #2 Gather Hymnal 597

*"I Am the Bread of Life"*

### #3 1982 Hymnal 714

*"Shalom, My Friends"*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**BCP 365**

## THE BLESSING

**BCP 366**

## THE CLOSING

***Gather Hymnal 317***

*"Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord"*

## THE DISMISSAL

**BCP 366**

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