



The Holy Eucharist – Eucharistic Prayer A

The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

November 23, 2025 • 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

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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 • CANTICLE 20: GLORY TO GOD

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 and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The People are seated for the lessons.

THE FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

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

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

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 Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah, found in the service leaflet. Please pray it with me.

PSALM: Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

THE SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

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 Paul's Letter to the Church in Colossus.

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

All stand as able.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

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 Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

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

The People are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier

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 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 are guided by Form 3, found on page 387 of the Book of Common Prayer and in the service leaflet. Please pray them with me.

Lord God, you are before all things, and in you all things hold together.

In your name, we pray for your holy catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the community of Eureka and St. Michael and All Angels with Jim Pettit as Senior Warden.

We pray for Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop; for Marty Stebbins, our Bishop; and for our priests, deacons, and lay leaders at Holy Spirit and across the Diocese.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help, especially those on our prayer list who we lift to you now. Please pray silently for this group and take your leaflet home so you can pray for them individually during the week.

Silence.

Frank, Anthony, and Benjamin Horton	Marleigh Flanigan	Dan
Bert and Nora Horton	Jennifer, Mark and Jacob	Sullivan
Joan Chaussee	Bob Simons	Graham
Betty Rice	Robert Hadlow	Peg
Dolores Criswell	Laura and Cannon	Janel
Lew and Robin Mueller	Linda T.	Paula
Nancy Callen	Christina Errebo	Tim
Kathy Adams	Barbara Behan	Ray
Paula and family	Dan	Shannon
Michael Ayers and family	Jeanne	Greg
Family and friends of the Ruybalid family	Jone and Jesse	Mary
Doug Harris and family	Peter and Malcolm Smith	Moe
Dylan Taylor	Tom Ard	Sam
		Wanda

The staff and patients of Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza City
All whose homelands are now war zones
Those without a place to safely shelter

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. We pray especially this morning for Eric Gerke and Noel Walther, for those lost to disease, destruction, or violence, and for the others we remember to you now.

Silence.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

You are before all things, and in you all things hold together.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence.

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.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand as able. The Presider says to the People.

 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 as able.

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.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 as able.

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

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, 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

<i>Celebrant</i>	Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
<i>People</i>	Therefore let us keep the feast.

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 in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in joyful gratitude for Curt, Eric, Donny, and Brian, by Connie Gerke.



Participants in the Service

<i>Presider, Preacher, and Celebrant</i>	<i>The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier</i>
<i>Deacon</i>	<i>The Ven. Dorcie Dvarishkis</i>
<i>Lector/Lay Eucharistic Minister</i>	<i>Lori Cordis</i>
<i>Usher</i>	<i>Jody Thomasson</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Jody Thomasson</i>

GROW WITH US

Everything we do at Holy Spirit, including today's in-person and online services, is made possible because of people like you. We rely on your donations to make our mission and ministry possible. In these challenging times, your support is needed more than ever. If this service has been meaningful for you, we encourage you to give as you're able to help Holy Spirit continue to serve our community and the greater world. Visit <http://holyspiritmissoula.org/give/> or give on our church app or text **HOLYSPIRITGIVE** to **(833) 714-3270** to give on your smartphone. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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.

WE'RE THANKFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF HOLY SPIRIT

Thanksgiving comes at just the right moment to say a huge "thank you" to everyone who has made an annual gift to support Holy Spirit. Your support means everything to the life of our church community.

There's still time to join in:

- Drop your gift card in the mail or the offertory plate (cards are in the pews!)
- Visit <http://holyspiritmissoula.org/give/annual-gift/>
- Or call the church office at 406-542-2167

As of Sunday, November 16, 123 households have gifted Holy Spirit \$358,131.00 or 85% of our total goal of \$420,000.00. We invite you to add your commitment to this important support for Holy Spirit.

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES

The church office will close at 12 noon on Wednesday, November 26. The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 27, and on Friday, November 28.

SIGNUPS FOR OUR THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER CONTINUE THIS SUNDAY

Join us in the Parish Hall on **Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27**, for our **4th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner**—a joyful gathering of friends, family, and gratitude. All are welcome! **Dinner begins at 3 PM**, with the Parish Hall opening at **2:30 PM** for conversation and food drop-off. The **kitchen's back door** will be open for easy delivery.

To help us plan, **reservations are required**. When you sign up, please let us know:

- How many are attending
- What dish you'll bring

The sign-up sheet includes categories to guide your choice:

- **Main dishes:** turkey, ham
- **Sides:** stuffing, cranberry sauce or relish, vegetables, potatoes (roasted, sweet, or mashed)
- **Extras:** salad, bread rolls, butter
- **Desserts**
- **Drinks:** soft drinks, wine

Coffee and water will be provided. Please bring enough to serve **6–8 people**—this amount worked beautifully last year!

Sign up with Holly Swartz or Betsy Holmquist after services. Questions? Call Holly at **406-542-1978**.

Let's give thanks and break bread together!

JOIN OUR POCKET ALTAR WORKSHOP

Saturday, December 6 • 1–4 pm • Parish Hall

Step into a quiet space of creativity and contemplation with Rev. Gretchen and Connie Gerke as we gather to craft **pocket altars**—small, sacred companions you can carry through the holiday season and beyond.

This hands-on afternoon invites you to slow down and create something deeply personal: a mini-altar tucked into a pouch or pocket, offering comfort, grounding, and spiritual connection wherever life takes you. You'll be inspired by beautiful examples and provided with all the materials you need.

To make your altar truly yours, feel free to bring **small photos, keepsakes, or meaningful tokens** that speak to your heart.

Whether you're looking for a moment of peace, a reminder of love, or a portable piece of spiritual support, this workshop offers a gentle way to enter the season with intention.

Please sign up by Monday, December 1

RSVP to Connie: Connie@holyspiritmissoula.org

HELP FILL THE FRIDGE—CASSEROLES STILL NEEDED

Although SNAP benefits have resumed, many families served by Friends of the Children – Western Montana are still struggling to catch up. After weeks of budget scrambling, the need for extra food support remains urgent—especially as the holiday season approaches.

Can you prepare a breakfast or dinner casserole to share? No ingredient restrictions—meat, cheese, and eggs are welcome. Fresh or frozen casseroles can be dropped off at:

735 Michigan Ave, East Missoula

Mon–Thurs, 9 AM–5 PM | Fri, 9 AM–12 PM

Let's help stock their fridge and freezer with love. This need will continue through the next two weeks.

Questions? Contact Hannah Vasquez at 406-552-2968 or hvasquez@friendsmontana.org.

NOVEMBER FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Looking for other ways to donate to the Missoula Food Bank after the Can the Cats Food Drive? Not to worry, our **Food Donation Basket** is always available and ready to receive your shelf-stable donations. Please ensure no donated items require refrigeration before opening. Please reach out to Kathy Berman at (406) 493-5460 with any questions.

DONATIONS FOR FAMILY PROMISE

Family Promise has expanded beyond housing and feeding homeless families at the Meadowlark and helping them find housing. It now supports and helps stabilize them during the first year in housing. Part of this support takes the form of kitchen, bathroom, and bedroom supplies for people who have had to do without these, living in their cars, in shelters, or with friends. We at Holy Spirit can help provide such supplies, either by purchasing them or streamlining what we have at home to donate unneeded items. **A list of supplies** will be in the back of the sanctuary for anyone interested to pick up. Your donations can be dropped off at the church office or given to me. I will be happy to pick them up. Thanks for your generosity and care.

Carla Mettling, HSP Family Promise Coordinator

406-203-7177

carlamettling@gmail.com

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Are you interested in **PROVIDING FLOWERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS ALTAR** or during the Sundays in Advent? To arrange for flowers, please call the church office at (406) 542-2167 **by noon on Monday**,

December 1. Although there are no flowers on the altar during the season of Advent, your special prayers and memorials are still read. Your contributions for flowers during Advent are used for the special flowers at the Christmas celebration, and, at that time, your prayers and memorials are noted once again in the Christmas service leaflet.

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.:

December 3 and 17

Please come to any or all sessions as you are available! Registration is not required.

HOLIDAY MARKET BAKE SALE

Sunday, December 7 — After both services

Oh, yes, it is happening again! You and your sweet tooth won't want to miss this celebration! December 7th will be the day for this year's Holiday Bake Sale, and as usual, it will be held after both the 8 am and 10:15 am services. So many goodies will be available for you to choose from. And our famous cookie table is always a mouth-watering sight to behold – irresistible! You will be able to make up your own assortments. We will also have some plates ready to grab and go.

Calling All Bakers!

We need your help to make this event a delicious success. Dust off your recipe books, tie on your aprons, and whip up your best baked goods to donate!

Drop-off times for donations:

- **Friday, Dec. 5** — Parish Hall Kitchen (before 4:00 p.m.)
- **Saturday, Dec. 6** — Parish Hall (10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon)
- **Sunday, Dec. 7** — Parish Hall (before either service)

Volunteers Needed!

We're also looking for cheerful helpers during both services on Sunday. If you can lend a hand, we'd love to have you! **To sign up, contact:** Laura Taylor at (406) 552-5825 or the Church Office at (406) 542-2167.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL VISITATION ON DECEMBER 14

The Rt. Rev. Marty Stebbins, the 10th Bishop of Montana, will make her annual visitation to Holy Spirit Parish on Sunday, December 14. As chief pastor and teacher of the diocese, Bishop Marty will preside and preach at both services that Sunday, and Confirmation will take place at the 10:15 a.m. service. Please plan to join us for what will be a joyous celebration that Sunday!

As is the custom in our diocese, an offering for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund will be taken at the service that day. Your checks should be paid to the order of "The Episcopal Diocese of Montana," designating on the memo line 'Discretionary Fund.' Or you can use our giving platform Pushpay to make your donation. Simply choose Bishop's Discretionary Fund from the list of funds available. It is from the Discretionary Fund that pastoral needs are met. Please be generous.

FESTIVAL SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, December 21 at 7 p.m. In-person only

Join us for this beloved Advent tradition, as scripture and song weave the story of Christ's coming—from the Garden of Eden to the manger in Bethlehem. The choir and organ will be in splendid voice, offering carols and anthems that prepare our hearts for Christmas.

A reception will follow in the parish hall, hosted by the Wholly Fun Committee.

This service will not be live-streamed or recorded.

HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Worship Services for Wednesday, December 24th, Christmas Eve

- **4:00 p.m.** Early Service with **all** ages in mind: A telling of the Christmas Story, simple familiar Carols, and Holy Eucharist. **This service will not be livestreamed.**
- **6:30 p.m.** Our Outdoor Service returns this year! Join us under the stars for a joyful, all-ages celebration filled with prayer, carol singing, and the glow of fire pits to warm our bodies and spirits. We'll end the evening with a candlelit singing of *Silent Night*—a beloved tradition that lifts hearts and brings peace. Please note: this service does not include Eucharist. Please do **dress warmly!**
- **10:00 p.m.** Traditional Choral Eucharist in the church with the singing of the choir and full congregational hymns. **This service will be livestreamed.**

Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25th

- **No services**

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
Blake Lineweaver, Clerk of Vestry
James Wiley, Treasurer

Vestry Members, listed with the year their terms expire:

2025
Alice Caplins
Patti Beckley
Blake Lineweaver
James Wiley

2026
Molly Bowler
Lance Collister
Glenn Hladek
Charlie Swannack

2027
Julie Benson
Keith Kuhn
Beverley Sherman
Jim Taylor

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