



**Red Lodge Community Church
United Church of Christ**

PO Box 786, 308 S. Broadway Ave., Red Lodge, MT 59068
www.redlodgecommunitychurch.com 406-446-1444

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025

GATHERING MUSIC

Dr. Lynell Kruckeberg

WELCOME

Martha Sobral

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*) from Psalm 148

Martha Sobral

One: Praise the Lord from heaven!

Praise God on the heights!

Many: Praise the Lord from the earth,

you sea monsters and all you ocean depths!

One: Do the same, you animals—wild or tame—

you creatures that creep along and you birds that fly!

Many: Do the same, you young men—young women too!—

you who are old together with you who are young!

One: Let all of these praise the Lord's name

because only God's name is high over all.

All: Only God's majesty is over earth and heaven.

Praise the Lord!

*OPENING PRAYER (*unison*)

**God of the mountains and the valleys, oceans and
streams, cities and suburbs, we open our hearts to you.
Hear our prayers and hymns of praise. Fill us with hope.**

Gently heal our brokenness and touch our hearts with your love. Open our hearts to your presence and help us to love you every day of our lives. Amen.

*HYMN “For the Beauty of the Earth” NCH # 28

*PASSING THE PEACE

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN *Zina General*
Children are invited to accompany Zina downstairs for Sunday School.
Nursery care is also available downstairs.

SPECIAL MUSIC “The Place Where I Worship” Sung by Marty Clague & Steve Hanson

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 31: 10-12, 25-29

- ¹⁰ A woman of strength who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.
¹¹ The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.
¹² She does him good and not harm
all the days of her life.

Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.
²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
²⁷ She looks well to the ways of her household
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
²⁸ Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband, too, and he praises her:
²⁹ “Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all.”

Genesis 2: 1-3

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. ² On the sixth^[a] day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Matthew 6: 5-8

⁵ “And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.^[a]

⁷ “When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

SERMON “Christ Died for Cowboys Too” *Phil Robertson*

SONG “Sanctuary” Songbook # 59

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With humility we come before you to offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Inspire us, O God, to be the conduits of your Spirit’s power in the world. Show us where we are needed, that we might be your own hands and heart to others.

Help us to see the natural environment as we see ourselves,
and work for the restoration and preservation of all that you
have made.

Guide leaders throughout the world to truly listen to those most
vulnerable and oppressed in their communities. May they
make changes that transform lives and situations. God of
grace and mercy,

Comfort and sustain all who journey with ongoing health
challenges
(especially...)

Guide their caregivers and medical providers, grant patience
and acceptance to their loved ones, and bring peace to
troubled hearts.

Give us spirits of generosity to be of love and service to all
those around us: in our families, congregations,
communities, social groups, and more. And give us humility
to ask for and accept care from others.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

May we honor those saints who have gone before us by
continuing the walk of faith, that others might follow after us,
continuing the chain of community in Christ.

God of grace and mercy, these and the prayers of all creation
we lift to you in Jesus' name. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread; and forgive us our 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. Amen.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

We've heard God's call to us – to be abundant with our gifts of grace, love, forgiveness and time. And so let us be abundant in our giving so that the work of the church can be carried out beyond this building.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)

Creator God, we thank you for the gifts of the people – from our ancestors to our elders to those who have still yet to come. We share what we have so that all can flourish and follow you. Amen.

*HYMN

“Blessed Assurance”

NCH # 473

SENDING POEM

*BENEDICTION

Go forth into the world
to serve God with gladness;
be of good courage;
hold fast to that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak;
help the afflicted;
honor all people;
love and serve God,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy spirit.

The blessing of God Almighty,
go with you and remain with you always.

Go in Christ's peace,
with kindness and love. Amen.

Please join us downstairs after worship for a time of fellowship.

An asterisk () notes an invitation to stand in body or spirit;
congregational parts are in **bold print**.*



We are an Open and Affirming Church

Serving today:

Deacons Renee Gabrian, Kiyoko Carlson
 Technology Jay West
 Nursery Attendant Patty Schuessler
 Sunday School Zina General (CE Director), N/A
 Fellowship Time Host(s)..... Marty Clague, Martha Brown

Transitional Pastor Teresa Clark will be **in the office on Tuesday** but otherwise is taking time off this week. For emergency pastoral care, please call her at 406-717-9745.

If you wish to restrict the use of photos and videos that include you, please complete the Photo/Video Opt-out form and deliver it to the church office.

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Opening prayer by Frances A. Bogle in *Before the Amen: Creative Resources for Worship*, eds. Tirabassi & Tirabassi (Cleveland: The Pilgrim Press, 2007), 233.

Prayers of the People adapted from *RCL Worship Resources by Clergy Stuff*, May 11, 2025.

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Call to Generosity and Prayer of Dedication by Rev. ellie hutchinson, "The Works Testify: Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday of Easter," *Worship Ways, UCC*, May 11, 2025.