

Dear Friends,



**Here we are, still in a pandemic and dealing with all that comes with it: not what we expected.** While we know more than we did at the start of the pandemic, this time it seems harder to address. “How long, O Lord?” While we can reduce risks, it is still not possible for all of us to meet safely for worship, so some of our members, maybe you, may feel cut off from the life of the church. It’s something we all understand.

And yet, there is immense hope—and it’s because of all of you and God continuing to be in our midst. We have been dispersed, but not inactive. Last year forced us to learn new ways to minister, adapt and build resilience. While technology is no substitute for actual presence, it has allowed us to experience the beauty of creation, carry on the work of the church, and worship dispersed but together.

**Some of you were able to be out and about to continue in the physical life of our Holy Spirit community,** while others gave substantial additional financial gifts to the parish and to clergy discretionary funds. Still others tended to new ministries like the Rio Grande Borderlands Ministry and Creation Care Ministry. Your regular sustained giving enabled us to keep our employees working and creatively serving the needs of the church and the world. It was amazing to see all of you responding to the movement of the Spirit among us in prayer, giving and action. All of it made a difference!

**Our message is: “Take heart. Take part.”** However you can. The heart of our faith community is still beating strongly, and together we will carry on the work of stewardship and service to which we are called.

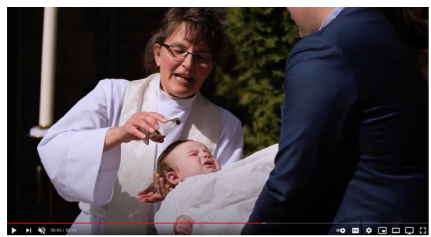
It is time to prayerfully consider our pledges for next year, 2022, and for each of us to make a financial commitment through our pledge card (enclosed). We will celebrate those pledge commitments on Sunday, November 7, our Ingathering Sunday. The parish is very much alive and well, and while still many times apart, we’re mindful of one another and the world around us. Thank you for remaining faithful even during these extended hard times.



On the way with you, with a grateful heart,

*Terri+*

Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger



Take heart.

Take part.

*Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,  
and renew the face of the earth.*

PSALM 104





## Staying connected with Holy Spirit

**Quilts have always been a joy to me** because they stitch together the fabric of our lives, particularly those crazy quilts. The one you see below reflects the life of our parish, from worship (online and in-person) and baptism to outreach to those in need, near and far. One might have thought that when we had to close our buildings or limit in-person gatherings, we would lose our way, but we haven't. Know that together we all have continued to serve those in need and nourish faith even during tough pandemic times.

We have a story to tell of God's abundant love, and it is visible in the quilt of our ministry. This is not our entire story, but it reflects the many ways we live out our calling to serve those in need, worship, pray and reveal God's compassionate love. We continue to live in challenging pandemic times. But take heart: The Spirit continues to guide and empower us through every creative gift we share. Take part: Be present in-person, on-line, over the phone, in a financial pledge and in your prayers. Through all of you, the Body of Christ is alive at Holy Spirit Parish and in the world.

Know that we are grateful, that you are loved, and that we all continue to look forward to that day when we will all be able to gather again, face to face. That day will come. Take heart. Take part!

Faithfully,

*Terri+*



# Take heart. Take part.



### HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

130 South 6th East  
Missoula, MT 59801  
(406) 542-2167

### NOVEMBER 7 INGATHERING SUNDAY

Please complete the enclosed Financial Pledge Card and place it in the offertory plate on or before Sunday, November 7. Thank you for your generous support of our Holy Spirit community.

To make your pledge today, please call the church office at (406) 542-2167.

[holyspiritmissoula.org](http://holyspiritmissoula.org)