

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Emily Cowser
Liturgist: Barb Leland
Organist: Ann Swisher

"Faith is better understood as a verb than as a noun, as a process than as a possession. It is on-again-off-again rather than once-and-for-all. Faith is not being sure where you're going, but going anyway."

-Frederick Buechner, American author, minister, and theologian

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE "In This Moment of Remembrance"
Dale Wood (1934-2003)

WELCOME

One: Sing to the Lord, whose mercy is from everlasting to everlasting!

ALL: But how can we sing the Lord's song when so many are without?

One: Sing to the Lord, whose faithfulness renews us every morning!

ALL: But how can we sing the Lord's song when so many are gone?

One: Sing to the Lord, who has not forgotten the melodies of salvation!

ALL: Let us remember the joy of the Lord, and sing a new song together!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN "Here in This Place" GtG #401

Here in this place
the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness
vanished away;

See in this space our fears
and our dreamings
brought here to you
in the light of this day.

Gather us in,
the lost and forsaken;
gather us in,
the blind and the lame;

Call to us now,
and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound
of our name.

We are the young;
our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn
for your face.

We have been sung
throughout all of history,
called to be light
to the whole human race.

Gather us in,
the rich and the haughty;
gather us in,
the proud and the strong;

Give us a heart,
so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage
to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine
and the water;
here we will take the bread
of new birth.

Here you shall call your sons
and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt
for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine
of compassion;
give us to eat the bread
that is you;

Nourish us well,
and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy
and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark
of buildings confining,
not in some heaven,
light years away:

Here in this place
the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom,
and now is the day.

Gather us in
and hold us forever;
gather us in
and make us your own;

Gather us in,
all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh
and our bone.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, *at* this table, and *for* this table, and send us *from* this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen.

(a moment of silent prayer)

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***THE PEACE**

***“Gloria Patri”**

GtG #581

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Lamentations 1:1-6 Page 1273
One: The Word of the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

PSALM READING Psalm 137 Page 973
One: The Word of the Lord
ALL: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Page 1852
One: The Word of the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM “Ride the Morning Winds”
by Tom Fettke, Grace Hawthorne

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING Luke 17:1-10 Page 1626
One: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

*HYMN

"If You Only Had Faith"

GtG #176

If you only had faith, just like a
little seed of mustard:
this is what Jesus has said.
If you only had faith, just like a
little seed of mustard:
this is what Jesus has said.

You would be able to tell
this mountain:
Move away! Move away!
You would be able to tell
this mountain:
Move away! Move away!

And then the mountain
will move away,
will move away, will move away.
And then the mountain
will move away,
will move away, will move away.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

ALL: 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Offering plates are located in the back of the sanctuary. You may also give online at fpchelena.org/giving or by mailing a check to First Presbyterian Church 535 N. Ewing St., Helena, MT 59601.

OFFERTORY

“The Gift to Be Simple”

Dale Wood

*DOXOLOGY “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” GtG #606

Praise God, from whom all
blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here
below;

Praise him above,
ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*OFFERING PRAYER

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

GtG #552

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full
of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.

One: Great is the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

THE 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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION

One: The gifts of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*HYMN

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

GtG #817

We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke
as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."

We may not touch your hands
and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found.

And when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
may we behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Allegro"

Jan Bender (1909-1994)

Announcements

Welcome!

A special welcome to visitors joining us for worship today. If you have children with you, feel free to hand them one of the cloth bags hanging in the back of the sanctuary — they are filled with books and toys! Hymns are found in the "Glory to God" (GtG) hymnal in the pews, as well as on the screen. Please sign the red fellowship pad in your pew and pass it to your neighbor. It

is our tradition to remain seated during the Postlude at the conclusion of the service. After the service, please join us for refreshments and conversation!

Doors Locked During Service

Session decided to lock the main entrance doors during the worship service. The doors are locked from 10:15 to 11 a.m., and unlocked again between 11 a.m. and noon.

Handbell Ringers Start Wednesday, Oct. 8

A handbell (tone chime) choir is forming to prepare selections for Christmas Music Sunday on December 21. If you have rung before or would like to give it a try, come to the first rehearsal on Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 3:30 p.m. Contact director Les Cramer for details.

Pumpkins Arriving Thursday, Oct. 9

The Pumpkin Patch pumpkins will be arriving Thursday, Oct. 9! If you can help unload the pumpkins and set up the Pumpkin Patch, please plan to be here that day at 4 p.m. The Pumpkin Patch will be open Saturday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 12, noon-6 p.m., and then be closed until the **Pumpkin Patch Party on Saturday, Oct. 18**. The patch will be open daily Oct. 18 through Halloween. If you can help sell pumpkins, sign up for a shift — signup sheets are posted on the church office door.

You're Invited!

Monday, Oct. 6 Personnel Committee 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 8 Building & Grounds 10 a.m.
Friendship Committee 1 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal 2 p.m.
Handbell Ringers 3:30 p.m.
Admin Committee 4 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 9 Pumpkin Patch Set Up 4 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 10 Friday Bible Study 12/noon
Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 11 Pumpkin Patch Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 12 Worship Service 10 a.m.
Social Time 11 a.m.
Deacons 11:15 a.m.
Pumpkin Patch Open Noon-6 p.m.

Staff

Ministers—Every Member

Pastor—Rev. Emily Cowser

Director of Music & Media—Les Cramer

Organist—Ann Swisher

Treasurer—Leo Potter

Office Coordinator—Julie Young

FPC Elders

Patti Borsberry
(Worship Chair)

John Bryan
(Christian Ed Chair)

Jim Meyer
(Administration Chair)

Jeff Chaffee
(Personnel Chair)

John Warren
(Nominating & Synergos Chair)

Butch Plowman
(Building & Grounds Chair)

Barb Leland
(Friendship Chair)

Carol Gneckow
(Mission & Outreach Chair)

John Gneckow, Clerk of Session

FPC Deacons

BJ Burns

Kathy Chambers

Jill Cook

Bonnie Anderson

Ward Stiles, Vice-Moderator

Vicky Bryan

Art Bumgardner, Moderator

Rena Bumgardner

Ria Caussyn

Carole Massman



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Pastor Emily Cowser

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Email: pastor@fpchelena.org

Weekly Sermon on HCTV Cable Channel 189, Wednesdays 6 p.m. & Saturdays 9 a.m.