

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pulpit Supply: Dianna Goodman, CLP

Liturgist: John Warren

Organist: Ann Swisher

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

David M. Cherwien (b. 1957)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Come to the Potter’s house.

ALL: We come, even when we feel broken or worn out.

ONE: The Master’s hands do not throw away the cracked clay. He remakes us into something new.

ALL: Put your hands upon our lives today Lord. Mold us and shape us for your purpose. Open our hearts to your gentle touch.

ONE: Let us worship God.

*HYMN

“Here In This Place/Gather Us In”

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: Forgiving God, we confess that we are conformed to this world. We conform to this world's frantic pace, too busy to notice all the blessings you provide. We conform to this world's reckless waste, exploiting what you entrust to our care. We conform to this world's shallow value's oblivious to the gifts of others. We conform to the world's impatient attitudes, preferring the latest instead of the lasting. Mold us and transform us O God, we pray in Jesus's name. Amen. *(a moment of silent confession)*

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: If the Lord were not on our side,

ALL: we would now be lost in sin.

One: But the Lord is on our side and we are not forsaken,

ALL: we are forgiven. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who created heaven and earth.

*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.

PSALM READING	Psalm 40:1-3	Page 878
One: The Word of the Lord.		
ALL: Thanks be to God.		
OLD TESTAMENT READING	Isaiah 64:8-9	Page 1162
One: The Word of the Lord.		
ALL: Thanks be to God.		
NEW TESTAMENT READING	2 Corinthians 4:7-12	Page 1798
One: The Word of the Lord.		
ALL: Thanks be to God.		
CHOIR ANTHEM	“Many Gifts, One Spirit” Allen Pote	
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		
SERMON SCRIPTURE	Jeremiah 18:1-6	Page 1580
One: The Word of the Lord.		
ALL: Thanks be to God.		
SERMON	“In the Potter’s Hands”	
A TIME OF QUIET REFLECTION		
*HYMN	“Change My Heart, O God” (Sing twice)	GtG #695
	Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.	
	Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.	
	You are the Potter; I am the clay.	
	Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.	

Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Adapted from The Scots Confession

ALL: We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom alone we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible, one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by God's inscrutable providence for such end as God's eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of God's own glory.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Interlude"

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

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.

***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

*HYMN

“Let All Things Now Living”

GtG #37

Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator
triumphantly raise;

Who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end
of our days.

God's banners are o'er us;
pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth
in the night:

Till shadows have vanished,
all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel
from light into light.

By law God enforces,
the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit
obediently shine;

The hills and the mountains,

the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean
proclaim God divine.

We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration,
a song let us raise,

Till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
to God in the highest,
hosanna and praise!

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Allegro”
Gordon Young

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.

2027 Pledge Cards Available

As you consider your pledge for the coming year, we invite you to pray about how God is calling you to support this shared ministry. Every gift matters. Every act of service matters. Together, by God's grace, we can continue to grow in faith, strengthen our life together, and share Christ's love with a world in need. Today you can find an envelope with your name, a letter from the Admin Committee, and a pledge card in the social area outside the sanctuary. Please fill out the pledge card and return it by Monday, Nov. 2, so we can make a realistic budget for 2027. Additional pledge cards available from the church office.

Emergency Pastoral Care

Pastor Emily will be out of the office Oct. 12-26. If you need emergency pastoral care during that time, please call CLP Dianna Goodman at 406-431-8964.

Hand & Foot Cards on Friday

The Hand & Foot Cards group is meeting here Fridays at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome to join in the fun! The game is easy to learn and willing teachers abound! Visit with Sheryl Eriksen for more information.

Synergos Visit November 1-3

From Sunday, November 1 through Tuesday, November 3, The First Presbyterian Church of Helena will host Rev. Jessica Crane Munoz and Dr. Trace Haythorn of Synergos, a residency and renewal program of the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation. The visit blends worship, congregational engagement, and strategic conversation designed to help us discern our future direction. Our session and Strategic Planning Team will meet with Jessica and Trace throughout those days, and the whole congregation is invited to join us on Sunday evening from 5:30 to 8:00 for a reflective dinner gathering. We will engage in small-group conversation around values and wishes for the church's future, using guided questions to creatively imagine what our ministry could look like in this new era.

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.

This Week

- Wednesday, Oct. 21** Buildings & Grounds 10 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal 2 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 23** Friday Bible Study 12/noon
Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
Mustard Seed newsletter deadline
- Saturday, Oct. 24** Hennings Service & Reception 11 a.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 25** Worship Service 10 a.m.
Social Time 11 a.m.

Shaped by the grace of our sovereign God, we follow Jesus Christ
by growing in faith, supporting one another, and sharing
Christ's love in our community and the wider world.

Staff

Ministers—Every Member	Organist—Ann Swisher
Pastor—Rev. Emily Cowser	Treasurer—Leo Potter
Director of Music & Media—Les Cramer	Office Coordinator—Julie Young

FPC Elders

Dianna Goodman
(Nominating Chair)

Jim Meyer
(Administration Co-Chair)

Patti Borsberry
(Congregational Life Chair)

Butch Plowman
(Buildings & Grounds Chair)

Matthew Richards
(Administration Co-Chair)

Carol Gneckow
(Mission & Outreach Chair)

Max Oliver, Clerk of Session

FPC Deacons

Bonnie Anderson

Ward Stiles, Vice-Moderator

Art Bumgardner, Moderator

Rena Bumgardner

Ria Caussyn

Carole Massman

Wanda Jewell

Alysia Ryan



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Pastor Emily Cowser

Phone: 406-442-4775

Email: pastor@fpchelena.org

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