

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Emily Cowser

Liturgist: Butch Plowman

Pianist: Merle Korizek

"The world will always be beautiful to those who look for beauty...I'm not trying to hide from the truth but to balance it, to remind myself that there are other truths, too. I need to remember that the earth, fragile as it is, remains heartbreakingly beautiful. I need to give my attention to a realm that is indifferent to fretful human mutterings and naked human anger, a world unaware of the hatred and distrust taking over the news."

(Margaret Renkl, American writer)

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

John B. Dykes

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Praise is due to you, O God.

ALL: We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house.

One: By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation;

ALL: You are the hope of all the ends of the earth.

One: You crown the year with your bounty;

ALL: Your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

One: The hills gird themselves with joy

ALL: So we will shout and sing for joy too.

One: The meadows clothe themselves with flocks,

ALL: So we will shout and sing for joy too.

One: The valleys deck themselves with grain,

ALL: So we will shout and sing for joy too.

***HYMN**

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

GtG #15

All creatures of our God and King,

lift up your voice

and with us sing,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother wind with clouds
and rain,
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear,
make music for your Lord to hear.
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother fire,
so warm and bright,
chase off the shadows of the night.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth,
who day by day
unfolds such blessings on our way,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ bears your burdens
and your fears;
so, even in the midst of tears,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Since Christ our light has
pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God
with humble heart.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

All creatures, bless the Father,
Son, and Holy Spirit,
Three in One!
Sing praises! Alleluia!

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: No words can express the depth of our need or reveal the extent of our sin. But you know us completely, O God. When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions. You rescue us from evil and clothe us with love. Humbly, we thank you; for no words can express our gratitude for the gift of your salvation. 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	Joel 2:18-32	Page 1415
One: The Word of the Lord.		
ALL: Thanks be to God.		

GOSPEL READING	Luke 18:9-14	Page 1628
One: The Gospel of the Lord.		
ALL: Praise to you, O Christ!		

NEW TESTAMENT READING	2 Timothy 4:9-18	Page 1856
One: The Word of the Lord.		
ALL: Thanks be to God.		

SPECIAL MUSIC	“Sit Down, Servant/There’s Plenty Good Room”	Video
Trad. spirituals, arr. Joseph Jennings, performed by Chanticleer		

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM READING	Psalms 65	Page 900
One: The Word of the Lord.		
ALL: Thanks be to God.		

SERMON

*HYMN	“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”	GtG #32
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I sing the mighty power of God
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing
seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full
at God's command,
and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord
who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures
through the Word,
and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders
are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below
but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise,
and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne,

While all that borrows life
from thee
is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Adapted from The Westminster Confession of Faith

ALL: It pleased God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, for the manifestation of the glory of God's eternal power, wisdom, and goodness, in the beginning, to create or make of nothing the world, and all things therein, whether visible or invisible, in the space of six days, and all very good. After God had made all other creatures, God created humans, with reasonable and immortal souls, endued with knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness after God's own image, having the law of God written in their hearts, and power to fulfill it.

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 "Come With Us, O Blessed Jesus"
Johann Schop

*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

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" GtG #610

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace!

The name of Jesus
charms our fears,
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life, and health, and peace.

Christ speaks, and listening
to his voice
new life the dead receive;

the mournful waken to rejoice;
the poor in heart believe.

My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through
all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.

To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heaven.

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“In The Image of God”
John W. Peterson

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.

Lost Soles Walk Today!

We'll leave the church about 11:30 a.m. and head to Spring Meadow Lake. Our easy walk will be around the lake, and then we'll decide where to go for lunch.

Pumpkin Patch Open

The Pumpkin Patch is open today from noon to 6 p.m., and daily 2-6 p.m., now through Halloween. Questions? Visit with John Coefield.

Last Day to Contribute to Bibles for Prisoners

This giving campaign, Crossroads Prison Ministry, concludes today. Every \$10 you give sends a Bible. Crossroads Prison Ministries is a registered 501c3, and your donation is tax-deductible. The campaign is for \$100,000 to cover the cost of sending Bibles to men and women in prison who are desperate for God's word.

Coffee for Vets

October 13-Veterans Day November 11. Please remember to bring cans of coffee or if you so choose, the coffee pods are quite popular also. Don't forget the shelf-stable extras such as sugar, creamer, etc. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Invitation to Join Pastor Emily for Livestream

One of Pastor Emily's seminary professors, Dr. Tucker Ferda, will be presenting a lecture on November 6th at 3:00 MT at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary for his installation to the Errett M. Grable Chair in New Testament Exegesis and Early Christianity. His lecture is titled "The Solidarity of the Messiah: Recovering Matthew's Theology of the Cross within Second Temple Judaism." Pastor Emily plans to watch the livestream of the lecture from the church library, and you are welcome to join her if you would like. Dr. Ferda's family has deep connections to FPC Helena.

You're Invited!

Wednesday, Oct. 29 Choir Rehearsal 2 p.m.
Handbell Ringers 3:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 31 Friday Bible Study 12/noon
Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 2 Worship Service with Communion 10 a.m.
Social Time 11 a.m.

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

Patti Borsberry

(Worship Chair)

John Bryan

(Christian Ed Chair)

Jim Meyer

(Administration Chair)

Jeff Chaffee

(Personnel Chair)

Butch Plowman

(Building & Grounds Chair)

Barb Leland

(Friendship Chair)

Carol Gneckow

(Mission & Outreach Chair)

John Gneckow, Clerk of Session

FPC Deacons

BJ Burns

Bonnie Anderson

Vicky Bryan

Kathy Chambers

Ward Stiles, Vice-Moderator

Art Bumgardner, Moderator

Jill Cook

Rena Bumgardner

Ria Caussyn

Carole Massman



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