

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Pastor: Emily Cowser

Liturgist: Patti Borsberry

Organist: Ann Swisher

"The hunger for God can only be satisfied by a love that is face to face, person to person. It is only in the eyes of another that we can find the Icon of Christ. We must make the other person aware we love him. If we do, he will know that God loves him. He will never hunger again."

-Catherine de Hueck Doherty, Catholic activist and founder of the Madonna House community

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

"Jerusalem, My Happy Home"

George Shearing (1919-2011)

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from unaids.org

One: With the pressing crowds, searching for healing and hope,

ALL: We wish to see Jesus.

One: With the pushed out and cast aside, with the lonely, lost, stripped of pride,

ALL: We wish to see Jesus.

One: With those who seek mystery and meaning, wisdom and grace,

ALL: We wish to see Jesus.

One: Let us open our eyes to see a glimpse of Jesus as we worship together.

*HYMN

"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

GtG #408

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit
in this place,
and I know that it's the Spirit
of the Lord;

There are sweet expressions
on each face,
and I know they feel the presence
of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit,
sweet heavenly Dove,

stay right here with us,
filling us with your love;

And for these blessings
we lift our hearts in praise;
without a doubt we'll know
that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.

There are blessings
you cannot receive
till you know him in his fullness
and believe;

You're the one to profit
when you say,
"I am going to walk with Jesus
all the way."

Sweet Holy Spirit,
sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us,
filling us with your love;

And for these blessings
we lift our hearts in praise;
without a doubt we'll know
that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

From unaids.org

ALL: You were accused, Good Teacher.

You ate with sinners.

You touched the unclean.

You offended common decency.

**We had thought you came to bless us,
but you keep going to those we do not understand,
those we do not trust,
those we fear.**

**We want you to confirm our prejudices,
but you shatter them.**

**Samaritans, children, lepers, women, tax collectors, a sick friend, a dead
daughter,**

All of these you blessed and healed.

Those we distance ourselves from, you actually touch.

**We grumble at you,
not sure that we can follow you in this way,
not strong enough to overcome what we have always been taught,
not open enough to see the depth and breadth of your grace.**

**Forgive us, Jesus,
turn our grumbling into acts of courage.
Turn our codes of conduct into the conduct of compassion.
Turn our condemnation of the failures of others
into the awareness of our failure to love others with your grace and compassion.**

**Forgive us, Jesus, and make us new,
until we become one with the lost ones,
until we become lost in your love.**

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	Habakkuk 1:1—2:5	Page 1456
One: The Word of the Lord.		
ALL: Thanks be to God.		

PSALM READING	Psalms 119:137-144	Page 963
One: The Word of the Lord.		
ALL: Thanks be to God.		

NEW TESTAMENT READING	2 Thessalonians 1:1-12	Page 1842
One: The Word of the Lord.		
ALL: Thanks be to God.		

CHOIR ANTHEM	"Somebody's Prayin'" by John G. Elliott, arr. Mark Hayes
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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING	Luke 19:1-10	Page 1628
One: The Gospel of the Lord.		
ALL: Praise to you, O Christ!		

SERMON

*HYMN	"Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table!"	GtG #506
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Look who gathers at Christ's table!
Hear the stories that they bring.
Some are weeping;
some are laughing;
some have songs they want to sing.

Others ask why they're invited,
burdened by the wrong
they've done.
Christ insists they all are welcome.
There is room for everyone.

Clouds of light surround the table;
ancient followers appear,

saints confessing
how they wrestled
with their guilt,
their doubt and fear.

Peter tells of his denying
Christ was ever in his sight;
Paul relates his fruitless efforts
to obliterate the light.

Their sad stories are repeated
in a thousand different ways,
but they share one thing
in common:
they all end in thanks and praise

For the host who has invited
north and south and east and west
to converge around this table,
where all life is fed and blest.

Bring your joy and bring
your sadness,
and prepare to be surprised
by the host whose hands
are wounded,
who will open wide your eyes

When he blesses bread
and breaks it—
truth and manna from above!—
and then passes wine that wakens
in your heart the taste of love.

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 “So Fades the Lovely Blooming Flower”

George Shearing

*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

**ALL: 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

“Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord”

GtG #707

Take thou our minds, dear Lord,
we humbly pray;
give us the mind of Christ
each passing day;

Teach us to know the truth
that sets us free;
grant us in all our thoughts
to honor thee.

Take thou our hearts, O Christ;
they are thine own;
come thou within our souls
and claim thy throne;

Help us to shed abroad
thy deathless love;
use us to make the earth
like heaven above.

Take thou our wills, Most High!
Hold thou full sway;
have in our inmost souls
thy perfect way;

Guard thou each sacred hour
from selfish ease;
guide thou our ordered lives
as thou dost please.

Take thou ourselves, O Lord,
heart, mind, and will;
through our surrendered souls
thy plans fulfill.

We yield ourselves to thee:
time, talents, all;
we hear, and henceforth heed,
thy sovereign call.

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”
Hans F. Micheelsen (1902-1973)

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.

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 Nov. 6

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!

Monday, Nov. 3 Personnel 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 5 Choir Rehearsal 2 p.m.
Handbell Ringers 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 6 Sarah & Rebekah Bible Study 10 a.m.

Friday, Nov. 7 Friday Bible Study 12/noon
Hand & Foot Cards 1:30 p.m.
Special Olympics Dinner 5 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 9 Worship Service 10 a.m.
Social Time 11 a.m.
Deacons 11:15 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)

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

Phone: 406-442-4775 **Email:** pastor@fpchelena.org

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